

## Apprenticeship to society

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military skills as learning to handle weapons safely, how to survive in the wilderness, evaluate casualties, fight fires, read a map, give first aid, and develop leadership in a disciplined environment.

Katimavik is still a pilot project, but I think most communities involved would agree that results so far have proved the idea: that young people need to be challenged, not coddled; that their appetite for struggle is stronger than for ease; that rather than be given things they'd sooner do things for themselves; that they'd sooner be involved than be drop-outs;

that the best of them welcome difficult tasks as a chance to test themselves, to examine their lives and relationships, to help make a better world, to find their place through service to society.

Katimavik has convinced me that there's nothing wrong with our youth, that we don't have to reproach ourselves as parents. But as a generation, as a society, we have failed. We failed to provide our youth with meaningful work, so they adapted; they rationalized; they came up with a philosophy in which work was a drag. We failed to give them social goals for their idealism, so their passion was channelled into escape and rebellion. We failed to adjust our values as machines reshaped our lives and we failed to give

youth anything to believe in.

## Twofold challenge

Our challenge for the future is how to challenge youth today. This is what we have tried to do in Katimavik, and when we fall short it's more often because we have asked too little of them. But 90 per cent are persevering, and I hope the program can be expanded to become a significant factor in national development, for without the vision, values, commitment and energy of youth, our society has neither hope nor destiny. These are the young who will make this country a better place to live in, who'll be measured by what they stand for rather than what they stand against....

## News briefs

**About 90 per cent of Quebec taxpayers** will receive tax cuts this year, thanks to a recent provincial budget that removes a few loopholes and favours the low- and middle-wage earners. The tax table has been expanded, dropping the tax rate on the low end of the income scale from 16 per cent to 13 per cent, and raising the rate at the top from 28 per cent to 33 per cent. As Finance Minister Jacques Parizeau announced recently, in response to the federal appeal to the provinces to lower sales tax by three percentage points, Quebec will instead remove sales tax on textiles, clothing and furniture to protect Quebec's traditional industries from competition from imports.

**A new seeder** with high flotation ability has been developed by the Nova Scotia Technical College, under contract from Agriculture Canada, for early cereal grain seeding in eastern Canada. Tests

during the past three years have attested to the vehicle's ability to travel over soggy fields. Even in fields where snow still lingered around fences and the centre was "like soup", the vehicle did not become mired. The prototype is equipped with wide steel wheels, each with steel cleats to provide traction and seed packing as well as flotation.

**A poll commissioned** by the Anti-Inflation Board shows that about 35 per cent of Canadian adults do not feel hurt by inflation. About 65 per cent said their financial position had been hurt by inflation, with the percentages varying from 74 per cent in the Atlantic provinces to 56 per cent in Ontario.

**Panarctic Oils Ltd.** says a well being drilled off the Sabine Peninsula of Melville Island in the Arctic has produced gas and condensate at "significant rates".

**Revenue Canada** reported recently that it had uncovered a new tax dodge — the sale of false receipts to support deduction claims for dependants living outside Canada. The Department said examination of 1,400 tax returns resulted in assessing \$900,000 in additional taxes, including \$175,000 in fines. Another 2,500 returns believed to contain false receipts are being examined.

**The tourism deficit** for 1977 was a record \$1.65 billion, up from \$1.19 billion for 1978. Also, the number of visitors entering Canada in 1977 totalled 31.8 million, down 1.4 per cent from 1976; expenditures of Canadians visiting the U.S. was up 5.5 per cent in 1977. Some 37.9 million individuals spent \$2,278 million; visitors from all other countries

except the U.S. decreased 9.7 per cent to 1.4 million, while Canadians returning from these countries totalled 1.8 million, up 12.3 per cent; Canada earned \$2,006 million from international travel, up 3.9 per cent from 1976. Canadians travelling overseas spent \$3,661 million, up 17.3 per cent.

**Gilles Caouette**, son of the late R al Caouette, has resigned as interim leader of the Social Credit Party. C.A. Gauthier has been named interim leader pending the outcome of the national leadership convention in Winnipeg on May 6.

**Donald D. Tansley**, administrator of the anti-inflation program, and former executive vice-president of the Canadian International Development Agency, has been appointed chairman of the Fisheries Research Board and associate deputy minister (Fisheries and Oceans) in the Department of Fisheries and the Environment, pending the establishment of the new Department of Fisheries and Oceans, at which point he would become deputy minister of that Department.

**A Cuban national baseball team** will play an exhibition game against the Montreal Expos in the Olympic Stadium in Montreal. Negotiations are still under way, and the date will be announced in August, says the Fitness and Amateur Sport Ministry. This will mark the first time since 1958 that a baseball team from that country has played a baseball game in either Canada or the United States against a professional team. The Havana Sugar Kings were members of the AAA International League from 1951 to 1957.

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