

gic, passionate tale set in Quebec which choreographer Ditchburn wants "to look like a silent-film drama, like a sepia-tone postcard". Ms. Ditchburn, who just finished her acting *début* in the American film, *Slow Dancing in the Big City*, says "When I choreograph, I always think in film."

William Deverell, a Vancouver trial lawyer and former reporter, has won the annual Seal first novel award. *Needles*, a court-room drama about the Vancouver heroin trade, was judged best of 275 entries, of which about five will be published. The book will be published in hardcover in Canada, the United States and Britain this autumn, and in paperback a year later. The award consists of a \$40,000-advance on royalties and a \$10,000-cash prize.

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), Canada's largest museum, is appealing for funds for the first time in its 66-year history. The goal is \$44 million. The government of Ontario has pledged a grant of \$12.75 million in addition to matching Wintario lottery funds for all monies raised through the ROM's appeal for private donations. Its three main divisions — Art, Archaeology and Natural Sciences — are so cramped that many departments can display only 5 per cent of their treasures at one time.

Education in Canada (Cont'd from P. 6)

in Canada, released May 11, summarizes major education statistics for Canada and the provinces. Times series of the most important variables are given for Canada from 1966-67. More detailed breakdowns of current data are in separate chapters on institutions, enrolment, graduates, teachers and finance. For further information, contact Mrs. Edith Rechnitzer, Projections Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.

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Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

News briefs

Louise and Jacques Cossette-Trudel, who pleaded guilty on May 31 to four charges in connection with the 1970 kidnapping of British diplomat James Cross, will be sentenced July 5. The Cossette-Trudels, former members of the Front de Libération du Québec (FLQ), went to Cuba in self-imposed exile in 1970 after they were apprehended. They decided to return to Canada last December to stand trial. The maximum penalty for kidnapping is five years' imprisonment.

A consortium of companies has submitted the lowest tender for construction of a power plant and concrete dam at the \$1.5-billion Revelstoke hydroelectric project, about 150 kilometres east of Kamloops, British Columbia. The bid by Revelstoke Constructors totals \$282 million, with bids from four other joint ventures ranging between \$303 million and \$440 million. A spokesman for British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority said that the contract would probably not be awarded for several weeks. The contract for the dam and power plant is expected to be the biggest civil construction contract ever let in British Columbia.

There were 5,189 fewer federal public servants by the end of the first quarter of 1979 than there were one year earlier, almost a 1 per cent drop, reports Statistics Canada. As of March 31 the Federal Government employed 578,378 people, including the armed forces.

Jack Cummings of Montreal is the first Canadian to head the administration of Tel Aviv University. Cummings, executive vice-president of Cummings Properties and Jewish community leader and philanthropist, has been named chairman of the board of governors of the university, the largest in Israel.

A student at Winnipeg's Red River College has been given the choice of paying \$450 in fines for overdue parking tickets or going to jail for 156 days. Norma Daniels, 28, of Winnipeg, was charged with failure to pay 52 tickets.

Membership in credit unions and "caisses populaires" is continuing to grow rapidly, according to the Canadian Co-operative Credit Society. Assets at the end of 1978 were \$24.2 billion up from \$19.6 billion at the end of 1977. Loans rose more than 35 per cent to \$19.1 bil-

lion; savings grew by 18.8 per cent to \$21.5 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted real domestic product index was 137.5 in March, up 0.5 per cent from 136.8 in February and up 4.2 per cent from 132 in March last year, Statistics Canada reports. The index has a base of 100 for 1971.

Falconbridge Nickel Mines Ltd. of Toronto will hire 300 workers in the next few months because it hopes to reopen the Lockerby mine, just west of Sudbury, by the end of the year. Earlier plans had called for reopening Lockerby next year. The mine was closed early in 1978 because of a world slump in demand for nickel.

A survey of 300 major corporations by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce found that they would invest about \$20.7 billion in new plants and production facilities this year, about \$1 billion higher than was estimated in a survey last autumn.

British Columbia doctors have voted by a slim 59 per cent majority to accept a government offer that will increase their salaries by an average 17.4 per cent over the next two years.

The Bank of Montreal has signed a \$250-million (U.S.) loan for Brazil's Banco Nacional do Desenvolvimento Economica, the national development bank. The Bank of Montreal was lead manager and agent for a 19-bank consortium.

The rate of increase in the consumer price index rose to 9.8 per cent in the 12 months ended April 30, up from 9.2 per cent in March, reports Statistics Canada.

Brascan announced on May 29 that it would drop its \$1.3-billion takeover bid for F.W. Woolworth Company of New York and seat an unspecified number of Edper representatives on its board.

Average weekly earnings rose in March to \$280.26, up 7.7 per cent from \$260.27 in March 1978, Statistics Canada reports.

International Canoe and Kayak competitors are preparing for the World Championships soon to be held in the Saguenay/Lake St. John area of Quebec, from June 24 to July 8. This is the first time the competitions will be held outside Europe. They started in Switzerland in 1949 and have since been held in Austria, Italy, France, East and West Germany, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.