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Mr. Trudeau reports support for contractual link with EEC

Prime Minister Trudeau stated in the House of Commons on March 17 that officials of the European Economic Community countries, with whom he had recently met, had all indicated support for Canada's aim of establishing a contractual link with the Common Market. "They gave support," he said, "to negotiations which are going on and the exchanges which are going on between the Community and Canada, one meeting already having taken place about a month ago in Ottawa and two more being scheduled before the report is made to the Council of Ministers."

Mr. Trudeau had just returned from Europe after a two-and-a-half week visit to five of the nine capitals of the EEC countries – The Hague, Bonn, Rome, London and Dublin. He also had an audience with Pope Paul.

In a speech at a luncheon given by the Lord Mayor of London on March 13, the Prime Minister described as follows the purpose of his trip:

* * * *

On this occasion, as last October, Lord Mayor, I am in Europe to meet with heads of government of member states of the European Economic Community. I have conveyed to each of them, as I did to the European Commission in Brussels, the desire of Canada to enter into a contractual relationship with the Community – one which would ensure that each of the Community and

Canada would keep the other informed, would engage regularly and effectively in consultations, would not consciously act to injure the other, would seek to co-operate in trading and any other activities in which the Community may engage.

We have described our goal as the attainment of a contractual link. Because we do not know – indeed Europe does not know – how far or how fast



Canadian Press wirephoto

Pope Paul VI shakes hands with Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in the Vatican City on March 7 during a

private audience. Mr. Trudeau was in Europe to meet with leaders of the European Economic Community.

its experiment in integration will take it, or what form it will assume on arrival, no over-all agreement can be laid in place at this time. But what can be done is to create a mechanism which will provide the means (i.e. the "link") and the obligation (i.e. "contractual") to consult and confer, and to do so with materials sufficiently pliable and elastic to permit the mechanism to adapt in future years to accommodate whatever jurisdiction the European Community from time to time assumes.

Guarantee of fair treatment sought
In each of the capitals I have visited I have been heartened by the willingness of governments to examine such a concept. Nowhere have I found it necessary to emphasize that Canada is not seeking preferential treatment or special advantages — for such would be contrary to the GATT — but only a guarantee of fair treatment at the hands of an economic unit rapidly becoming the most powerful in the world. In the interim since my visit to Europe last autumn, a series of exploratory talks has commenced with the object of constructing a framework within which formal negotiations will take place.

* * * *

U.S. award for Canadian engineer

Dr. Neil B. Hutcheon, past director, Division of Building Research, National Research Council of Canada, is the 1975 recipient of the F. Paul Anderson Medal, the highest technical award of the American Society for Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

The prize, established in 1930 to honour the accomplishments of the late F. Paul Anderson, past president of the Society, is given annually "for notable achievement or outstanding services performed in the field of heating, ventilating or air-conditioning". The award, a gold medal and certificate, was first presented in 1932 to Willis H. Carrier.

Dr. Hutcheon, throughout his career as professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Saskatchewan and as assistant director and director of the Division of Building Research, NRC, took part actively in the work of ASHRAE. His service included mem-

bership on many of the Society's research and technical committees and on its board of directors. He was made a Fellow of the Society in 1965 and was awarded the ASHRAE Distinguished Service Award in 1967.

This latest award, in recognition of Dr. Hutcheon's contributions to this field of science, was presented during the ASHRAE semi annual meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Educational technology program

The Canadian Government has established an educational technology program to assist provincial and federal education authorities in applying new technologies to educational needs. The program, operated by the Educational Technology Branch of the Department of Communications and its teams of engineers, educators, systems analysts, communication experts and computer specialists, is intended to provide technical advice and assistance for implementing technological systems in education.

The Branch is organized to provide a capability for the design and evaluation of programs dealing with the use of computers in education, audio-visual equipment and networks, information systems and related industrial development and standards.

The Branch will also work towards the development of manufacturing policies to ensure an appropriate involvement of Canadian industry in meeting Canadian needs for educational technology.

Northwest Territories — a bill to divide electoral districts

A bill to provide an additional representative for the Northwest Territories in the House of Commons and to establish a means of dividing the area into two electoral districts was given second reading in the House of Commons last month.

In explaining the purpose of the bill, President of the Privy Council Mitchell Sharp spoke of the vast area of 1,300,000 square miles comprising the Northwest Territories which, he said, was "far greater than one Member of Parliament can physically be expected

to visit and to be thoroughly acquainted with".

He said that many proposals for the division of the Northwest Territories into two constituencies had been studied by the Government and it had been found that the "exact position of optimal constituency boundaries would be most difficult to establish without a comprehensive examination of all relevant factors". It was also of the "utmost importance" to have the residents of the area present their own views on the determination of the boundaries. "For this reason," Mr. Sharp continued, "the bill provides that this task be entrusted, under amendments to the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, to an independent commission chaired by a judge and with two members to be chosen by the Speaker of the House from among the residents of the Northwest Territories. The representation commissioner would be the fourth member. The duty of this commission would be to consult with the residents of the Northwest Territories and to make recommendations for the setting of constituency boundaries with reference to ease of transportation and communication, to community of interest within constituencies and to maintaining a rough balance in geographical size between them...."

Emily Carr ballet

Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner recently announced a grant of \$25,000 to the Vancouver Art Gallery in British Columbia, to sponsor the creation of a ballet based on the life of Emily Carr in recognition of International Women's Year 1975.

The Vancouver Art Gallery's permanent collection includes many of the finest works of Emily Carr, well-known Canadian artist, who was a native of British Columbia.

The ballet will be presented in the Concert Gallery of the Vancouver Arts Gallery by the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre in the last two weeks of July and will also be performed elsewhere.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board have also expressed interest in the project which, according to Gallery officials, is well suited to film and television production.

Canada/Alberta launch multi-million dollar oil sands research program

Agreement has been reached by the Federal Government and the provincial government of Alberta on the establishment of an environmental research program estimated at \$40 million in the Alberta oil sands.

In a joint announcement, Jeanne Sauvé, Minister of Environment Canada, and W.J. Yurko, Minister of the Environment, Alberta, outlined a comprehensive plan for co-ordination, funding and implementation of the project. The primary purpose is to obtain data that can be used to devise measures for the protection of the environment during the recovery, transport and processing of oil-sands products. The money will be expended over ten years.

The agreement is for five years, renewable for a further period of up to five years. Canada and Alberta will each spend about \$2 million annually.

Initial emphasis will be on determining present renewable resource and environmental conditions in the Athabasca oil sands, something which has not been done before in an intensive manner.

Information obtained through the program will be published and made available to government, industry and the public to aid in planning development and environmental protection.

A large number of researchers will be involved and while some will reside at Fort McMurray, others will be working in the field for days, weeks or months. Consulting companies and universities will also participate.

Field studies are expected to begin this summer on such projects as establishing networks of monitoring systems and obtaining inventories of the renewable resources. All air quality and meteorological data obtained will be fed into a meteorological centre at Fort McMurray, where it will be used to construct a mathematical model for forecasting pollution.

Atmospheric emissions from oil-extraction plants may have an impact on vegetation. Several studies will examine these effects, especially those of sulphur dioxide on plants and forests.

Water-monitoring stations will be added to existing ones on the Athabasca River, and others will be located on the tributaries. The groundwater systems in the oil sands will be determined. Surface and groundwater systems can transfer pollutants from mining operations, so these systems will be described in the oil sands area.

Aquatic resources in lakes and rivers will be studied, since effluents entering water courses may be harmful to the fishery potential. In addition, the wildlife resources and the impact of development on these resources will be examined.

As mining progresses, there will be a need to restore the mine sites. Researchers will examine the problems of storing overburden, obtaining suitable species and stock for replanting, and properly restoring productive ecosystems.

Loan for Tunisian dam

Canada and Tunisia have signed a loan agreement in which Canada has agreed to provide \$55 million for the construction of the Sidi-Saad dam, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently.

The Sidi-Saad dam on the Zéroud River in Tunisia will protect the Kairouan plain from flash floods and help to accelerate agricultural development in the region by enabling the irrigation of 4,080 additional hectares of arable land. The total cost of the dam is estimated at \$90 million, the balance of which is to be financed by the Government of Tunisia.

Completion of the project will take seven years but most of the work is expected to be finished by 1980. The dam, to be located 60 kilometres from the city of Kairouan, is to serve only as a water reservoir. It will measure 60 metres high, 618 metres long, and have a capacity of 5.3 million cubic metres.

The Sidi-Saad complex, in addition to the main dam, is to have a retaining wall of earth and a drainage channel as well as a coffer dam for protection of the site during construction.

The Canadian funds are to be used to finance preliminary studies and the management of the project, which is to be undertaken by a team of Canadian professional engineering consultants. Canadian funds are also to be used to cover the cost of transporting Canadian materials and equipment to the site.

Tunisia is to finance the cost of labour and accompanying costs such as certain construction materials, equipment, fuel and Tunisian workers.

Snowmobiles and soil

An Agriculture Canada researcher at Lennoxville, Quebec, takes soil temperatures to study what damage may be caused to the environment by snowmobiles. So far, he has learned that soil under a snowmobile track is frozen as deeply as soil that has no protective snow covering. In future work, he hopes to determine the effect of snowmobiles on crops.



Mr. MacEachen to visit West Africa

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, will visit the West African countries of Nigeria, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Ghana from April 13 to 26.

In addition to senior officials of the Departments of External Affairs and Industry, Trade and Commerce, senior representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency will accompany Mr. MacEachen.

Fibreglass house

A new type of modular house made of fibreglass, recently appeared on the Quebec market. Although the techniques used in its construction have already been tested elsewhere, notably in Germany and the Soviet Union, the Quebec model was specially designed to suit Canada's climate and needs.

According to its promoters, Enterprises Idu of Granby, Quebec, this type of house has numerous advantages: mass production, low cost, adaptability, thermal and acoustical insulation, low-heating cost, ease of transportation, etc. Every factory-assembled house is equipped with electric heating and air-conditioning systems as well as an electric stove and refrigerator.

The standard unit, which measures 13 by 21 feet, is priced at \$7,400. Several similar units can be joined together to make larger houses.

The moulded parts of the units consist of two fibreglass-reinforced polyester walls, separated by a space filled with polyurethane foam. All the parts are modular and completely prefabricated.

The company claims that as a result of all the above features, this house has a thermal and acoustical insulation rating equivalent to 20 inches of brick. Reinforced polyester is from two to six times stronger than an equal quantity, by weight, of steel; moreover, it is rot-proof, non-corrosive, non-inflammable, airtight, weatherproof and shockproof.

Another interesting aspect is that these units require very little heating — a great advantage in case of fuel shortages.

Towards a mineral policy for Canada

At the meeting of the Canadian Ministerial Conference on Mineral Policy on December 6, federal and provincial Ministers of Mines agreed to the publication of the document *Towards a Mineral Policy for Canada: Opportunities for Choice*, the second document in a series reflecting the ongoing review of a national mineral policy.

In this policy paper, federal and provincial Ministers of Mines recommend that mineral policy be re-shaped to place greater emphasis on increased diversification and growth of national and regional economies based on minerals. Where further processing of minerals in Canada is not feasible, increased financial returns will be sought from mineral development. In addition, policy will reflect a continuing concern for conservation, and will seek to ensure that Canada's own mineral needs will be met.

Towards a Mineral Policy for Canada is a further step in the formulation of a national mineral policy, which seeks to achieve accord between federal and provincial governments on the nature and benefits to be derived from mineral development. The policy thrust outlined in this document will be further developed through federal, provincial and industry discussion on specific policy directives and legislative changes affecting mineral development.

The document highlights the importance of minerals in the Canadian economy, both nationally and regionally, and describes their potential for even greater contributions to the wellbeing of Canadians in the future. Canada's mineral production is forecast to triple by the year 2000 to meet domestic and export needs. This expansion would provide major opportunities for increased income and employment, industrial diversification and social development. Canada will continue, however, to depend on other nations for some mineral commodities that are not available domestically.

Canada's ability to derive increased benefits from minerals will be influenced by such factors as availability of capital and manpower, policies for domestic control, and technological development. Developments in international trade and economics will also be important.

Apartment vacancy survey

The average vacancy rate for privately-initiated apartments in Canada's 22 metropolitan areas was 1.9 per cent at mid-December, according to surveys undertaken by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The rate for mid-December 1973 was 2.8 per cent.

Regina, at 0.1 per cent, showed the tightest market for rental apartments followed by Saskatoon (0.2); St. John's (0.3); Thunder Bay (P.5); Vancouver (0.6); Edmonton and Victoria (0.8); Calgary, Chicoutimi — Jonquière, Montreal, Quebec, Saint John, Windsor and Winnipeg all reported vacancy rates of below 2.0 per cent.

The highest vacancy level was in Sudbury (5.1 per cent) followed by Kitchener at 5 per cent.

The CMHC semi-annual apartment vacancy survey now covers those privately-owned apartment structures which contain six or more units. Unlike previous surveys, the results relate to all such structures available for renting whether newly constructed or already part of the rental housing stock for some time. Not included in the survey statistics are the vacancy rates of publicly-initiated apartments which primarily furnish government-subsidized accommodation for senior citizens, persons of low-income and the handicapped, and are therefore not part of the general rental market.

Young musicians in Nova Scotia

The National Youth Orchestra of Canada will make its home in Nova Scotia for the 1975 summer season, A. Garnet Brown, Minister of Recreation for Nova Scotia announced recently. The Canada Council will jointly fund with the province the National Youth Orchestra for its training and performances during August, the Minister said.

Some 100 young musicians between the ages of 14 and 24 are chosen annually through rigid nationally-conducted auditions, for the opportunity to perform with the orchestra. The training program will be centred at the Dalhousie Arts Centre, where the young musicians, representing every province in Canada will be housed on the university campus.

New method for collecting maple sap

The development of a suction pump for collecting sap by means of plastic hoses may revolutionize the maple sugar industry and check the widespread abandonment of maple groves.

With this new method, the maple trees are connected to one another by means of hoses which are in turn connected to a larger hose that directs the sugared liquid to the main reservoir.

The suction pump operates on the same principle as the milking machine. Up to a certain point, it draws the sap from the tree instead of allowing it to flow out by itself. During tests made in 1972 the yield increased by up to 154.4 per cent and there was no noticeable effect on the growth and vigour of the tree.

The Quebec Department of Agriculture tested this method in Saint-Norbert-d'Arthabaska and noted an increase in the amount of sap collected. This gave promise of additional revenue for maple farmers and the elimination of the loss of a certain amount of sap.

At the time, a maple grove was reserved for experimental and demonstration purposes in the Mont-Orford provincial park, where the results of the new method would be compared with those of the old.

Denis Désilets, an agricultural engineer from Laval University, Quebec,



Buckets, barrels and horse-drawn sleighs, used in the traditional method of collecting maple syrup may soon be

replaced by hoses connected to trees with a suction pump used to draw out the liquid.

who developed the suction pump, tested it last spring in two maple groves in Bellechasse county (one in Saint-Lazare and the other in Armagh). Production increased by 136 and 131 per cent in comparison with the average production of preceding years, when maple sap was collected in buckets. Calculations also showed that the new

method reduced by 25 per cent the manpower required.

Quebec produces some 80 per cent of the world's maple syrup and the demand has increased considerably in the last few years. Owing to weather conditions, which are not always favourable however, production varies greatly from year to year.

Caribbean and Mexican seasonal workers program

Seasonal workers from the Caribbean islands and Mexico will be admitted to Canada to assist the farmers and food processors in the growing, harvesting and canning of this year's fruit and vegetable crops, Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced recently.

The Caribbean seasonal program, which has been in effect since 1966 to overcome shortages of Canadian workers during peak demand periods, is conducted in co-operation with the Governments of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. Following discussions with the Government of Mexico, the Mexican program was initiated in 1974.

These programs are intended to supplement the available supply of Can-

adian workers during peak harvest periods, and not to replace Canadian workers. Canadian students, who form a considerable part of the harvest work force, return to schools and universities just as harvest activities are on the upswing in September. Many late-maturing crops can be harvested only with considerable difficulty without the help of workers from the Caribbean and Mexico, who remain available until harvesting is completed.

During the 1974 season, a total of 5,287 Caribbean seasonal workers were admitted into Ontario and 55 into Quebec for temporary employment with 504 employers. Some 195 Mexican workers were admitted with 147 going to Ontario, 32 to Alberta, nine to Manitoba and seven to Quebec.

The old tobacco stamp is gone

A 110-year old "tradition" in Canada ended this autumn with the recent decision to cease supplying tobacco manufacturers with the familiar excise duty stamp found on all packages of cigarettes, cigars and cut tobacco.

Over the years, these stamps have been a source of controversy between government and the tobacco industry and their usage has been greatly misunderstood by the general public.

Manufacturers have felt that the tax represented by these stamps was too high and their product was being unduly discriminated against as a luxury item. The public, in many cases, have had varying ideas about why these stamps were attached to tobacco products. Many people believed that the stamps were a mark of freshness indi-

cating that the product was ready for retail sale. Others thought they were used to determine the amount of cigars, cigarettes or the actual poundage of tobacco contained in the package.

Officially, the stamp has been used as a method of revenue collection and is a requirement of the law as evidence that the excise duty has been paid on the respective product. No tobacco product could be sold legally in Canada without an excise duty stamp attached to its package.

In any case, the present series of excise duty stamps is obsolete, as the Government follows the lead of such countries as Britain, France, Italy, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand and Brazil to make all tobacco manufacturers responsible for printing and affixing their own stamps to their products.

All manufacturers of tobacco products in Canada have the opportunity of designing their own excise stamps within certain basic departmental requirements, for affixing to their products consistent with their respective packaging techniques. The stamp may take the form of a paper stamp or a tear tape encircling the package.

All new stamps must bear the inscription, "Canada", "Duty Paid", and the description of the contents in both official languages and must show the weight of the tobacco or the number of cigars or cigarettes in the package.

Introduction into Canada

The use of excise stamps in Canada dates back to 1864. At that time the costly Grand Trunk Railway, completed in 1861 to provide a better transportation link for consumer goods in Canada, was in danger of financial collapse; the Government was going



through a series of ministerial crises; the population feared an American invasion; the Americans were threatening to revoke various reciprocity agreements and eventually revoked the special bonding laws which permitted Canadian railway shipments to cross American territory in bond.

As a result of this tricky political and economic situation, the first series of tobacco stamps was introduced into the Province of Canada under the Inland Revenue Act as one of many mea-

asures of collecting badly needed revenue to help hold together future hopes of a Canadian Confederation.

A Special Review Board was established to administer the issuing and collection of all revenues from these stamps upon their sale to tobacco manufacturers. The first set of these stamps was printed horizontally on 4¼-inch diamond shapes which showed the date of payment of the tax and a description of the product sold or the weight of the tobacco being sold.

The poor are mostly women

A male head of family has 9.3 chances out of 100 of being poor, just by being a man, while a female head of family has 40.1 chances out of 100, just by being a woman.

Families headed by women constituted 13.2 per cent of low-income families in Canada in 1961, but 28.7 per cent in 1973. Families headed by women constituted 8.6 per cent of all families in 1973; thus there were three times as many of this type of family in poverty as there were families of this type in the general population.

Almost two-thirds of the low-income unattached population is female, and more than two thirds of women under 25 have incomes of less than \$5,000.

A fact book on poverty

This information about the vulnerability of women to poverty is only one aspect of information contained in the *Canadian Fact Book on Poverty*, published by the Canadian Council on Social Development. The procedures and philosophies behind Canada's most

widely-used poverty lines – those of Statistics Canada, the Special Senate Committee on Poverty and the Canadian Council on Social Development – are outlined and changes in the cost and standard of living are used to provide estimates of their current values. Information is also provided about the extent and composition of poverty in Canada and the distribution of incomes.

"It is hoped that this book will serve as a handy compendium to the basic facts on poverty as well as a guide to primary sources, and will help Canadians gain a better understanding of one of our most persistent and serious problems," said Reuben C. Baetz, executive director of the Council. "We also hope that it will contribute to the formulation of wise anti-poverty policies, since a good understanding is only the *beginning* of wisdom."

The Canadian Council on Social Development is a national non-government, non-profit organization which, through research and consultation with its members, develops and promotes policies based on the principle of social justice.

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