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News briefs

Comparison of 1976-77 and 1977-78 budgetary main estimates

The budgetary main estimates tabled by President of the Treasury Board, Robert Andras on February 16, show a net increase of \$2,728 million, from \$38,417 million in 1976-77 to \$41,145 million in 1977-78. This represents an increase of 7.1 per cent, about the same as that projected for the Government's total expenditures, which include non-budgetary expenditures and reserves for supplementary estimates during the fiscal year.

Decreases

Decreases totalling \$1,258.3 million are shown, primarily in seven departments and agencies: Energy, Mines and Resources, the Unemployment Insurance Commission, National Health and Welfare, Industry, Trade and Commerce, Statistics Canada, the Canadian Livestock Feed Board, and the Canadian Habitat Secretariat.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources budget will decrease by \$577.5 million (37.5 per cent) mainly owing to a reduction in oil-import compensation payments.

The Unemployment Insurance Commission decrease of \$325.5 million is the result of changes in the legislation and tighter monitoring of benefit payments.

Increases in the Department of National Health and Welfare's budget for family allowances, old age security, spouse's allowances and the Canada Assistance Plan were more than offset, mainly by the decrease in contributions to the provinces as a result of proposed changes in the established programs' financing formula, for a net decrease of \$172.8 million.

The expenditures of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce will decrease by \$128.6 million, because of reductions in consumer subsidies on the sale of wheat for domestic consumption and because contracts for the construction of grain hopper cars are complete.

The completion of the 1976 quinquennial census has brought about a reduction of \$25.7 million in the budget

of Statistics Canada.

The Canadian Livestock Feed Board's budget will decrease by \$10.9 million because of certain revisions in its grain freight assistance program.

The Canadian Habitat Secretariat has terminated its activities and funding is no longer required.

Increases

Most of the \$3,986.3-million gross increase is attributable to ten departments and agencies: Finance, Secretary of State, National Defence, Manpower and Immigration, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Veterans Affairs, Post Office, Public Works and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The main components of the Department of Finance's increase of \$978.4 million (12.6 per cent) are to service the public debt (\$700 million), fiscal transfer payments to the provinces under the new federal-provincial fiscal arrangements (\$241.7 million) contracting-out payments to Quebec (\$53 million) and the municipal grants program (\$25 million).

The Department of the Secretary of State requires an additional \$567.7 million (73.5 per cent), for post-secondary education (\$528 million), bilingualism development (\$28.4 million) and for a large translation workload (\$6.1 million).

The \$423.6 million (12.6 per cent) increase for National Defence is the result of the effect of inflation on operational costs and of higher capital expenditures for new equipment, including tanks and long-range patrol aircraft.

The Department of Manpower and Immigration will receive an increase of \$304.3 million (35 per cent) for the implementation of a special employment strategy (\$286.5 million), including direct employment programs and selective manpower measures especially for training and youth services, and for implementation of the new immigration policy and increased immi-

gration enforcement (\$5.5 million).

The Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation's \$267.7 million (75.3 per cent) increase is mainly due to increased grants, contributions and subsidies for housing (\$128.6 million); infrastructure related to water and sewage treatment and to medium density, moderately-priced housing (\$64 million); residential rehabilitation and neighbourhood improvement programs for community revitalization (\$50.1 million).

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will receive an increase of \$171 million (18 per cent), of which \$95 million will be used mainly for grants, contributions and other transfer payments to Indian and Eskimo bands, communities, business enterprises and individuals. The Northern Affairs program will receive an additional \$35 million, mostly for transfer payments to territorial governments. Parks Canada's \$41 million includes \$10.8 million to compensate for revenues no longer credited directly to the program.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will receive an increase of \$121.3 million (15.7 per cent) for war veterans' allowances, the quarterly indexing of these allowances, the annual indexing of disability pensions, the increased cost of hospital facilities to offset a decision to cease crediting revenues directly to the Treatment Services Program.

The \$114.1 million (10.2 per cent) increase for the Post Office is the need to deliver more mail to a larger population.

Public Works' increase of \$105.8 million (14.5 per cent) is attributable to cost increases in capital expenditures (\$25.5 million) the cost and maintaining public buildings (\$23.9 million). In addition, the transfer of certain responsibilities at Goose Bay from Transport Canada and the U.S. Air Force, and the larger inventory of public buildings to be managed by Public Works, will cause increases of \$20.1 and \$10 million respectively.

The Canadian International Development Agency's budgetary estimates will increase by \$89 million, the main items of expenditure being bilateral aid and food aid.

Public Service growth cut by half

For the third consecutive fiscal year, the Federal Government's restraint

program has resulted in a significant slowing down of projected growth in the Public Service.

The 1977-78 main estimates authorize only 2,081 more man-years than the total allocated last February to departments and agencies which are subject to Treasury Board manpower control. This represents an increase of about six-tenths of one per cent (0.6 per cent) over the 1976-77 Main Estimates level and brings the total number of man-years authorized by the Treasury Board to 323,272.

In the fiscal year 1976-77, the Treasury Board authorized a total of 321,191 man-years - 4,007, (about 1.3 per cent) more than the 1975-76 Main Estimates level, which had been adjusted downward in December 1975.

The drastic cutback in the growth of the Public Service reflects a comprehensive examination of departmental manpower requirements conducted by the Treasury Board Secretariat, in consultation with departmental managers. It proved possible to cut, in absolute terms, the manpower resources allocated to some departments and agencies, so as to authorize higher-than-average increases in others to meet pressing demands. The Unemployment Insurance Commission, for example, was able to pare its man-year requirements by 653; the Department of National Defence found it possible to reduce its civilian staff; and, completion of the 1976 census reduced the needs of Statistics Canada by 941 man-years. It should be noted, however, that some apparent increases and butbacks in manpower requirements actually reflect the transfer of activities between departments. For example, certain responsibilities at Goose Bay were transferred from Transport Canada and the United States Air Force to the Department of Public Works.

Nineteen departments and agencies have been allocated fewer man-years for the coming fiscal year than in the current one, while increases of less than ten were authorized for 27 others.

Man-year increases range from ten to 49 in eight departments and agencies, from 50 to 99 in four, and from 100 to 499 in six. Only five require increases of more than 500 man-years: these are service-oriented departments and agencies which cannot forego additional man-years without curtailing their operations and reducing both the level and quality of essential public

services.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, for example, has been authorized 800 additional man-years to meet requirements arising from contractual arrangements with provincial governments.

The Post Office has been allocated 967 additional man-years, the minimum increase required by the growth in Canada's population; while Correctional Services, for which the Solicitor-General is responsible, have been granted 623 more man-years to improve the security of penitentiaries, for parole services and to cope with a rising demand for accelerated construction programs to permit the phasing out of obsolete facilities.

It is estimated that crown corporations and other agencies with separate employer status, whose manpower resources are not controlled by the Treasury Board, will require 31,620 man-years during 1977-78. This figure is slightly lower than the aggregate published in the 1976-77 Main Estimates mainly because it no longer includes the man-years of Teleglobe Canada.

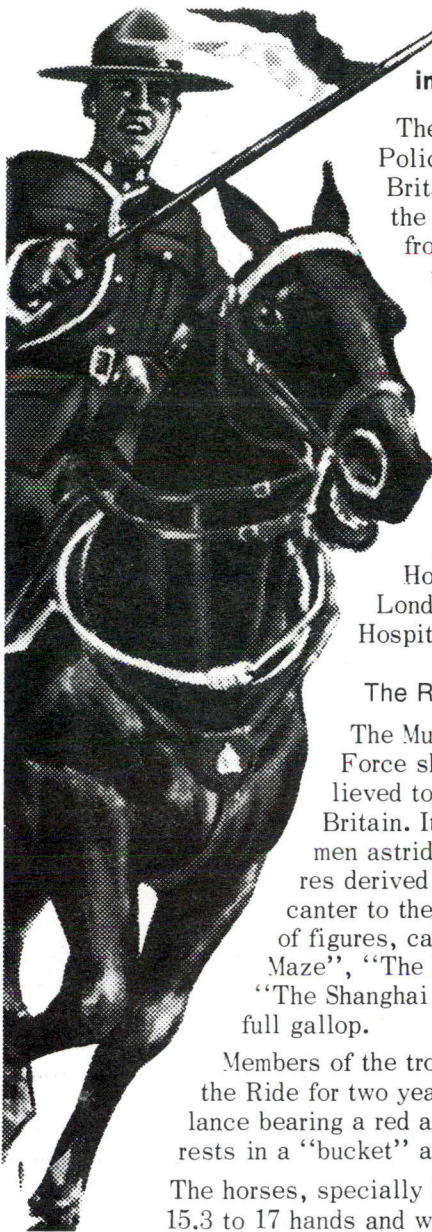
Senior federal jobs frozen

Mr. Andras has advised federal departments and agencies that targets for the number of senior executive positions and of high-salaried senior personnel man-years would remain at the same level, in 1977-78, as in the current fiscal year.

"The decision to aim at zero growth is not an arbitrary one," said Mr. Andras. "It was taken after a thorough review of managerial and other senior personnel requirements and resources in the Public Service. Moreover, provisions have been made for a measure of flexibility in the allocation of authorized positions and man-years between departments, to meet unforeseen requirements which may arise during the new fiscal year."

He noted the freeze did not - and could not - take into account additional requirements that may arise from the Government's consideration of certain recommendations made by the Auditor General in his annual report, or to be made by the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Financial Organization and Accountability.

The Government's decision applies, first, to man-years allocated for those groups and classifications in the Public Service which at the end of 1975, were in a salary range exceeding



Royal Canadian Mounted Police salute Queen's jubilee in Britain



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride will tour Britain this year in honour of the Queen's jubilee. The visit, from early May to late June, will be the fourth time the famous horses and men of the Ride have performed in Britain. The first was in 1957, followed by tours in 1969 and 1974.

Canada's red-coated "Mounties" will make a number of appearances during the tour, other than performing the Ride, including participation in the jubilee celebrations in London and Windsor. They will also be part of a ceremonial parade to the Mansion House to be received by the Lord Mayor of London and will visit the Canadian Memorial Hospital at Taplow, Buckinghamshire.

The Ride

The Musical Ride, which was instituted in the Force shortly after its inception in 1873, is believed to have originated in the lancer regiments in Britain. It is usually performed by a full troop of 32 men astride jet black horses, with the intricate figures derived from calgary drill, executed at the trot and canter to the music of an accompanying band. The series of figures, called by such names as "The Dome", "The Maze", "The Bridal Arch", "The Wagon Wheel" and "The Shanghai Cross", ends with a thundering charge at full gallop.

Members of the troop — all regular policemen who serve with the Ride for two years — wear "review" order. The eight-foot lance bearing a red and white pennon, which each man carries, rests in a "bucket" attached to the offside stirrup iron.

The horses, specially bred and raised by the RCMP, stand from 15.3 to 17 hands and weigh from 1,100 to 1,350 pounds.

Canada at UN water conference

Five theme papers are being presented by the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Water Conference, led by Leader of the Government in the Senate Raymond J. Perrault, at Mar del Plata, Argentina, from March 14 to 25.

Canada, in the fortunate position of having one seventh of the world's fresh water within its boundaries, has a problem of distribution rather than scarcity. One of the papers, from the Department of Fisheries and the Environment, covers river-basin planning, necessary because of an increasing concentration of population, and more stresses on water resources owing to the demands of an industrial and affluent society. The other paper, from the same department, dealing with the reduction of flood damage, describes regional variations of the problem as well as the divided responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments.

Canada's ten provincial governments each have responsibility for water resources within their territory. Quebec has prepared a paper outlining regulations for water management in that province. Prince Edward Island, smallest of the provinces and entirely surrounded by salt water, is reporting on the management of inland coastal waters.

Canada shares an 8,900-kilometre-long border with the United States, not only from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans but in the north with Alaska. Boundary waters cover some 3,900 kilometres. The work of the International Joint Commission, set up in 1909, is described in the fifth theme paper, prepared by environmental officials of the two countries. Canada and the U.S. have adopted two basic premises: water-related activities in one country should not be undertaken in a way which would affect the other country and all problems should be addressed jointly.

The IJC commissioners, three from each country, investigate problems referred to the Commission impartially and after study, often by a special technical board, bring in a unanimous report to both governments. It is customary now to hold public hearings at which citizens may express their

Crown corporation for Canada's rail passengers

The Federal Government has created a new crown corporation to operate all passenger rail service, Transport Minister Otto Lang announced this month.

The new company, VIA Rail Canada Inc., "will contract with Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways for the actual operation of trains on the property of either railway company."

Plans and budgets of the new corporation will be subject to Government approval. Mr. Lang said VIA would gradually take over CN and CP routes

and operate as a subsidiary of CN.

The new company will be run by a board of directors made up of representatives from CN, CP, the Government, business and labour, said the minister. It aims to improve rail passenger service while reducing the levels of public subsidy.

"The Government recognizes that the services are unlikely to be profitable in the short term," he said. "We are, therefore, prepared to contribute to the capital requirements and find a satisfactory basis for covering operating losses, provided effective management has been demonstrated."

views. Hearings are being held this month in both Manitoba, Canada, and North Dakota, U.S.A., on the building of a dam in the U.S. and its effect on flows across the boundary.

The Canadian delegation is attending the water conference to exchange experiences with countries on the problems of water supply, use and management. Canada specifically wishes to share its experience in dealing with disputes over shared water resources gained in the nearly 70 years the International Joint Commission has been in existence. Canadian delegates also want to learn how to solve such problems as water salinity, ways to combat pollution and the management of scarce water resources. The Canadian International Development Agency will reaffirm its willingness to provide assistance to developing countries, under its bilateral and multilateral programs, for water-related projects.

Senator Perrault, a member of the federal Cabinet, has attended a number of UN meetings, either of the General Assembly or of Specialized Agencies, and was one of Canada's delegates to the UN Habitat conference, which met in Vancouver, British Columbia, last June. (A.T. Hardy.)

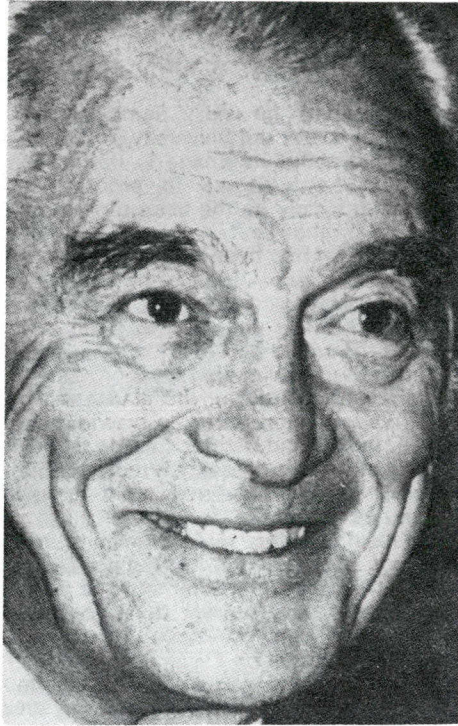
Mexico honours Canadian professor

Dr. William Epstein, a history professor at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, received the highest decoration given to a non-citizen of Mexico at a special ceremony in New York recently for his role in establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone in Latin America.

Epstein, an international authority on nuclear arms control, was presented with the Order of the Aztec Eagle (Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca as Commendator) by Ambassador Roberto de Rosenweig Diaz, permanent representative of Mexico to the United Nations at the ambassador's residence on February 4. Ambassadors from several countries attended.

In a letter to Epstein announcing the award, Ambassador Diaz called it a "tribute to your unrelenting efforts to achieve peace in the world through disarmament."

Epstein, a native of Calgary, Alberta



Epstein: a tribute to his peace-making

who is completing his third year at the University of Victoria, is the first former member of the UN Secretariat to receive the decoration. He was for many years director of the Disarmament Division of the UN Secretariat.

Epstein said the man chiefly responsible for the treaty known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco was Garcia Robles, at that time Mexico's Under-Secretary for External Affairs and ambassador to the UN, and more recently, Foreign Minister.

After the Cuban missile crisis in October 1962, five presidents of Latin American countries, under the leadership of Mexico, called for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America.

Epstein was appointed by U Thant, then Secretary-General of the United Nations, as technical consultant and adviser to the preparatory commission established in 1964 to prepare a draft of the treaty for the denuclearization of Latin America.

He prepared the preliminary draft of provisions of the treaty and advised delegates to the preparatory commission and Chairman Robles from 1965 until the successful conclusion of the treaty in 1967.

On the occasion of the signing of the treaty Secretary-General U Thant said

it "marks an important milestone in the long and difficult search for disarmament.

"It provides the statute for the creation, for the first time in history, of a nuclear-weapon-free zone for an inhabited portion of the earth."

Various provisions of the treaty have been used as models for other treaties such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968.

Quake relief aid

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson announced on March 7 that Canada had donated \$100,000 towards earthquake disaster relief in Romania. In addition, the Canadian Red Cross Society is sending \$15,000.

Some 20 dependents of the staff of the Canadian Embassy had been removed from Bucharest to Vienna because of damage to their quarters. Ambassador Jean Thibeault and 11 members of staff remained in the capital.

International travel deficit

Preliminary estimates for 1976 show that Canada earned \$1,941 million from international travel, 6.9 percent above that of 1975, while Canadians abroad spent \$3,123 million, an increase of 22.9 percent over 1975's figure. The result was an unprecedented deficit of \$1,182 million on international travel.

Travel receipts from the United States amounted to \$1,348 million, while payments totalled \$1,958 million for an estimated deficit of \$610 million. This abnormal deficit with the U.S., the second in a row, was mainly caused by a 6.8 percent decrease in the number of U.S. residents entering Canada and an 8.6 percent increase of Canadian residents visiting the U.S. For the first time the statistics indicate that the number of Canadian residents visiting the U.S. was greater than the number of U.S. residents entering Canada.

Receipts from countries other than U.S. reached \$593 million, 24.1 percent higher than that of last year. Payments to these countries attained \$1,165 million, resulting in a deficit of \$572 million.

News of the arts

Canada and France sponsor exhibition

The National Gallery of Canada, in Ottawa, and the Réunion des Musées Nationaux of France recently organized an exhibition of the works of Puvis de Chavannes which ended last month in Paris and begins in Ottawa March 26.

A selection of 106 paintings, 112 drawings and ten prints was made from both private and public collections for display audiences in France and Canada.

Called "a major retrospective exhibition of the work of Puvis de Chavannes", the exhibition includes preliminary drawings, sketches and replicas which depict the artist's development of each composition.

The National Gallery

The gallery sponsors a national program designed to promote a sense of cultural identity and greater circulation in museums throughout the country of the gallery's permanent collection, as well as to exhibit works owned by other museums in Ottawa.

The program, now in its sixty-second year, was one of the first art extension services in the world.

From modest beginnings in a two-room workshop on Parliament Hill, the National Gallery has expanded into an eight-storey complex with plans for future growth. Construction on a new building is expected to be completed by 1980, the year of the gallery's centenary.

Established in 1880, by the Marquess of Lorne, then Governor General of Canada, the gallery has since weathered three moves to its present location at the corner of Elgin and Slater Streets.

Its collection now numbers over 13,000 works of art while the reference library contains more than 50,000 books and periodicals on the history of art and related subjects. All exhibitions are supplemented by films, background literature, lectures and talks.

Among the less well-known features of the National Gallery are its restoration and conservation laboratories on the seventh floor. The labs, the oldest in Canada, are closed to the general public except on Open House days. They are considered among the best in North America.

Junk food donations for Theatre London (Ontario) production

Generous donations of potato chips and other "munchies" were received recently by Theatre London, a professional company in London, Ontario, for a production of Michel Tremblay's Les Belles Soeurs, being performed there this month.

Some 288 bags of peanuts, 4,800 bottles of cola, 22 pizzas and 350 bags of potato chips, which the cast will munch through during the course of 18 performances, were given by the merchants of London as their contribution to the production.

The story involves 15 ladies who have assembled in a kitchen to paste trading stamps into books. (Trading stamps, for those unfamiliar with this curious enterprise, are a publicity gimmick given out by certain food stores usually in the form of one stamp for every dollar spent. The consumer collects them, pastes them into small books and then trades the collections for household goods.) In the play, the stamp-licking party is sustained by vast quantities of soft drinks and "junk



food". Some 1.5 million trading stamps were provided by a Montreal firm — the stamp books filled by the cast will not, however, be negotiable.

Theatre London is under the artistic direction of William Hutt. Les Belles Soeurs is directed by Bernard Hopkins.

Canadian music encyclopedia

The Encyclopedia of Music in Canada Inc. has received a \$157,875 Wintario grant for manuscript preparation of the first encyclopedia of music in Canada.

If all goes well, the encyclopedia should be available by autumn 1978. But so far, the task has proved to be enormous. The project was first conceived in 1969, when Floyd Chalmers, formerly president of MacLean Hunter and now president of the Chalmers Foundation, read an article by composer John Beckwith in *Musicanada*. Chalmers agreed with Beckwith, who had pointed out that the material on Canadian music appearing in European and American reference books was inadequate.

Chalmers set up a series of meetings with musicologists, administrators, and musicians. A national board was established, with the Chalmers Foundation providing \$100,000 of the necessary capital and the Canada Council awarding a matching grant.

Work began in 1973, and it has been a painstaking task. The biggest problem has been in the area of research, which shows the tremendous need that exists for a work of this nature. Mabel Laine, the assignment editor, explains that because of "the reticence of Canadians to put things down...we're involved in an enormous amount of original research." If anyone has material which might be of interest to the research staff at EMC, they are encouraged to send it to Helmut Kallman, Music Division, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa K1A 0N4.

Playwrights share award for best play

The 1976 Chalmers Award for best Canadian play has, for the first time, been split in two and awarded to Larry Fineberg for his play *Eve*, performed at the Stratford Festival and W.O. Mitchell for *Back to Beulah*, presented by Theatre Calgary at the Tarragon Theatre. They each receive \$2,500.

George Luscombe, artistic director of the Toronto Workshop Productions theatre, has been given a special award for his "outstanding contribution to Canadian theatre." TWP, the oldest intimate theatre in Canada, has provided many of the directions Canadian drama has taken.

The Chalmers Award is the gift of the Chalmers Foundation and the winners are chosen by the Toronto Drama Bench, a collection of Toronto-based theatre critics and writers. The awards were announced by Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario Pauline McGibbon.

Budgetary main estimates

(Continued from P. 2)

\$30,000 maximum. Manpower resources authorized for senior personnel stood at 7,056 man-years in 1975-76, remained at that level in 1976-77, and will continue to be frozen at that same level in 1977-78.

Secondly, zero growth will apply for the first time, in 1977-78, to a key component of the senior personnel categories, namely the senior management complement of the Public Service, which includes senior executives and officers in equivalent positions.

These senior personnel categories will comprise 1,734 positions at the end of fiscal year 1976-77, to which must be added the 207 positions allocated to departments and agencies under the special assignment pay plan. This figure of 1,941 senior executive positions does not include Order-in-Council appointees in departments and agencies, most of whom are deputy ministers, heads of agencies and heads of missions maintained abroad by the Department of External Affairs.

Official languages: emphasis on youth
The total costs of official languages programs are projected as \$405.4 mil-

lion in fiscal year 1977-78, an increase of 5.1 percent over revised 1976-77 estimates of \$385.6 million.

The estimates reflect the emphasis on programs related to youth with an increase from \$149 million to \$163 million for official languages programs outside the Public Service. The Secretary of State Department will provide \$121.3 million for formula payments to the provinces to finance minority language education and second language instruction.

Additional funds of \$8.2 million will raise to \$30.1 million provisions for other youth programs administered by the Secretary of State Department. This reflects the new emphasis on youth announced by the Government in the Speech from the Throne, following the recommendations made by the Commissioner of Official Languages in his last annual report. Grants to minority groups and on bilingualism development are also being increased.

By contrast, costs of official languages programs within the Public Service are expected to decline marginally during the coming fiscal year. Outlays by the Public Service Commission for language training are estimated at \$45.6 million — an increase of about 2.4 percent over revised estimates for 1976-77. Twenty million — \$15 million less than in the current fiscal year — will be provided to the Treasury Board for the allocation to departments and agencies, under Vote 15, of additional resources required mainly for the temporary replacement of employees on language training. The only notable increases are in the estimates of the Translation Bureau and in direct or indirect costs incurred by departments and agencies to implement official languages policies.

Finally, the cost of implementing the official languages in the Armed Forces in 1977-78 is estimated at \$53.8 million.

News briefs

■ Solicitor-General Francis Fox signed a treaty on March 2 permitting exchange of prisoners between Canada and the U.S. Under terms of the treaty, Canadian prisoners in the U.S. or American prisoners in Canada may be transferred to their home country, with the transfer subject to veto by either government. There are now 90 Canadians in U.S. prisons and 174 Americans in Canadian prisons.

■ The Export Development Corporation has lent \$14.3 million to Banco de la Nacion of Peru to support the sale of equipment and engineering services by Foundation Co. of Canada Ltd.

■ Sales of North-American-built cars in Canada during January jumped 44.2 percent from the January 1976 figure. While the increase was anticipated its size was unexpected. Sales in January 1976 were lower than normal because of the ending of the Ontario sales tax rebate program on December 31, 1975, which led to heavy pre-selling in the province as buyers sought to take advantage of the rebate. Car sales in January 1977 totalled 60,123 units, compared with 41,682 in the previous January. Truck sales rose 27 percent to 22,636 units from 17,819.

■ Total production in the economy grew by 4.6 percent during 1976 from 1975 levels, mainly because of strong

production increases early in the year, reports Statistics Canada. In its quarterly report on the gross national product (GNP), the Government agency said that economic production fell by six-tenths of one percent in the final three months of the year. The declining production figure in the fourth quarter "followed two quarters of weak growth and left the economy operating at virtually the same level as in the first three months of the year." GNP is the value of all goods and services produced in the economy. The figures for changes are reported in real terms, after discounting the effects of price inflation.

■ Bell Canada says it has received a statement from the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission in which the commission suggests that the public interest might best be served by dissolving Bell Canada's ties with Northern Telecom Ltd. Bell Canada, Canada's largest public telephone utility, has a 69 percent interest in Northern Telecom, a telephone and communications equipment manufacturer. In recent years, Bell Canada has reduced its interest in Northern Telecom from that of a wholly-owned subsidiary. Northern Telecom accounts for about 70 percent of all telephone and communications equipment sold in Canada, a market estimated at about \$2-billion annually.

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