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Canadian Ultralights take to the skies

A new breed of aircraft is following the Canadian pioneering tradition. Thousands of pilots are now flying at an economical cost undreamt of a few years ago when aircraft operating expenses were rapidly increasing. The Ultralight aircraft have arrived!

There are already more than 20 000 Ultralights flying in the United States and approximately 1 200 registered in Canada. The market has rapidly expanded since 1975 when John Moody casually strapped an engine on his hang glider and flew it over Long Lake near Milwaukee.

The Ultralight aircraft is well-named. A single-seater cannot weigh more than 130 kilograms which is less than one-quarter of the weight of a conventional small aircraft. This restriction has thoroughly tested the ingenuity of designers who have produced a wide variety of craft.

Among the best of these are the Canadian Ultralights.

Lazair

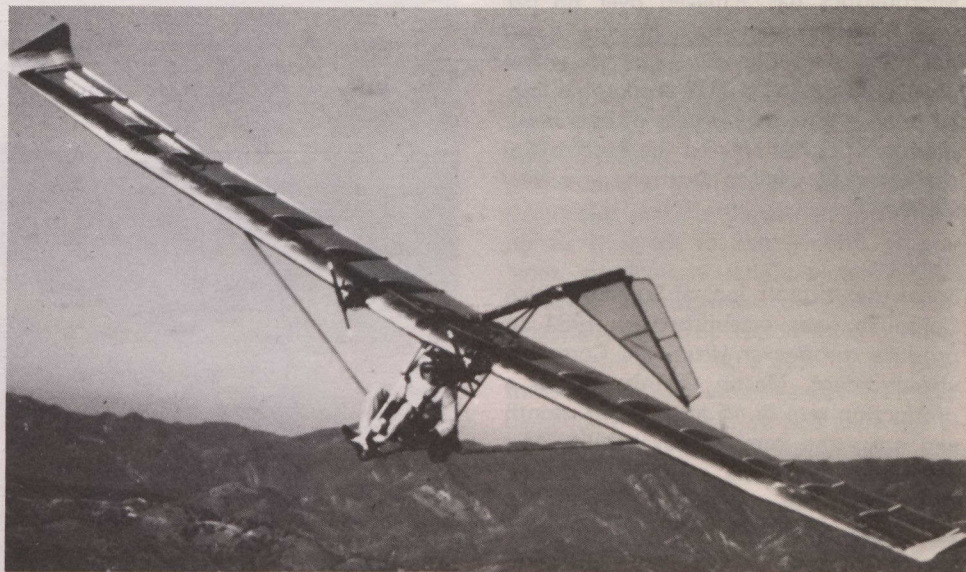
Ultraflight Sales Limited, of Port Colborne, Ontario, is establishing a

reputation for Canada with its *Lazair* similar to what Performance Sailcraft did with the *Laser* sailboat. Offering quality and performance, the *Lazair* enables the enthusiast to take to the air for an investment of less than \$7 000 plus about 150 hours of his time assembling the aircraft. For an extra \$1 200 he can add a set of floats.

The *Lazair*, designed by Dale Kramer, has developed a loyal following. Kramer's original design has remained superficially unchanged but many improvements have been incorporated since the aircraft's debut in 1979 including an optional streamlined, fibre-reinforced plastic cockpit enclosure.

Most of the *Lazair's* flying surfaces are covered with Tedlar (a transparent plastic film) giving a fragile, gossamer appearance to what is really an exceptionally strong structure. This aircraft is designed to withstand four times the force of gravity and, although not recommended by the company, can loop-the-loop.

A feature article in the US publication *Ultralight Pilot* concludes that the *Lazair* represents probably the best in-



Ultraflight's Lazair, with its gossamer-like wings, gives a deceptively fragile appearance to what is a very strong structure.



External Affairs Affaires extérieures
Canada Canada

vestment a prospective Ultralight purchaser can make.

Thor 1

The *Thor 1*, in both single and two-seat versions and with optional floats, was introduced to the market early this year by Thor Air, a Weston, Ontario, company. General manager Mark Vannan emphasizes the aircraft's strength, durability and safety as well as its "tail dragger" configuration which allows operation in rough ground.

The *Thor 1* uses struts instead of bracing wires and the wings can be folded back easily for storage or transportation.

Le Pélican

Ultravia, located in Repentigny, Quebec, offers three versions of *Le Pélican* in kit form, all equipped with four-stroke engines. The 18-horsepower version is for the motor glider enthusiast to climb to altitude and then enjoy silent flight; the standard model has 22 horsepower; and the *Super Pélican's* 35 horsepower turns it into a formidable 'bush' aircraft able to operate on floats. A two-seater version should be available this year. In common with other enclosed cockpit Ultralights, *Le Pélican* achieves air conditioning by the simple expedient of removing the doors.

CGS Hawk

Micronautics of Prescott, Ontario, also offers an enclosed cockpit Ultralight with optional floats. The *CGS Hawk* is a US design built under licence but it has a rapidly increasing Canadian content. Micronautics has achieved over 85 per cent Canadian content in its *Hawks* and has developed Canadian sources which are also supplying the US production line. In only a little over a year of operation, Micronautics has entered the Pacific Rim market with sales to Australia and New Zealand.

Beaver

Spectrum Aircraft Inc. of Surrey, British Columbia, was established in 1981 to produce the *Beaver* Ultralight. Company vice-president, Martin Dennis, quotes a production rate of 15 aircraft per month and notes the imminent availability of a two-seat version and amphibious floats. The *Beaver* has a standard Lexan windshield which can be supplemented by a complete cockpit enclosure. Dennis emphasizes the safety features of the rear-mounted engine and its pusher propeller.

Chinook

Terry Jones (known as "Birdman") manufactured hang gliders in Edmonton during the 1970s and graduated to the design and manufacture of Ultralights. His company is named, appropriately, Birdman Enterprises Ltd. and its latest product is the *Chinook*. The *Chinook* offers the comfort of an enclosed cockpit in addition to float and ski options. Careful attention to aerodynamics allows the *Chinook* to cruise on its 28 horsepower engine for an hour using less than 6.8 litres of gasoline.

The *Chinook* is the eleventh aircraft designed by Vladimir Talanczuk, and won the Reserve Grand Champion Award at Ultralight '83, the major annual show in the US. A two-place version of the *Chinook* was flight tested in 1983 and should be ready for production this year. Jones emphasizes the rugged qualities of the *Chinook* aircraft which are designed to facilitate operations from unimproved runways.

Skyseeker

The first single-seat *Skyseeker* Ultralight was flown by the Skyseeker Aircraft Corporation in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1979. The range of models now includes a two-seater and a crop-sprayer variant is under development. The *Skyseeker* folds for easy car-top transportation. It has a compact storage area of 0.6 metres by 4.0 metres and an assembly time of 15 minutes. The *Skyseeker* operates as a conventional aircraft (as do most other



The *Chinook* offers an enclosed cockpit with float and ski options.

Canadian Ultralights) with "true three-axis control" — the pedals operate a full rudder and the control column operates ailerons and full-span elevators, resulting in a very stable aircraft.

With a line of accessories including instruments, floats, skis and cockpit enclosure, the *Skyseekers* are offered as all-season aircraft.

"No-Name"

It is the nature of the Ultralight business that new models are continually being introduced. All the Canadian manufacturers have new designs under development and, aware of the growth opportunities, new



The *Hawk*, made by Micronautics, a firm with sales to Australia and New Zealand.

entrants are appearing. Airtech Canada in Peterborough, Ontario, for example, is flight testing a yet-to-be-named Ultralight which has a new wing based on designs by NASA (the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and is promised for this year. The new Airtech project is unique in that the flight test program has been conducted using a three-metre wing span, radio-controlled model.

Airchair

Another new Canadian Ultralight, the *Airchair*, is being flight tested at Carp, near Ottawa, by the Powerair Development Corporation. The *Airchair* is a "pusher" with the engine and propeller mounted behind the pilot. Company president, Richard Manion, sees great market potential for a range of related products in China and is busy learning Mandarin. He is also convinced of the applicability of the *Airchair* to crop spraying where he quotes a potential saving of 90 per cent on the cost of leasing a conventional aircraft.

Zipper

The *Zipper*, with optional cockpit enclosure, is a new entrant from Zenair, of Nobleton, Ontario. The *Zipper's* hinged wings can be folded and secured in two minutes to allow road towing or for added security on the ground in strong winds.

The performance and foldability of the *Zipper* has attracted a US agricultural spraying equipment manufacturer who promises a large market but increased power is needed to carry the spray equip-



Ultravia's Le Pélican has easily removable doors for quick ventilation.

ment. A *Super Zipper* is, therefore, on the drawing board and it is intended to offer an integrated aircraft and spraying system complete with training program. Zenair's new flight training centre is already attracting customers for the *Zipper* and is also introducing potential buyers to the company's wide range of aircraft kits and the new factory-built, four-seat, *CH-400*.

Controls Relaxed

Considering the tight control maintained by the Department of Transport (DOT) over Canadian aircraft, Ultralights are remarkably free from certification requirements. While most aircraft must undergo a rigorous certification program, Ultralights only need to satisfy a formula based on wing loading and weight — which effectively limits performance and ensures slow and relatively safe operation.

All a novice pilot needs is a medical certificate, a Student Pilot's permit, a degree of aptitude and the use of an

Ultralight complete with a qualified instructor. A pass mark on DOT's straightforward examination and satisfaction of the minimum requirements will give the student an Ultralight Pilot's Licence.

Taking a friend for a flight is restricted by DOT's insistence that two occupants be allowed only when one is receiving instruction from a qualified instructor. Nevertheless, the two-seater is increasing in popularity due to both its training role and its ability to carry a larger payload.

What does the future hold for Ultralights? Enclosed cockpits appear to be in demand, although many pilots enjoy the experience of flying with the wind in their face. Performance is becoming more important so more attention will be paid to aerodynamics, composite materials and engine efficiency. Styling, pilot comfort and price will be increasingly important in the highly competitive Ultralight world.

(Article from Canada Commerce.)

Aid to victims of crime

The federal government has launched a co-ordinated effort to improve and increase services to victims of crime in Canada. The initiative follows the government's Throne Speech commitment to give more consideration to victims of crime.

Justice Minister Mark MacGuigan and Solicitor General Bob Kaplan said that an additional \$4.8 million over the next two years will be directed to help victims of crime deal more effectively with the consequences of their victimization and with the Canadian justice system.

Projects to assist victims and witnesses will be developed in co-operation with the provinces and will include financial and operational support to victims groups

and community organizations. The Ministry of the Solicitor General will concentrate on police-based services, the Department of Justice primarily on projects assisting victims and witnesses during the court process.

The two departments will participate in a federal-provincial working group on victims of crime, recently created to ensure exchange of information between the two levels of government.

Mr. MacGuigan announced that legal education materials focusing on the special needs of victims of crime will be developed by the Department of Justice. Local organizations will be supported in their efforts to produce legal education materials tailored to the special needs of their local communities. "This initiative complements the project and research ele-

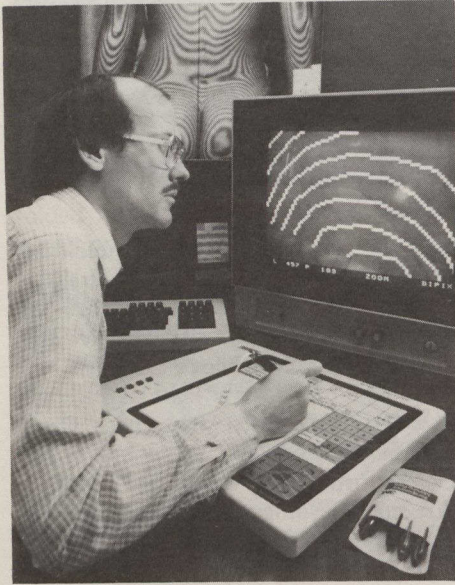
ments of a two-year action plan to help victims of crime deal more effectively with Canada's system of justice," said Mr. MacGuigan.

Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin said that her department will step-up its program to help victims of violence, particularly family violence. The National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, already in operation for two years, will receive \$500 000 a year for the next three years to allow it to meet the heavy demand for information and expertise in the areas of wife assault, child abuse and abuse of the elderly.

An additional \$200 000 will be allocated to the Department's Mental Health Division to develop ways of helping victims cope with problems brought on by assault.

Computer cracks scoliosis analysis

A National Research Council physicist is developing a unique computer system able to look at a picture of a person's back and determine within seconds whether he has an abnormal spine.



The Citizen

Physicist Jim Pekelsky with computer he hopes will diagnose scoliosis.

The system, to be ready for testing in 1985, could give doctors their first fast, efficient way to screen patients for scoliosis — the curvature of the spine that afflicts one person in ten.

Physicist Jim Pekelsky says the system will be able to analyze three-dimensional pictures and correlate the surface of the back with the shape of the spine.

Detecting scoliosis is usually difficult and time-consuming. It is time-consuming because there is no quick, automated way to screen people for the disease.

Using a camera method called moiré photogrammetry, doctors have been able to take a picture of the spinal column without using rays.

Although it is a good test for scoliosis, all the pictures have to be sorted by hand and analyzed by sight.

Jim Pekelsky's goal is to develop a machine through which moiré negatives will be fed. The machine will be able to track the curves and contours of the back by analyzing the light and dark lines on each tiny negative.

Automatic analysis will enable doctors to quickly sift through thousands of photos. The technology will even be advanced enough to distinguish folds in clothing from folds in skin.

There is no known cause for idio-

pathic scoliosis, but some doctors speculate the curve may be caused by an abnormality in the signal from the brain to the spine. There is also evidence it may be linked to genetics.

In 1979, scoliosis specialist Dr. Gordon Armstrong led a team of Ottawa doctors in an experimental screening program using moiré photogrammetry. They found several hundred cases among about 7 000 youngsters tested.

Children with minor curves are rarely treated unless they are experiencing pain or the curve appears to be worsening.

In Japan, every school student must be screened for scoliosis. The screening is done by teams of doctors who visually examine the spine for defects.

Some experiments using moiré photogrammetry are now under way in Japan, but an automatic analysis method has not been developed. There is also screening by school nurses in some US states. Jim Pekelsky says if Canada moves toward mandatory screening, an automated analysis system is essential.

Small firm soaks market

A small Mississauga, Ontario company — Super Plastics Corporation Ltd. — can take pride in the fact that, in a relatively short time, it has captured a majority of the Canadian market for garden hoses. It has also developed a fair proportion of export sales to the United States.

From modest beginnings in 1975 with just a handful of employees, Super Plastics now runs three shifts a day at its primary plant in Mississauga, and last year acquired a second plant, with complementary facilities, in the Toronto

suburb of Rexdale.

"I've always felt it was important to keep your organization lean and efficient, so you can react to changes in the market," president Walter Reszytniak says.

"I've always felt it was important to keep your organization lean and efficient, so you can react to changes in the market," president Walter Reszytniak says.

"You'd be amazed how much you can fall behind in just one year if you aren't constantly devoted to improving your product. We try to upgrade our line in some respect each year."

Another component of Super Plastics' success has been the ongoing market research that allows management to have a clear idea of what initiatives are feasible at any given time.

That philosophy enabled the firm to expand last year, while Canada's economy over-all was sagging.

Super Plastics' hoses are sold by most of Canada's major hardware chains, under a variety of names. Standard lengths are 15.2, 22.9 and 30.5 metres, and the most popular colours are shades of green.

Making hose — especially a version with integral nylon reinforcement — is a multi-stage process. First, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is heated to a molten flux, then extruded through custom-designed dies that form the inner tube. After cooling in a water bath, the continuous line of hose goes to a spindle-like unit where a nylon-fibre mesh is knit around the outside, then proceeds to a second die where the outer PVC skin is co-extruded around the whole product. Further cooling baths lead to the end of the production line, where the hose is measured, cut, coiled and the metal connectors put on.

(Article from Ontario Business News.)



Walter Reszytniak, president of Super Plastics, displays standard garden hose while a "soaker" hose waters firm's front lawn.

Water-knife a cut above the rest



The Citizen

The water-knife is based on the simple idea that pressure moves objects.

A surgeon performing a delicate operation prepares to cut through a section of bone. Instead of reaching for a saw, he uses what looks like a garden hose and directs a high-pressure jet of water at his target.

A worker in a shoe factory guides leather through a machine, where a pencil-thin jet of water cleanly slices it to the pattern desired.

Scientists at the National Research Council (NRC) in Ottawa are hoping that such events will soon become commonplace.

After working with high-pressure water jets for the past ten years, they have developed cutting methods that work on everything from ice to plastic to fur. An extra-strong blast of water will even bore through rock.

"The Romans were probably using this sort of technology 2 000 years ago," says Mohan Vijay of the NRC's gas dynamics laboratory.

"What we're doing is refining it into a cost-efficient tool that industry can use for all different types of cutting."

Pressure power

The water-knife or water-laser is based on nothing more sophisticated than the idea that pressure moves objects. When the garden hose is used to clean the driveway, for example, it is the water pressure that drives pebbles and dust along the asphalt.

Using a complex pumping system and fancy nozzles, Vijay works with much more powerful streams of water —

often rushing out at a pressure of about 9 000 kilograms per square centimetre — to cut or saw through different materials.

Blasted through a tiny opening in a nozzle, the water becomes a narrow, high-powered slice of liquid that cuts through its target "like a hot knife through butter".

Already, the NRC has been flooded with inquiries about how the water can be put to work.

HDRK Mining Research Corp., a creation of four major Canadian mining companies, recently announced that it will experiment with the technique for mining in the Canadian shield.

Attesting to the potential of the project, riddled chunks of rock, resembling Swiss cheese, litter Vijay's laboratory.

General Electric Co. Ltd.'s Cobourg plant now has robots cutting out car parts with thin jets of water. Bata Shoes Ltd. of Batawa, Ontario, is studying the feasibility of using high-precision water jets to cut the leather shapes used in shoe manufacturing.

Cuts through bone

Recently, University of Ottawa medical researchers tried some experiments using water jets to cut through bone. Preliminary studies showed that the normal Stryker saw used in osteotomy — bone surgery — can cause heat damage to the bone through friction. The water does not cause this problem.

The local researchers did not follow up on those preliminary findings, but West

Germany doctors are trying to fine-tune the bone-cutting technique. Results of their work are to be discussed at an international symposium on water-jet cutting in Ottawa in June.

One uniquely Canadian aspect of the research has been in ice-breaking. Vijay believes jets of water streaming from the bow of icebreakers could effectively carve a path through an iced-over shipping route such as the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Canadian tops in wheelchair race

André Viger, a 31-year-old Sherbrooke, Quebec, businessman became the first official winner of the wheelchair division of the Boston Marathon.

The winner of the women's wheelchair division was Sherry Ramsey of Arvada, Colorado. It was her second consecutive victory in the women's division in Boston.

In previous years, wheelchair participants have not had official sanction, but the Boston Athletic Association recently voted unanimously to establish a separate category.

Viger's time was well off the world record of 1:47:11, set by Jim Knaub of Long Beach, California, last year. Co-owner of a chain of jewelry stores, Viger lost the use of his legs in an automobile accident ten years ago.

Wild turkey returns to Ontario

One of the world's most exciting upland game birds is once again roaming Ontario's forests due to the combined efforts of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and the Ministry of Natural Resources, reports *Canadian Scene*.

The wild turkey, lost to Ontario residents in the early 1900s because of the clearing of land for agriculture, is being reinstated through the efforts of conservationists and game managers.

Seventy-five of the turkeys have been trapped from pure wild stock in the United States, flown to Ontario and released at preselected sites near Simcoe and Brighton, west of Toronto.

They have adapted well despite bad weather that accompanied their arrival. A number of birds have been fitted with radio transmitters to monitor their movement and to provide information that will be used to manage this protected species.

Equestrian victory for Canada

A quiet young rider and a strong young horse combined to startle the equestrian world recently to become the first Canadians to win the World Cup show-jumping title.

Mario Deslauriers, 19, of Bromont, Quebec, riding Aramis, a seven-year-old horse, took the title by beating the top jumpers in the world at Gothenburg, Sweden, and became an immediate favourite for an Olympic medal in Los Angeles this summer.

The fact that Mario Deslauriers, a relatively young and inexperienced horseman, is riding Aramis is part of a story straight out of Hollywood. When the syndicate of ten Quebec businessmen first saw the German-bred horse, they bought it specifically for Deslauriers, whose career they had been following since he was a boy.

The first step in the preparation was to send the horse and his young rider to the Pan American Games last summer as a spare, even though others had gained more points in the qualifying trials. He did not compete, but the experience was useful.

"We wanted him to live in the village, get the experience, see what competition



World Cup winner Mario Deslauriers riding Aramis at Toronto's Royal Winter Fair.

at that level was like," explained Moffat Dunlop, chairman of the Canadian jumping team. "As soon as the Games were over, we brought him back here and exposed him as much as we could to the international circuit in shows in Washington, New York, and the Winter Fair in Toronto. Then we sent them to Florida for a couple of months

this winter where the level of competition is very high."

"Winning the World Cup final is a dream come true," said Deslauriers, accepting the first prize of \$12 000 from Prince Philip, president of the International Equestrian Federation. "Winning the World Cup just before the Olympics is incredible."

Alberta music festival celebrates Bach's birthday

A \$1.3-million world-class music festival, TRIBACH, will be held in Edmonton, Alberta from March 21 to April 6, 1985.

TRIBACH, the Bach Tercentenary Festival, a 17-day salute to Johann Sebastian Bach, has been organized as part of the world-wide celebration of Bach's three-hundredth birthday. Other Bach Festivals will be held in Toronto, West Germany, France, Australia, England and the United States.

"This major musical event is the largest ever undertaken in Alberta and will bring together over 350 Canadian and international artists. The festival is a real partnership between government and the private sector," said Lois Marshall, artistic director of the festival.

The program encompasses Bach's most acclaimed choral, piano, organ and orchestral works, including performances of the *Magnificat*, *B minor Mass*, *Goldberg Variations*, *Brandenburg Concerti*, and major cantatas, suites, and motets, and the rarely performed *St. Matthew Passion*, as well as more contemporary

interpretations of Bach, programming for children, and masterclasses.

Featured Canadian groups include the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, CBC Vancouver Orchestra, the Canadian Brass, the Elmer Iseler Singers, Tudor Singers of Montreal, Vancouver Chamber Choir, and Pro Coro Canada. Highlighting the international roster are the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, the Stockholm Chamber Choir, the Monteverdi Choir of London, England, and the New Swingle Singers from the United States.

Among the visiting artists scheduled to perform are pianists Rosalyn Tureck, one of the world's foremost interpreters of Bach's music, Paul Badura-Skoda, countertenor Paul Esswood, tenors Seth McCoy and Ian Partridge, baritone Douglas Lawrence, soprano Edith Mathis and organist Gillian Weir. Also, conductors Eric Ericson from Sweden, John Eliot Gardiner from England, and Anthony Rosmarevid from the Netherlands will take part.

Canadian artists will include mezzo-

sopranos Lois Marshall, Catherine Robbin and Janice Taylor, sopranos Nancy Argenta and Wendy Humphreys, tenor Mark Dubois, baritones Victor Braun and Gary Relyea, flautist Robert Aitken, guitarist Liona Boyd, and cellist Colin Ryan.

Another dimension of the TRIBACH Festival will be the *première* performance of a specially-commissioned ballet to Bach music, choreographed by Clinton Rothwell, former principal dancer with the National Ballet of Canada and now resident in Alberta.

It will be produced by the Alberta Ballet Company for the gala performance on March 22.

To officially open TRIBACH on March 21, 1985 the festival will celebrate Bach's three-hundredth birthday with a fireworks spectacular choreographed to the composer's greatest music. The festival will conclude on April 6 with the performance of Bach's powerful *St. Matthew Passion* with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, a 150-voice massed choir and soloists under the direction of Elmer Iseler.

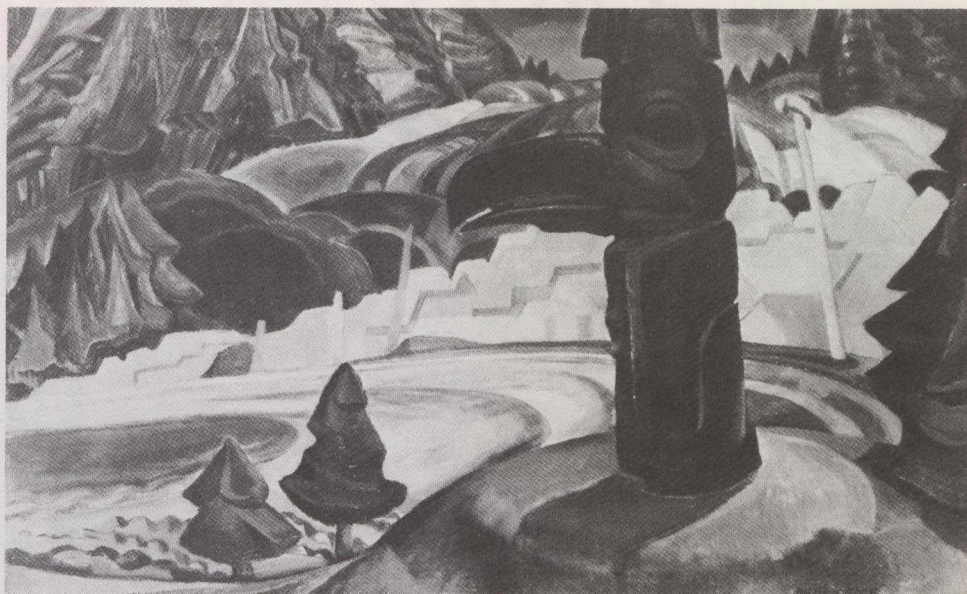
Winnipeg hosts Canada Packers exhibit

An exhibition including sixty-one works from the Canada Packers Collection opened recently in the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Few corporate collections have been as influential in the development of Canadian art as that associated with Canada Packers. Initiated by the company's founder and first president, J. S. McLean in 1927, the collection reflects artistic developments from a vital quarter-century of Canada's history.

At the time Mr. McLean began to collect, the common practice was to acquire European old masters. However, he decided to follow the example of Vincent Massey who had disposed of his inherited European masters and replaced them with the works of contemporary Canadian artists. In the late 1920s, the contemporary Canadian art world centred around the Group of Seven and so these were the artists whose work Mr. McLean resolved to collect.

His home soon became too small for his growing collection and he decided to use the walls of his offices in Toronto as additional hanging space. At first the staff was sceptical about the idea, but scepticism soon evolved into avid interest and appreciation of the works. Within a short time the project expanded to in-



Skidegate, by Emily Carr is among paintings exhibited at Winnipeg Art Gallery.

clude offices in other Canada Packers' plants across Canada.

During the 1940s, the Canada Packers company itself began to acquire paintings under the direction of Mr. McLean. At the time of Mr. McLean's death in 1954 the company was, according to his wishes, able to acquire 192 works from the almost 300 that he had collected over a 25-year period. He felt the collection had become such an integral part of the company that he wanted some of the works to remain with it. Of them, 138 are housed in the Toronto offices

and 54 were distributed to offices across the country in Edmonton, Winnipeg, St. John's and Vancouver.

The exhibition in Winnipeg contains 61 works selected from the approximately 240 now in the collection. They date from the 1910s to the 1950s and include both oil paintings and works on paper. Most of the important artists from this period are represented. As well as works by the Group of Seven, artists who were their contemporaries and others who became well known in the 1930s and 40s are also included.

National Ballet announces 1984-85 Toronto Season

Erik Bruhn's production of *Coppélia* will open the National Ballet of Canada's three-week November 1984 engagement at O'Keefe Centre, in the first of three groups of Toronto performances next season.

Coppélia will be followed by a tribute to the late choreographer George Balanchine (*Four Temperaments, Symphony in C and Serenade*), and a twin-bill of John McFall's *Components* and *La Sylphide*, with guest artist Evelyn Hart of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

After the company's Christmas run of *The Nutcracker*, the National Ballet returns to O'Keefe Centre for two weeks in February 1985, for Peter Schaufuss' version of the Bournonville classic *Napoli* and two Canadian works: Constantin Patsalas' *Canciones* and a world première by Toronto's Robert Desrosiers.

The final two-week segment of the National Ballet's 1984-85 season, opening at the end of April, will include *Romeo and Juliet*, with guest artist Carla Fracci, the company's première of act three of *Raymonda*, staged by Terry Westmoreland, and the world première of a work by David Earle, co-founder of the Toronto Dance Theatre.

Arts briefs

A ten-day Theatre Festival of the Americas will be held in Montreal in May 1985. It will give theatre artists, audiences and members of the press a chance to meet, discover differences and similarities and to develop long-term professional contacts. Its program will include more than 50 productions, several workshops, panel discussions, demonstrations, video documents, films and publications.

A collection of African art valued at \$1.8-million has been donated to the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston, Ontario. Assembled by Montreal collectors Justin and Elizabeth Lang over the past 40 years, the gift includes 574 statues, masks, ritual objects and implements. It has been the largest private collection of African art in Canada. Centre director Robert Swain said it would make the institution, which is associated with Queen's University, "a national centre for the study and exhibition of African art." Selections from the gift will be displayed in Kingston in early 1985.

Acadian singer-composer Edith Butler has won a performance prize from the Charles Cros Academy in Paris for her latest record album, *De Paquetville à Paris*. The record is being sold in France under the title *Je m'appelle Edith*. Previous winners of the award include Robert Charlebois, Jean-Pierre Ferland and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

Beardom boredom



This resident of the Assiniboine Park Zoo in Winnipeg is not so sure he is ready for spring.

News briefs

Microtel, a unit of BC Telephone, has contracts that may be worth \$10 million with Nichimen Corp., of Tokyo to market Telidon videotex services in Japan. Nichimen, Japan's ninth-largest trading company, will use the Microtel service to send information on stock market prices or daily horoscopes to offices or homes. Mitsui and Co., Telidon's Japanese agent, believes Telidon can get a 20 per cent share of the Japanese market by concentrating on business applications. Nichimen will also promote Microtel telecommunications equipment in South-east Asia.

Scarborough College, University of Toronto, is instituting a co-operative program in international development studies, combining academic courses with practical work experience in a Third World country. Students will complete a work term of about eight months, usually with a Canadian-sponsored development project or agency, beginning at the end of the third year. They will have to pay part of the associated travel expenses or raise support from local service clubs or business associations.

Air Canada has launched a \$75-million issue of ten-year bonds on the London Stock Exchange, marking the carrier's first venture in the Euro-sterling market. Funds from the sale of the bonds will represent 15 per cent of the airline's

planned \$492-million capital expenditure this year and largely pay for six *Boeing 767*'s being delivered in 1984. Air Canada has launched two public bond issues in Switzerland and two in West Germany since May 1982.

A formal agreement establishing direct cultural, economic and technological exchange links between Saskatchewan and the Chinese province of Jilin will be signed in June in Regina. The decision for the "twinning" of the two provinces followed a meeting between Premier Grant Devine and Jilin governor Zhao Xiu. The actual agreement will be completed when a Jilin delegation headed by the governor travels to Saskatchewan next June. The arrangements will make Saskatchewan the second Canadian province to have a formal twinning agreement with a Chinese province. Alberta has already twinned with Heilongjiang, a province directly north-east of Jilin.

In a move expected to enhance Canada's commercial and economic relations with Romania, two Canadian companies are to begin supplying equipment to that country's Cernavoda nuclear power facility. Babcock and Wilcox Canada of Cambridge, Ontario will supply heat exchangers and steam generators while Canadian Vickers of Montreal will provide calandrias under contracts valued at \$70 million.

Partagec Inc. of Quebec has announced an agreement with the National

Research Council to develop and distribute nationally bilingual National Authoring Language (Natal) courseware for such applications as cardiac arrest treatment. Partagec will use Telidon technology in the \$759 000, 18-month project. The organization is a non-profit venture created in 1965 to provide auxiliary services to social service institutions in the Quebec area.

A software cartridge that transforms the Commodore 64 microcomputer into a videotex (NAPLPS) terminal has been introduced by Avcor, a division of Southam Communications Inc. of Toronto. For \$99.95, the Jordan Videotex Decoder allows users to access a videotex data base. For owners with a disc drive, the cartridge will allow for the storage of individual frames for later recall. Graphic and text capabilities are incorporated in the cartridge.

A 22-day Chinese trade and cultural show, the largest of its kind outside of China, recently opened Edmonton's huge new \$36 million Agricom Building. The event featured 200 shipping containers full of exhibits, plus the Great Circus of China which started a Canadian tour there. The Chinese, who have a \$1.3 billion trade deficit with Canada, hope to make Canadians aware of their production machinery as well as of their textiles and crafts.

Gaetan Boucher, Olympic speed-skating champion, and Harry (Red) Foster, promoter of sports for handicapped children, were among six inductees recently named to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. Joining them were former Montreal Canadiens' goal-tender Ken Dryden, former Canadian Football League fullback George Reed, B.C. swimming star Leslie Cliff, and Pat Ramage of Montreal, who was elected in the builders' category along with Foster.

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