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## Freedom of information bill introduced in Commons

Canada will become the first country with a British parliamentary system to open up government records to the public if new freedom of information legislation, introduced in the House of Commons October 24, is implemented.

The legislation, introduced by Privy Council President Walter Baker, would provide access to information except for precisely defined exemptions and judicial review of Government decisions to withhold information.



Walter Baker

Under the present system, the Government is not obliged to release any information in its possession and it is usually withheld unless there is a positive decision to disclose it.

Four areas of information held by the Government would be exempt from disclosure under the new law.

### Obligations of government

The first area, obligations — where the government could not carry out its responsibilities as a result of publicity — includes:

- information obtained under international or federal-provincial agreements;

- information which could reasonably be expected to adversely affect federal-provincial negotiations;
- information reasonably expected to harm international relations, defence, and efforts aimed towards detecting, preventing or suppressing subversive or hostile activities as defined in the Act;
- defined classes of information harmful to law enforcement;
- information relating to the safety of individuals; and
- information which would have a substantial adverse affect on Canadian economic interests.

### Protection of privacy

The second area is personal information. Since freedom of information must be balanced against protection of an individual's privacy, this legislation would deny all access to personal information except where it relates to duties of government employees. An individual's right of access to his or her own file is now controlled under Part IV of the Canadian Human Rights Act. To increase that access and further protect access by third parties, the Government will soon propose amendments to that Act and remove it from the Human Rights Act.

### Financial, commercial, scientific, technical

The third area is financial, commercial, scientific and technical information which could divulge trade secrets, harm the competitive position of companies or interfere with commercial contract negotiations. For the most part, this includes information provided to the Government by companies with the understanding it be kept confidential.

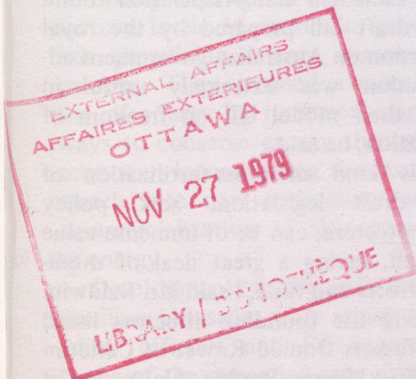
### Operations of government

The fourth area concerns the operations of government and is intended to protect information needed in making decisions. It includes:

- Cabinet records other than discussion papers;

Twenty-three years ago this week...

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent announced the creation of the Canada Council for the encouragement of the arts, humanities and social sciences.



Nov. 14/79

- policy advice and recommendations from public servants;
- government testing procedures;
- legal opinions generated within the Government; and
- existing statutory restrictions on disclosing information.

Ministers may override any of the above exceptions but three: information obtained under an international or federal-provincial agreement of confidentiality; personal information; or statutory restrictions.

In every case when exempt and non-exempt information is included in the same document, the non-exempt information would be made available when it is "reasonably practicable" to do so.

The following is a sample list of the kind of documents that would be released on request under legislation:

- Cabinet discussion papers and some records of Cabinet decisions;
- draft bills after introduction and drafting instructions;
- test reports, environmental impact statements, product testing results;
- technical and scientific research results and results of field research;
- statistical surveys;
- cost figures and estimates;
- minutes of discussions with industry and industry briefs;
- salary ranges of officials;
- details of contracts;
- terms of reference for any work contracted out or for studies of departmental programs.

#### Refusals

The legislation calls for a two-tier review procedure of government refusals to disclose information under the Act. Any refusal could first be referred to an information commissioner with ombudsman-like-powers to investigate the complaint and make recommendations to the department involved. The commissioner could report to Parliament at any time and if the Government still refused to disclose the information, the applicant could appeal to the Federal Court for a ruling.

Both the information commissioner and the Court would be empowered to review any documents involved.

The information commissioner and the Court would determine if ministers were, in fact, right in claiming exemptions under the Act when withholding information.

The new Act would operate in the following manner:

(1) The Government would provide ready access to publications explaining the kind of information that is available in the files of government institutions covered by the legislation.

(2) An individual or corporation could write to a government institution to request records, describing them as clearly as possible and including an application fee.

(3) Departmental officials would search the records, and consider whether they are exempt under the Act. The decision would be communicated to the applicant within 30 days normally. The minister would be empowered to waive exemptions in most cases.

(4) If dissatisfied by the response the applicant could take the case to an information commissioner for review. The information commissioner would investigate the complaint and make a recommendation to both the minister and the applicant.

(5) If still dissatisfied, the applicant could take the case to the Federal Court for judicial review and decision.

The Government estimates the cost of the program at between \$5 to \$10 million annually, depending on the number of requests for information under the Act.

#### Embassy stays in Tel Aviv

Canada will not move its embassy in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem stated Prime Minister Joe Clark, tabling an interim report recommending against the move, in the House of Commons, October 29.

"The Government accepts the recommendation that no action be taken on the location of the Canadian Embassy until the status of Jerusalem is clarified with a comprehensive agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours," Mr. Clark told the members of the House.

In making the announcement, the Prime Minister said he was accepting the recommendations opposing the move which were contained in an interim report prepared by Robert Stanfield, who was appointed special representative to study the relocation of the embassy.

"As a result of extensive consultation, Mr. Stanfield has concluded that a change in the location of the Canadian Embassy in Israel could be seen as prejudging negotiations among parties in the Middle East and might in fact work against progress towards a just and lasting peace settlement," said Mr. Clark.

#### Canadian heads world freedom of information body

An international organization on freedom of information has been set up in London, England, chaired by a Canadian.

The first issue of Newsletter, a publication of the International Freedom of Information Commission, lists Gerald Baldwin, Progressive Conservative member for Peace River, Alberta, as chairman.

Senators John Godfrey and Eugene Forsey of Canada; Peter Grant of the Canadian Bar Association and Richard MacDonald of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association are listed among the vice-chairmen.

Founding directors are listed from the United States, Canada, Australia, Britain, West Germany, Denmark and South Africa, with members still to be appointed in Switzerland, Italy, France, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

In an introductory statement, Mr. Baldwin touches on the problems and progress seen in Canada and other countries taking strides to increase the flow of information on the functions of government.

"Information in the hands of the people, freely available, with the exception of a few clearly defined exemptions, is essential to any democracy," writes Mr. Baldwin. "It is imperative to the efficient functioning [of] governments."

Mr. Baldwin writes that he believes an international commission is essential to correlate information.

The Canadian Bar Association found that a draft bill prepared by the royal commission on Australian government administration was extremely useful in writing their model bill on freedom of information, he said.

"This kind of cross-fertilization of ideas, draft legislation, acts, policy papers, etcetera, can be of immense value to us all, saving a great deal of duplicated efforts and time," said Mr. Baldwin.

Among the founding directors listed are Professors Donald Rowat of Carleton University; Murray Rankin, University of Victoria, and Gerald Gall, University of Alberta.

Newly named to the directorate are Mark MacGuigan, Member of Parliament, and John McCamus, research director for the Ontario commission on freedom of information and privacy.

## Food aid to Portugal

Canada has completed its \$15-million food aid program for Portugal, Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald has announced.

The program, financed by Canadian International Development Agency grants, is Canada's contribution to the balance-of-payments support organized for Portugal by Western countries.

This year's shipment of 14,500 tons of wheat worth \$3.5 million, which was shipped to Portugal in September, together with 56,000 tons of wheat worth \$7.5 million sent in November 1977, and 25,000 tons worth \$4 million sent in November 1978, fulfils Canada's commitment.

## Economic prospects and energy discussed at Canada/EC meetings

Economic prospects for 1980, including possible trends in world trade and prospects for growth in Canada and Europe, were discussed by Canadian officials and representatives of the Commission of the European Communities (EC), in Ottawa, October 16 and 17.

The extent to which energy would influence patterns of economic growth and world trade was emphasized at the meeting. Canadian and EC officials also outlined the steps they would follow in implementing the agreements reached in the recent multilateral trade negotiations (MTN).

Both groups agreed that attaining satisfactory levels of economic growth with less growth in energy demand was a priority. They stressed a more rational use of energy by increased emphasis on ways to conserve energy throughout the economy, incorporating the results of research into new technology and rapid commercialization of alternative sources of energy.

Developments in the coal, oil, gas and uranium industries were assessed by Canadian officials and EC representatives spoke of the expanded role envisaged for coal and gas, and the work being done to encourage solar and geothermal energy. They emphasized the importance of nuclear energy in reducing their dependence on oil.

The Industrial Subcommittee reported on the progress in industrial co-operation

## Canada/Yugoslavia move towards increased trade



*At the initialing ceremony (from left to right), were: R.K. Rendall (rear), Deputy Chief Underwriter, Foreign Investment Guarantees; Nikola Jelic, Chief of Yugoslavian delegation, Senior Counsellor and Deputy Assistant, Federal Secretary of Finance; Mitko Calovski, Yugoslavian Ambassador to Canada; John A. MacDonald, EDC Chairman and President; B.A. Culham, Vice-President, Underwriting and Assessment.*

Canada and Yugoslavia recently initialled an agreement in principle that would foster increased trade and investment between the two countries.

The agreement in principle to conclude a bilateral agreement was initialled by Export Development Corporation (EDC) Chairman and President John A. MacDonald, on behalf of the Canadian Government and Nikola Jelic, Chief of Delegation, Senior Counsellor and Deputy Assistant, Federal Secretary of Finance, on behalf of the Yugoslavian Government. The initialing follows a visit to Yugoslavia by

Mr. MacDonald in May 1979.

Mr. MacDonald explained that the Yugoslavian Parliament must approve the text of the agreement before it is signed finally.

Bilateral agreements facilitate insurance of investments under EDC's foreign investment program which insures Canadian investors against loss of their overseas investments by reason of political action in the host country. The agreements are tied directly to the Canadian Foreign Investment Insurance Program administered by EDC.

between Canada and the EC. Representatives discussed a joint research project on greater energy efficiency in blast furnaces used in the production of steel. The project, announced last January, involved 26 blast furnaces in Europe and Canada.

The Canadian Government also indicated that it would train technical staff in the use of the "Energy Bus", which is designed and equipped to test the energy efficiency of industrial plants and suggest methods of energy conservation. Some EC member states have shown interest in installing their own version in Europe.

The delegation examined new developments in the non-ferrous metals and industrial processes and the implementation

of a comprehensive program established in 1978 for co-operation in the asbestos sector.

Separate meetings were held October 18 with provincial representatives to review the conditions under which alcoholic beverages exported from Europe to Canada are marketed and sold.

Another European mission at present visiting Canada until November 14, is meeting with Canadian businessmen to examine Canadian computer technology. The mission, which is travelling to Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, could lead to marketing arrangements or joint ventures. A similar Canadian mission visited Europe in 1978.

## James Bay giant hydro-electric power project starts up

La Grande Complex, the massive hydro-electric power development under construction since 1972 in northern Quebec, was inaugurated by Quebec Premier René Lévesque on October 27. Mr. Lévesque turned the switch that started up the first turbine of LG2, one of four proposed powerhouses along the Grand River, a tributary of James Bay.

LG2, 137 metres underground, 111 kilometres upstream from James Bay, has a capacity of 5,328 megawatts, the equivalent of an oil production of 150,000 barrels a day, though the start-up sent only 330 megawatts of electricity through the power lines to Montreal. Fifteen additional generators this year, will bring it to full capacity. When the other three plants are in operation along the Grand River the capacity will be 10,629 megawatts. The LG2 reservoir will cover 2,835 square kilometres, containing some 62 billion cubic metres of water.

Guests at the opening ceremony included federal Energy Minister Ray Hnatyshyn and Premier Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick, as well as former Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa, who proposed the project when he was in office.

### Costs

La Grande Complex, is one of the world's

major hydro-electric developments. The James Bay Energy Corporation, owned by Hydro Quebec, manages an area covering 176,000 square kilometres, which is larger than England. The project involves the creation of six major reservoirs, nine dams and 170 dikes, requiring 150 million m<sup>3</sup> of fill. The Corporation will spend \$8.5 billion for engineering and construction of the first phase, which will be fully operational by 1985. Hydro Quebec will spend another \$3.2 billion for five transmission lines linking the giant to Montreal and other urban centres. The total cost of Phase One will be an estimated \$15.1 billion.

### Transportation, living quarters

A huge network of roads and airports was essential for the construction and operation of La Grande Complex. Some 1,500 kilometres of permanent roads and five airports were built in a short period of time. While the 620-kilometre main road, which incorporates ten bridges, is used mainly to ship material, personnel transportation is done almost exclusively by air.

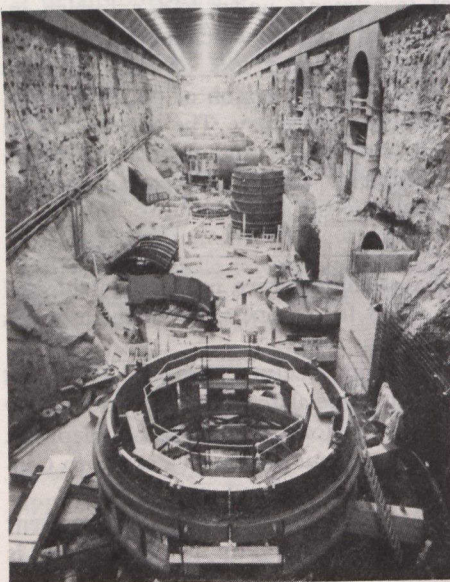
There is a campsite for each major jobsite which, although temporary, provides the comforts of modern living. At the peak of construction 1978-1979, the



*The complex had a peak work force of 18,000, comprising a variety of jobs.*

complex will have accommodated 20,000 people in six major campsites and five family villages, excluding 2,200 workers involved in the construction of the James Bay transmission system. Residents are given free room and board. Recreational activities, health care and all the amenities of a small town are available. Public utilities include a pumping station, a wastewater treatment plant and a refuse disposal system.

When Phase One is completed in 1985,



*The Citizen*



*Last year, at a cost of \$850 an animal, a team of 19 people, mainly Cree trappers, moved 170 beavers 50 miles by helicopter to new locations within the James Bay region. The beavers inhabited an area to be flooded by the Opinaca reservoir, which will be created when waters from the Eastmain and Opinaca rivers are diverted 150 kilometres (90 miles) north to the Grand River at LG2, site of the largest power station in the James Bay hydro-electric development project.*

News of the arts

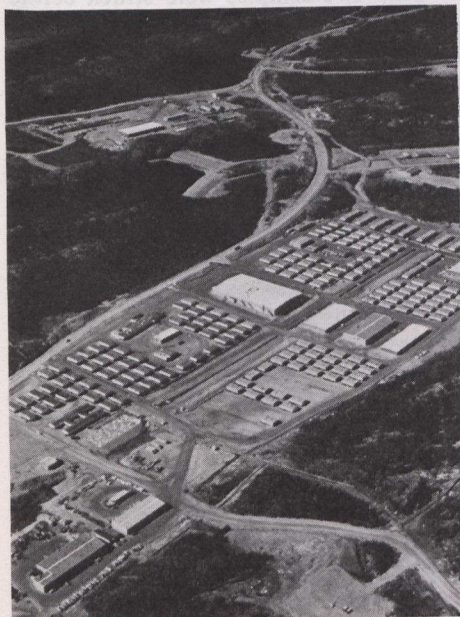


The first airstrip, La Grande Airport, was opened in 1973; it was built by widening an existing dirt road. The airport, the largest of five built to serve the complex, services LG2 and LG1. Two commercial airlines provide daily flights from the airport.

an estimated 500 employees will operate the complex.

**Native interests**

The La Grande Complex Remedial Works Corporation composed of representatives of the James Bay Cree Indians and the James Bay Energy Corporation, was created with the object of planning and executing remedial work programs to alleviate negative impact of the project on the activities of the Crees. This applies particularly to hunting, fishing and trapping. SEBJ has undertaken to pay a total



Aerial view of LG2 campsite.

of \$30 million to the Remedial Works Corporation for this purpose.

Clauses in contracts require companies to clean up construction and quarry sites when jobs are finished. During construction, environment officials on sites ensure that standards for clearing of vegetation, using machinery, and dumping of waste materials are respected.

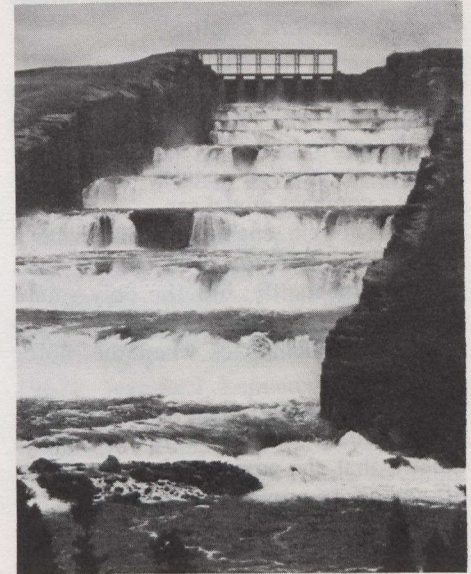
In addition to the annual budget, of about \$5 million, about \$250 million will be spent over ten years by the James Bay Corporation environment department to restore the environment following construction and to compensate the Cree, under various negotiated agreements, for changes created directly by the hydro-electric development.

The reservoirs, when all phases are complete, will cover an area equal to about 8 per cent of the 176,800-square-kilometre drainage basin of the La Grande Complex.

**New spawning grounds**

To compensate for the destruction of fish spawning areas, the environment department will create new spawning grounds by clearing spots along shores of tributaries and removing debris from stream entrances to allow access for fish.

The environment department has also experimented to discover effective methods of regenerating vegetation in the semi-Artic James Bay region, and about \$20 million will be spent on replanting and landscaping areas in the complex



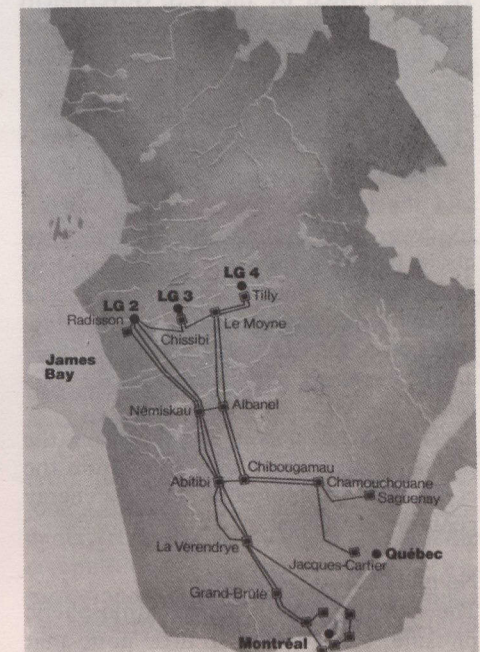
The Citizen

The spillway at LG2 is designed in steps to slow down the water flow, thus preventing erosion of the dam downstream.

which were cleared or excavated during construction.

**Comparison with other projects**

The James Bay hydro-electric power development is said to be second in the world to Itaipu in Brazil, which produces 70 billion kilowatt-hours annually. James Bay will churn out 68 billion kilowatt-hours annually, more than any other facility in North America. LG2 will produce two-and-a-half times the power of Grand Coulee in the U.S. and almost double the capacity of Churchill Falls in Labrador.



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## Energy-efficient engine

The recent annual meeting of K-Cycle Engines Ltd., in Winnipeg, featured a special demonstration: the novel design in internal combustion engines was used to power a compact model car.

The K-Cycle engine proved to be a quiet revolutionary. The crowd was hushed expectantly, but the only sound that showed the piston engine was running was a slight click when the motor was turned on.

The cylinders of the engine, installed in a standard compact car, operated so quietly that the engine had to be turned off and on, to prove it was working.

Hoken J. Kristiansen, company president and inventor of the K-Cycle engine, said the quietness demonstrated at the meeting was only one of the engine's attractive features.

He said major European and Japanese companies were interested in the efficiency of the engine, which has only one firing point — one sparkplug — and a much longer power stroke than conventional internal combustion engines.

Mr. Kristiansen, who has done most of the experimental work on the engine at the University of Manitoba, said the company hoped to obtain grants from government and industry sources in Canada and the United States to perfect the engine for marketing.

### U.S. interest

He was invited by the U.S. Government last February to take part in a conference in Boston that began a research plan aimed at developing cars that can obtain up to 50 miles to a gallon of gasoline within the next two decades.

Rick Shand, K-Cycle engineering chief, said the invention had a "similar weight-to-power ratio to the turbine engine, with about half to a third the weight, and half to a third as many components as the conventional engine. There are no tappets, push rods or valve lifters, so there are less wearing parts and less noise," he said.

The longer power stroke means the piston uses more of the power from the controlled gas explosion, and less energy goes out as exhaust.

### No muffler needed

The exhaust release is near atmospheric pressure, and there is so little noise that

no muffler is needed. Mr. Shand said a K-Cycle-type engine theoretically could be developed to power anything from a lawn-mower to an airplane.

L.J. Sinnott, K-Cycle secretary-treasurer, said a vehicle producer with a world-wide dealership network was working on a production prototype of the engine, which uses diesel fuel. He would not name the company.

The local test car engine has a carburetor gasoline flow, while the European version is fuel injected. The European version is expected to be ready for sale initially by 1982.

Mr. Sinnott said Pratt & Whitney, the U.S. manufacturer of aircraft engines, had expressed interest in the K-Cycle engine, and the Japanese conglomerate, Mitsubishi Corp., was involved in a royalties-sharing marketing agreement.

The meeting was told that K-Cycle, which has a staff of 25 and plans to set up a 5,000-square-foot laboratory in Winnipeg, soon will be listing its shares on the Winnipeg Stock Exchange.

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## Sasquatch hunt in Manitoba

Residents of the Little Saskatchewan Indian reserve, say they believe an eight-foot-tall, human-like creature is roaming the bush in their area.

They have organized a search in the area near Gypsumville, about 230 kilometres north of Winnipeg, Manitoba, to try to capture the creature, which witnesses say is black, walks like a man and, except for its face, is covered with hair.

"We're going to catch it if we can and sell it. It's a good way to get rich," search leader Clifford Shorting says.

Mr. Shorting said he scouted the area recently from a small bush plane with no results.

Footprints found in the area show the creature has a stride of about 1.5 metres, he said.

Norman Shorting and his cousin Ivor Traverse said they were closer than anyone else to the creature.

"When I see (sic) it, it was walking and ducking down. It was just like a big gorilla. Lots of hair over him, black, running like a man," he said.

Conservation officer Ron Heroux said he was shaken when he made a plaster cast of what is said to be a 390-mm-long (15-inch) footprint left by the creature in dry, hard mud.

He said whatever made the 50-mm deep (2-inch) impression had to weigh at least 400 pounds.

The indentation is "as close to what I've seen in ads and books on what a Sasquatch is like," Mr. Heroux says. "I don't know what else could make the print so perfect."

The plaster footprint is being kept at the conservation office as a curiosity, and no official investigation was planned.

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## Collector buys first silver dollar

It may be the emperor of Canadian coins, but encased in a clear plastic cover the dulled silver dollar looks in need of a good polish.

But a polish is not advised — it could drastically reduce the coin's \$189,000 value, reports Kerra Lockhart in *The Citizen*, August 31, 1979.

In July, coin dealer Tony Currato of Niagara Falls travelled to St. Louis, Missouri where he outbid one American, two Canadians and two Arabs to purchase Canada's first silver dollar from a U.S. collector.

"I feel very lucky to have got it," said Mr. Currato. "I had four offers to buy it before I even left the floor. One guy offered me \$10,000 more than I had just paid."

In 1910, the Canadian Government decided to issue its first silver dollars and commissioned a British company to design the coins.

Only two samples were struck before the Government changed its mind. One of the coins is now in the British Government's possession. The other travelled the world passing through several collectors, including Egypt's King Farouk, before winding up in Mr. Currato's possession.

Mr. Currato displayed the coin for the first time at an Ottawa coin show, which ended September 6. The coin, which had a 24-hour guard, was transported from Niagara Falls in an armoured truck.

Mr. Currato said he first fell in love with the coin, which bears the crowned likeness of King George V, when he saw it in an exhibition two years ago.

But he doubted it would be a permanent possession. "I fall in love all the time," he said. "Eventually I'll sell it."

Mr. Currato would like to see the coin remain in Canada. "Something like this is a national treasure. It shouldn't be let out of the country," he said.

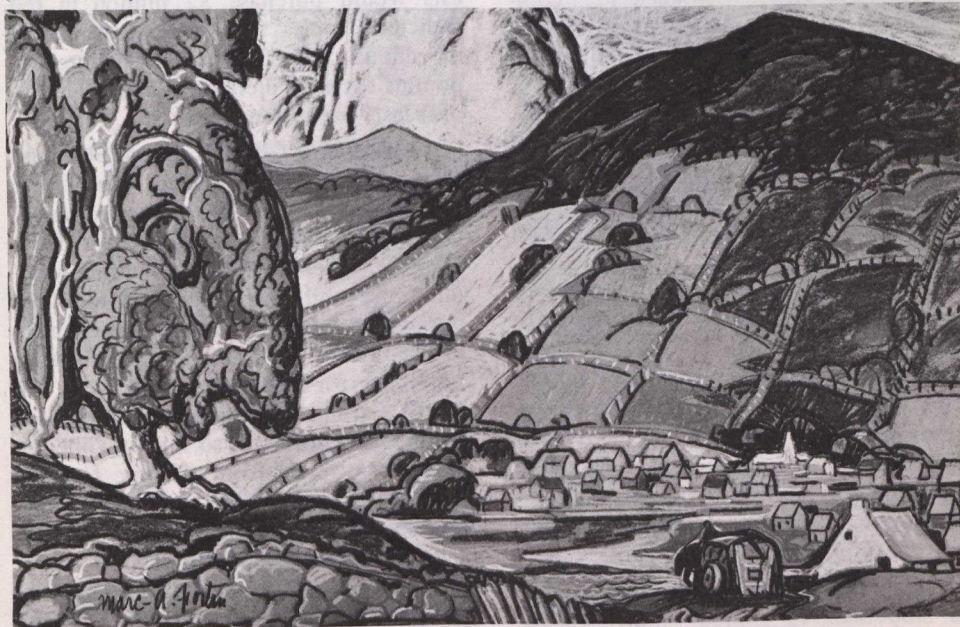
# News of the arts

## Landscape art in Quebec

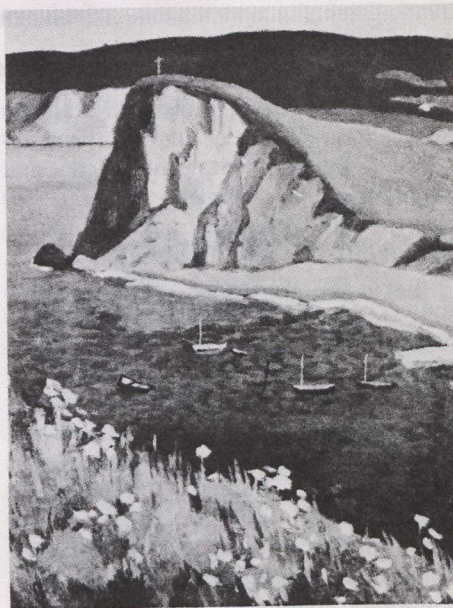
Landscape painting in Quebec remained a minor form of art until the end of the French Regime (1760). *La France apportant la foi aux Indiens de la Nouvelle-France* (France bringing the faith to the Indians of New France), by Brother Leduc (Claude François, 1614-1685) was one of the first landscapes in the history of Quebec painting. However, the landscape only formed a background for the main subject of the painting.

Interest in landscapes among Quebec painters began to be shown at the beginning of the English Regime, when topographical artists arrived with the British Army. Some of them had studied under the direction of one of the best painters in water colours of his time, Paul Sandby and brought with them the love for the landscape, traditional to the English School.

The realistic landscape painted in the romantic manner appeared about the middle of the nineteenth century. Among the great painters of the period were Cornelius Krieghoff (1815-1872) and Joseph Légaré (1795-1855). Then, in the years following 1870, artists turned away from romanticism and took up a more sober realism working at precision and seeking out features that would enhance the grandeur of the scene. This artistic view of the world was evident in the works of Robert Duncanson (1822-1872), Henry Sandham (1842-1910) and Allan Edson (1846-1888).



Marc-Aurèle Fortin, *Landscape near Baie-Saint-Paul, pastel, 1946.*



Edwin Holgate, *Field of Daisies, oil on wood, circa 1936, detail.*

At the end of the nineteenth century landscape paintings exhibited a realism arising from the love of nature, the land symbolizing the tranquility of everyday life. Horatio Walker (1858-1938), who was inspired by Millet, settled on the Ile d'Orléans to paint nature, country folk and animals. Marc-Aurèle de Foy Suzor-Coté (1869-1937) and Maurice Cullen (1866-1934), who trained in Paris, used impressionist techniques. Cullen, like Clarence Gagnon (1881-1942) reproduced the dazzling plays of light on snowy landscapes. James Wilson Morrice (1865-1924) called to mind the fauvist

movement and the theories of art for art's sake.

These artistic quests ended in the formation, between 1913 and 1930, of the Group of Seven, whose members sought to depict nature using large expressive masses. Among the most famous representatives were Arthur Lismer (1885-1969), A.Y. Jackson (1882-1974) and Edwin Holgate (1892-1977).

This very popular expressionist trend has also been seen in the works of Henri Masson (1907- ), Adrien Hébert (1890-1967), Jean-Paul Lemieux (1904- ), Marc-Aurèle Fortin (1888-1970) and Goodridge Roberts (1904-1974). While taking inspiration from a certain tradition, these artists demonstrated their support for the modern theories of form and colour.

## Children's show wins award

*The Friendly Giant*, a children's television favourite on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for 20 years, was awarded the 1979 Best Pre-school Program Award (English language) from the Children's Broadcast Institute.

Bob Homme, the program's creator, writer and principal performer, accepted the award at the recent Canadian Conference on Children in Ottawa.

*Fan Fan dede*, produced by Tele-Metropole Inc. of Montreal, won the award for the best French language pre-school program.

*Cosmic Christmas*, a half-hour animated special produced by Nelvana Limited of Toronto and shown on the CBC; and *Tele-jeans*, produced by Radio Canada, won the prizes for programming for older children.

## Ballet student wins U.S. prize

A student from the National Ballet School has won a bronze medal in the First International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi.

Owen Montague, 16, from Jarvis, Ontario, was awarded third place in the junior division. He was one of six students from the school who entered the competition. Two others, Susan Dromisky and Tony Randazzo, were among the ten entrants who made it to the third round.

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## Canadians buy more luxuries

Canadian families have more luxuries now than they had in 1972, according to Statistics Canada.

A survey of 35,000 households shows that Canadians by early 1978 were finding it easier than in the early 1970s to own a home, a colour television set and a second car.

The survey seems to show that, despite rising energy and food prices during the 1970s, Canadian households still had enough left over to boost their holdings of the non-essentials.

For instance, only 24 per cent of Canadian households had a colour television set in 1972, but this had increased to 72.4 per cent six years later. What is more, better than 50 per cent of low-income families had colour television sets: 51.4 per cent of families earning under \$4,000; 58.2 per cent of those earning between \$4,000 and \$7,999; and 65.2 per cent of those earning between \$8,000 and \$11,999.

Statistics Canada noted that in 1972, households had to have an income 34 per cent higher than the national average in order to own a colour TV. But by 1978, their income needed to be only 9 per cent above average.

Average household income, including families and unattached individuals, was \$18,221 in 1978, almost double the \$9,646 level six years earlier.

The proportion of households owning homes rose to 63.9 per cent in 1978 from 61.1 per cent six years earlier, with most of the gain in semi-detached units and condominiums.

In the six years, the percentage of households with automatic washing machines rose to 59.4 from 41.4; clothes dryers to 59.8 from 41.8; record players to 78.8 from 70.8; television sets of all kinds to 97.3 from 95.6; cars to 78.7 from 76.7; and two cars to 24 from 17.6.

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## News briefs

**Heward Grafftey**, Minister of State for Social Programs since June has been appointed Minister of State for Science and Technology. The Ministry of State for Science and Technology has been the responsibility of Ray Hnatyshyn, who is also Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The Prime Minister said that the Social Programs portfolio is being disbanded.

**Canadians can look forward** to some relief from inflation, despite the world energy crisis, the Bank of Montreal says in its October Business Review. Food prices provide the primary reason for optimism because much of the increase was brought on by a series of unusual and temporary conditions. It adds that if the Federal Government can curb the growth of the money supply, higher oil prices would not be met by printing more money, but by cutbacks on spending elsewhere.

**The bank rate** has been raised to a record 14 per cent from 13 per cent, effective October 25.

**Brascan Limited of Toronto** has bought 10.5 per cent of Noranda Mines Limited for about \$190 million through combined private and public share purchases. The whole deal was secured with a promissory note. The money is payable in ten years with interest payable half yearly.

**Canadian manufacturing investments** in the U.S. during 1977, 1978 and the first quarter of 1979 totalled 122, compared with 43 U.S. investments in Canada during the same period, according to a report released on October 10 by the New York-based Conference Board. Canadians directed 89 per cent of their total foreign investments to the U.S. while the U.S. directed 12 per cent of investments to Canada, compared with 18 per cent to Britain.

**The Federal Government** has agreed to provide the Northwest Territories with more road maintenance money to keep the Dempster Highway open this winter. The Yukon and Northwest Territories governments' interim management plan to safeguard the environment and wildlife will close the highway from April 15 to May 30 and from October 15 to November 30 to protect migrating caribou. The Dempster, the first all-weather road to cross the Arctic Circle, was officially opened in August.

**Air Canada** will be allowed to remain at London's Heathrow Airport, John Nott, the British Secretary of State for Trade has announced. He said the government was abandoning attempts to shift Canadian flights by both Air Canada and British Airways to Gatwick, London's second airport. The attempt had provoked a protest by the Canadian Government. Air Canada had claimed the move would cost it \$274 million in profits in the 1980s, mainly in lost revenue from passengers with connections through the major airport, Heathrow.

**Nineteen U.S. states have been added** to the list of provinces, states and nations with which Manitoba has reciprocal enforcement of maintenance arrangements. The additions are part of a continuing effort by the provincial government to enforce the payment of maintenance orders. Under the Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, a person who has a maintenance order in their favour may apply to a court in a reciprocating state, in which the respondent resides, to enforce payment as stipulated in a maintenance order of a Manitoba court. If the court in a reciprocating state finds the respondent in default of the order then it will enforce the maintenance order.

**British Columbia Tree Fruits Ltd.** of Kelowna, British Columbia has completed a deal with Taiwan, involving the largest export of apples there in the firm's history. A spokesman said Taiwan interests would purchase \$2 million in red Delicious apples from B.C. Tree Fruits, or about 90,000 boxes weighing 42 pounds each, an increase of 10,000 boxes over last year's order.

**Louis Victor Gibeault, Ringo Starr** and Max are headed for Mexico. They figure the trip will take two or three years. Gibeault is an incense importer from Lachute, Quebec; Ringo is a three-year-old horse and Max is an eight-week-old puppy. In July Gibeault left his business in the hands of friends and set out on horseback for Mexico, via New York and North Carolina. The group has travelled about 650 kilometres so far but Gibeault sees the stretch from Albany to New York City as being the real test of man and animal. His trip is being sponsored by the Foundation Claude St. Jean in Montreal which hopes to give money raised by the trip for research into a paralysing spinal disorder.

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