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Premiers reject federal proposals for constitutional reform

At their nineteenth annual conference in Regina, Saskatchewan, August 9-12, Canada's ten provincial premiers opposed major proposals of the Federal Government's document, A Time for Action Towards the Renewal of the Canadian Federation announced on June 12 (see Canada Weekly, dated June 28, Page 1).

The premiers issued the following communique on this subject on August 10:

For many years, provincial governments have shown concern over constitutional issues and have participated actively in a large number of conferences and discussions. As a result of provincial initiatives and leadership, a great deal of useful progress has been made in identifying problems requiring constitutional action, and achieving a greater understanding of their implications. Premiers agreed that the division of powers is the key issue in constitutional reform, and should be addressed in conjunction with other matters.

Need endorsed

1. *The importance of constitutional discussions* — The provinces endorse the need for constitutional reform, to provide the basis for all Canadians to achieve a greater measure of economic and social well-being and cultural fulfilment, and to establish more harmonious relations among governments.

2. *First Ministers' Conference on the Constitution* — The provincial governments therefore look forward to the forthcoming First Ministers' Conference on the Constitution now scheduled for the end of October.

They believe that the conference should be open.

They believe, further, that the agenda must accommodate all proposals, and should be drawn up jointly by the Federal Government and the provinces.

The premiers accordingly have instructed ministers responsible for the Constitution to continue preparatory work, and to invite the federal Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations to meet with them.

3. *Proposals* — In the view of the pre-

miers, important proposals from all sources must be given careful and thorough consideration in the constitutional review process. Some of these proposals are:

- the consensus reached by the ten provincial premiers in October 1976;
- proposals made, or under preparation, by or for federal or provincial governments, such as the report expected from the Task Force on Canadian Unity, co-chaired by Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin and Hon. John Robarts;
- the Federal Government's constitutional amendment bill.

Provinces must all agree

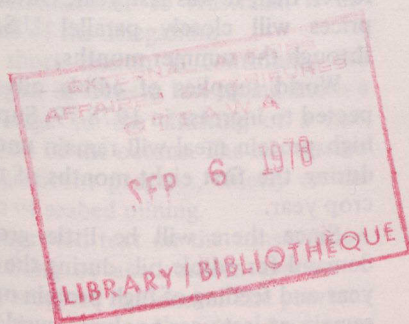
4. *The importance of agreement* — The premiers firmly believe that significant constitutional reform should have the concurrence of all governments, recognizing the equality of status of all provinces in the process.

It is doubtful whether the Federal Government has the legal authority to proceed unilaterally with proposed changes to the Senate and the role of the monarchy. In any event, it would clearly be wrong for them to undertake unilateral action in those or other important areas without provincial support.

Constitutional reform must be part of a process that will improve the well-being of all citizens and strengthen intergovernmental relations.

5. *A comprehensive approach* — It was agreed that discussions on constitutional reform cannot be compartmentalized into artificial divisions. Institutional and jurisdictional problems interact in such a way that they must be considered together.

The premiers agreed that problems involving the distribution of power between the Federal Government and the provin-



One hundred and fourteen years ago Friday...
The first conference on Confederation began in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Aug. 30/78

ces have been a major source of friction and have a negative impact on the daily lives of all Canadians. These problems demand equal attention.

6. *A realistic time-frame* — A comprehensive review is unlikely to be successful if arbitrary deadlines are imposed. A fixed and rigid timetable is unrealistic and does nothing to contribute to the harmony and goodwill necessary to complete a process of constitutional review.

The substance of constitutional reform

1. *The consensus reached by premiers in 1976* — Provinces agreed to advance, again, the 1976 consensus, which has not received an adequate response from the Federal Government. That consensus constitutes a useful starting point for discussions with the Federal Government in crucial areas involving the distribution of powers, and represents a positive contribution towards the resolution of significant problems.

Quebec said that, while committed to its option of sovereignty-association, it could generally go along with the 1976 consensus and most of the other constitutional points raised in Regina. Quebec went on to state that this approach falls within the mandate of the Quebec government to reinforce provincial rights, within the present system, and also illustrates some of the minimal changes required to make the federal system a serious alternative in the forthcoming Quebec referendum.

The 1976 consensus covered a number of areas of concern: immigration; language rights; resource taxation; the federal declaratory power; annual conference of First Ministers; creation of new provinces; culture; communications; Supreme Court of Canada; the federal spending power; regional disparities and equalization.

2. *Other areas of consensus* — In addition, the premiers, in the course of their discussion in Regina, have reached agreement on a number of additional substantive matters, on which federal views are invited:

- abolition of the now obsolete federal powers to reserve or disallow provincial legislation;
- a clear limitation on the federal power to implement treaties, so that it cannot be used to invade areas of provincial jurisdiction;
- the establishment of an appropriate provincial jurisdiction with respect to

fisheries;

- confirmation and strengthening of provincial powers with respect to natural resources;

- full and formal consultation with the provinces in appointments to the Superior, District and County Courts of the provinces;

- appropriate provincial involvement in appointments to the Supreme Court of Canada.

3. *Other subjects* — Further, there was a consensus that a number of additional matters require early consideration:

- the federal emergency power;
- formal access of the provinces to the field of indirect taxation;
- the federal residual power;
- amending formula and patriation;
- the delegation of legislative powers between governments.

4. *Elements of the constitutional amendment bill* — With regard to the federal constitutional amendment bill, premiers expressed a number of substantive concerns, in addition to the points noted previously.

Ultimate authority necessary

Provinces agree that the system of democratic parliamentary government requires an ultimate authority to ensure its responsible nature and to safeguard against abuses of power. That ultimate power must not be an instrument of the federal Cabinet. The premiers, therefore, oppose constitutional changes that substitute for the Queen as ultimate authority, a governor general whose appointment and dismissal would be solely at the pleasure of the federal Cabinet.

The provinces regard the House of the Federation, as proposed, as unworkable.

Some provinces support the principle of constitutional entrenchment of basic rights; while others believe that, under our parliamentary system, individual rights are better protected by basic constitutional traditions and the ordinary legislative process.

Provinces are concerned over Section 8 of the federal bill and its potential interference with important provincial legislation respecting land ownership and other matters.

Some premiers noted that the proposed language guarantees go substantially beyond earlier proposals, and feel that practical difficulties may be encountered in their provinces, particularly in respect of provincial government ser-

vices and courts.

All premiers expressed grave concern that Section 109 of the British North America Act, concerning provincial ownership of natural resources, has not been carried forward into the proposed new constitution.

Premiers are concerned that Section 32 of the constitutional amendment bill is an attempt by the Federal Government to acquire from the provinces jurisdiction over offshore territories and resources.

Premiers feel that, if there is to be a preamble, it should be short, clear, and precise. A statement of aims, if any, would best be included in the preamble.

Premiers stressed that all these issues, and others, will require careful and detailed discussion with the Federal Government.

Grain and oilseed outlook

Canadian wheat production is expected to be about 20 million tonnes this year, just slightly more than last year's harvest. Agriculture Canada economists expect the average price for Canada's top grade of wheat to be above \$140 a tonne, higher in 1978-79 than it has been in the last two years.

This year's coarse grain production in Canada is tentatively forecast at 21.1 million tonnes, 5 percent below last year's total. With the expected carryover, total supplies are expected to be up 2 percent at 28.3 million tonnes.

Prairie plantings of barley and oats are down this year and corn production is also projected to be about 4 percent lower than it was last year. Ontario corn prices will closely parallel U.S. prices through the summer months.

World supplies of edible oils are expected to increase in 1978-79. Supplies of high protein meal will remain unchanged during the first eight months of the new crop year.

Since there will be little growth in demand for edible oils during the coming year and feeding of high protein meal will remain at last year's volume, world edible oil prices are expected to decline while high protein meal prices will stay about the same or decline slightly.

Canadian soybean prices may be about \$230 a tonne this autumn. Rapeseed prices in Vancouver are expected to be about \$260 a tonne in 1978-79.

Inuit back ban on whale hunting

Fisheries Minister Roméo LeBlanc announced recently that the hunting of bowhead whales in Canadian waters had been prohibited for 1978, following a regulation adopted last year by the International Whaling Commission (IWC), of which Canada is a member.

The moratorium, which previously applied only to commercial whaling, has been extended to cover aboriginal subsistence whaling as well, with the exception of the Alaskan bowhead stock, for which a very low quota has been established.

Commercial whaling for bowhead whales has been banned in Canada since 1952 but native people have been permitted to carry on traditional whaling activities for their own use. Representatives of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and the Committee on Original Peoples Entitlement have agreed not to harvest any bowhead whales in 1978. The agreement will be reviewed after the IWC's 1978 annual meeting.

Law of the sea conference meets in New York

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson, with the assistance of Justice and Transport Minister Otto Lang, and Fisheries and Environment Minister Roméo LeBlanc, is leading the Canadian delegation to the resumed seventh session of the third UN Law of the Sea Conference in New York from August 21 to September 15. J. Alan Beesley, Canadian High Commissioner to Australia, is deputy head of the delegation.

This short session is continuing the work begun in Geneva last spring and is a crucial stage to the drafting of a new convention of the oceans. The last session made significant progress, chiefly on the question of seabed mining.

An improved text on the conservation and catching of anadromous species of fish was accepted in Geneva. The previous session also appeared to be close to a compromise on the question of the access of landlocked and geographically disadvantaged states to surplus living resources in the economic zones of the coastal states, their regions and subregions. The participants acknowledge, however, that the latter question is closely linked to

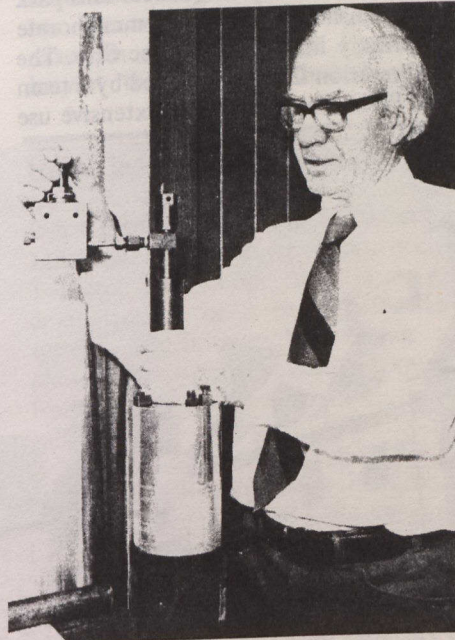
that of the definition of the seaward edge of the continental margin. Discussions, in which progress was made in Geneva on other questions, such as protection of the marine environment, delimitation of maritime boundaries and settlement of disputes, are being continued in New York.

Recent progress, in addition to the results achieved in previous sessions (12-mile territorial waters, 200-mile fishing zone, special pollution control measures in the Arctic), will still have to be set down in a universally-accepted convention after the most difficult questions, in particular the question of the system of seabed mining, have been resolved.

Wood converted to heating oil

Researchers at the University of Saskatchewan have converted small quantities of aspen poplar into a heavy black liquid that resembles bunker C heating oil.

Professors R.L. Eager, J.M. Pepper and J.F. Mathews of the department of chemistry and chemical engineering, suggest that the liquid might be used as a substitute for bunker C if their efforts to find an economically feasible method of production are successful.



Dr. R.L. Eager of the University of Saskatchewan inserts a reactor containing aspen poplar, water, carbon monoxide and a catalyst into a holder which in turn will be placed into a heavy-walled stainless steel vessel for heating.

In addition, a graduate student, Hussein Zohdi, is doing a fundamental study of the chemistry involved, since the researchers have only limited knowledge of the reactions that take place.

Complex chemistry

"The wood is radically changed in the process and the basic chemistry is complex. If we understood it better, we might be able to improve the yield and quality of the fuel," they said.

At present, it has a heating value of up to 15,000 BTUs per pound, compared with between 8,000 and 9,000 for the original wood and 18,500 for bunker C heating oil. Bunker C, however, often contains sulphur, which contributes to pollution, whereas the liquid derived from aspen has none.

The principal advantage, the researchers say, is that aspen poplar is a renewable resource available in Western Canada in abundance. Saskatchewan has enough to allow 2.43 million tonnes to be harvested annually on a perpetual basis. However, only 5 per cent of this is being cut at present.

Furthermore, aspen's genetic make-up permits the development of fast growing hybrids, which plant breeders say might increase the annual yield by a factor of five. In addition, aspen reproduces from suckers, making it self-renewing.

The researchers state that other biomass material like wheat straw and peat-moss can be converted to a similar fuel. Saskatchewan produces several million tonnes of surplus straw annually that could be used for this purpose.

EDC helps \$2-billion deal

The Export Development Corporation has approved loans, export credits and surety insurance, as well as foreign investment guarantees, totalling \$1.71 billion to support prospective Canadian export sales of \$2 billion to 13 countries: Algeria, Bolivia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, India, Iran, Nigeria, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Singapore, the United States and Yemen.

Of the total, \$1.68 billion was approved for loans and insurance in support of potential sales of \$1.9 billion. The export sales that will result, if commercial sales are finalized, will create or maintain more than 70,400 man-years of employment in Canada and involve at least 130

suppliers across the country. Foreign investment guarantees approved for \$45.97 million are expected to bring benefits of \$96.5 million to Canada.

The transactions involve such goods and services as a lube oil plant, baby food plants, agricultural machinery, a power plant and power turbines, a radio transmission station, a liquified natural gas plant, mining and diamond drilling equipment, electrical cable, a tire factory, technical and construction management services, poultry breeding and egg production facilities. Also involved are pre-fabricated housing, buses, pre-packaged meals, drilling and foundation construction, a data processing system, a papermaking machine, rescue vehicles, engineering services and telecommunications system.

In addition are: an electrical engineering project, pulp wood, fishery management, pharmaceutical facilities and mining engineering, steel coils, a waterworks project, bread machines, a computer centre, pulp mill equipment, electronic equipment and mining pumps.

Anniversary of the foundation of Quebec City

A three-day celebration in Quebec City recently, marked the three-hundred-and-seventieth anniversary of the city's foundation by Samuel de Champlain.

One of the highlights of the celebrations was the *première* on July 3 of the *Concerto pour Hélène*, a musical drama by Claude Léveillée written in honour of Hélène Boule, Champlain's wife. The concerto was played by the Quebec Symphony Orchestra with soloist Danielle Licari and the Saint-Dominique Choir. That day was also marked by speeches by Premier René Lévesque of Quebec and Mayor Jean Pelletier of Quebec City. Cardinal Maurice Roy, Archbishop of Quebec, officiated at a religious ceremony in the Place Royale, where Champlain laid the original foundations of the city.

Gift from France

Jean-Philippe Lecat, France's Minister of Culture and Communications, presented Quebec City on behalf of the French Government with ten pieces of artillery for the recently restored Batterie Royale. The ten cannon were cast recently in France, using original designs, after

The Champlain Habitation: new archaeological discoveries

Following test cuts made by the Archaeological and Ethnological Service of the Cultural Heritage Branch of the Quebec provincial government this spring in the basement of Notre-Dame des Victoires, a church in Quebec City, new remains of the second Champlain Habitation built in 1624 have been brought to light. The walls discovered form an extension to those already uncovered during the excavations of 1975-76 and 1977. These walls have been covered over again while the results of studies conducted on the preservation, development and future accessibility of the second Champlain Habitation are awaited.

According to a statement from the Quebec Department of Cultural Affairs, "the state of preservation of the walls is particularly remarkable; they have been sheltered from the elements since the church was built in 1688".

Archaeologists now have proof that the long side section of the second Champlain Habitation extends into the basement of Notre-Dame des Victoires. While test cuts were being made, a section of Champlain's storehouse which was built in 1616, or perhaps 1608, was discovered.

The archaeologists believe it may be possible to locate the bases of the chimneys of the first Habitation which was built of wood in 1608.

During the course of excavations, various finds were made. These included potsherds from Normandy and the region around Beauvais, brown stoneware, silver and copper coins of 1593, 1629, 1640 and 1655, roofing tiles, musket balls, gun flints from Berry, a significant quantity of discarded food bones, slates, fragments of pottery and glass and personal objects.

France had looked in vain for guns dating from the period. The mountings were made in Quebec.

Canada's Postmaster-General Gilles Lamontagne opened the Interpretation Centre of the Parc de l'Artillerie in the heart of the old city of Quebec. This park was established in 1972 to commemorate the military history of Quebec City. The Interpretation Centre, designed by a team from Parks Canada, makes extensive use

of audiovisual techniques. Its presentation revolves around three central themes that recall the different periods of occupation of the Parc de l'Artillerie: the construction of the fortifications, the life of the military in Quebec City and the first Dominion Arsenal.

Some 144 Cajuns from Louisiana, U.S.A., and many other Americans of French stock, came from the U.S. to join in the festivities.



Notre-Dame des Victoires Church near which many treasures have been uncovered.

Merrie England in Toronto

The aristocratic lifestyle of mediaeval rural England can now be enjoyed in Canada, thanks to an unusual and ambitious venture by a British building company, R. Durtnell & Sons Ltd. of Brasted, near Westerham, in Kent, reports *Canada-United Kingdom Trade News*, April 1978.

The company plans to sell a limited number of genuine antique oak-framed houses and barns for construction in Canada.

The first impressive example — a massive 45-room mansion on a two-acre site in Toronto — is now rising above the banks of the River Don. The house, twin oast roundels and garage block, which incorporates staff quarters, has been designed in the traditional English rural style. The builders shipped two ancient oak structures from England, one certified as dating from 1655, which form the main structural frameworks of both the house and the garage block.

Each beam, column, stud and rafter was carefully treated, crated and re-erected in a manner as faithful as possible to the original style. The roof has genuine antique hand-made clay tiles from England, and genuine antique components have been shipped wherever possible.

Grand scale

As an example of the blend of ancient and modern techniques, the oak window frames were made in England and shipped to Canada, together with their handmade double glazed leaded light windows.

There are nine bedrooms, six bathrooms, including a small suite in the rear oast tower which is accessible only by its own staircase, a ballroom, a billiards room, a wine cellar, a sauna and athletic area, several games rooms and a tennis court (floodlit) near the garage block.

The main driveway, with anti-frost underground heating, also boasts handmade English wrought iron gates and leads to the cobbled front courtyard.

Traditional finish

Before shipment, the builders carefully surveyed each building, labelling each piece of oak for later reference. Each member was then examined and any necessary repairs or replacements carried out, always with oak of like age.

The complete oak structures were then



Twin oast towers (centre), once used for drying hops to make beer in England, now occupy a prominent position on Toronto suburban property.

treated with methyl bromide to comply with Canadian import requirements before finally being treated with preservative. The finish of the structural oak timbers is unsawn or hewn, as is traditional in English country houses of the sixteenth century.

The oast towers, which were used long ago for the drying of hops for ale making, have been widely converted for domestic use. The cowl on the towers are working examples, imported from England. At harvest time in Kent fresh hops were

piled three or four feet deep on the upper slatted floor of the oast over a slow burning charcoal fire. The traditional cowl or chimney on the conical roof revolved to leeward to keep out the elements and after several days, the dried hops were collected and used to give British beer its particular taste.

As most old buildings in Britain are under strict preservation orders, only a few buildings like the Toronto mansion can be shipped abroad — or disturbed in any way.

Home information system

Bell Canada of Montreal, Southam Press Ltd. and Torstar Corporation, both of Toronto, are co-operating in a pilot demonstration of a home information system, which, through existing telephone lines, can provide information from a central computer at the viewer's call.

The project will use technology provided by Bell-Northern Research Ltd.

The system, of a type known generally as Videotex, will be installed in a demonstration early next year. It will be limited to a connection between a terminal consisting of a home television set, a key pad similar to that of a typewriter and a computer. A spokesman for Bell Canada said the demonstration would be used to conduct a larger market study in 1980, in which systems may be connected to selected home users.

Videotex allows a home or business user to call and receive information from a computer which types out the replies. The home television is connected so that words or graphic information can be displayed on the screen.

Type of information

Southam and Torstar will provide the information for use in the project. "One of our biggest problems is to decide what information people want," the spokesman said. Among the possibilities are weather and travel details. But subscribers may eventually have access to a wide range of news, entertainment, advertising and other information.

The Federal Government's Department of Communications recently announced the development of a new Videotex system that would allow direct terminal-to-terminal communication without the need of a central computer.

Language skills for Quebec pilots

Transport Canada is trying to familiarize pilots with bilingual terms and phrases in air-to-ground communications in Quebec, with information that is available to members of flying schools, clubs and aviation-related associations. An audio-visual production has been prepared in cooperation with the National Film Board and the Department's air-traffic services branch, as well as a small phonetic English-French, French-English lexicon listing current air-traffic control vocabulary and an associated cassette language tape.

The slide presentation, recommended for viewing by pilots using Visual Flight Rules (VFR), portrays a mythical bilingual airport in Quebec and demonstrates the use of the phraseology. It also shows an actual VFR flight from Kingston to Quebec City.

While the French terminology depicted applies only to Quebec airports authorized to provide bilingual service, the English terms illustrate standard communications required for safe and efficient VFR operations across the country.

Oktoberfest celebrates tenth year

Ontario's twin cities of Kitchener-Waterloo will celebrate ten years of *gemütlichkeit* from October 6 to 14 with the popular, annual Bavarian festival, K-W Oktoberfest.

From a modest beginning in 1969, K-W Oktoberfest now claims to be North America's biggest Bavarian Festival — boasting boisterous "Oompah" bands, hearty German food, frothy steins and special events — attracting more than 350,000 people every year. Many of them make their reservations for the following year before they leave.

Main attractions

Just prior to the official opening, the *Oktoberfest Kinderkochfest* (cooking competition) takes place October 4, followed by the Miss Oktoberfest Beauty Pageant, with competitors from all over North America, and the Labatts Oktoberfest Pro-Am Golf Tournament, October 5.

Other activities include the *Bogenshutzenfest*, an archery contest; an indoor speed-skating championship; a baton-wirling championship; two golf tourna-

ments, and an equestrian competition.

On Sunday, October 8 a special Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Polka Mass will be celebrated with folk tunes familiar to people of Croatian, Slovak, Polish and German origin.

Also planned are bicycle races, a dog show for German Shepherds, an equestrian exhibition with musical ride, and an art show.

On Thanksgiving Monday the massive Oktoberfest Parade will feature, after several years' absence, the famous Pied Piper of Hamelin.

All during the festival the 35-piece Badenrube Band from West Germany will perform at a variety of functions while athletes, dancers, yodellers and choirs compete for attention.

It started with a wedding

The Oktoberfest celebration was conceived in 1810 when a Bavarian soldier, Franz Baumgartner, suggested that horse races be held in Munich, Bavaria to celebrate the wedding of Ludwig, 24-year-old Crown Prince of Bavaria. The Prince agreed, and the races were a great success, prompting Baumgartner's commanding officer to suggest that the races become an annual affair.

In 1811, agricultural exhibits were added to the races, and *Das Oktoberfest*, Bavaria's national holiday, was born.

Police reserves in Manitoba

Natives will be doing their own policing on seven reserves in southwestern Manitoba as a result of initiatives taken by the Dakota-Ojibway Tribal Council. The council chiefs focused on policing as an area of mutual concern, deciding that their policing services on the reserves were not adequate.

"The chiefs sat down together and decided what kind of program they should have," says Frank McKay, Chief of the Dakota-Ojibway police force. "They felt that policing by band constables was not sufficient, that they lacked equipment, and that salaries and training were not adequate.

"Our program was developed by Indian leaders in southwestern Manitoba," Frank explains. "It is a well known fact that white people who work for natives bring their own ideas. They don't give Indian people a chance to express their needs. This time we decided we weren't

going to accept that. We put our own ideas forward and got financial assistance from the Government to put them into action."

How does the Dakota-Ojibway police force differ from a regular one? "The main difference is our emphasis on prevention. Our constables will introduce preventive programs on the reserves. We feel we have more contact with the community, and we're there as a friend, not as an enforcer.

"Another difference is in the administration. We will be governed by a police committee, made up of the seven chiefs representing the reserves, and of delegates from Indian Affairs, the RCMP, and the Attorney General's office of Manitoba."

A ten-week training program, not unlike the one for regular RCMP recruits, has been developed for the Dakota-Ojibway constables at RCMP training depot in Regina. "In the training, we're trying to make the Indian constables aware that they are going to have to focus on problems in their community," says Corporal Al Aleksich, Human Relations Instructor. "For example, it would be ludicrous to suggest that people on reserves start a block-parent program. Other areas are much more important, such as giving people an understanding of the law."

Al explains that "in family conflict situations we are amazed at the way Indian constables apply theory to practice. I don't know if it's because of personal experience or something they've learned, but over-all their skills are much better in the diffusion of crisis situations. They handle them calmly, open-handedly, and non-aggressively. They also know when it's necessary to become harsh and they know the limits.

"I think the Indian constable has a more difficult role to play than the white constable. He's got to bridge the gap between the Indian policeman and the white policeman. We stress that it's going to be difficult, and the constables know that before they leave here," he continued.

Ten Dakota-Ojibway constables are now working on the reserves in Manitoba, getting the three-year pilot project underway. In the beginning, they will deal with minor offences, while the RCMP acts as back-up for more serious crimes. The plan is a step towards a different approach to native people and justice.

This article has been reprinted from Liaison, May 1978.

News of the arts

Manitoulin Island's native art

The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto is presenting an exhibition of contemporary art by the native people of Manitoulin Island until September 30.

Manitoulin Island, at the mouth of Georgian Bay, is considered to be the largest freshwater island in the world and one of the most scenic areas of Canada. Recent evidence suggests that man has inhabited this island for 4,000 years.

The name "Manitoulin" is a derivation of an Algonkian word meaning "Den of Manitou". "Manitou", a great spirit of power, made his home on the "Island of



Nannabush and the Peace Pipe Ceremony
(Mel Madahbee)

the Inland Sea" (Lake Huron). According to legend the island is "a place of spiritual rebirth — a place where there is power and strength necessary for the rekindling of fires".

Manitoulin Island also appears to be a centre for the modern native art movement of the 1970s. Over 50 recent paintings are on display at the ROM, the majority for the first time. The 14 native artists, most of whom are in their Twenties, explore myths, customs and the evolving native consciousness. Several have already won international recognition and a place in permanent public collections.

The exhibition includes works by James Simon, Randy Trudeau, Blake De-



Pine Tree Whips the Proud Birch with his Branches (Francis Kagige)

bassige, Francis Kagige, Daphne Odjig Beavon, Martin Panamick, John Laford, Leland Bell, Don Ense, Angus Trudeau, Melvin Madahbee, Lloyd Caibaosai, Eleanor Kanasawe and Shirley Chechoo Debassige.

Traditional quill work on birchbark or beading on hide are on display, as well as floral and animal motifs and archaic, geometric patterns applied to birchbark boxes.

The content, style and design developed by the master craftsmen are being explored and altered by the young



Talking Bird (Blake Debassige)

painters whose activity marks a renaissance in native art. The latest show in the ROM Ethnology Department's series "Contemporary Native Art of Canada" is an exciting survey of artistic development on Manitoulin Island.



Mother and Child (Daphne Odjig Beavon)

Dance companies gather

The Toronto Workshop Theatre will stage a dance festival from September 19 to 22, with 14 companies: Toronto Dance Theatre, Danny Grossman, Les Ballets Jazz, Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers, Le Groupe Nouvel Aire, Paula Ross Dance Company, Entre Six, Judy Jarvis Dance Company, Dancemakers, Regina Modern Dance, Le Groupe de la Place Royale, Ballet Ys, Anna Wyman, and Halifax Dance Co-Op. Also featured will be David Earle, Margo Dragu, The Paul Mime Company, Fulcrum Contact Improvisation, and the National Tap Dance Company.

A Montreal show, entitled *Octobre en Danse*, will take place at the Centaur Theatre and the Piano Nobile of Place des Arts from October 11 to 21. In addition to several artists from the Toronto festival will be soloists from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada, Les Grands Ballets canadiens, Murray Louis, Dina Davida, Iro Tembeck, Christina Coleman, Danse Partout, Vincent Dionne, Linda Rabin, Judy Marcuse, and Marcel Barbeau.

Beef prices

Steer prices in Toronto will probably remain in the range of \$62 to \$65 a hundredweight during July-September, says Agriculture Canada economist Gordon Pugh, who predicts some price strengthening, owing to reduced supply, during October-November. Good feeder steer calf prices at western markets should be about \$70 a hundredweight. However, prices in the balance of 1978 are not expected to return to the levels rated in June.

Prices received by beef producers in the second quarter of 1978 surpassed all records. Says Mr. Pugh: "The abruptness, the rapidity and the magnitude of these recent price increases are surprising, especially in view of the rather modest reductions in beef production and supplies which have occurred on a North American basis, particularly in the United States."

Beef prices hit a record price of \$72 a hundredweight for steers at Toronto this spring.

"Barring a major shortfall in cattle slaughter over the next three to four months, the softening of cattle prices which occurred in June is likely to continue for the next three to four months," says Mr. Pugh.

Lower than U.S. prices

He expects that Canadian cattle slaughter rates will fall proportionately lower than those in the U.S. because of heavy exports of feeder cattle during 1977-78. As a result, Canadian cattle prices will probably remain higher than American prices. U.S. live cattle imports are expected.

North American cattle numbers have been declining for three years, and there should be a sharper reduction in the number of slaughter cattle on offer in the second half of 1978 compared to that in the first half.

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

News briefs

Dr. Robert Elgie has been appointed to the Ontario provincial Cabinet as Minister of Labour, replacing Dr. Bette Stephenson, who will assume responsibility for education and colleges and universities. It is the second time in eight months that Premier William Davis has conducted a major Cabinet shuffle. Seven ministers have been given new portfolios.

The Export Development Corporation and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce have signed a \$4.4-million loan agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture of Greece for the sale of two *CL-215* waterbombers for use in fighting forest fires. The sale, by Canadair Ltd., Montreal, has generated 196 man-years of employment at Canadair and four major sub-suppliers in Canada and includes spare parts and related equipment.

Ontario Treasurer Darcy McKeough announced his resignation from politics on August 16, after 15 years in the provincial legislature. The MPP for Kent West cited personal reasons for his decision. Former Minister of Natural Resources Frank Miller has been sworn in as the new Treasurer and Minister of Economic Affairs.

Mobil Oil Canada Ltd. plans to begin a \$15-million, five-year project to test the recovery of heavy oil at the Celtic field in Saskatchewan.

Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney has announced his intention to resign on October 9. He did not specifically state the reasons for his decision, but said he intended to return to practising law.

Seasonally-adjusted retail sales for June were \$5,782.4 million, an increase of 2.3 per cent from the \$5,650.4 million recorded in May. Sales were up in 21 of the 28 trade groups. Eight provinces reported increased sales over May, ranging from 5.3 per cent for Ontario to 0.1 per cent for Alberta; the only decreases were in Prince Edward Island (-2.2 per cent) and Manitoba (-0.3 per cent). Total retail trade without seasonal adjustment reached \$6,271.5 million, up 17.0 percent over the amount recorded in June 1977. Sales increased in 27 of the 28 trade groups. All provinces had increased sales over business in June 1977, ranging from 24.3 per cent for Nova Scotia to 11.8 per cent for Manitoba. Montreal sales rose 13.4 per cent; Toronto, 18.5 per cent; Winnipeg, 10.4 per cent; and Vancouver, 22.5

per cent. Revised total retail trade, unadjusted for seasonal influences, for May was \$5,971.4 million, an increase of 4.6 percent over the figure in May 1977.

Courses on Canadian history, compulsory for Ontario's Grades Seven and Eight students, will offer a new unit called social reform this year, emphasizing the development of trade unionism and women's suffrage as agents of social change. Ontario's Ministry of Education has prepared a resource guide with suggested topics and materials for classroom discussion which labour organizations hope will acquaint students with the role played by unions in Canadian history.

Thanks to research by Agriculture Canada, the first commercially produced mechanized two-row burley tobacco cutters in North America are being manufactured in Tillsonburg, Ontario, this year. (Burley tobacco differs from flue-cured tobacco in that burley is harvested by cutting the whole plant at the base. Flue-cured tobacco is harvested leaf by leaf.) Mechanical harvesting takes less than 2.5 man hours a hectare — unlike the 20 man hours required for normal harvesting. The Tillsonburg company has a production run of 30 machines underway for the 1978 harvesting of the burley tobacco, most of which is exported and used in a blend with other tobaccos for cigarettes and pipe tobacco.

The Federal Government and Alberta have agreed not to increase the ratio of natural gas to crude oil prices in central Canada from the present 85 per cent. The agreement, effective for one year from August 1, 1978, results in a new wholesale price of natural gas at Toronto of \$2 a million BTUs. Natural gas-pricing policy will be reviewed jointly by the two governments before the end of 1978. Particular attention will be given to the development of markets for Canadian gas in eastern Canada to replace imported oil.

City children, many of whom have never seen or touched a farm animal, have discovered a farm in metropolitan Toronto that is designed just for them. A renovated 1830 barn, a farmhouse in the style of the mid-nineteenth century and a small animal barn have been moved to the site of a former zoo for the September opening. Toronto's parks department is responsible for the new attraction, which has elicited squeals of surprise and delight from children amazed to discover that the animals on the farm are alive.