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Help for poorer nations urged at World Food Council meeting in Ottawa

Representatives of thirty-six member nations of the United Nations World Food Council met in Ottawa, September 4-7, for their Fifth Ministerial Session. The series of workshops and seminars focused on three main issues: overcoming the constraints to increasing food production in developing countries; world food security, trade and aid; and hunger and malnutrition, and greater equity in distribution of food.

Canada, which is placing more importance on projects to improve the supply and distribution of food in developing countries, promised among other commitments, to establish a special fund for future strategies.

Prime Minister Joe Clark, who opened the conference, said in his welcoming speech to Council representatives that the conference was taking place at a time when the world economic system was under strain. "Industrialized countries, such as Canada," he said, "face the

difficult but not intractable problems of inflation, unemployment and erratic growth."

Although there was general agreement that abundant resources existed to feed the world's population, he said, "because food is not always produced where population is concentrated, there is a need for all nations to pool [their] resources to ensure a more efficient distribution of food". The Prime Minister said a system of food delivery that responds quickly and with minimal waste to countries in emergency situations was required and he suggested the development of an international early warning system to help reduce the "devastation of prolonged food shortages".

Importance of fisheries

The extension of the economic zones of the coastal countries would provide an opportunity "to make sure that the benefits generated by this new convention be distributed equally amongst all", said Mr. Clark. He stressed that all developing countries engaged in fisheries or with fisheries potential should give this sector highest priority.

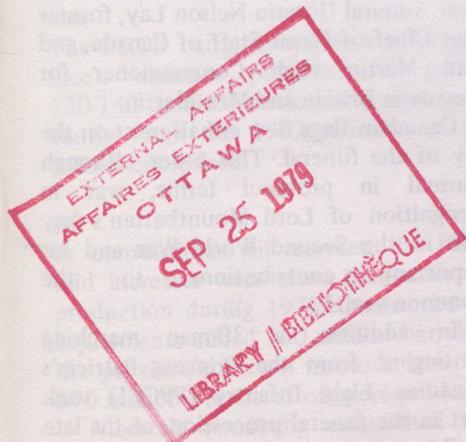
Canada is ready "to share [its] food agriculture and fisheries expertise and knowhow with developing countries wishing to attain food self-sufficiency", said the Prime Minister. The Canadian Government had given priority to agricultural and rural development in its aid program, bilaterally as well as multilaterally, continued Mr. Clark, and Canada would maintain its current level of international food aid at \$400 million annually.

"A key element of food security is a system of nationally-held reserve stocks and improved international trade," said Mr. Clark. "Canada continues to seek realistic reserve supply commitments as part of an over-all agreement to govern world trade of food grains."

Canada has made "great progress in food production," said the Prime



Agriculture Minister John Wise (centre) at a press conference with Arturo Tanco Jr. (right) the new President of the World Food Council, and Gaétan Lussier, Deputy Minister, Agriculture Canada.



Sixty-two years ago this week...

Parliament gave votes to women who had close relatives in the armed forces.

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Minister. "Farmers in our own country are now harvesting food from land that once was arid, or bush, or marsh, and we have developed new species and new methods to make agriculture one of the most efficient industries of our nation. Our fishermen have similarly used their skills to harvest our abundant fish stocks. Under proper management we believe our marine resources will forever play a vital role in feeding Canada and the world," he said.

Canadian Agriculture Minister John Wise, who also addressed conference representatives, said Canada had been "in the process of improving a food strategy that is based on an approach that seeks to integrate both national and international considerations".

Sound domestic base

The Minister said the objectives of the strategy were to develop Canada's agricultural potential and improve the "health of [its] agri-food base" so that Canada could assume its domestic and international responsibilities from a firm foundation. Canadian agricultural productivity was one of the highest in the world, with Canadian farmers producing over five times as much now as they did 30 years ago, said Mr. Wise. To achieve this level of productivity, he added, Canada had relied heavily not only on the commitment of producers but also on Canadian technological advances.

"Many industrialized as well as developing countries face the uncertainty of a continuing supply of oil at stable prices. At the same time many of us are passing through a period of low economic growth, high inflation, unemployment and balance-of-payment difficulties," said the Minister. "For Canada to be in a position where we can shoulder our responsibilities within the international community it is vital that we are able to work from a position of domestic strength..."

Mr. Wise said that he was convinced that long-term solutions should be sought to the problems of inequitable distribution, malnutrition and rural poverty rather than concentrating efforts on short term emergency situations. Good harvests in the past three years had helped to rebuild food stocks and improve the world food situation, he said. Canada's present level of grain stocks are the highest since 1972.

There has been increased investment in

food production in developing countries and governments have begun to give greater attention to the longer term food needs of their peoples, the Minister said. The flow of development aid to agriculture has more than doubled in real terms since 1974. Mechanisms for emergency food relief, such as the World Food Programme and the International Emergency Food Reserve have been strengthened, thereby contributing positively to world food security, said Mr. Wise.

Agriculture and fisheries development were the first essentials for better nutrition and for generating increased income and employment as a solid basis for greater economic growth, said the Minister. "...Canada supports a redirection of investment priorities by developing countries to agriculture as a core growth sector," he said.

To solve the problems of malnutrition and food shortages, "a broader development approach than in the past is required to direct investment simultaneously to improvements in infrastructure, elimination of disease, resettlement of people, greater research efforts and application of modern technology".

He also said a long-term solution must be sought through development policies which increase employment for the rural landless and the urban poor and which increase production by small subsistence farmers.

Canada's commitments

"For long-term world security, developed countries such as Canada must increase their productivity and reduce costs; developing countries should direct increased energies and resources toward more self-reliant policies in favour of food and agricultural development," said the Minister. Canada's bilateral aid program has placed a growing emphasis on projects to improve the supply and distribution of food, he said. In light of this, Mr. Wise announced that Canada was establishing a special \$2-million fund to assist developing countries to prepare long-term national food sector strategies for the 1980s.

Canada is participating within the International Wheat Council to review the prospects for a balanced wheat trade agreement that would ensure adequate returns to producers and supply availabilities for consumers. Mr. Wise said that the Canadian Government now is prepared to negotiate a new food aid conven-

tion separately from a new wheat trade convention.

Canada also intends to provide 600,000 tonnes of grain annually to the new food aid convention, the Minister said. He also announced that the Canadian Government would make a \$5.5-million contribution to the International Emergency Food Reserve, set up to aid countries whose food supply is damaged or ruined by disasters.

Mr. Wise also proposed two topics for discussion at the next Council session: the effectiveness of the national food sector strategies prepared as a result of the Ottawa conference, combined with an assessment of those sectors of agriculture most in need of additional investment; and a greater emphasis on the role of fisheries in meeting the protein requirements of all countries.

Delegation attends funeral

A senior Canadian delegation attended the funeral of Earl Mountbatten of Burma in London, September 5.

Canada was represented by: two former Governors-General, Roland Michener and Jules Léger and their wives; Lieutenant-Governor Pauline McGibbon of Ontario; Marcel Lambert, Member of Parliament, former Minister of Veterans' Affairs and a veteran of Dieppe; Grace McCarthy, Deputy Premier and Minister of Human Resources of British Columbia; Admiral Robert Falls, Chief of the Defence Staff; retired Brigadier-General James A. de Lalanne, Dominion Grand President, Royal Canadian Legion; retired Rear Admiral Horatio Nelson Lay, former Vice Chief of Naval Staff of Canada; and Paul Martin High Commissioner for Canada in Britain and Mrs. Martin.

Canadian flags flew at half-mast on the day of the funeral. This order, although unusual in protocol terms, was in recognition of Lord Mountbatten's key role in the Second World War and his important contributions to the Commonwealth.

In addition, a 30-man marching contingent from the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) took part in the funeral procession, at the late Earl's request. The Earl's daughter, Lady Patricia Brabourne, is Colonel-in-Chief of the PPCLI, and is a direct descendant of the original Princess Patricia (Lady Patricia Ramsay).

Gas estimates raised

The Alberta energy resources' conservation board (ERCB) has increased its estimate of Alberta's remaining natural gas reserves.

The revised figures were released as part of a major report on Alberta's reserves of crude oil, gas, natural gas liquids and sulphur.

The report said additions to gas reserves during 1978 were almost twice as large as the long-term average annual growth rate. "They are some 65 percent greater than the board had originally reported," it said.

The difference was attributed to underestimates of the reserves in earlier figures, an effect of the large number of reserve adjustments during the year. The board said reserve adjustments were made to 4,000 of some 9,000 pools assessed and tabulated.

The revised estimate said that during 1978 new discoveries and adjustments to known reserves added 5.796 trillion cubic feet to Alberta's reserves. The report estimated the province's remaining established reserves at the end of 1978 at 60.104 trillion cubic feet, up from 59.3 trillion cubic feet in ERCB reports made earlier this year.

The board's current estimate for Alberta's initial (before production) established reserves is 86.3 trillion cubic feet. The reserve additions made during 1978 resulted in a net increase, after production, of 4.437 trillion cubic feet from the end of 1977.

Gas

The ERCB currently estimates the province's ultimate potential for gas at 130-140 trillion cubic feet, up significantly from the 1977 estimate of 110 trillion cubic feet.

Oil

In conventional oil reserves, the ERCB said increases were more than offset by production during 1978. Discoveries and adjustments added 150 million barrels to the province's known resource base, but 370 million barrels of oil were produced.

Alberta's remaining established conventional oil reserves were down by 220 million barrels to five billion barrels at the end of last year said the report. The province's ultimate potential remains unchanged at 16 billion barrels.

Ontario accepts teen-age Indochinese refugees

The Ontario government has agreed to resettle up to 400 unattached Indochinese teenagers from Southeast Asian refugee camps.

It will be the first time that teen-age refugees have been brought to Canada on their own, according to the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services and the federal Immigration Department.

The ones coming to Ontario are 12 to 17 years old and the whereabouts of their parents is unknown. Some may be orphans. In other cases, their parents may still be in Vietnam or in refugee camps, separated during or after their harrowing escape in boats.

Some other provinces are also considering bringing in children in similar situations, a federal Immigration Department spokesman says. But other than

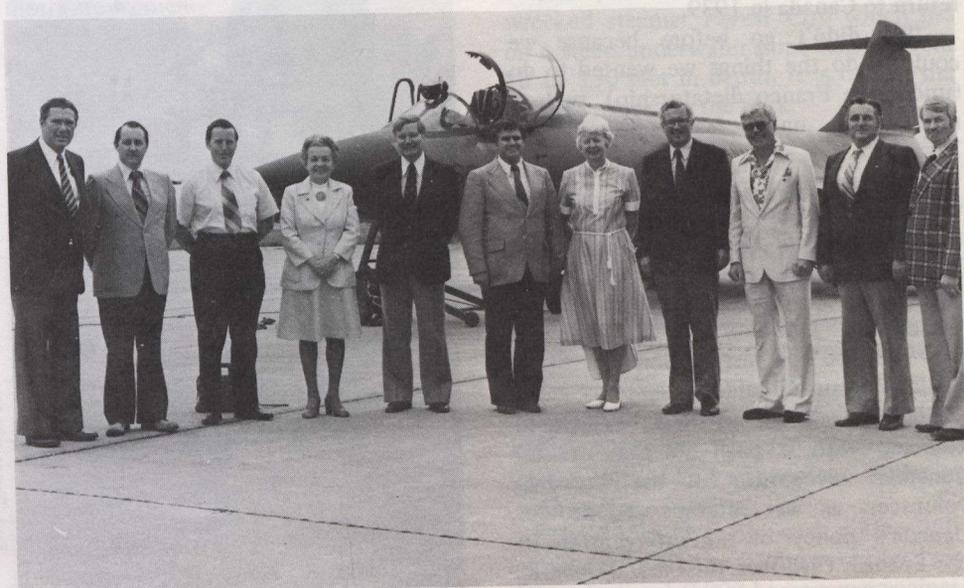
Ontario, only Quebec so far has agreed to take some of these children. They will not be adopted, but sponsored by families, church groups and other organizations. Their unique circumstances involve sorting out some legal implications.

The Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services will help to ensure that the children receive adequate medical care and education. It will also study the homes of prospective sponsors.

Guy Ouellet, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in Ottawa said that it was very difficult to estimate how many unattached Indochinese refugee children there were.

He said that a recent survey of two refugee camps in Malaysia showed there were 1,100 unaccompanied children under 17.

Canadian mayors visit NATO headquarters



Ten mayors from cities across Canada visited Canadian Forces Europe (CFE) during a week-long familiarization tour of NATO. Accompanied by an External Affairs escort officer, the group visited NATO Headquarters, the European Economic Council in Brussels and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. In CFE the mayors were briefed on CFE activities, saw a demonstration of four Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group equipment, toured the air traffic control section and viewed a one Canadian Air Group CF-104 jet Starfighter of 441 Squadron from Baden-Söellingen in Germany. The mayors pictured here are: (left to right) Ross Alger, Calgary; Kelvin G. Fowler, Topsail, Newfoundland; William Norrie, Winnipeg; Hazel McCallion, Mississauga, Ontario; Daniel Brownlow, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; Louis J. Lavoie, Edmunston, New Brunswick; Mary Albery, External Affairs; Jean Pelletier, Quebec City; Francis Moran, Charlottetown; George F. Ferguson, Abbotsford, British Columbia; and Edward Brady, Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

Vets visit Spain

Forty-eight veterans of the Mackenzie-Papineau battalion returned to Canada September 9 following a two-week tour of Spanish battlefields where they fought and lost against the spread of Fascism and dictatorship more than 40 years ago.

The Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion was the 15th of the International Brigade, an irregular army of soldiers from many nations that fought for the Spanish Republicans.

"We were all getting older and we wanted to do this as soon as possible," said Ross Russell, a 68-year-old retired Toronto union official and an organizer of the trip.

Survivors of the Spanish Civil War came from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Some had joined the struggle as self-declared Communists; others were socialists and political moderates caught up in, what was considered to be, a fight for freedom.

About 1,200 Canadians were involved in the war and only about 600 survived to return to Canada in 1939.

"We didn't go before because we couldn't do the things we wanted to do (under the Franco dictatorship), such as meet trade union leaders," said Mr. Russell.

But time was running out on the veterans, who now are mainly in their Sixties, he said. The trip to Madrid, Barcelona, Teruel, Albacete and other battlefields and training grounds for the "Mack-Pap" battalion was the first and may well be the last organized visit to Spain, Mr. Russell said.

He also said the trip was designed to coincide with a push to gain official Canadian recognition of the Mack-Pap volunteers as war veterans. To protect Canada's policy of non-intervention in the Spanish Civil War, the Liberal Government of Mackenzie King passed a law in 1936 making it an offence, punishable by up to two years in jail and a \$2,000 fine, for any Canadian to join the fighting, said Mr. Russell.

The law also meant none of the veterans or their widows ever received government allowances and pensions given to veterans of the First and Second World Wars. "It is a question of recognition," he said. "We want the same rights, privileges and recognition as other veterans."

Treasure diving a fascinating but dangerous sport

For 20 years, enthusiasts from across the continent have flocked to Tobermory, Ontario, the scuba diving capital of Canada, to explore the clear waters and abundant shipwrecks of Georgian Bay.

Little blue pennants stuck in the map on the wall mark diving accidents. Red pennants mark fatalities.

Stan McClellan, is the superintendent of Fathom Five, Canada's only underwater park. Since the park was opened in 1972, nine divers have died. Twenty-four others have wound up in decompression chambers, fighting the effects of the bends or embolism — air bubbles frothing in their bodies.

Mr. McClellan's office overlooks Tobermory harbour and the growing fleet of commercial tugs that carry hundreds of diving tourists each summer.

Sports divers travel to Tobermory the way Moslems flock to Mecca. Almost 8,000 come every year, despite the bone-



Sun Times photo

Brian Main, a scuba enthusiast from Toronto, prepares for a dive.

numbing water that can be as cold as one or two degrees above zero Centigrade.

"...Diving is a dangerous sport only if you are not trained for it," insists Mr. McClellan, "or if you ignore the safety rules." Divers are supposed to use the "buddy system" and submerge only in pairs, but a buddy can get lost by straying six feet away. The breathing apparatus on a diver's air tanks can freeze in deep water and only experts should go below 60 feet.

Mr. McClellan's wardens patrol the 45 square miles of Fathom Five in a radio-equipped boat to make sure divers obey the park's safety regulations, but the regulations are not laws and they cannot be strictly enforced.

"About a third of our divers come up from the United States and some come from Halifax or British Columbia to dive here," says Bettie Smith, veteran manager of G & S Watersports, a Tobermory diving centre that handles about 100 underwater explorers every weekend.

Shipwrecks lure

What they find are sunken old wooden vessels littering the lake bottom, perfectly preserved and easy to explore in the clear water — schooners, brigantines, barques, tugs, freighters and side-wheel steamers, some more than a century old. Underwater caves, cliffs, and rock formations are other attractions.

More than 50 ships are known to have sunk in the Tobermory area, 26 of them within the boundaries of Fathom Five. Some lie in ten feet of water or less. Some, like the oakbuilt schooner *Arabia*, which sank off Echo Island in 1884 with 20,000 tons of grain aboard, lie at a lethal 100 feet or more. Six wrecks lie right inside the harbour, like the 219-ton *Sweepstakes*, grounded in 1896 just 300 yards from the modern government dock.

Coral, tropical fish

Other diving areas have coral reefs, spectacular tropical fish, Spanish galleons and warmer, clearer water, but nowhere is there a concentration of accessible shipwrecks to match Tobermory's. The town, 190 miles from Toronto, stands at the tip of the Bruce Peninsula, separating Georgian Bay from Lake Huron. This was a major shipping route until about 1910, and ships had to navigate through a 28-mile funnel of reefs, rocks and islands, where 300 feet of water can change instantly to depths of ten feet.

Battling storms, coated with ice, blinded by the smoke of forest fires, steering by poor charts and with no navigation aids, vessels crashed by the dozen. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources estimates that about 10,000 ships have foundered in the Great Lakes — 30 went down in one 1905 gale.

Diving business booms

For Larry Bell, cold water means a quarter of a million dollars a year. He makes wet suits to protect scuba divers against the cold, and for him, cold means 300 feet underwater in the Arctic.

A marine biologist and veteran diver, Mr. Bell runs the only manufacturing plant in Tobermory, Narwhal Marine Products. "Business now is about \$250,000 a year," he says, "but it will triple in two years with exports to the European Common Market."

Narwhal manufactures custom-made wet suits for sports divers, but its big market is in heavy duty gear for commercial divers and Canadian Navy divers, who work in deeper, colder water. For oil rig divers in the Arctic, Narwhal makes dry suits — the diver wears thermal underwear inside the rubber shell — that keep a man warm at almost any depth. The zipper alone, the same kind used on astronauts' space suits, is worth \$170.

Inside the old wooden fishing station that houses his factory, Mr. Bell says, he has scored a breakthrough in cold water survival gear. It is a waterproof, pressureproof rubber suit to be worn by seamen exposed on deck, to replace today's lifejackets. "If you fall overboard in the North Atlantic in a lifejacket you freeze to death in eight minutes," he says. "A lifejacket just keeps the corpse floating."

The new Narwhal suit, he says, will keep a man warm and dry for 24 hours in mid-ocean. It inflates like a beachball. "Shipping unions and shipping lines are interested in it, and we start exporting it to the United States and Europe this fall. It will be useful on North Sea oil rigs."

Brenda Gilland, a Bell Canada accounting worker from Pickering who dives with her husband Gord at Tobermory, describes her interest in the sport. "It's stimulating when you're down there and every time you go there's something different to see."

Brian Main, a Willowdale insurance broker, compared the weightlessness of underwater movement to space flight. "Not until Pan-Am starts booking flights to the moon will the average person be able to experience weightlessness," he said.

Other diving spots

Divers also congregate at other places in Ontario than Tobermory. They dive at Midland, Parry Sound, Kingston (seeking relics of the War of 1812), in the Trent Canal system, around Sarnia, in lakes where the water is so dark they cannot see their own hands, even in abandoned quarries. Some dive under the ice in winter.

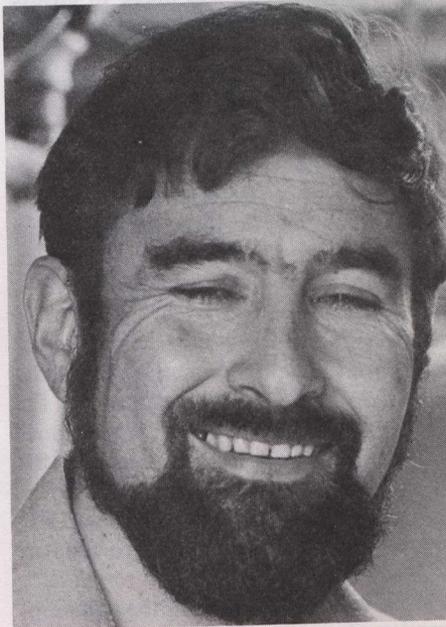
A lot of people, like Brian Main participate in scuba diving. The Underwater Council of Ontario, which represents 75 diving clubs, estimates the province has 15,000 active divers. They have their own magazine, special life insurance policies and underwater hockey tournaments. Council president Barry Adamson says 10,000 new divers are taught every year in Canada, about 5,000 of them in

Ontario. About 25 per cent of the new divers are women.

Diving doctor

The Underwater Council has hired its own full-time doctor to treat divers in Tobermory.

Dr. George Harpur's specialty is treat-



Diving specialist, Dr. George Harpur.

ment of divers' ills — from potentially fatal air embolisms to the bends, to pressure squeezes of tender tissues, burst eardrums and swimmers' ear (a minor

infection from prolonged exposure to dissolved micro-organisms).

Three years ago, the Ontario Government spent \$67,000 to install a whale-sized steel cylinder with a complex of compressors, gauges and valves to treat the weird pressure disorders that strike some of the area's huge scuba diving population. Diving fatalities have reduced dramatically.

The recompression chamber is basic medical hardware. Its presence in Tobermory reinforces the area's primacy as one of Canada's best known dive sites.

"There used to be two deaths a year from diving up around here," Dr. Harpur says. Since he began touring dive groups through the chamber and lecturing them on safety, three divers have died.

Dr. Harpur hopes to order an inquest into the recent deaths of two American divers if witnesses who have returned to their homes agree to testify.

"It would appear that the diving community still is not sufficiently aware of the danger. They still tend to regard depth as the macho thing."

The pair died while diving on the wrecked steamer *Forest City* which lies on a steep underwater slope ranging from 80 to 150 feet in depth. It is one of the deepest wrecks in the park.

Eight other divers were treated in the chamber last season, five for embolism and three for the bends. Both conditions result from the extra pressure to which a diver's body is subjected in water.

New York/Ontario transit system

Three large hydrofoils are expected to begin operation between Youngstown, New York, and Toronto, beginning next spring.

The 125-foot crafts, each with a 250-passenger capacity, are powered by twin 20-cycle diesel, 7,000-horsepower engines.

The 45-kilometre trip across Lake Ontario will take about 50 minutes. Top speed is estimated at 60 kilometres an hour.

The hydrofoils will be operated by Royal Hydrofoil Cruises, a Florida-based company which has received approval for the venture by Canadian authorities but is awaiting final approval by New York State officials.

Spokesmen for the hydrofoil firm said a one-way trip would cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

WRENS reunited in Ottawa

More than 750 WRENS — members of the wartime Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service and the Royal Canadian Navy — met in Ottawa recently for their seventh reunion marking the thirty-seventh anniversary of the founding of the corps.

Among the senior members was 84-year-old Florence Greenwood, who came from St. Walburg, Saskatchewan and who hopes to attend the next reunion in Vancouver in 1982.

The Canadian War Museum saluted the occasion by setting up a WREN display in the window of a downtown bank. The museum's deputy chief curator, R.V. Manning, also hosted a reception for a representative group of 70 to 80 from across the country.

Thirty-two WRENS came from Britain for the reunion, including Joan Carpenter and Dorothy Isherwood Stubbs, who ran the trans-Canada recruitment program in 1942; Muriel Currie, editor of the British WREN magazine, and 82-year-old Mabel Browne, who served with the Royal Navy in the First World War.

Search for WREN friends

One particular WREN, from Scotland, Joy Lamb, spent some of her time in Ottawa searching for Canadian friends she had made 40 years ago.

In August 1939, Mrs. Lamb and a group of Scottish schoolgirls arrived in Canada to begin a three-week tour.

Some of the girls never returned to Scotland. Joy Lamb didn't return for 18 months. They were some of Canada's first "war guests" — about 8,000 children from the United Kingdom who were evacuated to escape the dangers of the Second World War.

On September 3, 1939, as the group was ready to return, Britain declared war on Germany. The schoolgirls, expecting only a brief stay in Canada, were told they must remain indefinitely, not knowing if they would ever see their parents and relatives again.

Mrs. Lamb says she will never forget how the girls waited aboard a ship in Quebec City after hearing the news that the *Athenia*, the vessel that had brought them to Canada, was torpedoed on its way from Glasgow to Montreal.

"There were a few damp tears because we knew the crew aboard the *Athenia*.

We had the run of the ship when we came over," said Mrs. Lamb.

The crew decided to return to Montreal, and Mrs. Lamb and the rest of the group were taken to a camp near Ste. Agathe, Quebec, where they remained for a week before being scattered across the country. Mrs. Lamb and 17 others were sent to Ottawa.

Wine from Quebec grapes soon on the market

Quebec's first wine from locally grown grapes will be available next year, the result of one resident's efforts to grow grape-bearing vines there.

Michel Croix started experimenting in 1972 in St. Bernard-de-Lacolle, an agricultural area 40 kilometres south of Montreal. He made the first wine from his vineyard in 1978.

While the wine is not yet for sale, it may be tasted on September 22 during the first vine-harvesting festival ever held in Quebec.

The harvest starts in mid-September, and no name has been given yet to the wine, to be sold only through the Quebec Liquor Corporation's handful of Maison des Vins outlets next year.

The decision to market through the specialty wine stores was made to ensure that Mr. Croix's wine is differentiated from wines already made in Quebec from imported grapes, juices or concentrates.

Mr. Croix, convinced vines could be grown in Quebec, sent soil samples from different regions of the province for testing in France. Results favoured three regions and he decided to begin his experiment in St. Bernard-de-Lacolle, close to the United States border.

Old site

He did not know it then, but he chose the site of an old vineyard planted in the eighteenth century by the Seigneur de Beaujeu. He found living remains of the old vines and, while experts cannot determine the kind of vine plants they are, they can confirm they had been planted and had not grown wild.

Mr. Croix's vineyard is the result of experiments with 40 different kinds of vine. He intends to make his final selection from eight of these 40 types, winding up with no more than four or five, he said.

Blind man's sight returns

Bob Aubrey's seeing-eye dog Buttons is more than just a faithful companion — she's a miracle-worker reports Ralph Wilson in *The Citizen*, August 21, 1979.

Mr. Aubrey, blind for eight years, struck his head on the floor of his apartment in Ottawa, after tripping over Buttons. When he stood up he received the shock of his life. He could see again.

"I didn't even realize I could see right off the bat," the 50-year-old former Canadian National Railways trainman and jack-of-all-trades said recently, recalling his miraculous recovery.

"The first thing I saw was the little sign on the inside of my door: 'Come on in. What else could go wrong?'"

At the door were the building superintendent and two painters. "I just opened the door and shouted 'I can see! I can see!'"

Mr. Aubrey and his brother, Moe, a former Ottawa police officer, both suffer from a hereditary optic nerve disease called Lebere's optic atrophy.

Doctor perplexed

Mr. Aubrey called his doctor who immediately ordered him to come to his office.

"He called me in and examined my eyes but he can't figure it out either. He didn't say much." Mr. Aubrey is scheduled to see his doctor again in six weeks.

On the way to actually see his doctor for the first time, he was taking in the sights. "It was a beautiful day. I was looking for buildings I remembered and I read every sign on the way there — road signs, signs on the side of trucks, everything. But, you know, I never thought to look at girls," said Mr. Aubrey.

Mr. Aubrey is hoping his new-found sight is permanent. "I'm taking it hour by hour. I'd like to really let go but I won't let myself." He says he is prepared for the worst, but does not know how he will react should he lose his sight again.

"The mechanics of my eyes are working fine. The ophthalmologists have a joke about it: 'There's nothing wrong with his eyes, he just can't see,' " he smiled.

Mr. Aubrey regained his sight once before, about six years ago, but only for a few weeks. He plans to volunteer his services "to the blind kids. I want to give them a little faith and confidence".

News of the arts

Museums awarded grants

Federal grants to Canadian museums totalling \$1 million were announced recently.

Three museums in Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia, which are planning travelling exhibits, were among 34 museums and related institutions for which grants were approved at a recent quarterly meeting of the National Museums board of trustees.

The Bernier maritime museum in L'Islet-sur-mer, near Quebec City, is to produce an exhibit for a cross-country tour depicting the development of maritime activities along the St. Lawrence River since the beginning of the century.

The Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg is to receive \$29,500 to help produce an exhibit on the mass migration of East European peoples to Manitoba and Western Canada, to be called *About Free Lands*.

The B.C. Provincial Museum in Victoria will receive up to \$30,000 for a touring museum, which is to go to more than 40 rural communities in western Canada for showings to pre-school children.

Conservation car

In addition, Canadian museums now can receive conservation aid from a mobile laboratory opened recently by the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI).

The unit, a revamped, climate-controlled van complete with refrigerator for storing paste and adhesives, a chemical fume extractor, chemical storage area and light box, will be manned by two CCI officials and will tour the Atlantic provinces for the next three months. On the agenda are such out of the way museums as the Albert County Historical Society in Hopewell Cape, New Brunswick, O'Dell House in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia and the Hector Centre Trust in Pictou, Nova Scotia — museums that have until now, received little conservation attention for their collections.

According to the program's co-ordinator, Michele LaRose, the idea of mobile conservation units goes back many years. But it was the closing this spring of the CCI's regional centres in Vancouver, Moncton and Quebec City, due to budgetary restraints, that brought the idea to fruition. The CCI plans five more such units to tour Canada next year.

Tokyo Symphony finishes Canadian tour



The Tokyo Symphony in rehearsal.

The Tokyo Youth Symphony recently completed a tour of Canada commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Japan.

The tour, which took in ten Canadian centres, started in Victoria on July 20 and ended in Ottawa on August 3. The visit was sponsored by the Japan Foundation, in co-operation with the Canadian Embassy in Japan, the Embassy of Japan in Canada and the Canada-Japan Society (Tokyo), with the assistance of the Canada Council.

Arts briefs

The Stratford Festival will produce a full-length feature film for television based on its widely acclaimed stage production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, with studio and location shooting scheduled to begin in June 1980, Artistic Director Robin Phillips has announced.

The Canada Council will consider ways to involve investors in joint-financing "showbusiness" ventures. Council chairman Mavor Moore said the council might profit monetarily in an arrangement with private industry or another government agency such as the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation or the National Film Board. Secretary of State David MacDonald said

Established in 1962, the orchestra performs on NHK (Japanese Broadcasting Corporation) and in concerts and consists of 50 students ranging in age from 13 to 23. The orchestra has participated in several international concerts tours, including the fourth International Festival of Youth Orchestras and Performing Arts in Switzerland in 1972, and was host orchestra at the sixth International Festival of Youth Orchestras and Performing Arts in Aberdeen and London in 1974. This is the first time the orchestra has toured Canada.

there would be more money for its operations, but "no figures were mentioned".

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet has signed Michael Bjercknes of the Joffrey Ballet in New York as principal dancer for its 1979-1980 season. The 22-year-old Chicago-born dancer who is more than six feet tall, made his professional debut at 16. He joined the Chicago Ballet in 1974 and in 1976 danced as a soloist with the Houston Ballet.

Canada's two largest rotogravure magazines, *Weekend* and *The Canadian*, are to merge, effective with the issue of October 27. The new magazine, to be called *Canadian Weekend*, will be published by a company owned by FP Publications Ltd., Southam Inc., and Toronto Star Newspapers Ltd., all of Toronto.

College enrolment drops

Enrolment in Canada's colleges and universities will be down by 1.1 per cent this fall, the third consecutive year that post-secondary enrolment has declined, Statistics Canada has predicted.

About 362,000 students are expected to begin university this fall and 248,000 college enrolments are anticipated.

Federal statisticians foresee another substantial drop in post-secondary enrolment in the 1980-81 school year. At that time, enrolment in universities will drop to 354,000 and in colleges to 244,000, says the agency.

Other highlights of the 27-page statistical analysis of post-secondary education include:

- In response to declining enrolment, the number of full-time university teachers will drop — but only by 100 persons. There are expected to be 32,500 teaching positions in universities.

- Despite declining enrolment, the number of college instructors is expected to increase to 20,000 from last year's 19,800.

- This will be the first year since the early 1950s in which the number of bachelor degrees awarded will drop. There will be 89,000 this year, compared with last year's 89,300.

- There will be an increase in post-graduate degrees granted. The number of master's degrees will increase by 400 to 13,000 and the number of doctorates will go up by 80 to 1,880.

- Total spending on education will increase in the coming school year to \$19.7 billion from \$18.5 billion last year. This represents about 8 per cent of the country's total annual spending on all goods and services. By 1980-81 the cost is projected at \$21 billion.

- The cost of post-secondary education in the coming year is estimated at \$5.4 billion compared with \$5 billion last year.

News briefs

Prime Minister Clark has approved a plan to lend historical furnishings to the John G. Diefenbaker Centre at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. The centre is constructing reproductions of the Prime Minister's Office and the Privy Council Chamber, as they appeared during Mr. Diefenbaker's tenure. Some of the furnishings will be on permanent loan, others will be duplicated by the University and returned. Among the pieces to be duplicated are a Cabinet conference table, and the desk which once belonged to Sir Wilfrid Laurier now used in Mr. Clark's Centre Block office.

Copper, nickel and gold production in Canada fell in May from a year earlier, but output of silver, lead and zinc rose. Copper production totalled 45,179 tonnes in May, down 34.5 per cent from 69,025 tonnes a year earlier. Primary nickel production totalled 8,116 tonnes in May, down 44.4 per cent from 14,601 tonnes in May 1978. Gold production totalled four million grams in May, down 6 per cent from 4.3 million a year earlier. Silver production totalled 102,357 kilograms in May, up 17.5 per cent from 87,144 in May 1978. Refined lead production totalled 18,041 tonnes in May, up 4.4 per cent from 17,273 a year earlier. Refined zinc production totalled 54,223 tonnes in May, up 29.3 per cent from 41,937 a year earlier.

Air Canada fares on international flights are to rise by as much as 13 per cent following agreements reached in Geneva recently by members of the International Air Transport Association, an airline spokesman said in Montreal. A Montreal-Paris, one-way ticket would rise from \$501 to \$566 under the new rate structure, he said. A Toronto-Nassau flight would increase from \$174 to \$191.

The relocation of 19 federal units has been cancelled or deferred and only nine approved, Treasury Board President Sinclair Stevens announced on July 27. He calculated that the new program would save at least \$200 million, 2,500 man-years in temporary employment and 350 permanent positions which would have had to be created.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded a \$215,000-contract to Urban Transportation Development Corporation Limited (UTDC) of Toronto to modify the design of the fixed-axle trucks

used in the rapid transit cars of the Chicago Transit Authority. UTDC's modification will make the trucks steerable and thus eliminate wheel squeal and substantially reduce noise levels and wheel-rail wear.

Dominion Bridge of Montreal has received two contracts for structural steel, one from H.A. Simons Overseas Ltd. of Vancouver for 3,200 tons of steel for a paper mill in Czechoslovakia, and another for \$3.6 million from the James Bay Energy Corporation for steel for a power station.

The Quebec government plans to provide \$26 million for a plan to convert one of the Laurentian area's largest ski resorts into a sports and recreation centre. The Fédération des Caisses d'Entraide Economique, an association of more than 60 credit unions in the province, is expected to complete negotiations shortly to buy Mont Tremblant Lodge's ski centre, golf and tennis facilities and waterfront from its current owners.

Sister Marie Rose Durocher, a Montreal-born nun who founded the congregation of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary, was declared venerable by Pope John Paul II recently. This is an official acknowledgement by the Roman Catholic church that Sister Durocher is being considered for canonization. The congregation which she founded has 3,500 sisters working in primary and secondary schools across Canada and the United States as well as in Africa and Brazil. Sister Durocher died in 1849 at the age of 38.

Shareholders of Great Canadian Oil Sands of Edmonton approved on August 22 a merger with Sun Oil Company of Toronto to form Suncor Incorporated, the fifth-largest oil company in Canada. The new company will have combined assets of about \$1 billion.

The innards of bagpipes are under examination by a physics professor at the University of Western Ontario to find out whether current bagpipes are as good as those made years ago. Pat Taylor, an avid piper for 35 years, is observing the activity of the reed in the drone pipes, which produce the music. The reed in the pipes, while almost identical to a clarinet reed, trembles in an unusual manner producing a double resonance. Professor Taylor says his experiment is a diversion from his usual work — researching the use of guided electrons to study iron content in a particular type of protein.

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