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A gastronomical tour of Canada reveals mouthwatering delights

Canada's different regions offer a variety of epicurean delights fit for every taste.

A gastronomical tour of Canada starts in Newfoundland where one can sample foods that were staples of the English and Irish seamen who fished there four centuries ago. Because of its isolation, Newfoundland retains not only its Irish-flavoured dialect, but a seafarer's cuisine — flipper pie made from Harp seal flippers, fish and brewis (salt cod and hard tack sprinkled with scrunchions, crispy bits of rendered pork) and cod's tongues (they taste like scallops). Dessert menus include Figgy Duff (molasses and raisin pudding), Blueberry Buckle and Patridgeberry Parfait (these berries grow wild, look like cranberries and taste like blueberries).

Take home a bottle of Newfoundland Screech, a dark tasty rum that today comes from the Caribbean. Once a popular working man's drink, screech used to be made by washing out Jamaica rum barrels with boiling water. Its name, coined by American servicemen stationed in Newfoundland during the Second World War, refers to the reaction of those who drink too much of it. For the more inhibited there is a rum cocktail called

Muffled Screech.

In the Maritimes, lobster is reputed to be some of the finest in the world because they roam the cold waters of the Atlantic. On Prince Edward Island, home-cooked lobster suppers served in community halls and church basements are an institution.

Visitors to the Maritimes can dig for soft shell clams on the tidal flats of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Certainly one should not leave New Brunswick without tasting fiddleheads, the unopened curled-up fronds of the ostrich fern which are picked in the spring and frozen for gourmets year round. Dishes that are also part of the Maritimes' heritage are Acadian rappie pie of meat and potatoes, the German-inspired pickled herring called Solomon Gundy, and Cape Breton oatcakes.

Good food revered

In Quebec one will discover a special reverence towards food and wine. In Quebec City, elegant French restaurants and hearty Québécois meals in historic surroundings abound. Aux Anciens Canadiens, for example, is a seventeenth century stone cottage which serves habitant



Chef Anthony Lachance displays food served at the Henry House in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Office of Tourism

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Fourteen years ago this week...
Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson announced on April 17 the creation of the Order of Canada. The award was to be presented for service to Canada or to humanity at large. There were three classes of the Order: Companion, Officer and Member.

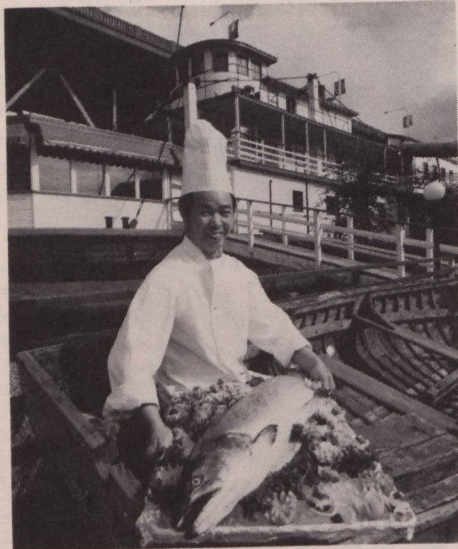
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food such as jugged hare, *ragout de pattes de cochon* and pork hocks. In the Laurentian Mountains, many gracious old inns and resorts pride themselves on their fine French cuisine and game dishes. La Sapinière in Val David is the only North American member of the exclusive "Le Relais de Campagne" establishments that are found in Europe.

To get a sense of the lively ethnic diversity of Montreal, one can visit the Main on boulevard St. Laurent. In the St. Lawrence Meat Market, there are goats hanging from meat hooks and rows of independent butchers competing for business. Next door at Enkins, hot spicy Caribbean meat pies can be found. Then up St. Laurent and over on Roy Street, Waldman's fish store houses tanks full of lobsters, baskets of wriggling Chesapeake Bay blue crabs, and tins of octopus and squid. Small shops on Roy sell live chickens, ducks and rabbits, and one can buy hot bread and Greek pastries. Schwartz's, reputed to serve some of the best smoked meat sandwiches in the world, is located on the Main.

World famous cheddar

Ontario's cheddar cheese is world famous. Balderson and Forfar are two small towns in the Rideau Lakes area between Ottawa and Kingston which produce distinctive cheddars that bear the towns' names. One can buy cheese right on the site, and at Forfar's catch a glimpse through the factory windows of the cheeses being produced. In Ingersoll, Ontario one can visit the Cheese Factory Museum and see antique cheese-making tools and ma-



The Wharf Restaurant in Vancouver specializes in B.C. salmon.

chinery. For a demonstration of old-style cheese-making, head for Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg (daily, mid-May to October) or the old Warkworth Cheese Factory, Warkworth (Saturdays, mid-May to Thanksgiving).

In Southwestern Ontario's Kitchener-Waterloo district, German-Mennonite traditions remain strong. Every Saturday morning (Wednesdays too, in summer), the Kitchener Mennonite Farmers' Market sells home-made bread, sausages, preserves and vegetables and Mennonite dishes like shoofly (molasses) pie, Kochkase (processed curd cheese) and kimmel kirsche (pickled cherries). During October the Kitchener area hosts Oktoberfest — nine days of German food and drink.

In the marshlands and slow streams of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, wild rice (also known as wild oats and weed of the wheatfields) is harvested in late August and September by native Indians who bend the rice stalks into their canoes and flail the stems with a paddle-like stick. One can buy wild rice in the gourmet food sections of supermarkets and in specialty stores, and may be served this nutty-flavoured dark long grain rice in fine dining rooms.

On the prairies, the strong influence of Ukrainian, Mennonite and Jewish immigrants is evident. At the Mennonite Village Museum in Steinbach, Manitoba (open mid-May to mid-September), a restaurant in an old livery barn serves Mennonite borscht, made with green cabbage and sour cream but no beets; pluma moos, a cold fruit soup served with cream; vareneki, the Mennonite version of perogies; smoked sausage and stone-ground bread, made from wheat ground in the village's wind-powered grist mill.

Ukrainian food is so popular in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta that it can be found not only in restaurants but also at delicatessens and supermarkets. Look for holupchi (cabbage rolls) and perogies (dumplings stuffed with potato or cheese). In the Interlake district between Lake Winnipeg and Lake Winnipegosis, and especially in Gimli, there are Icelandic bakeries which sell special Icelandic pastries and bread.

In downtown Winnipeg in the Old Market Square (open Saturdays and Sundays in summer) one can buy fresh produce, crafts and antiques from canopied stalls and be entertained by musicians and magicians. In many restaurants, Winnipeg goldeye, a small fish smoked over oak



L'Atre Restaurant near Quebec City.

logs and dyed a deep coral is served.

Alberta is justly famous for its beef; steakhouses serve thick, rare tender beef steaks. In the Peace River country, the farmers boast they make the finest honey in the world. Further north, in the Northwest Territories, there is Arctic char, a rare mouthwatering treat that is not quite trout and not quite salmon. In Yellowknife, bannock burgers are served at the Wildcat Café (bannock is a pioneer bread served baked by the Indians and fried by the Inuit). Or for a change of pace the Métis' Tree of Peace Friendship Centre serves a delicious caribou stew lunch. In the Yukon, one can dine on fresh lake trout, salmon and Alaska King crab.

On the Pacific coast, the ocean delivers salmon, halibut, prawns, abalone, Dungeness and King crabs, little neck, butter razor and soft-shell clams and oysters. The Vancouver restaurant, Muck-a-Muck, serves genuine native Indian foods such as wind-dried sockeye salmon, duck with juniper berries, fresh fern shoots and wild black current jam with hot whole wheat bannock bread.

British Columbia is also known for loganberries, a cross between a raspberry and a blackberry, and Zucca melon. In June, July and August, flats of luscious raspberries are for sale in the Fraser Valley, which produces 90 per cent of Canada's raspberries. In the Okanagan Valley, roadside fruit stands open as soon as the cherries ripen in June. The following months apricots, peaches, plums, nectarines, grapes and apples are available.

(Article by Linda Rhéaume, Canadian Government Office of Tourism.)

Office of Tourism photos

Law of the Sea conference

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan is heading the Canadian delegation to the tenth session of the third United Nations Law of the Sea Conference which runs until April 24 in New York. J. Alan Beesley, Ambassador to the Law of the Sea Conference, is vice-chairman of the delegation.

Among issues requiring further consideration are the principles governing the delimitation of maritime boundaries; the establishment of a preparatory commission to lay the groundwork for the seabed mining regime; interim protection for deep seabed mining investments and the question of the seabed nickel mining production controls. With regard to the latter issue, which is of particular concern to Canada, the Canadian delegation hopes that a recently released United Nations study on the effects of production controls will serve as a basis to modify the control system and make it more responsive to the interests of land-based, mineral-producing countries.

The draft Law of the Sea Convention produced at the end of the last session in



Seated at the head table during the informal meeting of the drafting committee, third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, are: (left to right) Armand de Mestral, adviser to the Canadian delegation, UN Conference on the Law of the Sea; Bernardo Zuleta, special representative of the Secretary-General on the Law of the Sea Conference; A.J. Beesley (Canada), committee chairman; Dolliver M. Nelson, committee secretary; and Linda Hazou, assistant committee secretary.

Geneva, already represents a major step forward in restructuring the principles of the Law of the Sea and in developing new concepts of ocean resources management.

The drafting committee, under the

chairmanship of Mr. Beesley, held an intersessional meeting from January 11 to February 27 and has nearly completed its task of putting the draft into acceptable treaty language.

Conservation and renewable energy offices planned

Energy Minister Marc Lalonde has announced that Energy, Mines and Resources will open 12 regional conservation and renewable energy offices across Canada this spring.

The offices will be located in Vancouver, British Columbia; Whitehorse, Yukon; Yellowknife, Northwest Territories; St. Albert, Alberta; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Montreal, Quebec; Port Credit, Ontario; Dieppe, New Brunswick; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Summerside, Prince Edward Island. In Newfoundland there will be four small offices rather than a larger one. The offices will be in St. John's, Grand Falls-Windsor, Corner Brook and Goose Bay.

The offices will be to co-ordinate the regional aspects of major conservation and renewable energy programs stemming from the National Energy Program announced last October.

All regional offices will administer a grant program for individuals converting from oil-heating systems to wood, solar or propane systems. These grants will cover 50 per cent of conversion costs up

to a maximum \$800.

Through the regional offices, funds will also be made available to assist individuals or communities to develop alternative energy systems such as small-scale hydro-electric generators, renewable energy projects, or heat-recovery systems.

In the territories and two provinces, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, these offices will administer the Super-CHIP program. In these areas, where neither natural gas nor reasonably priced electricity are available as an alternative to oil, the program will cover 50 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$800 for such items as oil furnace retrofits, additional insulation and home energy audits.

Work is under way to develop a home energy audit service that will assist homeowners in determining energy conservation options available to them and in determining how much oil will be saved by implementing the various options.

Regional offices in the Atlantic region will also administer an industrial capital retrofit program.

Effects of technology on labour

Labour Canada recently held a national conference on "Micro-Electronics and the Work Environment" in Ottawa.

The conference's aim was to provide information and promote public awareness of the anticipated social and economic impacts — both positive and negative — of communications technology and micro-electronics on the industrial work environment, and to identify ways of dealing with these concerns.

The technological advancements taking place in the micro-electronics and communications industries may have an important impact on jobs and training requirements — a critical concern for both labour and management.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) recently stated, "there are strong indications that the micro-electronics revolution will have more far-reaching consequences for labour and employment than any previous technological breakthrough". The conference provided the first national forum for representatives of industry, labour and government to discuss technological change.

Agriculture experts take part in Sri Lanka project

Canadian scientists are participating in a project designed to help the island of Sri Lanka become self-sufficient in food.

Sri Lanka has about 11.4 million acres of land in the dry zone. Permanent agriculture has been established on only 1.6 million acres using irrigation. Another 900,000 acres are now earmarked for development by extending the irrigation systems.

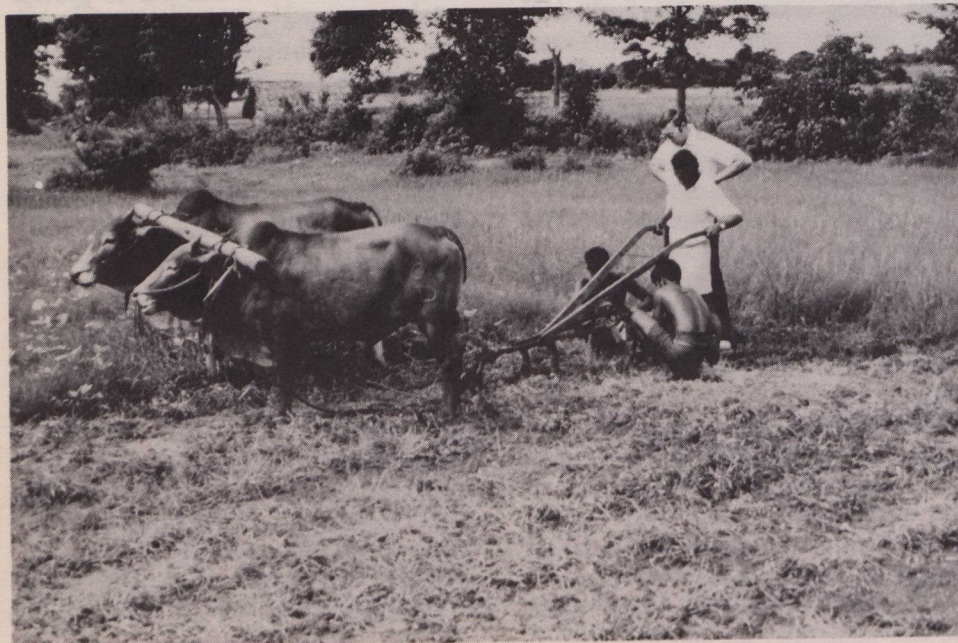
"Sri Lanka has the resources necessary for becoming self-sufficient in food," says R.D. Dryden, an Agriculture Canada agronomist who spent two years as an adviser setting up the Canada-Sri Lanka Dry Zone Project.

To make it a reality, better agricultural practices are being introduced in the dryland areas of northern Sri Lanka funded through the Canadian International Development Agency.

Both the Canadian and Sri Lankan governments believe that a further two million acres could sustain a stable, highly productive agricultural industry.

Dryland research

The Dry Zone Project consists of work at the dryland research station near the village of Maha Illupallama and at a pilot development area of four villages close to the station. A total of about 200 families live in the area, with an average of six persons a family. Farm holdings vary from three to six acres in size.



Agriculture Canada scientists are helping Sri Lanka to increase crop production.

"Agriculture in the dry zone consists of rice paddy fields in the lowlands and slash-and-burn agricultural techniques — called *chena* — in the uplands producing cereals, cowpeas, beans and oilseeds. In addition, some tree fruits and vegetables are grown in home gardens in the villages," Mr. Dryden says.

Farmers collect run-off water from the surrounding uplands in tanks or lakes. This water is then used to irrigate the rice fields.

"The uplands, unless maintained under improved tillage practices, can be cropped only two or three successive years before they have to be abandoned because of weeds," Mr. Dryden says.

Every five to ten years the land is cleared and the cycle begins again.

"Under improved tillage and cropping practices, there would be much less need for *chena* agriculture and more settled use of the uplands," Mr. Dryden says.

Production could also be increased in the lowlands. If sowing gets under way with the early rains of September and October. The monsoon rainfall could be used to produce the first crop of rice in the paddy lands and stored water could be saved for irrigating a second crop of rice or other grain, planted in February.

Animal improvement and draft training programs are already under way and improved feeding and pasture management programs will be added in the near future.

"The key to development projects such as this one is working with the local people and introducing new innovations," Mr. Dryden says. Project staff work with farmers interested in adopting low-cost management practices and new varieties of crops.

Improved cultivation equipment has also been introduced and research and development carried out on field equipment. Machines are usually designed so construction and repairs can be done with local materials in village shops.

Science prizes awarded

Three Canadian scientists have been awarded the first Izaak Walton Killam memorial prizes for science, engineering and medicine, the Canada Council has announced.

The prizes worth \$10,000 each were awarded to Feroze Ghadially, medical pathologist at the University of Saskatchewan; Raymond Lemieux, organic chemist at the University of Alberta, and Louis Siminovitch, geneticist-in-chief at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children and genetics professor at the University of Toronto.

Only Canadian citizens are eligible for the prizes, the most valuable of the Canada Council's Killam awards — the others are the Killam research fellowships and the Killam research associateships. The prizes are awarded for career-long excellence in the field.

I.W. Killam, a Montreal financier, died in 1955. His widow, Dorothy, provided for the award program in her will. She died in 1965 and the first awards were given in 1968.

Dr. Ghadially has received recognition for his work on cancer, arthritis and the application of advanced biophysics techniques to human disease. He is one of the best-known pathologists working in electron microscopy and his writings have become basic textbooks in the field.

Dr. Lemieux did research on carbohydrate chemistry that contributed to advances in developing new antibiotics. His more recent work in blood typing and grouping has contributed to the treatment of leukemia and hemophilia.

Dr. Siminovitch has pioneered the genetic analysis of cells and his present research in the metastatic growth of cancer cells is expected to be useful for the understanding of tumour biology.

Soap kills insects

Many gardeners now are using soap on their plants, not on their laundry.

S.F. Condrashoff of Victoria, British Columbia said that soaps are making a comeback as pest-control agents.

"Our product is a blend of specific fatty acids selected for their high toxicity to insects and is not the same as washing soap," said Mr. Condrashoff, whose company, Safer Agro-Chem Limited, markets an insecticidal soap.

Pure soaps are made from fatty acids which are found everywhere, from a person's skin to the laundry room. Fifty years ago soap was used as a pesticide, a role Mr. Condrashoff hopes it will play again.

In the early 1970s George Puritch, a Canadian Forestry Service scientist, accidentally discovered that a fatty acid killed 100 per cent of a balsam woolly aphid colony in a pesticide test. Mr. Puritch's research has since included testing each soap individually and identifying those most effective for killing insects with the least effect on plants.

The fatty acids from which the soaps are made are natural plant and animal products and are ingested every day as part of the human diet. Fatty acids are a natural constituent of human skin and one of the barriers against disease-causing fungus in humans.

"Besides controlling the balsam woolly aphid in forest nurseries, the winter moth is controlled on Vancouver Island with

the combined application of insecticidal soap and methozychlor," Mr. Condrashoff said.

"Soaps are ideal for controlling pests on plants which decorate shopping malls, hospitals and public buildings. Commercial greenhouse operators are using insecticidal soap for control of aphids, spider mites and whitefly. Foresters in North Carolina are excited about the possibility of controlling spider mites on Frazer fir, an important Christmas tree species."

The insecticidal soap has little effect on beneficial insects such as honey bees, beetles and parasitic wasps. As far as man is concerned it has many benefits. It is safe to use in mass spraying with no danger to the skin or respiratory system and does not corrode equipment.

Mobile radio communications system integrates Nova Scotia

The province of Nova Scotia has in operation a communications system that helps to provide dependable mobile radio services enabling the government to serve the public efficiently and react quickly to emergencies.

The Nova Scotia government, in cooperation with the federal Department of Communications (DOC) began work in 1978 on an integrated radio network linking provincial government agencies and other organizations.

The result is a microwave trunk and VHF (very high frequency) repeater network ringing the province. It provides high technology communications and dependable, continuous radio coverage throughout the province.

When the system went into effect in summer 1980, participants included senior provincial officials, the provincial departments of lands and forests, highways, health services such as local ambulance corps and fire departments. Other agencies are being included gradually.

Using the integrated radio network, a fire line boss fighting a forest fire can radio the operator of the highways department road grader; an ambulance driver can call the snow plow operator; or a municipal police officer can call the local fire department.

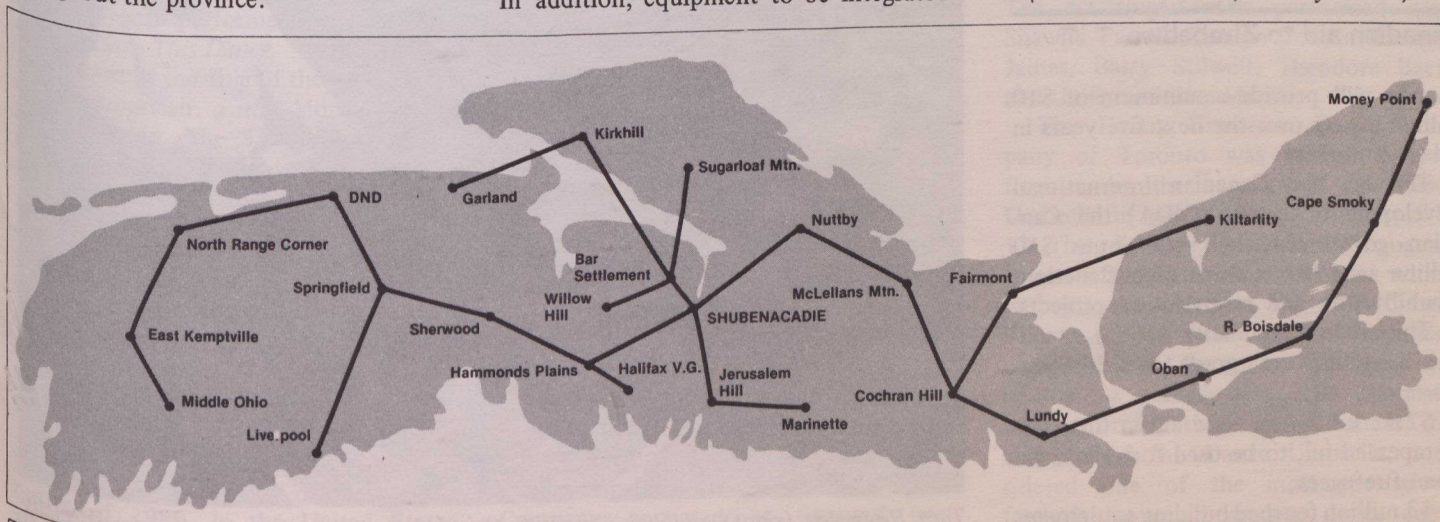
Some participating agencies already had mobile radio systems when the project started two years ago; others did not. In addition, equipment to be integrated

into the network included scanning multi-channel mobiles, hand-held walkie-talkies, back pack sets, micro-wave links and VHF repeaters.

To date, more than 75 VHF frequencies and 34 microwave channels have been assigned by DOC. Base, repeater and relay stations have been authorized at more than 120 locations.

So far, the province has spent \$6 million for design, construction and maintenance of the network. The 26 main repeater and microwave sites (many already owned by the province) have been fully equipped with all-weather roads, standby power, new buildings and towers. An extensive, 24-hour-a-day status monitoring system has been introduced to detect interference or breakdowns.

(From Modulation, January 1981.)



The integrated mobile radio system covers virtually the entire province. Map shows trunk network and mobile repeater stations.

Biotechnology centre for Ontario

The Ontario government has announced that a \$70-million biotechnology centre will be built in the Toronto area starting later this year.

The centre will be a joint venture by the provincial government, the Canada Development Corporation (CDC) and John Labatt Limited.

The three investors said the new firm is expected to require \$100 million in funding in the first ten years of operation.

CDC (owned 49 per cent by the federal government) will initially invest \$25 million. The Ontario government will provide \$30 million for the centre, while Labatt, a London, Ontario brewery, will add another \$15 million.

Negotiations for the remaining \$30 million in investment are under way with various private sector investors and the federal government.

A Labatt spokesman said the biotechnology centre, which is scheduled to be completed in 1982, will likely become a public company within ten years, opening the door to investment.

Biotechnology, often called genetic engineering, involves the manipulation of genes and other micro-organisms to produce new industrial and commercial processes. It is expected to alter medicine, agriculture, food and energy production and pollution control within a few decades. Up to 100 scientists and technicians will be employed in the plant, making the company Canada's major entry in the fast-growing international biotechnology industry.

Canadian aid to Zimbabwe

Canada will provide a minimum of \$10 million a year over the next five years in aid to Zimbabwe.

Through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) the Canadian government will contribute \$10 million in 1981 towards reconstruction, rehabilitation and resettlement projects.

This amount includes:

- a \$3-million cash grant towards reconstruction;
- \$2.92 million of food aid in the form of rapeseed oil, to be used for rehabilitation of refugees;
- \$3 million for road building equipment;
- a \$500,000 industrial co-operation

grant for hydro-electric studies; and — \$525,000 to Canadian non-governmental organizations for refugee resettlement projects in Zimbabwe.

In addition, Canada contributed \$600,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in 1980-81 for rehabilitation of refugees.

Under its Management for Change Program, CIDA also contributed \$250,000 to train senior civil servants at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Through its international non-governmental organization

program, CIDA is contributing \$100,000 to train indigenous journalists through the International Press Institute.

In 1980, CIDA contributed \$750,000 towards health and community development projects being carried out by non-governmental organizations, including the YMCA, United Church of Canada, the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Lutheran World Relief, the Inter-Church Fund for International Development and the Canadian Labour Congress.

Tricycle for disabled children designed

When Tara Reynolds was three, she asked her father, when she could have a bike like her big brother Timmy. A few months later, her father gave her one.

That would be unremarkable, except for the fact that Tara was born with spina bifida, and has no control over the lower part of her body.

Tara's tricycle was a work of inspiration on the part of Gary Reynolds, a Carleton University employee in Ottawa.

The tricycle cost about \$200, and involved hundreds of hours of work. Mr. Reynolds started with a regular tricycle, replaced the handlebars with a set of pedals, changed the seat for the type used to carry a child on the back of an adult's bicycle, and added a fourth wheel at the back for stability. There were other alterations, too — two gears, one for grass and one for pavement, rests for Tara's feet,

and a seat belt.

"It's better than a wheelchair, says Mr. Reynolds, because Tara has fun using it, and because it is not conspicuous. Unless you look closely, he says, she looks just like another kid on a tricycle."

Publicity surrounding the tricycle has brought in dozens of letters with requests for similar tricycles for other handicapped children. So far, Mr. Reynolds has made 19, each individually tailored to a particular child's size and needs.

When interest in the tricycle grew, Mr. Reynolds took out a patent on his design. Recently an Ottawa firm of consulting engineers did a study on the feasibility of manufacturing the tricycle. A Newfoundland company is currently looking at the idea.

(From Carleton University's This Week, February 12, 1981.)



Tara Reynolds (right) and her playmate Cindy Jolicoeur enjoy the tricycles specially designed for them by Tara's father Gary Reynolds.

News of the arts

Vancouver gallery presents photographic art

An exhibition of photographic art by Quebec photographer Pierre Boogaerts, was on display recently at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Street Corners (Pyramids) N.Y. 1978-79 is a reflection on the nature of photography and the implications inherent in a vehicle which man commonly uses to examine and perceive his natural environment, his built environment and his cultural environment.

"A photograph," said Boogaerts, "can only show us the surface, the appearance of things. But a surface is also, by definition, the bordering between two areas. When working with photography, therefore, one must take into account, besides the external aspect of things, things outside the photograph."

"My work in photography consists essentially of shifting or distorting the properties of the medium. By thwarting or contradicting those properties, I emphasize them and by using simple images of our environment, I draw a parallel with society, with us, with me," he said.

Using 20 densely-built Manhattan street intersections as vantage points, Boogaerts shot 300 colour skyscapes and street corridors which he then composed into assemblages to form a ten part camera work. These 16 inch by 24 inch colour prints, mounted on board, are juxtaposed and constructed into single works in which the perspective is broadened and field of vision expanded.

Work on the exhibition began in New York, December 1978 and took six months to complete. During this period Boogaerts established a personal relationship with the architectural, cultural and social fabric of the city in his walks around New York. The image of the pyramid, printed, he noted, on every American dollar bill, kept appearing throughout the city where the King Tut

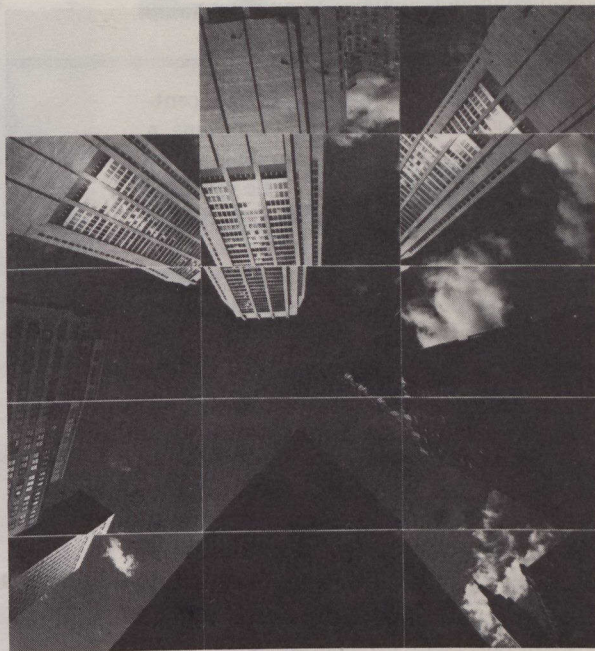
exhibition was attracting thousands of viewers.

"The pyramids invaded store fronts or were printed on tee shirts. I saw pyramid-shaped cakes in a chic window on Madison Avenue," said Boogaerts. "The whole city suggests the pyramid and certain buildings have one for a roof, thus confessing their ambition," he added.

The pyramid shape is a component of

each of Boogaert's assemblages — either as an image within the photographs or as a space created by the way in which these photographs are aligned.

Boogaerts, born in Brussels in 1946, moved to Canada in 1973 and is presently living in Montreal. He has shown in one man exhibitions in Eastern Canada and in group exhibitions across this country and abroad.



Pierre Boogaerts's Corner of Park Ave. & 33rd St. N.Y.

Vancouver Art Gallery

Arts briefs

Canadian singer Anne Murray received a Grammy Award recently at the annual awards ceremony held in New York. Miss Murray won the award as best female country vocal performer for her single *Could I Have This Dance*.

Reckless is the title of the first feature of Can-American, a new Montreal-based film company. The \$3.6-million movie, described as an action-love story, stars Vancouver actor Douglas Greenhall and American actress Meg Foster. *Reckless* adds a new twist to the older-woman, younger-man love theme. In *Reckless*, he is a young moto-cross champion — a daredevil sport in which motorcyclists race across rough terrain — and she is the not-so-young widow of a hang-glide stunt performer.

National Film Board made 241 television sales in 22 countries during the last quarter of 1980. In the United States alone PBS and individual stations used 84

National Film Board titles. One of the most popular films was a ten-minute treatment of life in rural Manitoba by animator Blake James, entitled *Prairie Album*. Lyle Cruickshank, director of NFB's international marketing division noted that the presence of NFB distribution offices in Sydney, Australia, London, Paris and New York was enabling the board to successfully sell in many countries not regularly visited by television sales people.

A Halifax filmmaker said she has sold two of her productions to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). The two films by Romana Macdonald of Doomsday Studio are a ten-minute film, *God's Island*, which traces the history of Prince Edward Island as depicted on the canvases of Island artist A.L. Morrison; and *Spirits of An Amber Past*, a 21-minute film on Lithuanian art.

Six singers from the Canadian Opera Company appeared as featured performers at this year's Metropolitan Opera

Ball in New York. This year's ball, honouring Canada and Canadian musical talents, featured a short operatic musical written by Toronto composer David Warrack, who served as special musical director and accompanist for the event. The six singers who performed were Shawna Farrell, Caralyn Tomlin, Eleanor James, Barry Stilwell, Theodore Baerg and Guillermo Silva-Martin.

The Danny Grossman Dance Company of Toronto was invited to perform under the auspices of the Dance Umbrella in New York City from April 7-12. The company danced in the inaugural season of a 300-seat new theatre which is being renovated in the City Centre Theatre of New York City. The Grossman company was the only Canadian one of the six participating. The company has performed twice before under the auspices of the Dance Umbrella, considered one of the most prestigious festivals for small modern dance companies in New York City.

News briefs

Justice Minister Jean Chrétien recently tabled in the House of Commons a background paper on the amending of the British North America Act. The minister said the paper, entitled *The Role of the United Kingdom in the Amendment of the Canadian Constitution*, was prepared because there is "growing interest in the Parliament of Canada among Canadians concerning the role of the United Kingdom in relation to our Constitution".

A new Canadian microcomputer manufacturing company has been established in the Ottawa area. The company will be a merger of Bruce Instruments, Computer Innovation Limited of Ottawa and MFC Microsystems International Limited also of Ottawa. The company will aim at commercial and industrial operations of mini-computers. A spokesman for MFC said the new product is to be a marriage of the computer with cable television technology. Such a development would be complementary to Telidon, Canada's two-way television system.

Brascan Limited of Toronto has become the second largest shareholder of Royal Trustco after buying 14.9 per cent of the company's shares, in two major transactions estimated to total about \$56 million.

Activity in the heavy construction industry this year will total about \$53 billion, a small gain from 1980, according to Robert Nuth, president of the Canadian Construction Association. The active parts of the country will be Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

The third session of the forty-ninth New Brunswick Legislature opened on March 24. Language legislation was the main focus of the Speech from the Throne. Other topics included a promise to establish collective bargaining rights for fishermen, major amendments to the



CP Laserphoto

Brian Curry turns on the air supply for his wife, Ellen, moments before she enters a tank of water in Oshawa, Ontario in a successful bid to set an underwater endurance record. She was pulled from the tank 68 hours later breaking the old mark in the Guinness Book of World Records by 15 minutes.

mining act to encourage exploration and development and new initiatives to develop oil shares in Albert County. Little new legislation and no big spending programs were announced.

The co-operative movement is expected to start three new companies this spring as vehicles for its proposed \$1 billion investment in the energy scene, according to W.E. Bergen, chairman of the movement's steering committee. Called the Co-operative Energy Project, the proposal will be voted on May 8 following the annual meetings of the Canadian Co-operative Credit Society and the Co-operative Union of Canada. Mr. Bergen said that the new companies will increase Canadian control of the petroleum industry, protect energy supplies for the members and act as an investment vehicle.

Union Oil Company of Canada and Rescon Coal Holdings said that the Alberta government has approved development of a thermal coal mine and processing plant near Hinton. The mine, to cost \$240 million, will have an initial capacity of 3 million metric tons a year and employ about 400 workers. Subject to sales agree-

ments with European and Pacific Rim buyers, construction could start in 1981 with deliveries beginning in the second half of 1983.

Fraser Incorporated has announced a \$170-million modernization program of its pulp mill in Atholville, New Brunswick. The construction phase of the project is expected to begin in early May and will take three years. The project will employ 500 people during the peak construction period and create an additional 43 permanent jobs.

Four-hundred-and-thirty members of the Canadian Airborne Regiment based at Petawawa, Ontario left Canada recently to begin six months of United Nations peacekeeping duties in Cyprus. The contingent replaced the 5e Régiment d'artillerie légère du Canada (5RALC) and members of the 5e Régiment de génie de combat (5RGC) who returned to their home base at Valcartier, Quebec after a six-month tour on the Mediterranean Island. This Cyprus rotation is the thirty-fifth since Canadian troops began serving there in March 1964.

The British Columbia government presented a budget on March 9. Effective immediately, the retail sales tax rises to 6 per cent from 4 per cent, and taxes rise on cigarettes, tobacco and gasoline. Retroactive to January 1, corporate income taxes for larger firms have been raised to 16 per cent from 15 per cent, corporate income taxes for larger firms have been lowered to 8 per cent from 10 per cent, a 10 per cent surtax has been applied to personal income tax above \$3,500.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced the signing of a loan agreement totalling up to \$8.5 million (Cdn.) to support the \$10-million sale of Canadian electrical equipment and services from about 18 Canadian exporters to Brazil. The borrower, Light-Servicos Electricidade S.A. (Light) is a state-controlled utility authorized by the Brazilian government to generate, purchase, transmit and distribute electric power.

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan has announced that loans totalling \$221,026,702 were made in 1980 under the Farm Improvement Loans Act. This compares with \$262,700,219 loaned in 1979. Under the act, the government guarantees loans by chartered banks and other designated lenders to farmers for a wide range of purposes. The maximum that a borrower may have outstanding is \$100,000.

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