

Canada Weekly

Volume 6, No. 4

January 25, 1978



Ottawa, Canada

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RCMP activities subject of Royal Commission and Quebec inquiries

Allegations of Royal Canadian Mounted Police Security Service involvement in certain illegal activities in carrying out its responsibilities have attracted widespread media interest in Canada. On January 9, the Solicitor General, Francis Fox, issued the following statement clarifying the nature and extent of the RCMP's activities as well as the Federal Government's co-operation with the Royal (McDonald) Commission and Quebec (Keable) Commission inquiries:

Since June of last year, a number of allegations have been made concerning possible illegal acts committed by some members of the RCMP and in some cases allegedly involving members of other law-enforcement agencies. An initial examination by the RCMP of some of these allegations indicated that some could indeed be well founded in fact. As a result, the Federal Government appointed a Royal Commission of Inquiry chaired by Mr. Justice David McDonald of the Supreme Court of Alberta to investigate these allegations and to examine the practices and procedures of the RCMP, particularly as regards the Security Service.

Full access to files

Since the creation of the federal Commission of Inquiry last July, facts surrounding the allegations of illegal acts have been handed over by the RCMP to Mr. Justice McDonald and his fellow commissioners. The Commission's counsel and its investigators have full and complete access to all of the files of the RCMP in their task of conducting their investigation thoroughly and in an independent manner.

To date, the McDonald Commission has held public hearings in two areas of concern: the unlawful entry of the premises occupied by the Agence Presse Libre du Quebec [a left-wing news agency] at 3459 St-Hubert Street in Montreal and the mail-opening operations of the RCMP. Their investigation is continuing in several other areas and the Commission has announced that public hearings will be continuing as of Wednesday of this week.

During the month of June, the govern-

ment of the province of Quebec set up a Provincial Commission of Inquiry headed by lawyer Jean Keable. After I gave the Attorney-General of Quebec information concerning a barn burning, the unauthorized removal of dynamite from a construction site and the obtaining of membership lists of the Parti Québécois, the mandate of the Provincial Commission was broadened to cover these acts.

In November and December of last year the Provincial Commission, in the view of the Federal Government, exceeded its mandate by inquiring into the internal operations of the force and by pursuing a line of questioning beyond the specific acts referred to in its mandate. As a result, applications are pending before the Court of Appeal of Quebec to decide the very important question of the extent to which a Provincial Commission of Inquiry can investigate the operations of a federal agency. A stay of proceedings pending a decision on the merits of the case on January 16 was denied by the Court of Appeal on December 16.

Subpoena served

On December 29, 1977, I was served with a subpoena by the Keable Commission seeking the production of the following documents:

(a) Written approval or written confirmation of oral approval given by the then Solicitor General Mr. J.P. Goyer to Mr. John Starnes, then Director General of the Security Service, or others on or about November 3, 1972 and all other written or oral approvals confirmed in writing given by Mr. J.P. Goyer to Mr. John Starnes or others covering electronic

William McDougall, one of the fathers of Confederation, was born 156 years ago today near Toronto. McDougall, a lawyer and journalist, entered the Great Coalition of 1864 as provincial secretary and was a delegate to the Charlottetown, Quebec and Westminster conferences which culminated in the establishment of Confederation.

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surveillance at 3459 St-Hubert Street in Montreal.

(b) All files and documents concerning the subject "Disruptive Tactics" and specifically those contained in file number D-938-Q-25.

(c) All files and documents, statements, depositions, reports annexed to an investigation initiated on or about June 1, 1977, under the direction of Messrs Nowlan and/or Quintal and/or others concerning allegations of allegedly illegal or unauthorized acts committed on Quebec territory.

I would like to point out once again that all these documents are available to the McDonald Commission which has had in its possession since November 6 the complete Quintal-Nowlan Report.

These documents contain material concerning matters of national security including sources, methods of operation and targets. For this reason I do not intend to turn over these documents to the Keable Commission. The very existence of the McDonald Commission ensures that possible illegal acts cannot be hidden behind the veil of national security. Nevertheless, a statement of all the relevant facts, including the names of members of the Security Service involved, has been prepared and turned over this day to the Keable Commission giving that Commission information resulting from the internal investigation of the RCMP. The statement includes:

- Information concerning the barn burning and the unauthorized removal of dynamite.
- Information concerning possible improper conduct in the recruitment of sources.
- Information concerning the distribution of a fabricated *communiqué* in the name of La Minerve cell of the Front de Libération du Québec [a terrorist group] in December 1971.

I have also turned over information concerning the use of certificates of review (telephonic) by the Solicitor General in 1971-72 together with a photocopy of relevant parts of the certificate dated November 3, 1972.

Fabricated *communiqué*

I have also made available the relevant facts concerning the issuance by certain members of the RCMP in Montreal of a *communiqué* attributed to the FLQ.

The concentrated effort by the Security Service to monitor terrorist activity included the analysis of the use and impact

of the "*communiqués*" issued over the years by various FLQ cells. In 1971-72, for example, there were 69 such *communiqués*.

As part of its efforts aimed at reducing the threat presented by FLQ members and in an attempt to spread confusion among the cells, some members of the Security Service in Montreal drafted and disseminated a *communiqué* in the name of the FLQ in December 1971. This *communiqué* purported to emanate from La Minerve cell of the FLQ which had previously issued two *communiqués* that included appeals to violence.

The fabricated *communiqué* expressed a "Maoist" viewpoint, including a call to violence. This was seen by the drafters as a way of bringing public discredit on the cell and fostering disunity among the FLQ membership following Pierre Vallières' announced change of strategy in December 1971. The language used in the fabricated *communiqué* raises questions about its propriety and legality.

The principal facts concerning the barn burning and the removal of dynamite were brought to the attention of the Quebec authorities on my behalf some time ago and have been the subject of an exchange of information between the RCMP and the Sûreté du Québec [Quebec police]. These incidents are in the public domain.

Information sources

I would like to deal with the question of recruitment of sources. In the aftermath of the October crisis of 1970, it became clear that more sophisticated security measures were needed to avoid the kind of action that had to be employed at that time. In this context, and to prevent further terrorist acts, perceived as a threat in



Francis Fox

1971, the Security Service of the RCMP approached and interviewed persons thought to be involved in the FLQ or other terrorist activities in an attempt to develop these individuals as sources of information or to neutralize them by indicating police knowledge of their activities.

The methods and procedures used during four of these interviews are of sufficient concern to warrant further investigation. These cases have been brought to the McDonald Commission's attention. All the relevant facts of these four cases have now been made available to the Keable Commission.

This action was carried out without the authority or knowledge of RCMP headquarters, which subsequently transmitted the *communiqué* to the Solicitor General in the belief that it was genuine. Recent extensive investigation has determined that this was the only occasion on which a fabricated *communiqué* was issued by members of the RCMP.

Telephonic surveillance

I have also been requested to produce the written authorizations by the Honourable Jean-Pierre Goyer as Solicitor General of Canada relative to electronic surveillance carried out at 3459 St-Hubert Street in Montreal.

In 1971 and 1972, the Solicitor General on a monthly basis signed a Certificate of Review setting forth all the telephonic-surveillance operations employed by the Security Service throughout Canada. This internal control document listed all the new requests for ministerial authority for telephonic interceptions, those telephonic operations which had been terminated in the previous month and those which required continuance for a further period. During his term as Solicitor General, the monthly certificate signed by Mr. Goyer included among all the operations on a national basis authorization for telephonic interception of the APLQ from May 1971 to November 1972.

Because these certificates of review indicate the names of all telephonic interceptions by the Security Service across Canada, I have refused to produce these documents in their original form on the grounds of national security. I have through my counsel, however, given to the Keable Commission a photocopy of relevant parts of the certificate of review dated November 3, 1972. The number of such authorizations in 1971 was 262 and in 1972, 307.

Canadian cheddar catches on in Colorado



A Canadian display at a recent two-day multicultural festival in Colorado Springs, United States, featured foods from home, including samples of Black Diamond cheddar from Ontario's Quinte District. (Above) five-year-old Eric, son of Colorado Springs Police Constable Fran Bancroft (right) samples cheese offered by Mrs. Edith Corriveau (left). The Canadian display, which attracted 20,000 visitors, was staffed by dependants of Canadian Forces airmen serving at NORAD Headquarters in Colorado Springs.

Energy in 1977

The need for concerted action by the major industrial nations, including Canada, was emphasized at a meeting of the International Energy Agency in October last year, chaired by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Alastair Gillespie. It was concluded that "as early as the 1980s the world will not have sufficient oil and other forms of energy available". Supporting the need for strong measures, Mr. Gillespie committed Canada to a limit on imported oil of one-third of oil requirements in 1985, or 800,000 barrels a day, whichever is less.

Listed below are some major actions taken by the Federal Government during 1977.

Energy conservation

A \$1.4-billion home-insulation-grant program began, to run for seven years. By year end, an agreement had been worked out with the ten provinces under which the provinces would voluntarily pursue such measures as tightening building codes, lowering speed limits, removing insulation sales taxes and revising electrical metering practices to save energy.

Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were covered under an earlier arrangement for insulation grants.

With funding from the Summer Job Corps program, over 1,000 students participated in such programs as Enersave — providing home-owners with computerized analyses of heat loss.

Local conservation efforts were given financing of \$19.1 million under the Federal Labour Intensive Program. Over 2,100 people are involved.

Energy supply

A sharp improvement of natural gas prospects has followed federal-provincial arrangements for higher prices. Federal funding and encouragement have been given to exploration in the Arctic and the necessary preliminary arrangements are being made to assure transportation of Arctic gas to southern markets. These include the possibility of eventual Canadian use of the Alaska Highway (Alcan) natural gas pipeline, an application for a pipeline from the Arctic Islands by Polar Gas, and participation by Petro-Canada, the national oil company, in efforts to ship Arctic gas to Atlantic by tanker, and to expand Quebec's and the Maritime's

Specialty cheese production

Although cheddar may be the 'big cheese' in Canada, production of other varieties is growing fast.

Last year cheese-makers produced 105 million pounds of the other varieties, known in the trade as specialty cheeses. They ranged from soft camemberts to spiced goudas to pungent limburgers — 64 kinds in all. The main production was mozzarella (59 million pounds), brick (14 million pounds), colby (eight million pounds) and parmesan (one million pounds). The dominance of mozzarella reflects the popularity of pizza and other Italian foods.

Quebec leads the provinces in the production of specialty cheeses. In 1976, Quebec cheese-makers made more than 52 million pounds of specialty cheeses, while Ontario producers made 45 million pounds and cheese factories in the other provinces accounted for a little more than seven million pounds.

Nationally, specialty-cheese production was 16 percent higher than the 1975 level and more than double the amount produced in 1970.

Although the number of varieties produced in Canada has been expanding in recent years, there is still a strong consumer demand for imported cheeses. In 1976, more than 200 varieties of natural and processed cheese were imported from 24 countries; the European Economic Community was the chief supplier, shipping some 30 million pounds. Principal varieties were edam (five million pounds), gouda (four million pounds), swiss (three million pounds), havarti (two million pounds), feta (two million pounds) and blue cheese (one million pounds).

access to more natural gas in western Canada.

New legislation and regulations governing land tenure, royalties, Canadian content and the role of Petro-Canada for about 1.3 billion acres of land in Canada's northern and offshore regions were introduced in the House of Commons.

Promising development prospects in Saskatchewan and Alberta were indicated in new federal reports on oil and natural gas resources. While higher oil prices are encouraging exploration for conventional light oil, development of heavy oil and oil-sands plants (similar to the federally-

backed Syncrude project) will have high priority. Resource reports on coal and uranium were also issued during 1977. Resource evaluation is under way in many provinces and, as an example, last year a federal-provincial undertaking of uranium reconnaissance, totalling \$1.06 million, began in Newfoundland.

As an alternative to insecure imported oil, electrical development is highly important to the Atlantic provinces. This was recognized in offers of federal assistance in the formation of a Maritime Energy Corporation, for improvements in electrical-transmission ties, and for preliminary work on major hydro-development in Newfoundland. Nova Scotia was also given \$9.2 million in federal assistance to develop other fuels, especially coal, to replace oil.

Federal funding of research and development of solar and other renewable energy forms was increased by 94 per cent in the 1977-78 fiscal year, over that of the preceding year.

New legislation was introduced to define more clearly responsibility for health, safety, security and environmental regulation of nuclear power. The disposal of nuclear wastes was also the subject of a

report to the Federal Government by an independent panel, which concluded there were good prospects for safe disposal of wastes and urged that work on a national disposal plan commence immediately.

Pricing and investment

As the result of an agreement with the provinces, Canadian crude oil prices rose by \$2 a barrel to \$11.75 from June 1977 to January 1, 1978. A corresponding increase in natural gas prices was implemented. Domestic prices remained well below world prices despite this.

The increased cash flow to producing companies is being monitored. Under prospective legislation, the monitoring will be mandatory and will enable the Government to ensure that a significant portion of the increase is invested in exploration and development.

Assistance in electrical development continued with a \$193-million federal loan to Manitoba to assist in movement of power from the Nelson River. Under an agreement with Quebec, construction of a federally-backed heavy water plant in that province is to continue to provide heavy water for Quebec nuclear power reactors.

Thailand buys aircraft

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently signed a financing agreement of \$7.6 million to support the \$8.9-million sale by Canadair Ltd. of Montreal, of two CL-215 aircraft, spare parts and related services to the Royal Thai Navy. The airplanes, equipped with navigational aids, will be used for search and rescue work by the Royal Thai Navy in territorial waters bordering Thailand.

Of the first 50 CL-215 planes produced by the federally-owned aircraft manufacturer, 37 have been exported. The remaining 13 were sold in Canada.

The Thai order, which represents some 188 man-years of employment for Canadians, involves eight major sub-suppliers.

Fee system for 200-mile zone

Canada will collect some \$10 million in fishing fees from foreign vessels allowed to fish in the 200-mile zone in 1978.

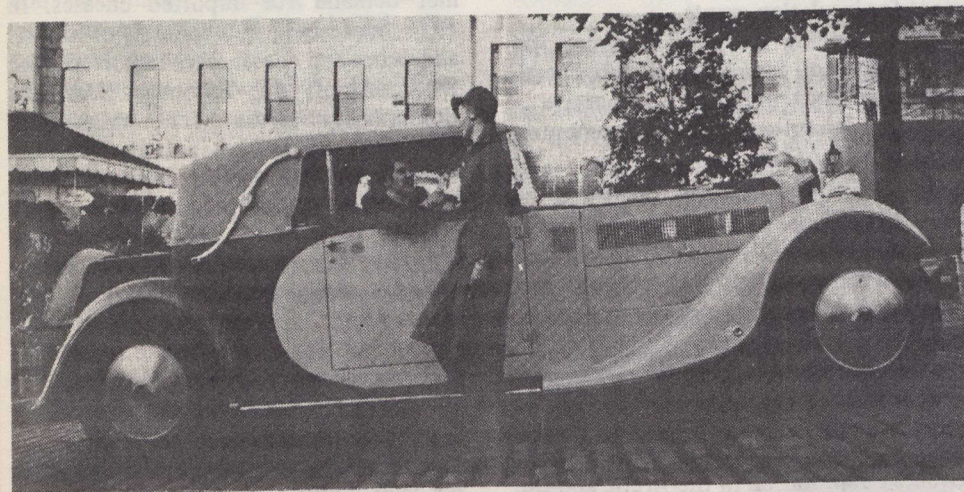
Under the new fee system, fishing vessels or vessels supporting the foreign fishing fleets will pay \$1 per gross vessel ton for access to the zone. In addition, fishing vessels will pay a fishing fee based on the size of the vessel for each day spent fishing.

Foreign fishing vessels on which Canada will be placing observers from time to time in the coming year will be required to cover costs of salaries and other expenses of these observers.

The Federal Government, which specifies on its licences where, when, and how long vessels can fish, secured court convictions last year against vessels that strayed from their assigned area or fished beyond their authorized dates.

The number of foreign fishing vessels expected to be licensed for the zone in 1978 will be about 500, down 10 per cent from the number in 1977. Before the 200-mile zone came into effect, about 1,500 foreign vessels fished off Canada's coasts each year. The Federal Government now issues foreign fishing licences mainly for capelin, argentine, grenadier, silver hake and other species that the Canadian fishing industry does not use in full. The consensus developed at the Law of the Sea conference and bilateral agreements with major fishing nations oblige Canada to share unfished stocks, as is done by other nations with 200-mile zones.

Spaceman presides at Montreal's international motor show



Charles M. Duke, United States astronaut, was honorary president of the tenth International Auto Show in Montreal, this month. Mr. Duke was also pilot of the lunar module that landed on the moon. His presence lent emphasis to a special model that was an exact copy of the electric lunar vehicle used in Apollo XVI and XVII missions.

Visitors showed much interest in the Quebec-made Marathon 300, on display. It was one of 15 North American firsts out of the 300 vehicles from 25 manufacturers in the show. The vehicle is powered by electricity.

(Above) Hy Hidelstein's creation, Renaissance, also built in Quebec, was another hit of the exhibition. Resembling one of the Torpedos of the Thirties, its chassis and mechanical operation are similar to that of a Model "T" Ford. While it attracted much admiration, its price - \$50,000 - prohibited much else.

Shulie Lake shapes loggers

"As much as possible, we want to duplicate working conditions on the street," says Dave Chitty, director of the unique ten-trailer minimum security institution at Shulie Lake, Nova Scotia. "So we pile as much responsibility on inmates as they can handle over a period of time."

Chitty is referring to the group of between 20 and 30 inmates who have chosen to spend the last six months of their sentences learning to become skilled loggers.

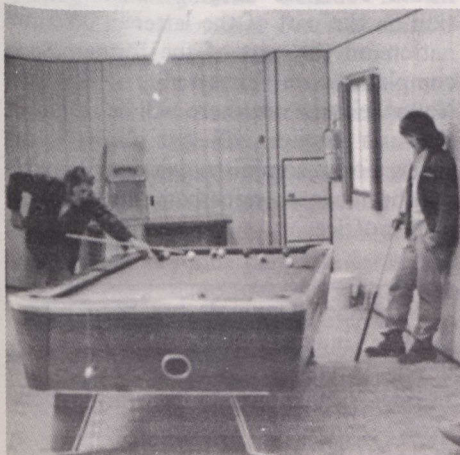
Shulie Lake, the only institution of its kind in Canada, is a complete forestry operation, providing both work and skills training for inmates, and filling a very real labour need for their employer, Scott Paper.

Warren Zwicker, Scott Paper's representative, admits that he goes on "a gut feeling" when considering inmates for the operation. He looks for someone with an affinity for the outdoors, someone who can stand being by himself in the woods for hours at a stretch. Dave Chitty and Rudy Street, the parole supervisor for Shulie Lake, are perhaps more concerned with stability and commitment when sizing up a candidate.

Obviously, the chance to build up a bank account while still technically in an institution is a great incentive for inmates to apply for the training. "But," says Rudy, "they also know their chances of making it on the street are much better after being here. They know they'll develop good working habits."

First job for some inmates

The institution insists that inmates develop good work habits and skills. Every-



Recent arrivals shoot pool in the trailer.



A "skidder" plows through heavy underbrush with a pile of eight-foot logs.

one must report to work at the same time and perform a certain function. Otherwise, the men know they can be fired and returned to Springhill Medium Security Institution. Many inmates have never held a steady job before and can't even comprehend what is involved. Recently, when Chitty announced that alarm clocks, rather than staff, would be waking residents in the morning, one young man protested, "My God, Mr. Chitty, there's no way I'm going to wake up with an alarm clock. I've only got up early twice in my life. That was to go to court and my old lady got me up for that."

"If we're not happy with a man's performance," notes Chitty, "Warren, Rudy and I sit down with him and discuss what he's doing wrong. We'll give him a month to bring up his production, his safety habits, his reporting to work or whatever, and at the end of that time, he's called in again and told whether or not he has improved in certain areas. Normally we keep him if he can perform. We've only had to fire two chaps in the year we've been here."

On arrival at camp, inmates are equipped by Scott with power saw, files and tongs, and with safety pants, boots, gloves and hard hats. These belong to the men when they leave, but for the first three months, while their debt to Scott is being worked off, Canadian Penitentiary Service pays their board and a small

weekly canteen allowance.

Meanwhile, every stick of wood they cut is recorded by Scott and credited to them at the same rate paid to anyone else in the industry. Once the equipment is paid off, they have one "free" cheque and then start both a bank account and paying for their own board.

Inmates make their own rules about staying up, as long as they're ready for work at 7.15 a.m. It's good that only two or three come in at any given time because, says Rudy Street, "The new freedom is something they really can't handle. They're up all night talking to everybody else. For the first few days they're really 'hyper' and it's hard on everyone. But the others understand since they've been through this period, and they're willing and ready to talk with them.

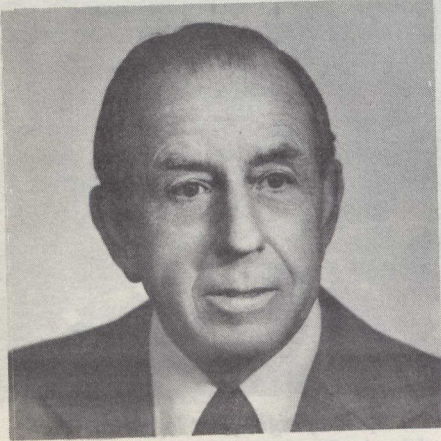
He adds, "It's a much better situation than landing on the street directly from an institution, because there might not be anyone to interact with outside. Actually, it's a great opportunity to do a lot of thinking about the future."

After two months, inmates are eligible for a weekend pass, an essential part of the program "...because it gives them a chance to visit the communities where they're going to live and see how people there are looking at them."

The foregoing article has been edited and reprinted from Liaison, Vol. 3, No. 10, November 1977.

Professional gold medallists

The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada has awarded its 1977 Gold Medals to Dr. V.E.F. Solman of the Canadian Wildlife Service, and to Clarence W. Powell, chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities for the province of Newfoundland.



Dr. V.E.F. Solman

Dr. Solman was honoured for his contribution to the field of pure or applied science; Mr. Powell for his work in other fields of endeavour contributing to national or international well-being.

Dr. Solman, a native of Toronto, served with the Federal Government from 1942 to 1945 in charge of weather forecasting and meteorological training for Royal Air Force Transport Command Training. In 1945 he joined the Dominion Wildlife Service (which became the Canadian Wildlife Service in 1947), since when he has held various positions in disciplines such as limnology, wildlife classification, research on bird hazards to aircraft and environmental-impact assessment.

His most outstanding work has been first as a member of the Associate Committee on Bird Hazards to Aircraft, National Research Council since 1964, and then as its chairman since 1973. His contribution to the prevention of bird strikes with aircraft on the basis of his knowledge of habitat manipulation, bird behaviour and other biological phenomena was essential to the resolution of the problem. This contribution has received international acclaim. (See *Canada Weekly*, Vol. 5, No. 41, October 12, 1977.)

Clarence Powell has been a public servant in Newfoundland for 42 years during which he has served in three senior posts.

For most of the time when Newfoundland was governed by a Commission of Government (1934-1949) he was a magistrate with primary responsibility for providing liaison between the Government and the citizens of the two districts to which he was assigned. His principal achievement in this post was the promotion of municipal government which at the time existed only in the city of St. John's.

In 1947, Mr. Powell was appointed Director, Local Government Affairs, and after Confederation was made Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs. In this post he organized municipal councils in the majority of towns with populations in excess of 1,000 and community councils in smaller settlements. He was also chairman of the Provincial Planning Board, which promoted and supervised municipal plans.

In 1964 he was made permanent chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities. He was primarily responsible for the extension of a high quality of telecommunication services to the entire territory of Newfoundland Telephone Company Limited on the Island of Newfoundland and to all of the permanent settlements in Newfoundland Labrador.

Federal Ombudsman to be created

Justice Minister Ron Basford recently announced his intention to bring forward legislation early this year to establish a federal Ombudsman for Canada.

As an independent officer of Parliament, the Ombudsman would be empowered to investigate complaints about administrative actions or inactions from members of the public who have not received satisfaction through the normal departmental complaint-handling channels. Like his counterparts in the provinces and New Zealand and Australia, the Ombudsman would, if necessary, report to Parliament when his recommendations were not followed. His jurisdiction would extend to all departments and most agencies of the Federal Government and, to avoid confusion, would be stipulated by schedule to the Ombudsman Act.

Mr. Basford drew attention to committee recommendations that the Ombudsman be empowered to take up complaints received directly from the public. This is the practice followed in the provinces, New Zealand and Australia and is in contrast to what is done in Britain and in

France, where parliamentarians are obliged to act as intermediaries between the public and the Ombudsman.

Co-ordination with others

Mr. Basford noted that care would be taken to avoid overlapping and unnecessary expenditure among complaint-handling bodies, by having the Privacy Commissioner and the Correctional Investigator (both of whom serve ombudsman-like functions) become assistant ombudsmen, empowered to deal with complaints in their particular functional areas.

He noted that certain bodies created to oversee statutory rights, such as the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Canadian Human Rights Commission, would not be integrated into the office of the Ombudsman. Although the former office has ombudsman-like powers in respect of language complaints, it also has an important duty which goes far beyond this — that of ensuring recognition of the status of each of the official languages.

Similarly, the function of the Canadian Human Rights Commission goes beyond general complaint-handling to encompass the administration and enforcement of quite specific rights as defined in the Canadian Human Rights Act. The Commission has the authority to refer complaints of illegal discrimination to tribunals having the power to issue binding orders; the Ombudsman, on the other hand, will deal with complaints alleging maladministration (generally involving alleged incompetence or inefficiency but not illegality) by departments and agencies of the Federal Government itself and will not have the power to enforce his findings.

The only complaints in which the Ombudsman and the Canadian Human Rights Commission could both become involved would be those alleging maladministration on the part of the latter or discrimination on the part of the former. Such complaints are expected to be rare. Nevertheless, since there will be instances where a person will complain to the wrong body, administrative arrangements will be made to refer complaints to the proper office.

Michel de Goumois has been named Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Department said Jacques Gignac would be an Assistant Under-Secretary. Gilles Mathieu of Montreal has been appointed Minister in the Washington Embassy.

News of the arts

Toronto Symphony on tour in China and Japan

The Toronto Symphony left Canada on January 21 for a three-week tour of the People's Republic of China and Japan.

The 98-member group, with music director Andrew Davis, contralto Maureen Forrester and pianist Louis Lortie, will perform in Peking on January 30, 31 and February 1, in Shanghai on February 5 and 6 and in Canton on February 7 and 8. Before their arrival in China, the Toronto Symphony will give concerts in Tokyo on January 28 and 29.

The orchestra's performances in China constitute the reciprocal part of a Canada/China cultural exchange which brought the Shanghai Ballet to appreciative audiences in Canada last May. Although the Toronto Symphony will be the first major Canadian professional orchestra to visit the People's Republic, the way was opened for musical exchanges last March, by a highly successful tour of China by the Canadian Brass, and in 1975 by The Men of the Deep choir from Cape Breton.

The program of works for the concerts includes pieces by Beethoven, Berlioz, Mahler and Tchaikowsky, and by Canadian composers François Morel and Sir Ernest MacMillan. Miss Forrester and Mr. Lortie will alternate as guest soloists, and the orchestra will be joined in Shanghai



Audrey Michaels

Maureen Forrester

by Chinese soprano Chu Feng Po, who appeared in Canada with the Shanghai Ballet company last spring.

The concerts in China will be presented in major cultural centres. In Tokyo, one concert will be played at the Bunka Kaikan hall, and the other at the hall of the Japanese national television network (NHK), where it will be recorded for broadcast.

A Canadian Broadcasting Corporation film crew under producer Norman Campbell, who will prepare a documentary to be seen in Canada in the spring, is accompanying the orchestra.

New Canadian operas

For the first time in the history of Canadian music, two new Canadian operas were given their world *premières* on the same night. The Co-Opera Theatre, in association with the Toronto Free Theatre, presented *Lady in the Night* by Norman Symonds and Hrant Alianak and *Enkidu* by Harry Somers and Martin Kinch, from December 7 to 11.

Julie Amato, widely known to Canadian audiences through her television show *Julie*, will make her operatic *début* in the blues opera *Lady in the Night*. The cast of *Enkidu* includes Glyn Evans, tenor, singing the title role, with Donald Bell, Giulio Kukurugya, James Anderson, Susan Gudgeon, and choreographer-actress Nancy Schrieber completing the cast. Librettists Hrant Alianak and Martin Kinch will direct their own operas.

Enkidu is based on the epic of Gilgamesh, a tale of the degradation of the "natural" man Enkidu by King Gilgamesh. *Lady in the Night* is a blues opera in which Baby, a stripper, re-creates through a series of flashbacks her world, her life, and the betrayal which results in her killing her lover, Jimmy.

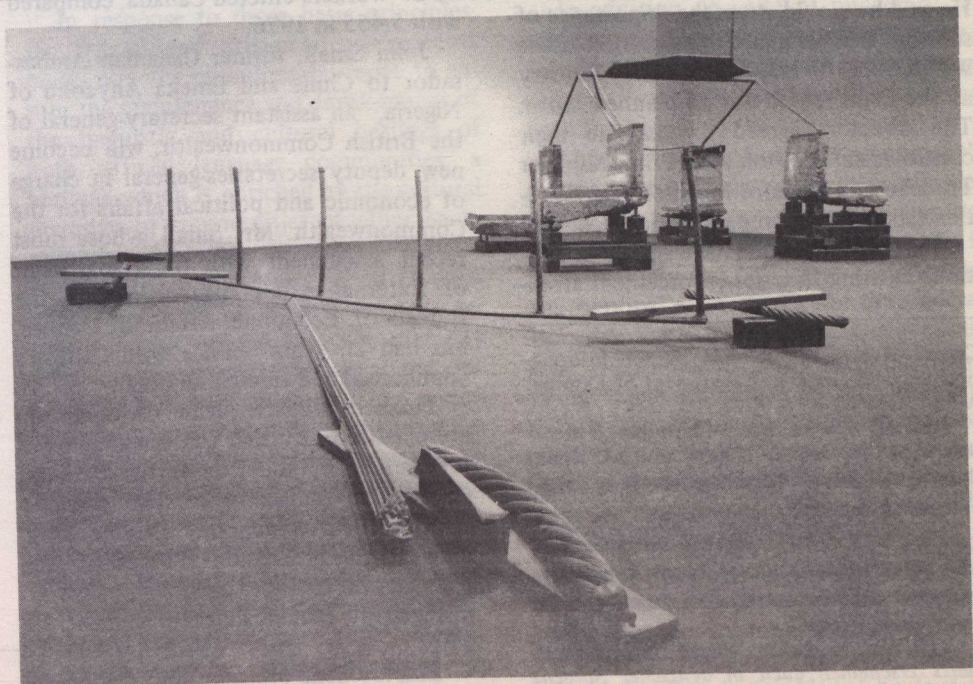
The two operas were commissioned by the Co-Opera Theatre, assisted by the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council.

Works of two Ontario artists off to international exhibition

Ron Martin, of London, Ontario, and Henry Saxe, of Tamworth, Ontario, have been chosen by the National Gallery of Canada to represent Canada in the *XXXVIII International Biennial Exhibition of Art*, in Venice, in early June.

For the first time, the paintings and sculptures by the selected artists will be exhibited in advance before reaching Italy. In response to a special invitation from the Center for Inter-American Relations in New York, the National Gallery will exhibit the nine paintings by Martin and the four sculptures by Saxe at the Centre from February 8 to March 26.

The exhibition, which will be made up of works from private and public collections in Canada, will include two works recently acquired by the National Gallery, Henry Saxe's *Sight-Site* and Ron Martin's *Lovedeath-Deathlove*.



Steel and concrete sculpture in several elements, *Sight-Site* by Henry Saxe.

News briefs

Justice Minister Ron Basford will not run for office in the next federal election. Mr. Basford, who was first elected to the House of Commons in 1963, says he is quitting politics for personal reasons and that he supports all policies of the Government. He has served in the portfolios of consumer and corporate affairs, urban affairs, revenue and justice.

According to Statistics Canada, retail sales in November totalled \$5.45 billion, seasonally adjusted, a rise of 4.1 per cent from \$5.23 billion in October.

For the twentieth consecutive year, the value of Canadian mineral raw-material production continued its upward trend in 1977, reaching a record \$18.1 billion. Energy Minister Alastair Gillespie said the 1977 value of domestic mineral production exceeded the 1976 value of \$15.4 billion by 17 per cent — 8.7 per cent of the gross national product, which is estimated at \$209.3 billion.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada is postponing for three months a vote by policy holders on a plan to move its head office to Toronto from Montreal. The delay will be used to solicit new proxies from qualified policy holders for use at a meeting to be held in Toronto. Company president Thomas Galt said the company had no intention of moving any large proportion of its 1,800 head office staff to Toronto for another two years. He said he would stress the importance of solving the language-of-education issue which Sun Life had cited in early January as the main reason for its planned move. The directors agreed to examine their controversial decision after Prime Minister Trudeau and Finance Minister Jean Chrétien talked with company officials.

France and Canada have agreed to continue existing fisheries-enforcement arrangements for the French islands of St. Pierre-Miquelon while negotiations on a boundary settlement continue.

Bombardier-MLW Limited of Montreal will construct 22 locomotives and 50 coaches worth \$60 million for Via Rail Canada. Construction of the LRC (light-rapid-comfortable) trains will provide more than 1,500 man-years of work for the company and its suppliers. Delivery of the trains should begin in the spring of 1980.

About 275 miners employed at the iron ore operations of Marmoraton Mining Co. Ltd. near Marmorora, Ontario, will lose their jobs in April. Marmoraton, a subsidiary of Bethlehem Steel Corporation of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, plans to shut down its Marmorora open-pit operation on March 31 after more than 20 years' production. The over-all depressed business conditions of the U.S. steel industry has caused a reduction in the company's requirements for iron ore. The mine is also nearing the end of its useful life because of declining ore reserves.

General Motors of Canada Ltd. is raising the price of its cars and trucks by 2.8 per cent.

Minister of Employment and Immigration Bud Cullen announced recently that workers from the Caribbean Islands and Mexico will be allowed to enter Canada temporarily during 1978 to fill jobs in the agricultural industry only if Canadian workers are not available. In 1977 some 4,929 workers entered Canada, compared with 5,455 in 1976.

John Small, former Canadian Ambassador to China and Emeka Anyaoku of Nigeria, an assistant secretary-general of the British Commonwealth, will become new deputy secretary-general in charge of economic and political affairs for the Commonwealth. Mr. Small, whose most recent assignment with the Department of External Affairs has been with the Bureau of Economic Affairs in Ottawa, has had 26 years' service with Canada's commercial and foreign services.

Finance Minister Jean Chrétien announced recently that the instruments of ratification of the Convention between Canada and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income were exchanged at Islamabad on December 15, 1977.

Employment Minister Bud Cullen defended the Government's unemployment-

fighting strategy by referring to the adage from the classic confrontation between the tortoise and the hare. "Slow and steady wins the race," Cullen remarked after release of figures by Statistics Canada showing the unemployment rate in December adjusted for personal variations had hit a post-depression record of 8.5 per cent. Actual unemployment hit 882,000, about 42,000 more than in November and 128,000 more than a year earlier.

Claude Ryan, who has submitted his resignation as editor of Montreal's daily newspaper, *Le Devoir*, has officially announced his intention to run for the leadership of the Quebec Liberal party. Former Quebec Finance Minister Raymond Garneau has also officially declared his interest in the position.

Four Canadian destroyers and a support ship left Halifax, Nova Scotia, January 17 for a two-month naval exercise off Puerto Rico.

On January 5 Canada Post delivered a Christmas card mailed December 22, 1937. The card, mailed with a one-cent King George V stamp in a Vancouver mailbox, took 40 years and two weeks to reach its destination.

Two Canadian athletes recently set new world records at the U.S. National Invitational Indoor Track Meet at College Park, Maryland. Olympic silver medallist Greg Joy, of Vancouver, British Columbia, jumped two metres, 31 centimetres (seven feet, seven inches), breaking the indoor world record for the high jump event. Patty Loverock, also of Vancouver, set a new record for the women's 60-yard dash.

For the second consecutive year (and the second time in the past 21 years) Canadian National Railways has declared a profit. The surplus of more than \$12 million will help finance an expansion in western Canada this year. The company hopes to have its long-term debt of \$808 million converted to equity and to have \$1.5 billion of preferred shares now held by the Government changed to common shares. Parliament is now considering legislation that would make the conversion possible.

The Supreme Court of Canada has ordered Saskatchewan to pay back more than \$500 million collected in oil taxes and royalties. The court, which ruled unconstitutional legislation establishing a mineral income tax and crude oil surcharge, said the money must be returned to producers, with interest.

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

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

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.