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Forest industry: a major contributor to the Canadian economy

With almost half the country's land area covered by forests, chiefly conifers, the forestry industry has become Canada's largest industry. Its value to the economy is estimated at \$20 billion annually and it contributes more to the national economy than metals, food and agriculture, fisheries, and the automotive industries combined.

The forest industry directly employs some 300 000 Canadians across the country in pulp and paper and wood manufacturing and logging. It also indirectly employs another half million Canadians through service or related industries such as residential building, printing and publishing, industrial packaging, and furniture manufacturing. It consumes large quantities of energy and requires efficient transportation services, and machinery and equipment, including control systems using advanced technologies. It has been estimated that one job in every ten in Canada, therefore, depends to some extent upon the forest industry.

All regions of Canada participate in the forest industry activity. In British Columbia, forest products represent over half the province's industrial production and exports, while in the maritimes forest products total about one-third of manufacturing activity. Other provinces reflect varied levels: Quebec, 15 per cent; Ontario, 7 per cent; the prairie provinces, 10 to 15 per cent.

Over 5 000 companies located across Canada, from small operations to multi-national corporations, comprise this in-

dustry. And more than 300 communities in the country depend upon the forest industry for their existence.

A major world supplier

Canada is the second largest wood producer in the world and softwood growth represents about 14 per cent of the total. In harvesting softwood stock, the country ranks third in world production, but it is the largest exporter of softwood lumber, supplying 45 per cent of world markets. Canada also accounts for more than one-fifth of world exports of manufactured forest products.

Primary forest products divide into two major categories, with wood products including lumber, plywood and others accounting for about one-third of the value of all shipments, and pulp paper and paperboard representing the other two-thirds.

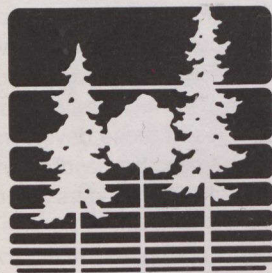
Lumber is first in production in the wood products sector, followed by millwork, exterior panels of softwood plywood and waferboard, and prefabricated housing. Shipments in paper and allied industries are more equally divided, with market pulp leading slightly, followed by newsprint, converted paper and board products, and other paper and paperboard.

Lumber, pulp and newsprint are responsible for about 85 per cent of Canada's forest products exports. Plywood, waferboard and various paper grades are sold to both domestic and international markets, while some valued-added products service the Canadian market only.

Canadian softwood lumber shipments



Forests cover almost half of Canada's vast land area.



National Forest Week
May 5-11



External Affairs Affaires extérieures
Canada Canada



Construction workers prepare pre-fabricated houses for expanding national and international markets.

are expected to reach about 21 billion board feet by 1990, an average annual increase of 1.4 per cent over the 1980 to 1990 decade. This material will be utilized for residential and non-residential construction, repair and remodelling, industrial production, and offshore demand.

Continued market growth

Exterior panels, including softwood plywood and waferboard, shingles and shakes, continue to gain international markets. Millwork, products like windows and doors, kitchen cabinets, flooring, interior woodwork, mouldings and roof trusses, are now tapping the expanding do-it-yourself and renovations markets, both domestically and abroad.

Canadian pre-fabricated or pre-cut buildings, manufactured in sections or in com-

ponents for on-site erection, have gained an international reputation for both innovation and practical application.

The basic component of nearly all papers and paperboards, wood pulp, is sold as market pulp and shipped to paper mills or used in integrated operations in Canada. Market pulp shipments abroad account for approximately one-third of all Canadian pulp production. Canada is the world's largest producer of market pulp.

Newsprint is the largest single product of Canada's pulp and paper industry. Canada leads the world as a producer and exporter of newsprint, manufacturing one-third of total production and maintaining more than 60 per cent of international trade. Additional papers and paperboards include ground-wood specialties, other printing and writ-

ing papers, tissue, linerboard, corrugating medium and boxboard.

Converted paper products range from consumer-disposable products, specialty commercial paper products, institutional paper products and wallpapers, to the full range of materials and creative designs for packaging.

Changing industry

In order to remain competitive in world markets, Canada is constantly involved in the development and application of new technologies to all phases of production.

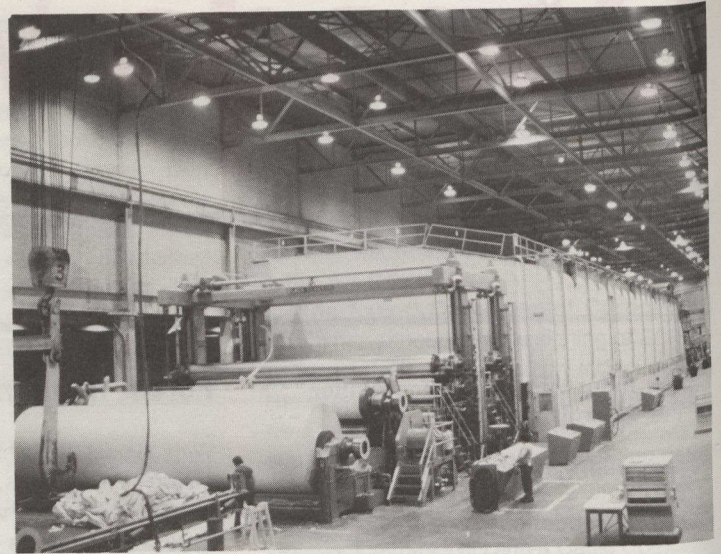
Logging techniques employ power saws, wheeled skidders, cable logging systems, tree-length logging, mechanical tree shears, and feller-bunchers. While major changes are not currently expected, general streamlining of operations is continued regularly.

Changes in the wood products sector have included the development of systems capable of processing small diameter logs at high linear feed rates and the use of new electronic control systems. This has led to higher productivity levels and the ability to process more marginal timber stands.

Ongoing efforts continue to increase efficiency, reduce labour content and utilize more effectively fibre inputs through small log processing and high grade recovery systems. Examples of these developments are computer-controlled log handling and sorting systems; electronic scanners and computer system control of sawing, peeling, clipping and drying operations; automation of finished lumber sorting; and semi-automatic panel assembly lines in plywood mills.

In the pulp and paper sector, major advances such as oxygen bleaching, chemithermomechanical pulp for newsprint, new

(continued on P. 8)



Large newspaper-making machines reflect Canada's position as the world's leading supplier of newsprint.



Log booms at Vancouver, British Columbia.

Forest fellers at Expo in Atlanta

Thirteen of Canada's leading forest machinery and equipment manufacturers will be participating in the Canadian exhibit at EXPO '85 in Atlanta, Georgia from June 28 to 30, 1985.

Skidders, feller heads, feller bunchers, delimiters, carriages, chippers, edgers and loaders used in the industry are among the products that will be on display. Computerized control systems for positioning saws for maximum yield at the sawmill and industrial all-purpose land or water vehicles will also be shown.

The forest products industry is one of the largest sectors of the Canadian economy in terms of sales, employment and export earnings. Some 100 companies, which will represent the industry, are centred mainly in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, the three provinces with the greatest concentration of forest resources.

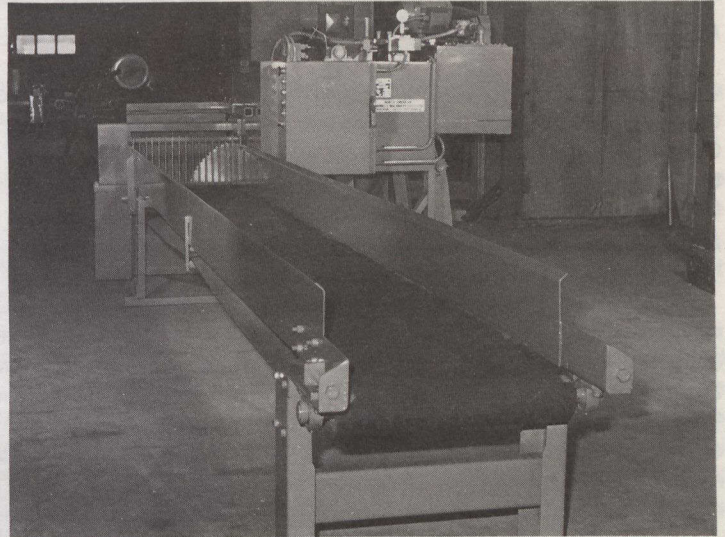
In 1983, total output was valued at \$239 million and exports to the United States, Europe and other countries totalled \$145 million.

The Canadian industry is recognized internationally for the reliability and large volume of its wide range of products. For logging operations, for example, Canadian manufacturers have developed the felling head disc saw that eliminates damage to the butt of the tree. Computerized control systems have optimized yield in sawmill operations. Dehumidifier type lumber kilns have improved product quality by not stressing the wood in the drying process. In addition, some manufacturers have developed machinery for carrying out turnkey sawmill projects in other countries.

Industry representatives

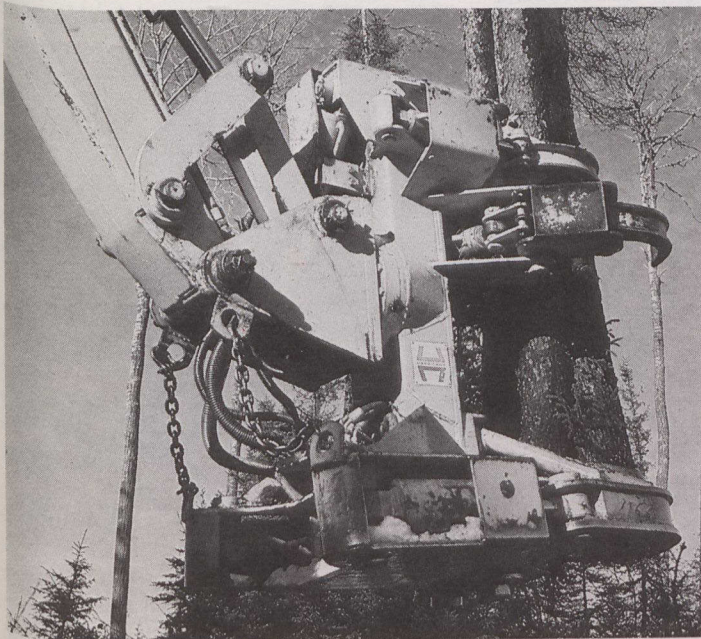
Companies that will display their forest machinery and equipment at EXPO '85 include:

- Boreal Hydraulic Equipment Inc. of Macamic, Québec — grapples, saw-head tree fellers, other logging equipment;
- Comact Inc. of Saint-Georges Ouest, Québec — loaders, sawmill machinery;
- Dika Industries Limited of Rycroft, Alberta — felling machines and cutter heads;
- Donson Engineering Limited of North Bay, Ontario — wood preservation plants, turnkey projects;



The automatic slab saw is a high-output sawmill machine engineered by North American Sawmills.

- Eaglewood Industries Limited of Salmo, British Columbia — firewood processors;
- Harricana Metal Inc. of Québec — heavy machine attachments for log and log-handling activities;
- Koehring Canada of Brantford, Ontario — woodlands equipment including disc saw felling heads, feller forwarders, feller bunchers;
- Lloyd Controls Limited of Port Coquitlam, British Columbia — computerized control systems for sawmill operations;
- Multi-Meg Électronique Ltée of Boisbriand, Québec — computerized saw positioner for sawmills;
- North American Sawmills Machinery Limited of Killalow, Ontario — sawmill equipment;
- Trans-Tec Vehicles Inc. of Sudbury, Ontario — industrial all-terrain vehicles;
- Uraken Lumber Dryers of Saint-Eustache, Québec — innovative lumber dryers; and
- Volcano Inc. of Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec — wood waste burning systems and wood-fired thermal fluid heaters.



The tree feller-buncher is one of the heavy forest machinery attachments manufactured by Harricana Metal.



The Koehring K2FF feller-forwarder is capable of cutting trees up to 50 centimetres in diameter.

Acid rain reduction plan

Canadian and United States representatives attending a major acid rain conference in Quebec City, have indicated that a plan to reduce acid rain emissions will be ready for the annual meeting of eastern Canadian premiers and New England governors to be held in St. Andrews, New Brunswick in June.

"We feel strongly that the conference has been a success," James Hoyte, Massachusetts secretary of environmental affairs said after the three-day international meeting. "We now have the basis for common exchange of ideas, and it's imperative to recognize the statements of political will made here," he added.

The meeting, sponsored by the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers Conference, was attended by representatives from seven provinces, 15 states, the federal government, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. It was hosted by Quebec and Massachusetts and co-chaired by Premier René Lévesque and Governor Michael Dukakis.

During the conference delegates reviewed the progress in the fight against acid rain being made in different regions.

Jean Piette of the Quebec Environment Ministry said the fight against acid rain in all of eastern Canada is increasing. "All governments are working together to promote a clean-up program which should bring us close to the objective of 20 kilograms per hectare per year (in acid deposits)," he said.

Ontario, which is responsible for close to 50 per cent of the emissions for eastern Canada, has committed itself to reducing acid emissions by 1 164 000 tonnes, or 53 per cent, by 1994.

Quebec has committed itself to reducing its emissions by 45 per cent, or 485 000 tonnes, by 1990.

The conference also heard reports on the phenomenon of "dieback" that is affecting Quebec's maple trees and its maple industry. Dieback, which involves slower growth, loss of bark and ultimately death, is affecting as much as 73 per cent of the maple stands studied.

"Acid rain and air pollution have been retained as the most likely causes of ... the dieback phenomenon in maple stands," concluded a report presented by Quebec forestry scientist Lise Robitaille.

Mr. Hoyte said the conference would work to "educate" the Canadian and US acid rain envoys — former Ontario Premier William Davis and former US Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis — and to lobby for action by the US government.

Canadian and Romanian leaders discuss mutual-interest issues

Socialist Republic of Romania President Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife, Elena Ceausescu, paid an official visit to Canada from April 14 to 17, 1985, at the invitation of Governor General Jeanne Sauv e and the government of Canada.

In addition to attending meetings and functions in Ottawa, the Romanian party visited Montreal and toured Hydro-Quebec's, Gentilly II nuclear power station in B ecancour. The Gentilly plant with a Canadian Candu reactor is similar to a nuclear plant being constructed in Romania where five Candu

reactors are being built and contracts have been signed for two more units.

Official talks were held between Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and President Ceausescu to strengthen and develop relations between the two countries, as well as on international issues of mutual interest. They noted the favourable evolution of Romanian-Canadian relations during recent years and the continued exchange of visits, the development of economic, technical and scientific exchanges, and the intensification of bilateral consultations at all levels.

Economic relations

A joint statement on the development of long-term economic relations was issued and the two leaders stressed that the level of economic development of the two countries offered favourable conditions for the promotion and diversification of commercial exchanges, bilaterally, and jointly in other countries. (See box.)

Concerning international issues Mr. Mulroney and Mr. Ceausescu emphasized their similar objectives in connection with the necessity of preserving peace, promoting a constructive dialogue, and creating a climate of confidence and co-operation among states. They expressed their concern with the international situation and the continuing arms race, especially the nuclear aspect.

Arms control

The two sides held the view that sustained efforts are needed for halting the arms race, agreeing on genuine and durable mea-



Governor General Jeanne Sauv e greets Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on his arrival to Canada.



International Trade Minister James Kelleher (right) and President Ceausescu at a meeting.



Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (right) with President Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu during their visit to Ottawa.

asures of arms limitation and disarmament, and reducing and eventually eliminating the threat to peace, whether by nuclear or conventional means.

In this context, the prime minister and the president welcomed the beginning of negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States concerning space and nuclear arms, both strategic and intermediate range, and expressed the hope that they will lead to positive results. The leaders also agreed that chemical weapons should be eliminated, and that a comprehensive, verifiable ban on chemical weapons should be achieved as soon as possible by the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

Regarding the situation in the Middle East, the two sides indicated support for a political solution to the conflict, for recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and for ensuring the independence and sovereignty of all states in that area, including Israel.

In other areas they agreed on proceeding without delay to peaceful negotiations to end the conflict between Iran and Iraq, and that the Contadora initiative is the most appropriate avenue for the achievement of a comprehensive and workable peace agreement in Central America.

Special attention was attached to the problems regarding the international economic situation that continues to be extremely serious. The leaders emphasized that co-operation for renewed progress in developing countries to promote economic recovery and harmonious development of all countries would be in the interest of all states.

Economic relations statement

On April 17, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and President Nicolae Ceausescu issued a statement on long term economic relations between Canada and Romania, in which they noted:

- the favourable conditions for the development of economic relations established by the work of the Canada-Romania Joint Governmental Commission for Promotion of Trade and Economic Co-operation;
- the desire of commercial partners in both countries to extend bilateral co-operation in the nuclear field on existing projects and to develop joint opportunities in third countries;
- the growth of the volume of trade and the opportunities for additional bilateral exchanges;
- the efforts of the Canada-Eastern European Trade Council and the Romanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry jointly to establish a Canada-Romania Economic Council;
- the extensive relationship between the Export Development Corporation of Canada and the Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade, and their efforts to develop new financing mechanisms for the expansion of bilateral commerce;
- the recent initiatives and protocol between their respective firms, enterprises and organizations to expand technical co-operation and to pursue third markets.

The two leaders agreed Canada and Romania would continue:

- to assist in the conclusion and implementation of mutually beneficial agreements between firms, enterprises and economic organizations from the two countries;
- to promote the expansion of bilateral and economic industrial co-operation in sectors already under development, including nuclear and thermal energy production, process equipment fabrication, mineral extraction and metallurgical supply, agriculture, transportation and the transfer of engineering technology;
- to encourage industrial co-operation between interested firms, enterprises and economic organizations from the two countries through: joint participation in natural resource development and long-term supply agreements; co-operation on capital construction projects; establishment of joint ventures for the production and/or marketing of goods and services; joint production of machinery, equipment and installations; and the transfer of patent rights, technical data and know-how acceptable to both countries.

Machine readable passport

The Canadian Passport Office began issuing a new passport with machine readable capability on April 15, 1985.

The new Canadian passport, designed to specifications published in 1980 by the International Civil Aviation Organization, is a smaller and more secure document for people travelling abroad.

The bearer's personal information, photograph and passport details are all placed on one page under a protective laminate. Two lines of information at the bottom of the same page repeat some of the bearer's personal information and passport details in a special format for machine reading. The information can also be read visually.

The fee of \$21 and the procedure for applying for a passport will remain the same. Current passports will remain valid until their stated date of expiry.

Training in Egypt

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has allocated almost \$12 million for a five-year training program to ease Egypt's shortage of trained electric power transmission staff.

Energy is one of the priority sectors identified for development assistance from Canada to Egypt, said Minister of External Relations Monique Vézina. Under the program, engineers, technicians and instructors will be trained and a training centre that will assist in meeting the future manpower needs of the Egyptian Electricity Authority will be established, she added.

A Canadian agency will implement the project in three stages:

- In the first stage, a team of nine Canadians will work with five Egyptian counterparts to design the project, identify the requirements, prepare course curricula and develop criteria for the selection of trainees;
- the second stage will involve preparation of the training facilities at Cairo South Training Institute and mobilization of a team of 12 Canadian instructors; and
- the final stage, lasting up to four years, will involve the training of engineers, technicians, craftsmen, trainers and training administrators.

It is estimated that the project will train 180 engineers, 240 technicians and 50 instructors and administrators during the five-year period, and have a sustainable output of 60 engineers and 150 technicians a year in the future. In addition, some instructor and management training and specialized technical fellowships will be given in Canada.

New communications developments promise increased markets

Mitel Corp. of Kanata, Ontario recently announced a number of new products which the company hopes will increase its potential in world markets as a producer of one of the fullest product lines in the international telecommunications market.

Mitel's new *Generic 1000*, which is expected to be available in July, is the first enhancement from the *SX-2000* program

and converts the *SX-200* private branch exchange (PBX) into a digital PBX. It also increases the switching capacity of the *SX-200*, allowing up to 350 lines to be attached, compared with the 150 lines that are usual in a setup.

As well as rewriting the software, Mitel has added its latest generation of silicon chips to the *Generic 1000*. Developed for

the *SX-2000*, they are smaller, faster and cheaper than its first generation of digital matrix integrated circuits.

Mitel has also announced that it has developed a processor that will greatly expand the capacity of its *SX-2000* integrated communications system.

A company news release said the advanced main processor which will allow the *SX-2000* to handle up to 4 000 voice and data lines will be ready for installation by December. Initially, a new software package that will allow the *SX-2000* to handle up to 2 500 lines will be available. Currently the switching system handles 300 to 1 200 lines.

The expansion of the *SX-2000* will enable Mitel to compete with other companies in the United States market for large telephone switching systems.

Mitel has also announced that its US subsidiary, Mitel Inc., has signed a five-year extension to a distribution contract with Sonecor Systems of New Haven. Sonecor, a division of Southern New England Telephone, started distributing Mitel switching products two years ago. Under the new contract, Mitel and Sonecor are to work on joint development of hardware and software.

Exports of forest products

Wood, wood products, and paper	Volume		Value	
	1982	1983	1982	1983
			\$000 000	
Primary products				
Logs and bolts — '000 m ³	1 260	2 299	91	144
Pulpwood — '000 m ³	287	435	8	12
Pulpwood chips — '000 t	1 131	1 387	98	89
Other			28	31
Total primary products			225	276
Lumber — '000 m ³				
Softwoods	27 569	33 934	2 847	3 900
Hardwoods	236	226	66	69
Total lumber	27 805	34 160	2 913	3 969
Shingles and shakes — '000 m ²	30 303	38 338	157	232
Veneer — '000 m ³				
Softwoods	126	129	14	16
Hardwoods	269	320	77	100
Total veneer	395	449	91	116
Plywood — '000 m ³				
Softwoods	379	397	104	122
Hardwoods	35	37	20	20
Total plywood	414	434	124	142
Other wood products — '000 m³	45	45	304	412
Wood pulp — '000 t				
Mechanical	272	314	85	94
Chemical	5 843	6 509	3 136	2 964
Total wood pulp	6 115	6 823	3 221	3 058
Paper and paperboard — '000 t				
Newsprint	7 081	7 476	4 086	4 005
Other paper and paperboard	1 644	1 942	922	1 030
Total paper and paperboard	8 725	9 418	5 008	5 035
Other paper products			90	89
Total wood, wood products, and paper			12 133	13 328
Exports of wood, wood products, and paper				
To: United States			8 159	9 603
United Kingdom			780	697
Japan			889	852
Other countries			2 305	2 175

Source: Statistics Canada

Review of broadcasting policy

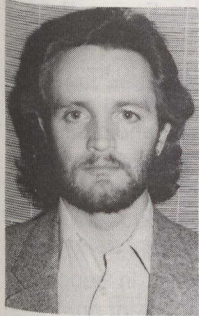
Communications Minister Marcel Masse recently announced the establishment of a task force to investigate the economic and cultural strategy that should guide the evolution of the Canadian broadcasting system in the coming decades. It is the first step in a fundamental review and redirection of Canadian broadcasting policy.

The task force's main objective will be to examine the current environment and future trends and to analyze the various broadcasting policy options available to the government. It will present its recommendations to Mr. Masse by January 15, 1986.

In a speech to the Canadian Cable Television Association and the Broadcast Executives Society in Toronto on April 9, Mr. Masse explained that changes brought about largely by the rapid development of communications technologies since the Broadcasting Act was passed in 1968 have made it imperative to carry out a fundamental review of government broadcasting policy. He said the expanded choice available in televised programs made possible by cable, satellites, pay-TV services and videocassette recorders is bringing fundamental change to the broadcasting environment and raises questions concerning public policy objectives for the system.

Animated short film and make-up artist win Oscar awards

Canadians Jon Minnis and Paul LeBlanc won Oscar awards in the fifty-seventh annual Academy Awards presentation in Los Angeles, California for their contributions to the film industry in 1984. The awards were presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on March 25.



Jon Minnis

Jon Minnis, currently an animator with Michael Mills Productions in Montreal, received the award in the animated short film category for his absurdly funny four-and-a-half minute film, *Charade*.

The film centres on two characters, both of whom are individually attempting to act out movie and book charades to an unseen, but vocal audience. The first character has no luck at all, despite his easy subjects and perfect clues that defy all laws of nature. The second character scores every time, even though his clues have nothing to do with the subject he is relating.

As the film progresses, the conflict builds between the first character and the audience, as he is frustrated time after time. Meanwhile, the second character can do no wrong. Finally, losing his self control, the first character attempts to insult the audience but they again misinterpret his actions and leave him in a state of disbelief.

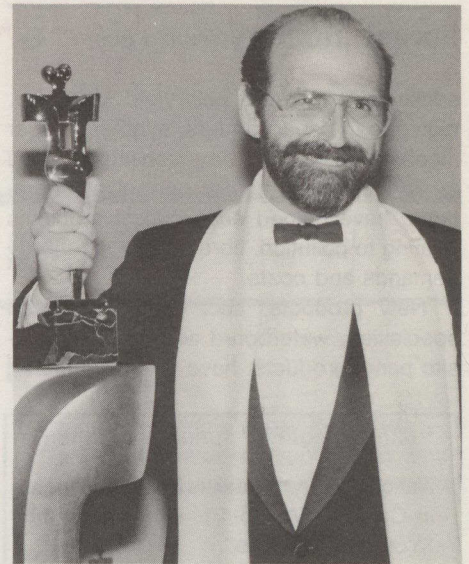
The \$300-film was made by Jon Minnis in 1983 when he was a graphic artist studying to be a filmmaker at Sheridan College's international summer animation school in

Oakville, Ontario. The third year project was Jon Minnis' first film.

Jon Minnis has also won a number of other awards for *Charade* including the 1984 Canadian Independent Short Film Showcase Award, the 1984 best first film award at the International Festival of animation in Toronto and the best animated film and best first production awards from the Canadian Film and Television Association. The film also received a Genie from the Academy of Canadian Cinema — the Canadian equivalent of the Oscar — for best theatrical short.



Charade's second character has instant success with his audience as they guess difficult titles like The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Quotations after he strikes a strange pose that has nothing to do with the subject he is relating.

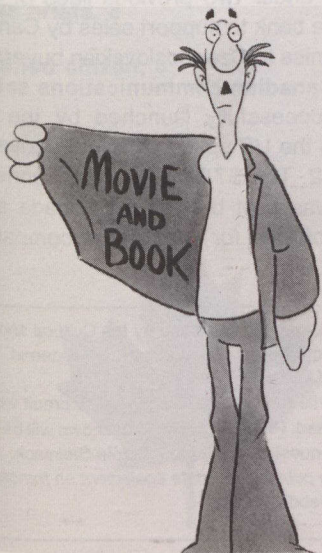


Paul LeBlanc receives a special Genie award for hair and make-up design.

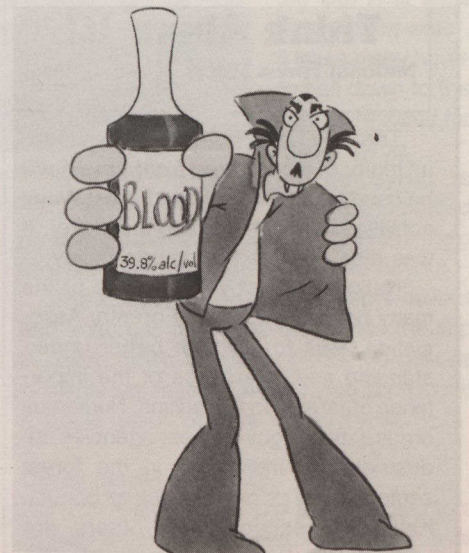
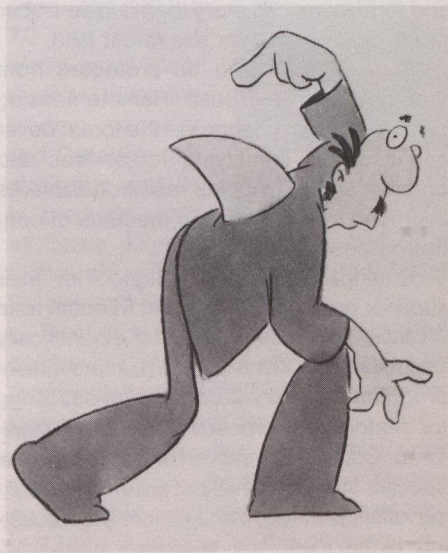
Hair designer and make-up artist Paul LeBlanc won an Oscar for the fanciful hair and make-up he created for *Amadeus*, the fictional account of Mozart's life which won eight Oscars including best picture.

Paul LeBlanc was the first hair stylist in the Academy's history to win an Oscar. The native of Dieppe, New Brunswick, shared the make-up Oscar for *Amadeus* with veteran Hollywood make-up artist Dick Smith who did Salieri's aging make-up, while Paul LeBlanc was responsible for the 800 wigs, cast hair, and make-up.

Paul LeBlanc also won a Genie from the Academy of Canadian cinema for his contribution to make-up and hair design in the film industry. Other film credits for him include *The Black Stallion*, for whom he falsified a mane, *The Return of the Jedi* and *Places in the Heart*.



The first character acting out charades is not able to convey the names of the movies and books, like Jaws or Dracula, that he is acting out, despite the easy subjects and perfect clues that defy the laws of nature.



Forest industry (cont'd from P. 2)

additives to increase pulp yield, twin-wire, high speed paper formers, synthetic paper machine fibres, and new sensing devices for increased computer control of operations, have helped ease critical problems relating to pollution, fibre utilization, energy demands and costs.

New products, such as groundwood specialties, waferboard and other composite panel products, have also contributed

"Mind-boggling" forest week theme

National Forest Week is being observed in Canada, May 5-11, with the theme "You need forests".

To help promote the theme, the 1985 National Forest Week poster expresses in a humorous but appropriate fashion, the many ways in which forests are necessary to society. The design created by Lorna Bailey, an artist with the Alberta Forest Service, shows that there are so many ways in which people need forests that it is truly "mind-boggling".

You Need Forests



Think About It!

National Forest Week May 5-11, 1985

The new National Forest Week logo, a "trinity of trees" (see front cover) will be used to identify National Forest Week activities during 1985 and thereafter. It was also designed by Laurie Bailey.

National Forest Week is one of the many programs that the Forestry Association uses to promote better understanding and awareness of the importance of forests to Canadians. Numerous organizations, government agencies, industries and individuals in the forest sector as well as groups such as Scouts, Katimavik, schools and others are participating in forest week activities across Canada.



Framing with spruce-pine-fir, commonly used in building houses.

new opportunities for growth in the forest products industry.

The need for forest renewal to continue the vast natural resource upon which the industry depends has led to many programs of forest management. Five key areas have been identified as critical to effective forest management: forest regeneration; forest protection; educational and training facilities; research; and the supply of trained manpower.

Growth and quality of forests are increased with site preparation, prescribed burns followed by tree planting by hand or mechanical means, then fertilization and careful thinning. Planting programs can raise stand volumes by some 30 per cent over unmanaged stands. An effective silvicultural program combining planting, juvenile spacing, and fertilization can more than double timber production or medium site forest land.

Forests must also be protected from fire, insects and disease. Remote sensing satellites detect changes in the forest cover and assist in identifying forest fires and problem areas. Ongoing research explores improved tree growth and methods of controlling pests and disease.

Cuttings from trees selected for their superior growing qualities and freedom from disease are cross-bred under scientifically controlled conditions in genetic improvement programs. Nursery production of seedlings for restocking purposes is carefully monitored. Continued improvement of commercial species stocks, climatic requirements, conservation, planning, management and harvesting techniques, and improved technology applications are all subjects for increased research and development activity.

News briefs

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence Erik Nielsen has announced that between eight and 12 *Challenger 600/601* aircraft will be purchased from Canadair of Montreal, for the Canadian Forces (CF). Seven *Challenger 600s* will be based at Canadian Forces Base in North Bay, Ontario, and used in the electronic support and training role to train CF air, land and maritime units in recognizing and overcoming hostile jamming and other interference with electronic signals in wartime. An additional *Challenger 600* will serve as an airborne electronic test bed to evaluate various avionics and electronic equipment at CFB Cold Lake, Alberta, in support of ongoing CF aircraft replacement programs.

The premiers of the maritime provinces — John Buchanan of Nova Scotia, Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick and James M. Lee of Prince Edward Island — met recently and agreed to work together to expand international trade, concentrating their efforts on the northeastern United States and the Pacific Rim. Premier Richard Hatfield said co-operation is important because the provinces are dealing with slower economic growth and the threat of protectionist measures by foreign countries. The premiers said they are considering setting up a joint trade office in Boston.

The Export Development Corporation has renewed a \$20-million (US) line of credit agreement with Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka, A.S. of Prague, Czechoslovakia, to support sales of Canadian capital goods and services to Czechoslovakia. Nine allocations totalling \$13.58 million (US) were signed under two previous lines of credit with the bank to support sales by Canadian companies to Czechoslovakian buyers.

A Canadian communications satellite was successfully launched by the crew aboard the US space shuttle *Discovery* on April 12. The \$78-million, 16-channel satellite was built by Telesat Canada and is being offered for sale by the company.

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