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## Budget measures aim at holding on to gains and stimulating growth

Reductions in federal sales tax, personal income tax, unemployment insurance premiums, as well as offers of new incentives for research and development, were among budget proposals tabled by Finance Minister Jean Chrétien in the House of Commons on November 16.

Canada's most immediate challenge, said the minister, was "to hold on to gains we have been making in our competitive position as we come to the end of mandatory controls over prices and incomes".

The federal sales tax is cut from 12 to 9 per cent, effective immediately, with tax savings of \$1 billion in a full year. Manufacturers and importers are expected to pass this through to consumers in the form of lower prices.

Mr. Chrétien said that this cut in manufacturers' sales tax would affect all goods subject to the 12 percent rate with the exception of alcoholic beverages and tobacco. Gasoline, not subject to the 12 percent *ad valorem* rate, would not be affected. Construction materials would continue to be taxed at the low rate of 5 per cent.

### Personal income tax, UI premiums

The budget doubles to \$500 the maximum employment expense deduction that taxpayers can claim, effective for the 1979 tax year — a tax saving of \$270 million. Over 6,200,000 taxpayers will benefit.

A further \$1.2-billion reduction in federal taxes next year will result from the indexing provision now in the Income Tax Act. This will come from a 9 percent increase in personal exemptions and tax brackets, and in the child tax credit.

A further \$400-million reduction in provincial income taxes will occur in those provinces with tax-collection agreements.

Tax rules affecting registered retirement savings plans will provide relief in cases where both parents die leaving minor or disabled children.

Unemployment insurance premiums in 1979 will be cut — a total \$300-million saving for workers and employers. For employees, the weekly rate will be reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.35 per \$100 of insurable earnings; the employer rate will decline from \$2.10 to \$1.89.

### Commodity taxes

Special excise taxes on marine engines, private aircraft and motor-cycles are not having an important effect on energy conservation and thus are being dropped. The special excise tax on gasoline of 7 cents a gallon is extended to non-commercial aviation fuel.

Solar-powered water heaters are exempted from sales tax, and the exemption for insulation materials is being restricted to those with genuine insulating properties.

### Air transport tax

The air transportation tax, earmarked for financing air transport services, will be increased after March 31, 1979. For flights within Canada and to the United States an increase in this tax to 15 per cent of the air fare, with a maximum of \$15 is proposed. For international flights, the tax will be increased to \$12 with provision for a subsequent increase to \$15. This is another step in an ongoing process to shift the costs of airport services from the general taxpayer to those who use the airports.

### Regional incentives

The investment tax credit, which supports industrial expansion and modernization, will be extended indefinitely beyond its scheduled expiry date of June 30, 1980.

The basic rate of tax credit will be raised from 5 to 7 per cent, with larger increases in areas of slower growth: to 10 per cent in most areas designated for regional expansion and to 20 per cent in the Atlantic provinces and the Gaspé.

### Late news

As this issue went to press, November 22, a Canadian immigration official announced that from 150 to 175 Vietnamese refugees stranded aboard a Malaysian freighter would be on their way to Canada by November 25. Earlier, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that Canada, France and the United States would help resettle the 2,500 migrants, who had been cramped for about a month aboard the 1,580-ton *Hai Hong* anchored just off the Malaysian coast.

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The basic 7 percent tax credit is being extended to investment in equipment for rail, air, water and long-haul road transport.

#### Resource taxation

In mining, the write-off for development expenditures is being raised from 30 to 100 per cent, and townsites and social assets required for new mines will qualify to earn depletion.

The incentive for oil and gas drilling funds will be extended to December 31, 1981, from the scheduled expiry date on June 30, 1979.

Provision for fast write-off of outlays for pollution-control equipment, due to expire at the end of 1979, will be extended indefinitely. This will particularly benefit the mining and pulp and paper industries.

#### Effective dates

##### Immediate

- Federal sales tax cut to 9 per cent from 12.
- Increased investment tax credit for qualifying property and R & D expenditures.
- Extension of investment tax credit to transportation equipment investments.
- Fast write-offs for costs incurred for the development of new mines.
- Depletion allowed for townsite and social asset investments for new mines.
- Amended treatment of income debentures and term preferred shares.

##### January 1, 1979

- Increase in the personal tax deduction for employment expense to a maximum \$500 from \$250.
- Indexing of personal income tax increases personal exemptions and widens tax brackets by 9 per cent.
- Reduction in unemployment insurance premiums.

##### Dates extended

- Investment tax credit, due to expire June 30, 1980, extended indefinitely.
- Special incentive for multiple-unit residential buildings extended one year beyond January 1, 1979.
- Fast write-off for pollution control equipment, due to expire at the end of 1979, extended indefinitely.

#### Research and development

The basic investment tax credit for research and development (R & D) will be doubled from 5 to 10 per cent. It will be doubled to 20 per cent in the Atlantic provinces and the Gaspé.

A special R & D tax credit of 25 per cent will apply for small business corporations in all parts of Canada.

#### Housing

The tax incentive for multiple-unit residential buildings will be extended for one year.

Developers will be allowed to deduct carrying charges on their land inventory.

#### Other tax changes

There will be a more precise definition of those businesses who may qualify for the very favourable small business tax rate. This will ensure that the incentives will serve their original purpose of promoting small business expansion and not be used as a tax shelter for personal, professional and investment income of individuals.

The budget proposes to change the tax treatment of new issues of income debentures and term preferred shares. Income earned on such securities by financial institutions will in future be taxed in the same way as income on loans. This is because they are essentially debt obligations.

#### Impact on the economy

The sales tax reduction will reduce the advance in the consumer price index by one-half of 1 per cent. This comes on top of the proposed postponement of the oil price increase, and last summer's reduction in the gasoline excise tax.

The resulting lower rate of price increase, combined with the benefits to individuals from tax indexing, a higher tax deduction for employment expense and lower unemployment insurance premiums, should help to relieve pressures for large increases in incomes.

Investment will be stimulated by the enriched investment tax credit and other changes in resource and R & D taxation.

#### Fiscal outlook

Total financial requirements of the Government in fiscal 1979-80, exclusive of foreign exchange transactions, are forecast at \$10,750 million. This would be down from the expected \$12,100 million this year. If account is taken of special factors relating to Canada Savings Bond interest, financial requirements would in-

#### Canada/U.S. tax comparison

A comprehensive comparison of Canadian and United States' tax systems shows that the personal tax system in Canada compares most favourably with that of the U.S. Canadian taxes on business are fully competitive, while manufacturing in Canada enjoys effective income tax rates averaging some ten to 12 percentage points lower.

Further information regarding *The Tax System of Canada and the United States* may be obtained from the Tax Analysis and Commodity Tax Division, Department of Finance, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5, Canada.

crease by about \$350 million.

Budgetary and non-budgetary outlays in 1979-80 are forecast at \$52.6 billion, an increase of 8.9 per cent which would be well below the expected growth of gross national product. Budgetary revenues are forecast at \$38.1 billion with a further \$3.7 billion available from non-budgetary transactions.

#### Financial data on universities

*Financial Statistics*, a recent publication by Statistics Canada, provides comprehensive data on Canadian university finances for the year 1976-77.

Its highlights include:

- Total university expenditures rose 10.0 per cent to \$2.6 billion in 1976-77. The average annual rate of growth of university operating expenditures for the period 1971-72 to 1976-77 ranged between 7.9 per cent and 17.4 per cent depending on the province, with a national average of 13.2 per cent.
- Government operating grants accounted for 75 per cent of total operating income.
- Student fees accounted for 8 per cent to 15 per cent of university operating income depending on the province. At the national level, they represented 10.9 per cent.
- Approximately 10.6 per cent of total operating income was allocated to sponsored research.
- Salaries and benefits accounted for 74 per cent of total operating expenditures.
- Capital expenditures in Canada decreased by almost 25 per cent in 1976-77.

## Peacemaking-peacekeeping parallel proposed for Cyprus

"The Canadian Government cannot contemplate an indefinite peacekeeping presence in Cyprus," declared Ambassador William H. Barton, Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, on November 9.

Mr. Barton, delivering a statement on the question of Cyprus to the thirty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly, emphasized Canada's continued interest in maintaining peace in the region, noting that, for the fifteenth consecutive year, Canadian soldiers were among the United Nations troops on the island. "A total of over 20,000 Canadian soldiers have now served in Cyprus."

He also expressed hope that the guidelines listed in a joint *communiqué* on behalf of the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus in February 1977 would continue as a framework for any further negotiations and stressed the need "to be flexible on the issue of territory". Mr. Barton stated:

### Assurance sought

"Mr. President, Canadian spokesmen at the United Nations have been reiterating on every possible occasion that the process of peacekeeping, in which Canada is engaged in Cyprus, should be accompanied by peacemaking. Canada, as a contributor to United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP), would like to be

assured that this is indeed the case. We need to be reassured by the actions of the parties concerned that the search for a mutually tolerable accommodation is in fact being pursued earnestly and with determination.

"We think it reasonable to expect that the parties will bend their efforts to finding an accommodation that enables the UN peacekeeping force to leave Cyprus rather than keep the peacekeeping force as guardian of the *status quo*. We have made our views known on the lack of financial support for this operation and I do not propose to repeat them.

"I would say now that the Canadian Government cannot contemplate an indefinite peacekeeping presence in Cyprus. We are finding it increasingly difficult, before our public opinion, to justify Canadian participation in peacekeeping operations when they show little sign of contributing to the process of peacemaking.

"The Canadian Government has been actively considering various aspects of the Cyprus problem in the past year. For instance, in the last 12 months, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Jamieson, has visited Greece, Cyprus and Turkey and had useful discussions with the political leaders in those countries. Additionally, the Turkish Foreign Minister, Mr. Okcun, has just been in Ottawa. Through these various encounters we are

convinced that a useful dialogue can and must be maintained both here in the United Nations and elsewhere.

### New resolutions

"We hope and pray that the intercommunal negotiations, through the good offices of the United Nations Secretary-General, will recommence shortly. To encourage this development, the Canadian delegation believes that it is incumbent upon the General Assembly to adopt resolutions which all delegations can support and implement and to eschew language which would merely exacerbate the political tensions which unfortunately still exist on the island of Cyprus.

"Mr. President, by way of conclusion, I would like to endorse a passage in the statement made earlier this week by the distinguished representative of the Greek-Cypriot Community, Mr. Michaelides. In his statement he said: "We want peace in Cyprus, and in seeking peace we are looking not to the past but to the future. Past conflicts, whether in Cyprus or anywhere else in the world, cannot be a guide to the future, if the future is to be one of peace for humanity." There can be no better basis for an early resumption of the dialogue between the two communities."

## Support from EDC increases

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently released third-quarter figures on the export volume covered by all its insurance programs amounting to \$375.28 million, an increase of 29 per cent over figures for the same period in 1977. The cumulative amount covered for the first three quarters of 1978 reached \$2.54 billion, an increase of 167 per cent over the amount recorded from January to September 1977.

Further benefits estimated at about \$125 million have been derived for Canada under the corporation's Foreign Investment Guarantee program which protects Canadians' investments abroad.

Included in the figures for the first time is EDC's new surety insurance program. Surety insurance protects Canadian exporters and financial institutions against loss resulting from a call of performance or advance payment bonds by the buyer in offshore contracts, as well as consortium members against non-performance by a partner in a consortium.



United Nations/Photo by S. Lwin

UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim (left) and Permanent Representative to the United Nations William H. Barton confer during a recent session of the General Assembly.

## "Challenge for change seminar" focuses on women in Third World

What the liberated women in Canada take for granted, women in developing countries cannot even conceive let alone dream of. This disparity became clear at the recent seminar "Challenge for Change in Third World Agriculture" held in Edmonton and sponsored jointly by the Alberta Institute of Agrologists and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Speaking to some 200 University of Alberta faculty members, regional farm representatives and research scientists, were noted specialists in the field of Third World development.

Canadian food scientist Gordon Yaciuk revealed through a study financed by the IDRC that village women in the northwest African country of Senegal were responsible not only for preparing meals but also for much of the harvesting and processing of food. They have little or no time for self-improvement, leisure, the practice of traditional crafts or the training of children. Yet through the introduction of such mechanized devices as grain threshers, de-hullers and grinders, their work-load could be immensely reduced.

"The social implications of this are far-reaching," said Yaciuk. "On the one hand, the traditional system is tedious, but it provides a social outlet since the dehulling graining operation is often done in a group. The new system allows the woman this same social outlet but less frequently. It does, however, give her free time to use for increasing family income or for family improvement, either by self-education or training of the children."

Dr. Yaciuk's study, part of another IDRC-sponsored program at the National Centre for Agronomic Research, was done among 800 women in eight regions of Senegal. The majority were between the ages of 21 and 50 and were Muslim.

### Nigerian innovation

Carol E. Williams, senior lecturer in rural sociology/home economics at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, gave an example of a mechanical innovation that was effective from the point of view of production, but failed because it did not take into account other factors of village life.

She described the introduction of two types of machine for extracting palm oil in Nigeria. One, a hand-operated-hydraulic press, produced four imperial gallons



*In the rush to increase food production, little attention has been paid to the needs of rural women in the Third World. New and appropriate systems of technology should be adapted to age-old practices of farming and food preparation, freeing rural women from drudgery and allowing them more of the benefits of development. (Above) Village women in Senegal.*

of oil from only 15 to 20 heads of palm fruits, compared to 30 which were needed with the traditional method.

So well did the press work that it was used 24 hours a day by residents of several hamlets surrounding the village where it was located. The problem was that the press required a lot of water, and as a result of its constant use the village well could not cope with all the needs.

In addition, the press required a man's strength to operate it and when the two farmers who were employed to handle it were busy on their farms, the press fell idle.

In the case of the other palm oil machine, sufficient research was not done; it was later found that the palm kernel nuts, which were the women's source of income, were broken in the machine. The women objected and, as a result, the

machine was abandoned.

Farm women want to adopt scientific methods to improve their lives, said Mrs. Williams. But researchers and policy-makers of developing countries have to devote more attention to the consequences of change if they are to help them do so.

### Filippino females housekeepers

Dr. Gelia Castillo, who occupies the chair of rural sociology in the University of the Philippines, told the seminar that the most significant activity of women in her country was housekeeping.

"Among Filipino females, ten years old and over," she said, "only about a third are in the labour force while almost half of them are classified as housekeepers."

Instead of a reduction of females in farming there has been an upward trend, from 53.6 per cent in 1965 to 59.7 per cent in 1974, Dr. Castillo said. Seventy-seven per cent of females in agriculture are employed in rice and corn farming, mostly as unpaid family labour.

There also are more working wives in rural than in urban areas, Dr. Castillo said. "Contrary to the media image, the more affluent and urbanized areas like Manila and surroundings have fewer households where the wife is a source of income. It is in the poorer and more rural regions where wives play the breadwinner role, even if supplementary and contributory to the husband's earnings."

Dr. Castillo said the average Filipino wife had five years' schooling and that less than 3 per cent had any vocational training. The average wife spends more than 29 days a month and eight hours a day or more on housekeeping. Only 2 per cent have helpers.

"In designing strategies to involve low-income women in community and national development programs, we must not forget that livelihood and household activities occupy the major part of their daily lives," she said. "Free time is not as free and as available as we often assume it is. They are not always at leisure to benefit from educational programs, even if such were designed purportedly for their own welfare."

The seminar "Challenge for Change in Third World Agriculture" was part of a series organized by the IDRC as a continuing effort to inform the Canadian public about the current state of development research.

IDRC

# News of the arts

## Refugee policy working well

"There are a lot of people who have no conception of just how far we have gone to set up a humane, realistic, and thoroughly workable policy in dealing with refugees," says J. Cal Best, Executive Director of the Immigration and Demographic Policy Group of Employment and Immigration Canada.

"Canada has always dealt with the problems of refugees in a very forthright manner even when, as a class, they were not specifically dealt with in our immigration law. Since the end of the Second World War we have welcomed more than 350,000 refugees and now, in our current law, the special status of these men and women has been recognized."

Since there was no specific mention of refugees in the law prior to the coming into effect of the Immigration Act this year, Canadian officials had to apply the normal immigrant selection criteria to refugees and use the discretionary powers entrusted to them through the Immigration Regulations.

Fully 75 per cent of all refugee admissions to Canada between 1967-1977 were approved by officers using this system.

## Refugees outside Canada

"That's all changed," says Mr. Best. "Under our new Immigration Act refugees are, for the first time, recognized as a distinct, admissible class. They are no longer selected under requirements applicable to normal immigrants."

Overseas, the selection of refugees for



Gilles Benoit

admission to Canada is usually carried out through a two-step program. First an applicant's eligibility is determined based on the United Nations' definition of a refugee and second, immigration officers must decide whether the person involved is able to become established successfully in Canada.

Even in cases where people do not meet the refugee definition as outlined in the United Nations Convention, the new act allows for the designation of groups of displaced and persecuted people and for setting regulations governing their admission.

An important factor of the 1978 Immigration Act is the provision of a refugee sponsorship system aimed at meeting the short-term settlement needs of refugees.

"Our refugee policy program abroad assumes some selection of refugees is necessary," says Mr. Best. "It also recognizes that not all refugees can benefit

from settlement in Canada. We also assume that the bulk of refugees accepted by this country will be selected outside Canada."

## Applications from within

While most people admitted as refugees come from points outside Canada, there are visitors within the country who, for a variety of reasons, seek refugee status.

Their cases are now dealt with through a formal system anchored in law, which makes certain that the claimants have every opportunity to explain why they fear persecution in their homeland or in their country of permanent residence.

"In essence," Mr. Best says, "the central factor in the granting of refugee status is this. Does the claim conform to the UN Convention definition? In its simplest terms the Convention says a person can be classified as a refugee if there is a well founded expectation or personal history of persecution.

"Many claimants are not granted refugee status even though they come from countries with repressive regimes because the individuals concerned have never been persecuted and, in all likelihood, would not be so dealt with in the future.

"In addition", Mr. Best says, "our experience shows quite clearly that a large number of people who claim to be political refugees, both in Canada and abroad, are motivated by economic factors. They simply wish to immigrate to Canada to improve their economic position."

## Humanitarian grounds

These people are not refugees but many who do apply for admission within Canada may warrant special relief on humanitarian or compassionate grounds which would allow them to remain in Canada.

"These cases are neither overlooked nor ignored," says Mr. Best. "A special review committee has been established to examine the claims for refugee status which have been rejected, those of others who come from countries where war, political upheaval, or natural disaster have occurred, and those claims involving people whose admission to Canada is in accordance with our commitment to family reunification."

"By embodying the UN Refugee Convention definition in our law," Mr. Best says, "Canada is acknowledging and supporting the efforts of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees in encouraging countries to incorporate these principles in their legislation."



Photo and text courtesy of Panorama

*Although these young Tibetan children looked a little pensive when they first arrived, they have since settled successfully in the Lindsay, Ontario, area.*

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## Nigerians to train in Canadian technical schools

Five hundred Nigerian students arrived in Canada this autumn for technical training at community colleges and universities across the country. The training has been arranged under a five-year agreement recently signed by the Canadian Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (ITC) and the Nigerian federal ministry of education.

The Nigerian Government will pay the full costs of training, maintenance, and administration for 500 students a year until 1983, and ITC estimates that revenue for Canada will be about \$5 million a year.

Nigeria's education system has not been able to keep pace with the rapidly growing economy and the Government predicts a need for thousands of technically trained people in the next decade.

Negotiations involving the federal and provincial governments and the Canadian Bureau for International Education culminated in the signing in June of an agreement that forms part of a larger agreement of economic and technical cooperation between Canada and Nigeria.

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## Prehistoric reptile finds new home

The University of Calgary is now the home of what is said to be North America's oldest plesiosaur — a large, fish-eating, marine reptile that evolved during the Mesozoic era, 225 to 65 million years ago. Its small head, long neck, and four paddle-shaped limbs make it quickly recognizable.

Most of the specimens found in North America have been from the Cretaceous period and are about 65 million years old. The U. of C. specimen, however, is from the lower Jurassic period and could be as old as 180 million years.

Its slightly eroded vertebrae were found protruding from a creek bed in the foothills, about 48 kilometres north of Coleman, Alberta in 1970.

After the specimen was excavated, the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations donated it to the university and, since 1974, Betsy Nicholls, a vertebrate paleontologist who recently completed her M.Sc. in the department of biology, has been preparing and mounting it.

Working mostly with a pen-sized air

hammer and with the advice and assistance of members of the geology department, she painstakingly removed the sandstone in which the fossil bones were embedded. Only one side of the fossil has been exposed, leaving it mounted in the rock that preserved it. The total weight of the wall case, plaster, rock and fossil is about 1,500 pounds.

The Jurassic plesiosaur, at about 12 feet long, is somewhat smaller than its Cretaceous descendants, which sometimes grew to 45 feet.

"We knew that the plesiosaur dated back to the Jurassic period in North America — specimens this old have been found in Europe where there are more outcrops of Jurassic rock — but this is the first confirmation we have had of its presence in North America that far back," comments Mrs. Nicholls.

(From The University of Calgary Gazette, Vol. 8, No. 3, September 1978.)

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## Royal Bank helps Junior Olympics

The Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Olympic Association (COA) recently signed a \$500,000-agreement for the extension of their on-going, national Junior Olympics program to the end of the next Olympic year in 1980.

Administered by the COA and sponsored by the Royal Bank, the program encourages as many young Canadians as possible to participate in amateur sports, especially those related to Olympic disciplines. Since its beginning in 1973, more than 1,700,000 youngsters have taken part in the program and officials expect that figure to have reached 2.5 million by the time the Moscow Summer Olympics take place in 1980.

Through provision of incentive awards and crests for participation, the program assists sports organizations, and any interested group or individual, to stage regional and particularly community level Olympic-related events. In late 1976, coaching clinics were introduced with the help of the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union to make young athletes familiar with a wider variety of Olympic sports.

At present, the program offers competition in archery, basketball, biathlon, bob and luge, boxing, canoeing, cycling, diving, equestrian, fencing, field hockey, figure skating, gymnastics, hockey, judo, modern pentathlon, rowing, shooting,

skiing, ski jumping, soccer, speed-skating, swimming, team handball, track and field, volleyball, water polo, weightlifting, wrestling and yachting.

Richard W. Pound, president of the Canadian Olympic Association and International Olympic Committee member for Canada, stressed in his remarks how the program had increased the number of competitive events and opportunities to compete available to young Canadians.

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## Health officials watch Yellowknife

A study by the Canadian Public Health Association has confirmed results of an inquiry by the Federal Government last year, stating that the 10,000 residents of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories face a potential health hazard from arsenic.

Private studies conducted two years ago by Indians, the United Steelworkers of America and the University of Toronto concluded that the arsenic level (created by the settling of tons of arsenic dust, a by-product of the refining process in gold mining) had increased deaths from cancer in the area.

The new study, which found insufficient data to support that claim, has provided physicians in Yellowknife with a scientific data base with which to monitor conditions properly.

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## CANFARM transfer discussed

Federal and provincial deputy ministers of agriculture and deans of agriculture colleges met in Ottawa recently to discuss possible alternatives and criteria for the transfer of CANFARM, the Canadian Farm Management Data System.

CANFARM, based in Guelph, Ontario, is operated jointly by federal and provincial governments and agricultural universities. It provides information on farm management for farmers and agencies.

In August, as part of the cut in federal expenditures, the Federal Government announced it was terminating its financial participation in CANFARM, at a saving of \$6 million a year.

Participants at the meeting voiced their support for CANFARM and urged the Federal Government to seek an agency or organization to maintain the service, recognizing the need for increased user fees to producers.

# News of the arts

## Canadian Brass records with RCA

The Canadian Brass, a Toronto-based ensemble which has toured the Soviet Union, China, Europe and the United States, has signed a three-year contract with RCA records in New York to cut three albums — two collections of tunes from the Thirties and Forties and one collection of classical baroque pieces.

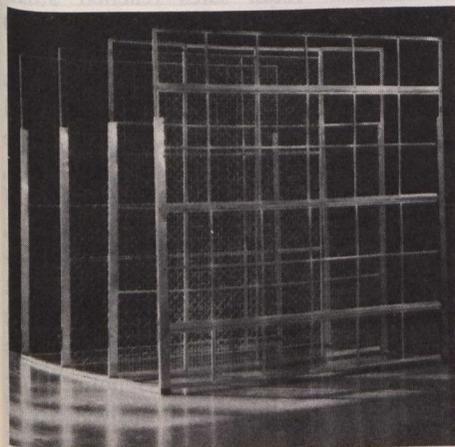
Trombonist Eugene Watts, quoted by *The Globe and Mail*, says: "The art of brass playing is yet to be fully defined. That's our real, long-range goal: to develop a brass chamber ensemble that can be compared with a fine string quartet — to set a standard that can hold for a while. There are a lot of very good brass players who get together to play as groups, but we're the first ever — and this is important — to have a set of instruments specially crafted for chamber ensemble playing."

The group also has plans to perform with the Minneapolis Orchestra in January and February and at New York Lincoln Centre's Alice Tully Hall on February 6.

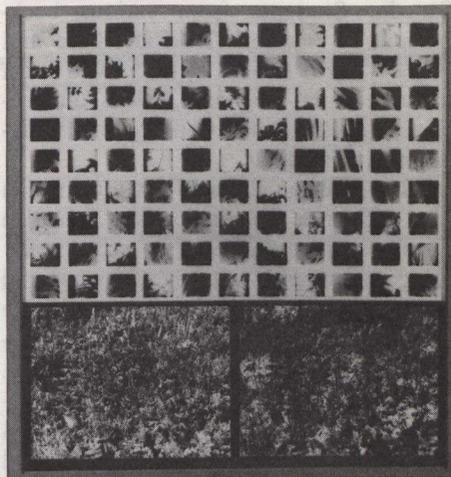
## Michael Snow covers Europe

Michael Snow — artist, sculptor, filmmaker, musician and writer — has become the first Canadian to exhibit at France's new museum of modern art, the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, and the second Canadian (after Alfred Pellán in 1955) to exhibit at the Musée national d'art moderne.

First in France (until the end of January), his exhibition will travel to Switzerland (Lucerne), The Netherlands (Rotter-



Blind (1968). Painted steel sculpture.



Field (1973-1974). Black and white photographic prints glued on cardboard.

dam), and Germany (Bonn and Munich).

The exhibition opens in Paris on December 13, with 16 photographic works, eight films, three projected slide works and three sculptures. Snow's most recent international one-man exhibition was at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, in 1976.

The artist has represented Canada at three Edinburgh International Festivals (*Canada 101* in 1968, and the 1969 and 1975 Film Festivals); in 16 one-man shows in the United States (in New York and Minneapolis between 1964 and 1976); at the Venice Biennial (1970), and at the Mostra Internazionale del Nuova Cinema, Pesaro, Italy (film retrospective, 1972). He won Grand Prizes at two Belgian Festivals in 1967: at the Knokke-le-Zoute International Experimental Film Festival and at the Fourth International Experimental Film Festival in Brussels.

Mr. Snow's films have been shown at the Whitney Museum, New York in 1969, the Montreux Film Festival (Switzerland, 1974), the Cannes Film Festival (France, 1969 and 1970), the London Film Festival (England, 1973 and 1975) and *Documenta* (Kassel, Germany, 1977).

## Canadian literature in Italy

*Canada: Il Villaggio Della Terra (Canada: The Village of the Land)* by Giovanna Capone, published by Patron Editors of Bologna, is a study of Canadian literature, the first in continental Europe and perhaps the whole of Europe. The author, Professor Giovanna Capone, chairman of the department of English literature at the University of Bologna, is contributing

towards the growing interest in Canadian literature in Italy.

Twenty-seven books by major English Canadian authors have already been translated and reviewed by the Italian press, among them *Il Medium e il Messaggio (The Medium is the Message)*, and Farley Mowat's *La Balena e la Furia (A Whale for the Killing)*. Another 12 translations are under way, including an anthology of contemporary English-Canadian poets. Several Canadian authors have been in Italy for public appearances and to participate in seminars, and Professor Capone last year chaired the first seminar on Canadian studies held at the University of Bologna.

The man responsible for much of this activity is Amleto Lorenzini, a 51-year-old, Roman-born Canadian. A trade officer with the Ontario government now based in Rome, he is striving to increase the sale of Ontario-made goods in Europe, turning his trade mission into a culture mission as well.

## Arts briefs

Stephen Jefferies of England's Royal Ballet, Covent Garden, appeared with the National Ballet as guest artist for the company's autumn season in Toronto, November 8 to 18. The season included the Canadian premiere of *Elite Syncopations*, a honky-tonk ragtime ballet set to the music of Scott Joplin, and Frederick Ashton's *Les Patineurs*, a tribute to the art of ice skating. The company also performed the Bolshoi classic *Bayaderka*; Ann Ditchburn's story of love and violence in rural Quebec, *Mad Shadows*; the *pas de deux* from *Don Quixote* and Jerome Robbins's *Afternoon of a Faun*.

Roald Nasgaard has been appointed chief curator to the Art Gallery of Ontario. Dr. Nasgaard, who taught for four years at the University of Guelph and teaches part-time at York University, has been a contributing editor to *Arts Magazine* (New York) and a guest editor for *Vie des Arts* (Montreal).

The National Choir of Israel, on its first North-American tour to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the State of Israel, gave a concert at the National Arts Centre, November 16. The 60-voice choir, under the direction of Stanley Sperber, sang Israeli songs, classical and contemporary music, folksongs and traditional Jewish music.

## News briefs

Defence Minister Barney Danson visited the headquarters of NATO's Allied Command Atlantic at Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A., on November 21, where he met with Admiral Harry Train, the recently appointed Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT). Canada has a permanent commitment to contribute one destroyer to NATO's multi-national naval force, the Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFORLANT), which operates under SACLANT control. Commodore Gordon L. Edwards of Medicine Hat, Alberta, is the present commander of STANAVFORLANT.

A \$60,000-grant for a study of obligations for legal support after the breakdown of a marriage has been awarded to the Institute of Law Research and Reform of Alberta and the Alberta Department of Social Services and Community Health. It is among 13 National Welfare grants announced recently by federal Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin.

Ottawa's City Hall is now offering information on municipal business in 22 languages. The service is operated by volunteers from City Hall staff who speak several languages. A list giving the names and phone numbers of the volunteers has been distributed to ethno-cultural groups in the city.

Toronto's Over 55, a non-profit body financed by the Federal Government, is helping people over 55 find jobs. A spokesman for the agency, Charles MacIntosh, says the fact that many senior citizens are being hired reflects a new mood for firms. "They're taking a different view of older people now, and we're seeing people in their seventies being productive in all fields."

The Plains Indian Cultural Survival School, Calgary, Alberta, will be the first in Alberta, and the second of its kind in

Canada. Students from various backgrounds — Sarcee, Blackfoot, Cree and Métis — from Grades 9 to 12 will learn Indian culture, languages, values and religious studies in addition to regular departmental subjects.

"Don't Bring it Back", is a campaign of Agriculture Canada to alert Canadian travellers to the danger of accidentally bringing foreign insect pests or plant and animal diseases into the country. More than a thousand such pests are intercepted at Canadian customs annually. Foreign diseases and pests that have entered Canada in the past have caused millions of dollars damage to farms and forests.

The Foreign Investment Review Agency has approved a proposed \$179-million investment by a subsidiary of Imperial Oil Ltd. in exchange for a minority interest in western oil and gas land holdings of Canadian Exploration Ltd. of Calgary.

British Columbia Forest Products Ltd. plans to raise its U.S. newsprint price to \$345 (U.S.) per ton from \$320, effective February 1.

A Saskatchewan company is offering Canada's first prepaid legal services plan to its insurance clients. One of two plans offered by the Co-operative Fire and Casualty Company would pay legal fees for employees of a participating company in such transactions as buying and selling homes and drawing up wills. It is available to employers at a cost of about \$25 a year per family. A more expensive plan would cover fees for legal services required in divorce and Criminal Code proceedings.

A \$61-million fishing port will be established at Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, as part of a \$500-million plan for provincial fisheries development, Newfoundland Fisheries Minister Carter announced recently.

Alberta government revenues from oil and gas royalties and from the purchase and rental of leases and licences rose to \$2.5 billion during the first nine months of 1978 from \$1.9 billion a year earlier.

The largest-ever financing agreement — a \$1.2-billion confirmed line of credit to Algeria represented by the Banque Algérienne de développement (BAD) — has been announced by the Export Development Corporation.

The Manitoba government is offering provincially-owned log cabins for public sale at two resort sites in the province. The 440-square-foot cabins, all on Crown

land, are offered with renewable 21-year leases as a condition of sale.

Manitoba and the federal Department of Indian Affairs have made a \$14,000-contribution to the Federal-Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping. The committee, which consists of wildlife management representatives, biologists, an engineer, a trapper from the Canadian Trappers Federation, a humane society representative and a veterinary pathologist, co-ordinates and encourages the development of humane trapping methods and devices for taking fur-bearing animals.

The former president of Syncrude Canada Ltd. reports that there are several experimental projects now being considered for methods of recovering carbonate oil. Apparently, Canada's largest potential oil reserve, called the "Carbonate Trend", contains 1.6 trillion barrels of oil, compared with about one trillion barrels of oil in Alberta's oil sands. Current proved oil reserves in Canada total six billion barrels. The oil content of the "Trend" is also said to be 70 times greater than the total output of production in the world for 1977.

Collectively bargained settlements in the third quarter of 1978 provided a higher average rate of wage increase than those in the second quarter of 1978, according to a report issued by Labour Canada. The 189 major settlements during the period produced average annual increases in base rates of 6.8 per cent in compound terms. The comparable figure for the second quarter of 1978 was 6.4 per cent. Sixty-six of the settlements in the third quarter were classified as one-year agreements, 92 were classified as two-year agreements and 31 as three-year agreements.

Canadian retail sales reached \$6.16 billion in September, up 6 per cent from the August figure.

Dr. Charles R. Scriver of Montreal's McGill University was recently awarded the Allan Award at a meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics, held in Vancouver. Dr. Barton Childs, of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, who presented the award, referred to Dr. Scriver as the "Jean Monnet of medical genetics", and noted that the Canadian scientist had helped organize the Quebec Network for Genetic Medicine, the Committee for Improvement of Hereditary Disease Management and the National Food Bank.

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