

# Canada Weekly

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Laws and institutions...like clocks, must be occasionally cleaned and wound up, and set to true time (Beecher).

## Marriage breakdown recommended as sole grounds for divorce

In its report on family law tabled in Parliament on May 4, the Law Reform Commission of Canada proposes abandoning the Victorian "fault or accusatory" approach to the divorce process. Instead, it recommends a process that focuses on the social and economic implications of marriage breakdown for the spouses and their children, based on finding fair and constructive solutions to the problems resulting from the ending of marriage. The new process should offer no confirmation of accusations of guilt and no legal results should be allowed to follow from claims by one spouse that the other was at fault — not financial advantage, not a right to dissolution and not a privileged position respecting the children.

### Key reform

The Commission sees the elimination of the fault and conduct assessments of the present law as a key reform. Such a change would provide results that are not at present available under the law. Under the proposed reforms, no spouse would be required to defend his or her vital interests by attacking the other; spouses could examine alternative solutions without the need for adversarial disagreement on the question of dissolution; and spouses would not be threatened with financial or other disadvantage because of the compromise and admission of inappropriate behaviour that is essential to any genuine attempt at reconciliation.

### Simple notice

The Commission proposes a process for dissolution of marriage that begins with a simple and non-accusatory notice. There would follow a minimum period of time (for example, six months) during which the spouses can consider reconciliation. If they are unable or unwilling to reconcile, this period allows them time to agree (if possible) on financial and property affairs and arrangements that are in the best interests of their children.

If the spouses have settled their affairs and if the court sees no prospect for reconciliation, the case can proceed to dissolution after expiration of the initial period. If the spouses are unable to agree on money, property and children, the court, after expiration of the initial period, can either order a trial of these issues, or can order an extension of time (for example, up to six more months) for the spouses to continue negotiations. The court can also order an extension of time for further attempts at reconciliation.

If the time has elapsed for agreement on money, property and children and no agreement has been reached, the court must try these issues.

### Marriage breakdown: only basis

When questions of money, property and children have been settled, either spouse may apply for dissolution. The Commission recommends that the only basis for ending a marriage should be the failure of the personal relationship between the spouses, expressed as "marriage breakdown". Since each spouse must live with the other, rear children and make the marriage work, marriage breakdown should be conclusively established by the testimony of either spouse. This is instead of allowing the court to decide what some fictitious "reasonable person" would say about the quality of the relationship between the husband and wife and whether it ought to continue. In technical terms, matters affecting money, property or children would be "justiciable"; marriage breakdown would be "non-justiciable".

The report proposes a new type of court — the unified family court — where all significant family law matters would be consolidated. At present family problems are dealt with in as many as four or five courts in one province.

The report, which culminates four years' work, also includes recommendations on maintenance, property settlements, and children's rights.



### Canada and U.S. trade ministers discuss auto parts

United States Secretary of Commerce, Elliot Richardson, who was in Ottawa May 6, agreed with Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Don Jamieson to give high priority to an examination of the causes of the \$2-million Canadian trade deficit on auto parts. Neither minister said they had any wish to make major changes in the Canada/U.S. automobile pact.

Mr. Richardson said also that, when a serious imbalance existed in a trade as important to both countries as the auto industry, it should be corrected.

It was the first meeting between the two ministers since Mr. Richardson's appointment as Secretary of Commerce on February 2. They have been eager to discuss matters of common interest in view of the major importance of trade and economic relations between Canada and the U.S.

Mr. Richardson travelled to Toronto May 7 to address a joint meeting of the Toronto Rotary, Empire and Canadian clubs, together with the Board of Trade and the Society of Financial Analysts.

### The doctor who whistles concertos

Until recently, 42-year-old Dr. Jack Cohen was known only as a busy Montreal plastic surgeon. But for years his shaving mirror had been aware that he's an exceptionally talented amateur whistler, which isn't so unusual — except that he whistles classical music.

Last November, this secret came to light when Lotte Brott was recuperating from a broken hip in Montreal's Jewish General Hospital. The Brots are musical. Mrs. Brott is a cellist in McGill Chamber Orchestra, conducted by her husband, Alexander Brott, and in the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

Their son, Boris, conducts the Hamilton Philharmonic. Their younger son, Denis, is a cellist.

One day, a pleasant man in a white coat went into Mrs. Brott's room to say he had long admired the Brott family, and to ask if he could while away her boredom by whistling a concerto for her.

"I thought: Well, the world is full of nuts," recalls Mrs. Brott.

But when Dr. Cohen proceeded to whistle one of Bach's Brandenburg concertos from start to finish, she was flabbergasted.

"He had beautiful tone, impeccable intonation, and perfect rhythm," she says.

For the next two months Dr. Cohen dropped in each morning to whistle another classical piece for her, and her admiration grew. She was amazed that his only musical training had been studying some cello pieces when he was in school, and that he had never whistled for anyone else. Only his shaving mirror knew for sure, he says.

### Second career

Soon CBC producer Kit Kinnaird, a friend of the Brots, heard of Cohen's talent and signed him up for a CBC radio broadcast. In Part II of CBC Tuesday Night, April 20, Dr. Cohen was heard with the McGill Chamber Orchestra conducted by Alexander Brott, and violinist Yaela Hertz.

Since the program was recorded on January 22, Dr. Cohen has been much in demand as a musician. He has given six performances in Montreal, appeared with the Hamilton Philharmonic, with Alexander Brott in Kingston, and on television.

### Getting there

After his *début* with the McGill Chamber Orchestra, Montreal *Gazette* columnist David Siskind wrote: "If only flute players could all produce such warm, beautifully-rounded tones, with such tasteful vibrato and such a sense of style! Cohen's phrasing was impeccable and you had the feeling that he is a born musician. I just hope he's half as good a doctor. It may have started out as a circus act, but it turned into the part of the program that was ultimately most satisfying in every respect.... There are any number of professional flute players around who could learn a great deal about music from the performance last night."

### University women's sports tour

"If you think that barnstorming went out with the arrival of major sports-expansion teams, television saturation, and the construction of concrete stadiums, then get ready Canada," says a

press release from St. Francis Xavier University of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Women basketball and field hockey players from St. F. X. will soon be off on a cross-Canada tour of eight Canadian cities from Montreal to Vancouver to promote women's sport in general, and St. F. X. in particular.

The tour includes stopovers and games in Montreal, Guelph, London, Sudbury, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, and Vancouver. Games are also scheduled for the return trip to the Maritimes.

The trip is being run on a "shoe-string" with accommodations being arranged through St. F. X. Alumni Clubs in the various centres across the country, and a van borrowed from St. F. X. basketball coach Carolyn Casserly. Support for the trip is also being sought from local sources.

The St. F. X. women's basketball team finished second in the Intercollegiate League, had an over-all record of 23-5 and were ranked third in Canada. The St. F. X. field hockey team finished second in its division.

### Strikes and lockouts 1975

Man-days lost from 1,043 strikes and lockouts in Canada in 1975 totalled 11,041,490, Labour Canada reported April 21. The 1,043 work stoppages involved 427,675 workers and a 19 per cent increase in time lost over time lost in 1974.

Corresponding 1974 figures were 1,216 stoppages, 592,220 workers and 9,255,120 man-days.

In relation to total estimated working time of non-agricultural paid workers, the time lost in 1975 was equivalent to 54 man-days for 10,000 man-days worked. The ratio was 46 in 1974.

The totals for 1975 include 49 work stoppages under federal jurisdiction involving the loss of 1,242,400 man-days (or 11 per cent of all man-days lost).

During December 1975 there were 181 stoppages involving 82,148 workers and 1,109,110 man-days. All of these figures were lower than the November level but higher than that of December 1974.

Five of the 181 stoppages in December were under federal jurisdiction. These involved 15,680 workers and the loss of 31,680 man-days (or 3 per cent of all man-days lost during the month).



**"Between Friends/Entre Amis" gift book for U.S. Bicentennial**

Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau formally received on May 4 the book he will present to President Gerald Ford as Canada's gift to the United States, on the occasion of the 1976 Bicentennial. André Lamy, Government Film Commissioner, turned over to Mr. Trudeau the presentation copy of *Between Friends/Entre Amis*, the 316-page photographic reflection of the Canada/United States border, produced by the Still Photography Division of the National Film Board.

André Bissonnette, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs was present for the occasion, as was Robert Monteith, director of the Film Board's Ottawa Services Branch, and Lorraine Monk, art director and editor of the bilingual volume.

*Between Friends/Entre Amis* contains 220 colour photographs by Canadian photographers, who ranged from the shore of the Beaufort Sea to Campobello Island.

Mr. Trudeau, who wrote the foreword for the book, notes that for many years Canadians and Americans "have worked and played together...have sometimes had serious differences of



NFB photo by Roman Tamovetsky

*Prime Minister Trudeau (right) receives Between Friends/Entre Amis from André Lamy, Government Film Commissioner. Mr. Trudeau will give the book to President Ford as Canada's gift for the U.S. Bicentennial. Behind*

*Mr. Lamy is retired Canadian International Boundary Commissioner A.F. Lambert and (centre) the book's associate editor Charles Haines stands beside art director and editor of the book, Lorraine Monk of the NFB.*

opinion". But the Canada/United States border, he concludes, has "a vitally important lesson to teach the community of nations..." "a lesson of peace".

The volume will be presented to Mr. Ford in a case that is a hand-made copy of a lap desk once used by David Thompson, the nineteenth century Canadian explorer and surveyor.



*Photos from Between Friends/Entre Amis illustrate the Canada/United States border in various locations. Randal Levenson's photo, Estcourt Quebec/Estcourt Station, Maine, shows the house of Mr. and Mrs. G. Béchard, built on the Quebec/Maine line. Five*

*families live in the immediate Estcourt area whose houses lie within the state of Maine and who, with the Béchards, constitute the community of Estcourt Station. All families are U.S. citizens. Water, light and telephone are supplied by the province of Quebec.*



*Paul Von Baich's photo, Near Eagle, Alaska shows the line between Alaska and the Yukon Territory, with the Yukon River in the background.*



### Farm loans demand decreases credit corporation budget

The Farm Credit Corporation has \$370 million left to lend farmers in 1976-77, Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan said, April 21.

This results in part from a decrease of \$20 million in the Corporation's capital budget, but the main reason for the limited budget this year is last year's unusually high demand for loans.

About \$190 million of the 1976-77 budget was already committed prior to April 1, 1976.

Because of this limited budget, the FCC has introduced a more restrictive lending policy to assist those farmers with the greatest need.

"The Corporation will continue to follow the policy of supporting efficient family farms in Canada," Mr. Whelan said. "The first priority is to assist competent farmers to acquire, develop and maintain viable family farms.

"Those farmers who are now operating a viable farm and who can provide a good living for their families will be asked to delay their loan applications or to borrow from other sources," Mr. Whelan said.

He also noted there had been an unprecedented demand for loans in 1975

following the amendments to the Farm Credit Act that were approved last May.

Under the amendments, farmers under 35 years of age can borrow up to \$150,000. Previously, the loan limit for all farmers was \$100,000. Another change in the Act allows young farmers to phase into full-time farming over five years. Capital requirements are also reduced for young farmers.

In 1975-76, the FCC lent \$641 million to Canadian farmers. This represents 9,945 loans — an increase of 1,852 loans from those made in 1974-75. The average loan last year was \$64,449 compared to \$49,279 the previous year. About 66 per cent of last year's loans were to farmers under 35, compared to 52 per cent the year before.

The Farm Credit Corporation interest rates were increased effective April 1, 1976, to 9.75 per cent from 9 per cent. The interest rate, which is reviewed each year on April 1 and October 1, is based on interest rates for government bonds and investments.

Society discuss "Nuclear Energy and Society".

On the opening day, "Understanding the Nuclear Issues" will show the impact on society and the economy of Canadian power demands.

A joint CNA/ANS forum on "Energy, Economy and Employment" will involve experts in these areas from the United States and Canada, including senior Government officials, labour union leaders, economists and industrialists.

Since almost 2,000 of the delegates are from the United States, there will be a special session for them on the CANDU system of nuclear-power production. Britain, which has now adopted a heavy-water system similar to Canada's, will present a paper on the program in the United Kingdom.

Dr. O.M. Solandt, former head of the Canadian Science Council, and internationally-known scientist, will be a keynote speaker. Dr. Solandt is now associated with an environmental study group at the University of Toronto.

Nuclear '76, the largest and most comprehensive exhibit of nuclear products and services ever assembled in Canada, will be held as part of the joint conference. It will be the first major nuclear exhibition in Canada for eight years and will include some 50 entries from leading Canadian and U.S. nuclear companies.

### Experts to probe nuclear energy

One of the most important nuclear energy meetings undertaken in Canada will take place in Toronto from June 13-18, when the Canadian Nuclear Association and the American Nuclear

### Visitors to the Olympic site

Recent visitors to the site of the 21st Olympiad were Governor-General Jules Léger and Mrs. Léger (right). Mr. Léger said the work was well advanced, the main installations "exciting" and that the underlying principles of the Olympics remained healthy and valid "marks of civilization".

The Secretary-General of the National Olympic Committee of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. W. Troeger, who inspected the Olympic Village on May 5, made complimentary remarks on all the services available to athletes. Mr. Troeger, who was the Mayor of the Olympic Village at the Munich Games, added that the furnishing and interior décor of the apartments for competitors were extremely well conceived and most functional.





### Inuit art exhibit part of Olympics celebrations

The people Within – Art from Baker Lake, an intriguing exhibition, conceived as part of the festival of Canadian culture to be held during the Olympics, is the work of eight Inuit artists from the Sanavik Co-operative, Baker Lake in the Northwest Territories.

The exhibition, which opens June 25 at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, will be displayed there until August 5 and then moved to the Saidye Bronfman Centre in Montreal from August 16 to September 3.

The People Within is the first major Inuit exhibition the Art Gallery of Ontario has ever organized and presented. George Swinton, who wrote the preface to the Baker Lake (Sanavik Co-operative) Sculpture catalogue of 1974, comments: "The Sanavik Co-op still is the conspicuous and the Inuit-operated centre of art activities and the creativity-generating force in the great and sprawling inland community some 180 miles west of the Hudson Bay shores."

The community of Baker Lake is situated at the northwest corner of its namesake. The area, named for the brothers Sir William and Richard Baker of the Hudson Bay Company in 1762 by the explorer Captain Christopher, was served by various trading posts. It was only in 1936, however, that the



Drum Dance Gathering by Luke Iskiktaaryuk. (Caribou antler, 1972.)

Company established their buildings on the present site.

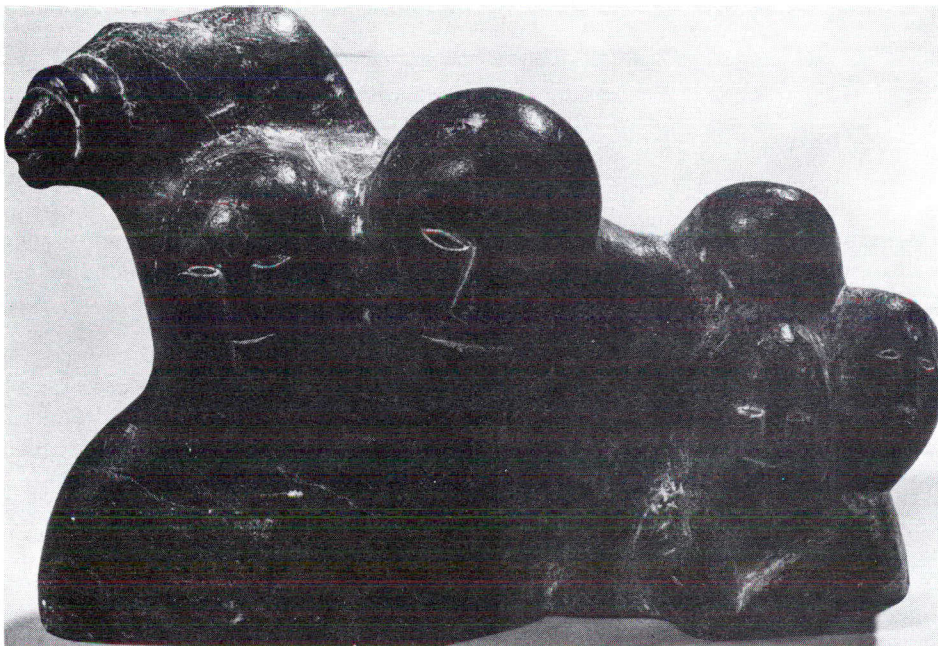
The artists are Silas Aittauq, Luke Anguhallug, Ruth Annaqtuusi, Luke Iksiktaaryuk, Tuna Iquiliq (Erkoolik), Janet Kigusiuq, Jessie Oonark and Simon Tookoome. Their unique style reflects the personal expressions of an inland people interpreting the imagery of a life where traditions are rapidly

disappearing from memory as well as practice. The images, often seemingly simple, are compressed to communicate with great impact.

Some 89 works make up the exhibition, including drawings, stone-cut and stencil prints, sculpture of soapstone and caribou antler, and a collection of 12 felt appliqué wall hangings by Jessie Oonark, some of which are on public view for the first time. One of the most spectacular wall hangings – 13 by 21 feet – on loan from the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, has never been exhibited in Toronto and Montreal.

The exhibition, co-ordinated by Reissa Schrager, has been made possible with assistance from Benson & Hedges (Canada) Ltd and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. Benson & Hedges' support of the visual arts, which dates back to 1959, includes not only sponsorship of major museum exhibitions but such public projects as the commissioning of Art Walls – 15 huge murals by leading Canadian artists on the exterior walls of prominent buildings in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Quebec City.

(Photos courtesy of the Art Gallery of Ontario.)



Family with Musk Ox by Silas Aittauq. (Stone, 1972.)



### Canadian delegation to Habitat

Five federal ministers, three federal Members of Parliament, ten provincial ministers and nine mayors are included in a 70-member Canadian delegation to Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to be held in Vancouver from May 31 to June 11. Federal, provincial and municipal advisers and representatives of Canadian non-governmental organizations make up the balance of the delegation.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, and the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, Barney Danson, will be co-chairmen of the delegation. Justice Minister Ron Basford will be first vice-chairman.

Dr. Victor Goldbloom, Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs and of the Environment, will be second vice-chairman. Dr. Goldbloom made the original proposal on behalf of Canada at the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Environment to host a UN settlements conference.

Environment Minister Jean Marchand and Communications Minister Jeanne Sauvé, an alternate representative, will complete the federal Cabinet contingent on the delegation. Canadian Commissioner-General for Habitat is James W. MacNeill.

### Caribbean seasonal workers

Seasonal workers from the Caribbean islands will be admitted to Canada to assist farmers and food processors in the growing, harvesting and processing of the fruit, tobacco and vegetable crops this year.

The Caribbean seasonal program has been in effect since 1966 to overcome shortages of Canadian workers during

peak demand periods. This year the Caribbean seasonal workers program has been extended to include the governments of Grenada; the five West Indies Associated States of Antigua, Dominica, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent;

and Montserrat. Prior to this year the program was conducted in co-operation with the governments of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

Last year 5,586 Caribbean workers were temporarily employed in agriculture in Canada.

### News briefs

■ Prime Minister Trudeau plans to negotiate a new oil price privately with Alberta and Saskatchewan after failing to get agreement on an increase at a meeting with provincial premiers on May 6. If that failed, he said, the Federal Government would be faced with a decision to raise prices unilaterally, imposing it on the country through the Petroleum Administration Act.

■ An unprecedented decision by parties in the West Coast grain industry to submit voluntarily to binding arbitration marks a breakthrough in Canadian labour relations, Labour Minister John Munro said recently. He said he hoped the arbitration-mediation step would mean a permanent end to the tumultuous pattern of strikes and lockouts in the industry, affecting Canadian grain exports.

■ Manitoba's new weight-based automobile registration system, which starts next year, will include a formula to reduce fees for older, heavier cars and station wagons, Manitoba Premier Ed Schreyer announced on April 30. The new fees announced in the budget of April 13, will be cut by some 10 per cent for each year of a car's age and will apply until the minimum fee level is reached.

■ Delays in opening a new pipeline from Sarnia, Ontario, to Montreal will keep oil exports to the United States at 510,000 barrels a day in June, the National Energy Board said recently.

■ The Government will consider giving broadcasters lucrative new freedom to expand into cable television if they promise to rid the airwaves of unnecessary violence and improve domestic programming, Communications Minister Jeanne Sauvé said. Mrs. Sauvé told the Canadian Association of Broadcasters that the Government would consider a major restructuring of the national broadcast industry, relaxing rules

against ownership of cable systems by broadcasters. But, she added, revenues from any such change must be used in the production of non-violent Canadian programs.

■ The federal Manpower Department is establishing a native employment division in a bid to reduce the native unemployment rate, which is many times higher than that of other groups, Manpower Minister Robert Andras says.

■ There were 187,881 immigrants to Canada last year, a 14 per cent decline from the 218,465 who came here in 1974. Immigration Minister Andras said his Department expected a further decrease in immigration in 1976 when the total is expected to be between 140,000 and 145,000.

■ Canada may be facing its own internal cod war in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Fishermen along New Brunswick's northeast and southeast coasts have asked Fisheries Minister Roméo LeBlanc to investigate what they say is an unusually large number of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland trawlers fishing cod in the Gulf. Mr. LeBlanc said some fish must be left for the New Brunswick and Gaspé fishermen whose smaller boats cannot operate in the ice as the trawlers can.

■ Canada and the West African country of Benin, formerly Dahomey, have agreed to continue a program of developmental co-operation. The agreement was reached during a two-day visit by Benin's Foreign Affairs Minister Michel Alladaye.

■ Montreal and Philadelphia are the two teams playing in the National Hockey League finals of the Stanley Cup. Montreal beat New York Islanders 4-1 and Philadelphia beat Boston 4-1 in the best-of-seven games semi-finals. At press time, May 12, Montreal was leading two games to none in the finals. They beat Philadelphia 4-3 on May 9 and 2-1 on May 11, both games played at Montreal. The third game was scheduled for May 13 at Philadelphia.

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