

# Canada Weekly

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- Reduced inflation and more jobs highest priorities in Throne Speech, 1
- Mr. Jamieson in Washington, 3
- Canada/China trade pact extended, 3
- Minister to visit Paris, 3
- Theatre training inquiry, 3
- Canadian Book Exchange Centre helps overseas libraries, 3
- Unique Ukrainian dance seminar, 4
- Trovy Coast educational aid, 4
- Giant icebreaker on way, 4
- On guard against snails, 5
- "La Sagouine" tours Europe, 5
- Tax-free work urged after retirement, 6
- Go-train system, 6
- News briefs, 6

## Reduced inflation and more jobs highest priorities in Throne Speech

The Speech from the Throne opening the second session of the thirtieth Parliament on October 12 placed importance on the promotion of better understanding of bilingualism, the achievement of "formal constitutional independence" and it offered financial incentives to small business. The Government's highest priorities, however, will continue to be the reduction of inflation and the creation of more employment opportunities.

Setting a Canadian precedent, the wife of the Governor General, Mrs. Gabrielle Léger, read the speech as Mr. Léger, who has been in failing health, looked on. Passages are reprinted below:

\* \* \* \*

The Government has established programs intended to give real meaning to the official languages policy. Some of these measures have proven successful, and will be continued. Others have not, and will be modified.

\* \* \* \*

Canadians appear particularly anxious that their children have the best possible chance of understanding their compatriots of the other language. Consequently, the Government intends to discuss with the provinces arrangements to increase the effectiveness of training in both official languages in the school systems across Canada.

\* \* \* \*

### Fiscal restraint

The continued reduction of inflation, and the creation of many more employ-

ment opportunities for Canadians, are and will continue to be the Government's highest priorities.

To create the climate necessary for the achievement of these two vital objectives, the Government will continue to practise fiscal restraint. The control of inflation will remain the single most important condition for economic stability in Canada, even after price and income controls are removed. Determined restraint in fiscal and monetary policy is essential to the long-term control of inflation.

The Government remains committed to a reduction in the growth of the Public Service. In the ten years prior to 1975-76 authorized man-years in the Public Service grew at an average annual rate of 4 per cent. This year the growth rate was reduced to 1.5 per cent, requiring actual reductions in

27 departments and agencies. The Government will reduce the rate of growth to below 1 per cent in the coming fiscal year.

\* \* \* \*

The international trading environment will profoundly influence our economic performance, and significant progress will be sought by Canada in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and through other trade development initiatives. To support private industry in meeting greater international competition, the Govern-



The Governor General sits beside Mrs. Léger as she reads the Speech from the Throne on October 12.

ment will modify substantially its industrial assistance programs.

\* \* \* \*

#### Small-business assistance

The Government will introduce measures to assist small businesses by improving local access to financial assistance and other services provided by government departments, the Federal Business Development Bank, and financial institutions in the private sector.

In response to concerns expressed by many Canadian businessmen, the Government will establish a better balance between the need for economic data, and the paperwork burden thereby imposed on small firms. The number of firms required to make statistical reports to government will be substantially reduced. Those larger companies which will still be required to submit information on a regular basis will be able to do so on fewer and simpler reporting forms.

\* \* \* \*

#### Unemployment

You will...be asked to approve a comprehensive, year-round, direct job-creation program, directed particularly toward areas of chronic high unemployment. Other programs will provide more job opportunities and improved employment counselling for young people.

\* \* \* \*

You will be asked to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act in ways which will permit insurance funds to be used to maintain the income of Canadians being trained for new jobs, and to help employers retain workers who might otherwise be temporarily laid off.

\* \* \* \*

You will be asked to consider amendments to the Immigration Act, designed to promote Canada's regional and urban development goals, promote family unity, achieve a balance between immigration levels and employment opportunities, and preserve Canada's reputation as an open, tolerant society which welcomes the energy and cultural diversity of people from all parts of the world.

\* \* \* \*

#### Labour-management relations

The Government...intends to work with the provinces and with labour and

business communities to develop a number of initiatives aimed at improving labour-management relations.

It is intended to establish a collective bargaining information centre, which will offer objective economic and compensation data to all parties. It is also intended to encourage greater participation by plant workers in decisions affecting their working conditions; to expand labour education programs; to develop a voluntary code of fair practices; and to establish a national institution dedicated to improving the quality of life in the workplace.

An industrial safety and health centre will be established to assist companies and workers in their efforts to identify and remove hazards.

The Government will work closely with its own employees in various departments and Crown corporations to implement innovative, co-operative methods of improving health and safety conditions. In effect, the Government intends to use its own operations to test new methods of improving working conditions and labour-management relations.

Measures will be proposed to improve the collective bargaining system in the Public Service, to reduce the adversarial nature of the process and to ensure an equitable relationship between compensation levels in the public and private sectors.

\* \* \* \*

#### The marketplace

Significant revisions to laws promoting competition in the marketplace will be placed before you. The Government is determined to preserve and enhance Canada's traditional policy of reliance on individual enterprise as the main-spring of economic activity.

The focus of the second stage of competition policy reform will be a strengthening of the laws governing mergers and monopolies in order to encourage a more efficient and dynamic economy; one that rewards the creative and the industrious; that allows prices to be determined by the free play of market forces while protecting the marketplace from excessive concentrations of power. The more effectively competition governs the marketplace, the less necessity there will be for detailed regulation and control of the economy by governments.

\* \* \* \*

To ensure responsible development of our indigenous resources, the Government intends to introduce measures to regulate exploration and development on federal lands.

\* \* \* \*

#### Social policy

In the field of social policy, extensive federal-provincial discussions over the past three years have resulted in a new framework for the sharing of costs and for making social service programs more responsive. Parliament will therefore be asked to consider a new Social Services Act which will substantially improve the effectiveness of cost-shared social services in Canada, especially for the aged, children and the handicapped.

In response to the need for good day-care services everywhere in Canada, the Government will help to provide more and better day-care services by encouraging the provincial governments to adopt a new system of fees related to incomes....

You will be asked to consider amendments to the Canada Pension Plan which would further recognize the value of the contribution made to the family and society by both marriage partners, in the event that one remains at home to raise children while their partner works outside the home, or in the event of marriage breakdown.

On January first, the indexing of family allowance payments will be resumed to compensate for the rise in the cost of living during 1976.

\* \* \* \*

#### Housing

Of equal importance to the social well-being of Canadians is an adequate supply of affordable housing in a satisfactory community environment. Therefore, the goal of one million new homes over four years remains a key element of the Government's housing policy. In concert with other levels of government and the private sector the Government will work to increase the efficiency and impact of Canada's total housing effort.

The Government attaches continuing importance to meeting the aspirations of Canada's native peoples and, in particular, to the just settlement of their land claims. At this session, you will be asked to approve the negotiated settlement of claims in the James Bay regions....

### Mr. Jamieson in Washington

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson (left) had his first exchange of views with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger when they met during the opening week of the United Nations General Assembly in New York at the end of September. The second meeting took place in Washington on October 15, when the two ministers reviewed a wide range of bilateral and international issues, including maritime boundaries and fisheries relations, Southern Africa, nuclear non-proliferation, transboundary environmental matters, border television problems, energy and other general economic questions.



### Canada/China trade pact extended

On October 13, the sixth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and China, the two countries agreed to extend their trade agreement.

In a brief ceremony at External Affairs' headquarters in Ottawa, Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and Ambassador Chang Wenchin of the People's Republic of China signed an exchange of notes constituting an agreement to extend the Canada/China Trade Agreement of 1973.

The exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment and periodic trade consultations are provided for in the agreement, which was signed originally by Prime Minister Trudeau and the late Chinese Premier Chou En-lai in 1973.

### Minister to visit Paris

The first official visit to France by a Canadian foreign minister in ten years will take place next month when Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson meets with France's foreign minister, Louis de Guiringaud, who invited him to Paris.

The two ministers will discuss bilateral and multilateral questions during Mr. Jamieson's stay in the French capital from November 2 to 3.

The last official visit to France by a Canadian External Affairs minister was made by Paul Martin in 1966.

### Theatre training inquiry

The Canada Council has announced the establishment of a committee of inquiry into professional training for theatre including acting, stage design, directing, management, technical design, production and artistic direction.

According to director Charles Lussier, this study has been undertaken in response to concerns expressed by the theatre community. The scarcity of jobs in theatre – particularly for graduates of theatre schools – has raised serious questions. "For example, does the training given to these young people prepare them sufficiently for the practicalities of a career in theatre? What are the needs in this area, and what would be the most proper methods and structures to provide for them?"

The committee, composed of five well-known figures from the theatre world, will consult with theatre-training institutions across Canada and numerous representatives from the performing arts community, including students.

Malcolm Black, a professor of theatre at York University in Toronto, will chair the committee, which also includes Gilles Marsolais, director, actor and professor of drama in Montreal; Gordon Peacock, chairman of the drama department at the University of Alberta in Edmonton; Cameron Porteous, design director and associate director of Playhouse Theatre in Vancouver; and

Jean-Pierre Ronfard, director and founding member of the Théâtre expérimental de Montréal.

This is the third study which the Council has commissioned on artistic training. The first, by Peter Brinson, was on professional training in ballet. The second, which is currently under way, deals with music training, and its author, Helmut Blume, expects to present his report in the spring.

### Canadian Book Exchange Centre helps overseas libraries

Dr. Carlos Tejada, Director of Instituto de Nutricion de Centro America y Panama in Guatemala, recently appealed to several Canadian research libraries for help in rebuilding the library collection destroyed by fire when the Institute was shattered during the earthquake. Since many Canadian libraries are sending their surplus materials to the Canadian Book Exchange Centre (CBEC), the libraries forwarded Dr. Tejada's appeal to the Centre, and it responded by sending 6,838 issues of periodicals and 55 foreign official publications to Guatemala.

These publications formed part of a long list of materials requested by the Institute. Because CBEC has no funds for paying shipping charges, the Overseas Book Centre (OBC) in Ottawa paid for and arranged for the delivery of these materials.

For some time, CBEC has been sending materials to libraries in the developing countries. Arrangements for shipping were made by OBC, which distributes books to institutions and libraries in 64 countries, and by the Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID). Among its many objectives AGID tries to "facilitate the distribution of surplus books, journals, and other materials to Third World institutions unable to obtain them through the normal channels". Library materials have been sent to Egypt, Chile, Nigeria, Peru, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uganda and Zambia. Material dealing with food technology was sent to Universidad de Costa Rica, and 16 books on social psychology and managerial techniques were selected for the Commonwealth Youth Training Plan in Guyana.

### Ivory Coast educational aid

Canada increased its assistance to a national educational television project in the Ivory Coast, when an \$8.5-million financing agreement was recently signed in Abidjan, bringing Canada's total assistance for this project to \$13.4 million.

Under the new agreement, a \$6-million grant will be used for technical assistance and the supply of complementary equipment, and a \$2.5-million loan will be provided to purchase some of the paper required for printing educational documents. The Ivory Coast will contribute funds amounting to \$6 million.

The project, which allows the Government to standardize the quality of teaching, is expected to benefit about 974,000 students by 1980.

### Giant icebreaker on way

A keel-laying ceremony for what is believed to be the world's first heavy icebreaking cargo ship took place this month at the Port Weller Dry Docks in Ontario.

The 28,000-ton bulk carrier, MV *Arctic*, will enter service in 1978 in the Arctic archipelago, where no regular merchant ships can navigate safely during a large part of the year. The ship, being constructed at a cost of \$39 million, will extend the shipping season in those waters and will foster further development of cargo-ship ice-breaking technology. Without the use of icebreaker support, the vessel will also move resources from the Arctic and is expected to be used for over-seas trade.

### Unique Ukrainian dance seminar

Some 50 students and teachers of Ukrainian folk dancing from the four Western provinces and Ontario who attended the Saskatchewan School of Arts, Regina this summer had the rare opportunity of learning the art from masters visiting from the mother country.

The seminar, which is highly regarded by Ukrainian communities throughout Canada, was held for the first time during the summer of 1975 and is rapidly becoming one of the country's leading centres of learning for this type of activity. It is the only course in Canada featuring international instructors from leading cultural institutes, although other courses are available in other provinces.

Four recognized professionals came from the Ukraine again this year to lead the seminar, which was held with the assistance of the Saskatchewan Arts Board. Klara Balog, ballet mistress for the state-honoured Transcarpathian Folk Choir, was the chief instructor. She was assisted by Lubov Kamina, a teacher of classical dance at Kiev State Korniyuchuk Institute of Culture, and Volodymyr Danylchenko, artistic director and ballet master for the Tripillya Palace of Culture. Accompanying them was concert-master Andrew Necheporenko, department head of folk instruments at the Kiev

State Korniyuchuk Institute of Culture.

The classes encourage the development of professional instructors and community leaders who are able to take back to their communities what they have learned.

To be eligible to attend the seminar, dancers had to be 16 years of age and over, possessing a good knowledge of basic Central and Western Ukrainian steps. All instruction, both for lectures on choreography and dancing,

was given in Ukrainian. The students worked for seven-and-a-half hours each day in class perfecting the steps for new dances created by their instructors. Many more hours were devoted to individual practice during free time.

The Ukrainian dance instructors had high praise for the quality of dance students, mentioning in particular the enthusiasm and dedication which are common characteristics of students at Saskatchewan School of Arts.



*Klara Balog, ballet mistress from the Ukraine, instructs students attending*

*a seminar at the Saskatchewan School of Arts during the summer.*

### On guard against snails

To some people, snails are an epicurean delight. To Al Schmidt, an entomologist with Agriculture Canada involved in keeping harmful foreign snails out of Canada, they're a cause for concern.

Canadian snails are usually too small to eat, so bigger ones are imported. However, the imports have larger appetites than their tiny Canadian counterparts and can become serious pests for gardeners and small-fruit farmers if they become established here.

"Fortunately, most of the snails eaten in Canada come out of cans or have been frozen," Mr. Schmidt says. "But some live snails are imported — legally and otherwise — and that's where Agriculture Canada gets involved."

The only live snails for which permits are currently issued come from Tunisia and Algeria. This species is adapted to a hot climate and would not survive long in Canada even if the snails managed to get loose into a backyard or field. These snails are airshipped in covered bushels or baskets and are inspected before release to buyers.

"The big problem, though, isn't with those who legally import snails in bulk," Mr. Schmidt explains. "It's people who transport a few snails in

their airline baggage that present the greatest risk to Canadian agriculture.

"In the last three months, we have confiscated more than 330 pounds of live snails at the Montreal airports alone.

The snails in Montreal are *Helix pomatia*, a European species which



can survive the Canadian climate. Mr. Schmidt says they could be controlled with chemicals, but poisonous snail baits may be dangerous to pets and children as well as birds and squirrels that feed on snails.

"Unfortunately, people who bring live snails into Canada don't usually

realize the damage they can cause. They can be a terrible nuisance to backyard gardeners if they spread in a city and can cause economic damage to crops like strawberries if they get into the countryside."

Agriculture Canada has received many requests from individuals wanting to set up snail farms in Canada. These have all been turned down because of inadequate proposals to ensure the snails don't escape and spread outside the farms.

### "La Sagouine" tours Europe

Antonine Maillet's *La Sagouine* opened in Paris on September 21, at the beginning of a two-and-a-half month tour in Europe. The tour includes 27 cities in France, Belgium and Switzerland for a total of nearly 40 performances. *La Sagouine*, a production from Le Théâtre du Rideau Vert, Montreal, is sponsored by the Department of External Affairs under its program of cultural relations with foreign countries.

The play, consisting of a series of monologues, was written as a one-woman show by Acadian novelist and playwright, Antonine Maillet. Actress, Viola Léger, who is *La Sagouine*, has performed this role since November 1971. The stories she tells "in rough, crude French dating from the sixteenth century" (A. Maillet) are of the price paid for a life truly lived and of her love for her native Acadia. As *La Sagouine*, Madame Léger has "talked her way" all over Canada and Europe, where she performed four shows in Paris, and appeared at the world festival of theatre in Monaco in 1974. Some 500 presentations have been given since 1971, in theatres and on Radio-Canada television, with a constantly changing series of monologues.

In Europe, *La Sagouine* will talk of *Le Métier* (work), *Les bancs d'église* (church pews), *Le Recensement* (the census), *Le Printemps* (spring), and *La Mort* (death).

The tour opened at the Théâtre Petit Orsay of Jean-Louis Barrault-Madeleine Renaud in Paris, where the Canadian show played for two-and-a-half weeks. *La Sagouine* continues in major centres in France, Belgium and Switzerland, including Bordeaux, Lyon, Marseilles, Brussels and Geneva.

### Snail studies may start new industry

The recent birth of 70 snails at one of the laboratories at the Centre de recherches des sciences appliquées de l'alimentation (CRESALA), University of Quebec at Montreal, marks the success of a project that began two years ago. The aim of the research team is to establish at the university a centre of studies which would be unique in Canada — a centre of expertise on snails.

Last spring, after a year of preliminary work, CRESALA was refused funding for research on the grounds that the cultivation of snails in laboratories was not a priority. However, the creatures themselves justified the request when, last July, foreign snails were discovered eating the vegetation of gardens in Montreal.

The Plant Protection Division of the federal Department of Agriculture, which investigated the complaints, issued warnings of the first invasion of snails in Canada, although it had generally been believed that they could not survive the Canadian winter.

The research team at CRESALA will submit a more elaborate project to the Federal Government which might prove significant to the food industry. On the strength of their breeding success and the danger of snail infestation into agriculture, CRESALA hopes to receive funds to set up a study centre at the university.

Canadians eat more than 2.5 million imported snails a year. The development of a technique to raise them domestically may be the beginning of a new industry.

### Tax-free work urged after retirement

Canadians over 65 should be given a "tax holiday" to encourage them to continue working after normal retirement age, according to Kris Kristjanson, vice-president, corporate planning and personnel, for Great-West Life Assurance Co. Mr. Kristjanson says the conception of retirement at 65 may not be valid in today's circumstances.

Demographic trends clearly show that older people will continue to represent a growing percentage of the total Canadian population — a looming tax burden. Under his plan, there would be a "free market system" for older people, allowing employees over 65 to negotiate their terms of employment exclusively with their employer. "The central point is that older workers, in many cases, have a significant contribution to make in terms of skill, wisdom, initiative and desire to contribute to the productive effort. A monetary incentive to continue working can be provided by the simple act of making all new earnings tax free. From the standpoint of the national treasury, the present taxes forgone through such a policy would be less than half of 1 per cent a year of total federal income tax. This loss would be more than offset by the benefits of greater productivity and increased spending of new consumer dollars."

### Go-train system

The Government of Ontario will spend \$55 million over the next three years on development of a new commuter train — the third element in a five-stage program aimed at the creation of an intermediate capacity commuter transit system for major Ontario cities.

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The program replaces an earlier one that was abandoned 14 months ago owing to difficulties with the design of a high technology system. Much of the basic work from the original project will be incorporated as the remaining stages proceed. The first two stages covered assessing transit needs, and preparing cost estimates, preliminary designs and detailed specifications.

The train will have wheels (unlike its predecessor which was designed to float on a magnetic cushion), and all propulsion and braking will be through linear induction motors which have no moving parts and draw power through a third rail. The steel wheels would be

lined with a fibrous or plastic material to reduce noise. A fully automatic train control will eliminate the need for staff on board and permit operation of trains at 50-second intervals.

Many of the routes in Ontario cities would use guideways and elevated stations up to 55 feet above ground. Estimated cost of the routes is at least \$19 million a mile. In the third stage, a one-and-a-half mile test track will be built at a site near Toronto.

Sometime after 1979, if all works well, the final phases of production of prototype vehicles and full commercial production for actual transit services will begin.

### News briefs

■ Defence Minister James Richardson resigned from the Cabinet on October 13 "to oppose the entrenching of French-language rights in the Constitution under a Quebec veto, at least until Canada has developed bilingual policies that are workable and acceptable". Prime Minister Trudeau commented that the resignation "was premature because we have not patriated the Constitution yet, and we haven't entrenched any language rights into it".

■ The national day of protest against wage and price controls kept over 1 million employees off the job on October 14, estimates the Canadian Labour Congress, which organized the one-day strike. Although demonstrations drew wide attention from the media, the protest was not as successful as organizers had hoped. Apart from interruptions in some bus services and mail deliveries, the general public was little affected. Government officials said the federal three-year program would continue with its aim of reducing the annual rate of inflation to 6 per cent next year and to 4 per cent the following year.

■ Premier Robert Bourassa of Quebec has called an election for November 15, two years before his mandate ends. In a short television announcement on October 18, he cited as reasons federal/provincial negotiations on the patriation of the Constitution and labour unrest. Mr. Bourassa's Liberal party won 102 seats out of a

total of 110 in the province's last election in 1973.

■ Progressive Conservatives won two federal by-elections on October 18. Jean Pigott took the traditionally Liberal seat from Henri Rocque in the Ottawa-Carleton riding formerly held by John Turner, and John Crosbie retained the Conservative seat in St. John's West, Newfoundland, with New Democratic Party candidate Tom Mayo, second. House of Commons standings are now Liberal 138, Progressive Conservative 97, NDP 16, Social Credit 11, Independent 1. There is one vacant seat.

■ Under an agreement signed October 14, the Canadian Development Corporation will lend Poland up to \$102 million to finance \$113-million worth of Canadian equipment for a pulp and paper plant in Poland.

■ Lower increases in freight rates for the movement of livestock from western to eastern Canada have been announced by Transport Minister Otto Lang, who said the railways had agreed to limit the tariff increase to 5 per cent for all western provinces until the end of this year. The railways previously announced rate increases, effective October 1, of 11 per cent in British Columbia, 9 to 10 per cent in Alberta, 7 per cent in Saskatchewan and 5 per cent in Manitoba. As a result of negotiations with the Canadian Cattlemen's and the Ontario Cattlemen's Associations, the railways have agreed to the reduced tariff increase despite 1976 rail cost increases that would require a general increase of 12 per cent.