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New measures to reduce lead content in gasoline

Environment Minister Charles Caccia has recently announced his decision to proceed with a reduction in the lead content of gasoline from the existing level of 0.77 gram a litre to a standard of 0.29 gram a litre by January 1, 1987.

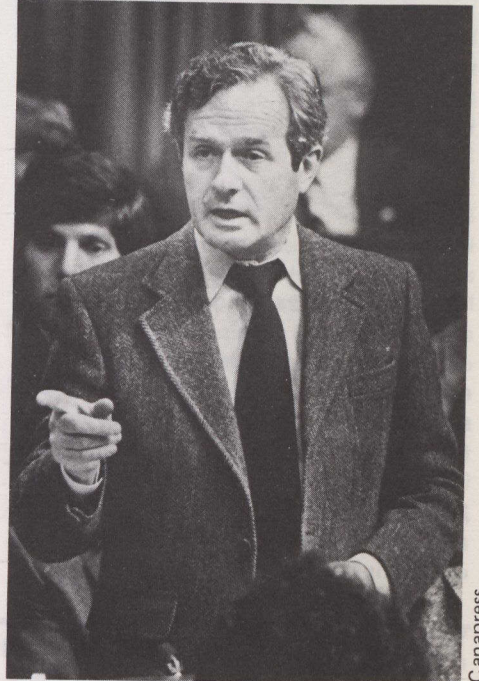
Mr. Caccia also announced that he will soon be creating an independent advisory committee to assess and report on all sources of lead in the environment. This committee will give advice on the possible need to introduce additional measures to reduce any emissions of lead including sources other than automobiles.

"In addition, the advisory committee will be asked to review trends in environmental quality, human health data and the socio-economic effects resulting from the application of the new lead level in gasoline. The review would produce a useful comparison between the actual and the widely-varied claims and counter claims that have made this a difficult decision," Mr. Caccia said.

The minister said that he also expects this committee to look closely at data regarding blood-lead levels, especially new information as it becomes available and in particular blood-lead level data on children.

"After reviewing all the material submitted on this issue I think that my decision represents a prudent approach between the health implications of continuing automobile lead emissions and recognition of the economic implications," said Mr. Caccia. "This measure will result in reductions of over 60 per cent from 1982 levels of 7 000 tonnes a year and represents an over-all reduction of close to 80 per cent from the pre-regulation level of 12 800 tonnes per year (1972). The timing involved takes into consideration the estimated capital investment required by industry to design and construct the necessary facilities that would be needed to reach the 0.29 gram a litre standard by January 1, 1987."

Even the most expensive forecast would not give rise to more than two-



Charles Caccia

tenths of a cent a litre in additional refining costs for the production of leaded gasoline in 1987. As far as the average car owner using leaded gas is concerned, this would not increase his operating costs more than 15 cents a week starting three years from now.

Mr. Caccia added that the decision to reduce the lead content of gasoline to 0.29 gram a litre will in no way inflict any hardship on owners of cars and trucks designed to run on leaded gasoline. The level of lead in gasoline that will come into effect in 1987 will meet the manufacturer's specifications for all vehicles and gasoline powered machines available in Canada.

A historical perspective

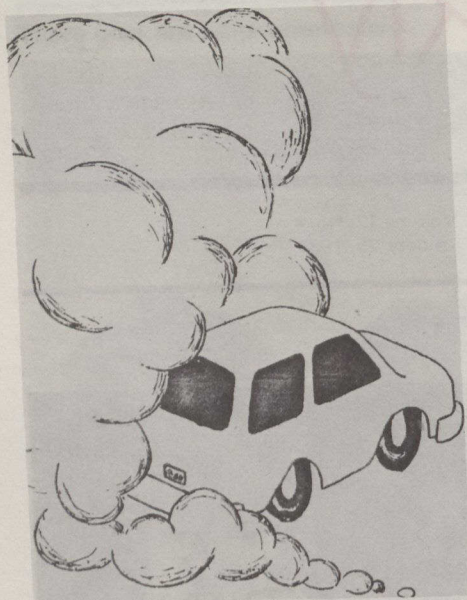
Historically, lead was one of the first metals to be widely used by man. In the last 1 000 years, the global annual lead production has increased from 10 000 tonnes to more than 4 million tonnes today. It is used in batteries, as an "anti-

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knock" additive in gasoline, in ceramics, ammunition, solder, cable coverings, in brass and bronze, and even in certain cosmetics.

Lead in natural deposits, if left undisturbed, is practically immobile in the environment. However, once released from smelters, automobile exhausts, dusts and smoke, it is spread globally. Currently, the most serious source — gasoline — accounts for 68 per cent of global lead emissions of 410 million kilograms a year.

Lead is a highly toxic element to man. Once released in the environment, it does not move readily through natural pathways to more remote locations and has a long environmental persistence compared to other heavy metals. Thus, there is not only widespread human exposure to lead

today but future generations will be exposed to lead which is already in the environment.

Because of its pervasive nature, lead reaches human beings in a number of ways: it may be directly inhaled, or reach the body through food, water, soils or dust. In Canada, the largest single source of lead emissions to the environment comes from automotive emissions.

Lead and health

Chronic exposure to low levels of lead in the environment is known to produce such symptoms as fatigue, headache, poor appetite, clumsiness and reduced mental capability. Recently, there has been increasing concern over neurological damage, affecting both intelligence and motor activity, caused by minute amounts of lead taken into the body over several years.

Children, from the fetal stage to about three years, are more susceptible to the adverse effects of lead for a number of reasons. Lead crosses the placental barrier with ease so that exposure may occur during prenatal development, a stage especially prone to the effects of toxic chemicals.

Lead in gasoline

Before 1920, all gasolines were lead-free. The discovery that the addition of tetraethyl lead to gasoline increased the octane rating and prevented "knocking" or "pinging" was made in 1921. The practice of adding lead to gasoline soon became entrenched in the technology of both the car manufacturing and the petro-

leum industries throughout the world.

In 1972, approximately 73 per cent of man-made lead emissions released in the Canadian atmosphere was from automobiles using leaded gasoline. However, to meet automobile emission standards for hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, most manufacturers, since 1975, have been equipping automobiles with a catalytic converter. As converters can only operate effectively with lead-free gasoline — lead damages the catalyst activity — the demand for lead-free gasoline combined with the existing regulations on lead in gasoline led to a decrease in automotive lead emissions from a pre-regulation level of 12 800 tonnes a year in 1972 to 7 000 tonnes in 1982.

The latest national emission inventory, however shows that these emissions are still the largest single source of lead



Children are the most susceptible to the adverse effects of lead emissions.

releases to the Canadian environment. Reducing the amount of lead in gasoline from 0.77 gram a litre to 0.29 gram a litre will result in reduction of over 60 per cent from 1982 levels of 7 000 tonnes a year. This level will also be adequate to ensure the proper operation of those vehicles and engines which require lead.

During the public review of this issue concerns were expressed by the motoring public and those who own utility machines such as lawnmowers and snow blowers that any further reduction in the current levels of lead in gasoline would seriously jeopardize the safe and efficient operation of the engines. Although lead serves an important role as a lubricant to prevent valve and valve seat wear in marine engines and trucks in heavy-duty use, lead levels can be substantially reduced to as low as 0.15 gram a litre without causing any valve recession problems.



Automobile exhausts account for the largest single source of lead emissions to the Canadian environment — about 410 kilograms a year.

Agreement on space technology

A new agreement on co-operation between Canada and the European Space Agency (ESA) was signed recently by Donald Johnston, Minister of State for Science and Technology and by Erik Quistgaard, director general of ESA. The agreement was signed at the European Space Research and Technology Centre in Noordwijk, the Netherlands.



Donald Johnston

"Canada's co-operative relationship with ESA began when the first agreement came into force in 1979," Mr. Johnston said. "This country will continue to work closely with ESA's 11 member states to foster the development and application of space technology and to open

new industrial opportunities for all of us." As part of Canada's co-operation with ESA, Canadian industry participates in general studies and programs such as the large telecommunications satellite, OLYMPUS, planned for launching in 1986 and the European earth observation satellite ERS-1.

ESA was founded in 1975 to promote peaceful co-operation among European states in the application of space research and technology. Recent agency accomplishments include the development of the Ariane Commercial launch vehicle and the scientific laboratory SPACELAB which completed its successful first mission on the last shuttle voyage November 28 to December 8, 1983.

The member states of ESA include Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Britain. Austria and Norway are associate members.

Radar system helps increase safety

Ice, whether it is pack ice in the Arctic or icebergs off the east coast, is a serious hazard in frontier oil and gas drilling.

But Intera Environmental Consultants Ltd. of Calgary has developed an airborne radar system that it says will increase the safety margin for offshore drilling in ice-threatened regions.

The Star-1 — for Sea-ice and Terrain Assessment Radar — unveiled recently by

Intera can produce highly detailed computer pictures from radar images. The technology itself is not new, derived from military reconnaissance hardware known as side-looking airborne radar. But the Star system is the first commercial use of high-resolution airborne radar aboard a small airplane and the first capable of producing pictures on the plane.

Canadian Marine Drilling Ltd., a subsidiary of Dome Petroleum Ltd. of Calgary, which has contracted the Intera plane for ice monitoring over the Beaufort Sea, had been using an older radar-imaging system which could not produce fine detail.

Intera president Brian Bullock said the new system incorporates several advances. Besides greater detail, Star produces pictures almost immediately instead of after days or weeks. The information can be transmitted to a ground station or ship using a computer link-up.

Mr. Bullock said the Star system also fits into a smaller, more fuel-efficient aircraft — cutting operating costs.

An Intera official said the system gives drilling operators much more information on ice problems. The unit can pick out objects 15 metres in size that might be missed by older radars or other detection systems.

Donation helps fight hunger

Canada is contributing an additional \$15 million to the International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR) administered by the World Food Program (WFP), it was announced recently. The funds will be used for the supply and transportation of Canadian food products to countries facing urgent food shortages.

The food situation in sub-Saharan Africa is of growing international concern. Persistent drought and production shortfalls in the region have led the Food and Agriculture Organization to conclude that as many as 32 African countries are enduring a food crisis and to appeal for additional food aid and agricultural assistance.

The present contribution will increase the ability of the international community to help reduce hunger in Africa and other countries. Within the United Nations' family of organizations, the WFP and the IEFR which it administers, are the two programs mainly responsible for emergency food assistance. For the current fiscal year, 1983-84, Canada has already contributed \$125.0 million for the WFP for its regular and emergency operations, and \$6.5 million to the IEFR.

Manitoba contest winner visits United Nations



Manitoba sixth-grader Treena Bron received top honours in a recent Manitoba Human Rights Commission poster contest. Coinciding with the final year of the first United Nations Decade against Racism and Racial Discrimination and with the thirty-fifth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the contest theme was the elimination of racial discrimination. Treena's poster, with its simple message, HUMAN RIGHTS... BECAUSE WE ARE ALL HUMAN, won her a six-day trip to United Nations headquarters in New York. Treena Bron (right) presents a copy of her winning poster to James Jonah, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Secretary-General of the Conference on Racial Discrimination.

UN photo 163030

The great John A. — a practical dreamer who built a nation

The July/August 1983 issue of *The Royal Bank Letter*, was devoted to an article on Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, who held office from 1867-1873 and from 1878-1891.

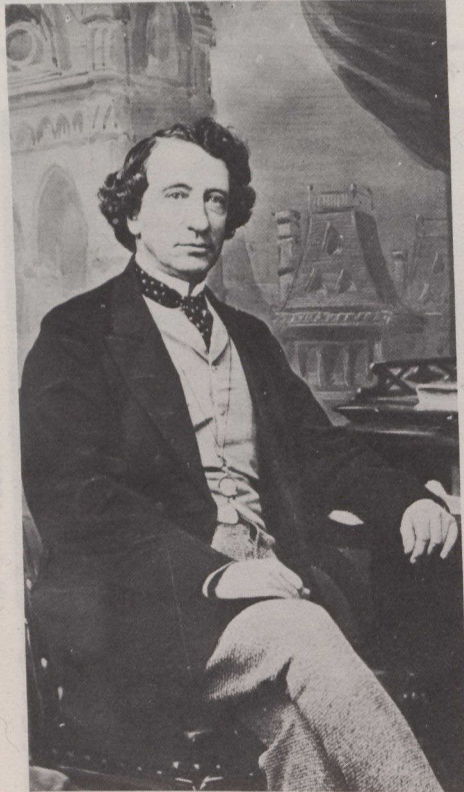
In public life for 42 years, he was, says the introduction, "a practical dreamer who battled the narrowness of his times to build a unique new nation. Then he held it together almost alone...."

Reprinted below is the first part of the article, to be followed in the next two issues by parts two and three.

A few years ago a government agency conducted a poll of primary school pupils to determine how much they knew about Canadian history. Asked who was Sir John A. Macdonald, 70 per cent replied that he was the man behind a well-known hamburger chain.

This response no doubt says much for the effectiveness of modern fast-food marketing. But it also shows how ill-informed Canadians are about their history, and how little recognition they give to the great figures of their past.

It is inconceivable that an equal proportion of American school children should think that Washington is merely the name of a city, or Lincoln a make of automobile. That is because their parents and teachers as a matter of



Sir John A. Macdonald stood at the centre of Canadian affairs for 42 years, 29 of these as head of government.

course have equipped them with a reasonable knowledge of the historical figures who bore those names.

Nation-founder

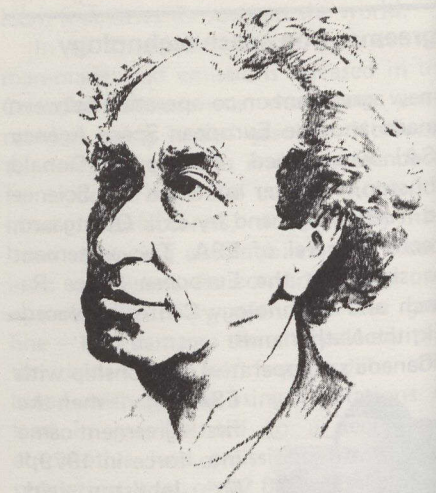
In Canadian terms, John Alexander Macdonald was George Washington and Abraham Lincoln rolled into one, and then some. Like the former, he was the principal founder of his nation; like the latter, he held the state together in times of stress and peril. He did more than either to build a nation from the rawest of materials. And yet the beneficiaries of his efforts today have only a cloudy notion of who he was and what he did.

At that, most of what we present-day Canadians know (or think we know) about Macdonald is apt to be misleading. He is remembered as an inveterate drunkard, a sly politician, a notorious procrastinator, and altogether a bit of a clown.

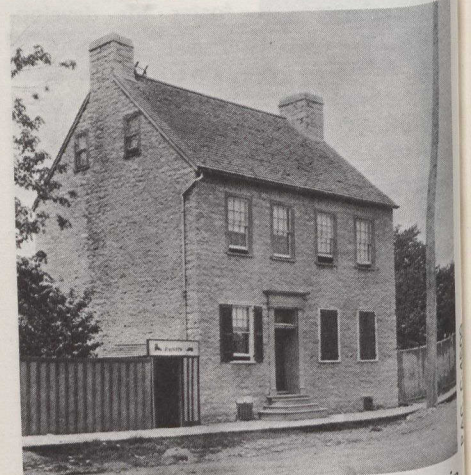
Yet here was a man who stood at the centre of Canadian affairs for 42 years, 29 of them as a head of government. He entered public life at a time when Canada was little more than a scattering of muddy towns and scrub farms with about one million residents. When his career ended on his deathbed, he headed a burgeoning industrial nation of five million occupying the second-largest land mass on earth.

His achievements as a nation-maker alone give ample cause to honour his name, but there is a further reason for Canadians to remember him with gratitude. For it was he, more than anyone else, who bequeathed us our political tradition of living with our differences and resolving the conflicts among us through peaceful conciliation and compromise.

His stature can only be measured by viewing it against the backdrop of his times. Born of Presbyterian parents in Scotland in 1815, he came to Upper Canada at the age of five. There were two separate Canadian colonies then, the



lower one predominantly French-speaking and Roman Catholic, the upper mainly populated by Protestant settlers who were viscerally anti-French and anti-



Sir John's home on Rideau Street in Kingston, Ontario where he lived during the 1837 rebellion.

Catholic. To accomplish all he did, he had to rise above the parochialism and prejudice of his group.

"Ugly John"

A business failure had driven Macdonald's father across the Atlantic to join his wife's kinfolk in Kingston. A lazy man with a weakness for drink, the elder Macdonald proceeded to fail in business twice more. Young "Ugly John", so called for his extraordinary nose, attended school as such for only five years, then became articled to a lawyer. Such was his legal ability that he had already formed his own practice when he was called to the bar in 1836.

By that time political unrest was reaching a boiling-point in both the Canadas as the relatively powerless elected representatives struggled against the pseudo-aristocratic ruling cliques that

had clustered around the British govern-
ors. It exploded into armed rebellion the
next year.

The rebellions stimulated the form-
ation of bodies of armed American
volunteers intent on "liberating" the
lands north of their border from British
domination. In November 1838 a small
force crossed the St. Lawrence River near
Prescott and fought a brief losing battle.
Macdonald defied public sentiment by
assisting in the defence of one of the
American invaders.

At heart he was anything but sym-
pathetic to the aims of the invasion. Some
historians have suggested that, on the
contrary, the incident provided him with
his mission in life — to ensure that the
people of the northern portion of the
continent were sufficiently united under
the British Crown to resist the expansion-
ist impulses of the US.

Political union

The chief upshot of the rebellions was the
political union of the two colonies, which
were re-designated Canada East and
Canada West. In 1844 a group of Kingston
citizens petitioned Macdonald to run for
the local seat in the Legislative Assembly
of the new united Province of Canada. He
was then 29, a successful lawyer, and a
loving husband, having married his Scot-
tish half-cousin Isabella Clark the year
before.

An amiable, cheerful and amusing
campaigner who could disarm a hostile



*Isabella Clark who became Sir John A.
Macdonald's first wife in 1843.*

crowd, he carried the election handily.
Once in the Assembly he gained respect
as an incisive debater who refused to
adopt the then-fashionable flowery style
of oratory. He was promoted to the
cabinet in 1847. Typically, the first bill
he introduced was to reconcile the com-
peting interests of the various Protestant
and Catholic churches by establishing a
three-campus ecumenical university in
Canada West.

(To be continued)

Ottawa and The Hague become twin cities

Ottawa mayor Marion Dewar is flying
to the Netherlands this month to sign
an official agreement twinning Ottawa
with The Hague.

"I think the whole idea is terrific,"
said Mrs. Dewar. "Twinning not only
encourages cultural and community links
but there's potential for economic bene-
fits as well."

When cities twin, they agree to estab-
lish closer ties through cultural and in-
formation exchanges. The cost of such a
relationship varies with the amount of
contact between the two centres.

"But the benefits far outweigh the
costs," said Mrs. Dewar. "There's great
potential for learning new ways of ap-
proaching problems.

"For example, co-operative housing is
a major element in The Hague's housing
system and we'll be very interested to
learn from them."

Another benefit is that business
people who meet as part of the exchange
will seek each other out when economic
opportunities arise, she said.

The Hague is the seat of government
of the Netherlands and the country's
third largest city with a population just
under 600 000. Located close to the
North Sea, it is an important financial
centre, with little heavy industry.

Ottawa Council approved The Hague
as Ottawa's twin on May 19, 1982, on
the recommendation of the Ottawa Twin
Cities Association. But arrangements to
finalize the relationship slowed down
when a new council was elected in
The Hague.

Although officials from both cities
have been in contact since then — in-
cluding a visit to Ottawa in the fall of
1982 by the mayor of The Hague — ne-
gotiations stepped up this month when
Hague officials offered to send speed
skaters to Ottawa to participate in this
year's Winterlude festival which takes
place in early February.

The Ottawa Twin Cities Association
suggested The Hague because of its simi-
larity to Ottawa in size and character. A
contest on Canadian Broadcasting Corpo-
ration's radio program *CBO Morning* also
found that more people wanted to twin
with The Hague than any other city.

The Hague is Ottawa's second twin.
The city linked with Georgetown,
Guyana in 1966.

(Article from The Citizen.)



*Bellevue, the house in Kingston, Ontario, where Sir John A. Macdonald lived during
the years of his early married life.*

PAC, C-10746

Alarm systems ringing the bell in Owen Sound

A modern alarm system can do more than "sound off" when triggered by smoke, fire or a break-in. It will immediately pinpoint the trouble spot using computer controlled systems and alert the fire department. Then, if so equipped, it will signal a central station to double-check that action is being taken and as instructed caution company officials at home.

The Edwards Company of Owen Sound, Ontario, a unit of General Signal Ltd., started manufacturing protection systems there in 1952 and now makes a wide range of such products, including fire alarm devices, thermal and smoke detectors, signalling items (bells, buzzers, chimes, horns and sirens), annunciators (audio-visual indication of alarm trouble zones), nurse call, security and card access systems.

Probably the best-known device is the familiar red fire pull-alarm, seen in so many corridors.

"More complex systems are based on electronics and cover a wide variety of end uses, including early-warning fire detection, emergency paging — especially for high-rises — and emergency communication facilities to help direct people from fire-threatened areas," said Lyll Lawrence, assistant to the vice-president.

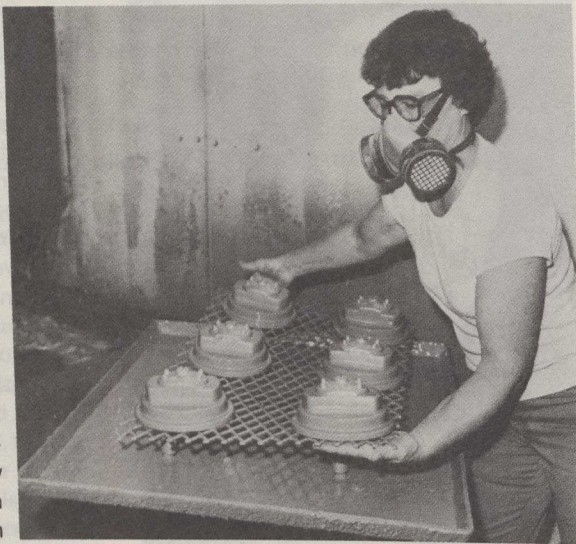
The latest integrated life safety system, the Edwards 8500, has not been on the market long but will be exported in the near future and is expected to increase export sales.

It uses multiple microcomputer technology to provide concise displays of all pertinent data to enable quick action to be taken.

"The ultimate in early warning is offered by the 8500," said Mr. Lawrence, "providing emergency paging and evacuation control for medium, large or multi-building applications."

The comprehensive display on its large panel helps firefighters see instantly the danger zones, while it is also "user friendly", meaning easily operated by untrained staff, eliminating need for a full-time experienced operator.

Both hardware and software are modular, providing a cost-efficient design, and it has a non-volatile memory, so a power failure does not cause loss of



Edwards' freshly spray-painted fire alarms.

primary system functions or require re-programming.

The company is currently involved with two major projects in Trinidad: the Halls of Justice and the Financial Complex, both in Port of Spain, according to Clive Milo, general manager of Edwards International, Mississauga, Ontario, a division of Edwards.

"This is a big, complicated, technical multi-system package and includes the 8500," he added.

About 39 per cent of production is sold in Ontario and 48 per cent in the rest of Canada. The balance goes to foreign markets including the US, Saudi Arabia and Britain.

(Article from Ontario Business News.)

Coal to Japan

This month, coal begins moving from British Columbia mines to Japanese steel mills as Canada's largest single resource development goes into production. A \$2.5-billion investment has been made in the mountainous coal-bearing region of northeastern British Columbia by the government, two railways, several mining companies and the Japanese.

The Quintette coal mine has already begun to produce what will become annual shipments of 6.3 million tonnes of high grade metallurgical and thermal coal from Canada's biggest open pit coal mine. The coal is brought down from the mountainside mine to a processing plant and rail facilities below on a continuous con-

veyor line which, at 13.7 kilometres, is the longest on the continent.

Nearby, the Bullmoose coal mine will ship 1.7 million tonnes of coal to Japan every year.

B.C. Rail has blasted through four mountains to construct a new 130-kilometre electric rail line to carry coal out of this remote region. The 98-car trains deliver coal to the Canadian National Railways line in Prince George, where it is trans-shipped from the centre of the province.

Nearly 750 kilometres to the west, at Prince Rupert, a new \$220-million coal-shipping port has been built on Ridley Island, where coal cars will be tipped upside down and dumped automatically at the rate of 60 an hour. Up to 12 million tonnes a year will be shipped through Prince Rupert to Japan, starting in January.

Canada-US co-operation in communications for rural areas

Canadian and US authorities have announced they will design a space program aimed at launching two or three satellites by 1988 to provide mobile radio, telephone and information transmission services for vehicles in rural areas of the two countries.

If successful, the \$500-million mobile satellite program — known as MSAT — would provide communications services in Canada for such users as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other law enforcement agencies, and for ambulance, fire and trucking services.

The satellites, stationed 35 000 kilometres above the equator, will transmit messages to and from such users as householders, seamen, rural travellers and police anywhere on the continent.

The service will be used mainly in outlying areas, where point-to-point communications now are limited in range to about 80 kilometres from a base station.

Advancements in reception technology are likely to occur now that agreement has been reached between the Communications Department and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration to work on the MSAT program.

Eventually, that may make it possible for personal use of pocket-sized mobile telephones in far-flung areas of Canada and the US matching impending developments in urban services under a system known as cellular mobile radio.

News of the arts

Gift of Walker Evans' photographs enhances National Gallery's collection

A gift of 280 photographs by American photographer Walker Evans was made recently to the National Gallery of Canada. Walker Evans, considered one of the century's leading photographers, died in 1975 at the age of 71. According to *New York Times* art critic Hilton Kramer, he was "one of the greatest artists of his generation".

The 280 works join the 80 photographs by Walker Evans previously acquired by the National Gallery. Because the gift spans his entire career from 1927 to

1971, the National Gallery now owns the world's most important collection of works by this outstanding artist.

Walker Evans was born in 1903 in St. Louis, Missouri and received an Ivy League education. He acquired a keen interest in French art and literature when he first began scenic photography on a trip through Europe in 1926. He developed the craft as an art form through the Depression and later, for 20 years, was the only full-time staff photographer employed by *Fortune* magazine.

Free artistic hand

He would not take assignments or commissions as an illustrator, or work in commercial art, but insisted on a free artistic hand.

His subject matter ranged from people and animals to bridges and buildings, usually in an urban setting. Though he insisted he was not a social commentator, his works reflect mainly the poverty and struggles of those times.

The donor of the important gift is Phyllis Lambert, an internationally respected architect as well as director of the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal. She also lends support to numerous art institutions and has been a member of the National Gallery's Advisory Committee for several years.

A discriminating collector of photographs, Mrs. Lambert has been an enthusiastic supporter of photography at



Phyllis Lambert, donor of an important gift of photographs by Walker Evans.

the National Gallery as well as a donor of works of art. "Such gestures encourage other collectors to share cultural treasures with the Canadian public," she explains.

The National Gallery's photography collection contains 15 000 works covering the entire history of photography. "This collection is one of the most important in the world," adds Mrs. Lambert. "It is a pleasure for me to recognize its quality and to contribute to its development with this gift."



Couple, Coney Island (1928).

National Gallery of Canada



Interior with Black Woman and Three Children (1960-1961) by Walker Evans.

National Gallery of Canada

New literary award for authors

A major new literary award for Canadian authors has been established by a subsidiary of the Netherlands-based Philips electronics conglomerate. The award, with a total value of \$16 000, will be made annually to a writer under the age of 50 for a sustained contribution to Canadian letters, rather than for a specific work.

Brian C. Warton, executive vice-president of Philips Information Systems, said that the award would comprise \$5 000 cash — the same as the Governor General's Literary Awards — and a Philips word processor and accessories, worth \$11 000. The award will be made to a writer of fiction, poetry or drama who is regarded to be in his or her creative prime.

The first recipient of the Philips Information Systems Literary Prize will be announced during the 1984 International Festival of Authors at Toronto's Harbourfront, one year from now, and the winner will be a special guest at the festival.

Stand-in for Santa's reindeer waits in the wings for Christmas début



A reindeer that barks? Toko, a nine-year-old golden retriever owned by Judy Hoadley of Vancouver, British Columbia, uncovered this set of antlers and Santa's cap lost in the Christmas rush and is ready to leap into action next December.

Canapress

Kenneth Williamson has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to Cuba. Since joining the Department of External Affairs in 1947, Mr. Williamson has served in Rome, Prague, Santiago, Berlin and Washington. In 1974 he was named Ambassador to Turkey and in 1977 was co-ordinator for the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament. In 1980, Mr. Williamson was named to his present post as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States in Washington.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$10-million (US) line of credit agreement with Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) of Mexico. The line of credit will assist Canadian exporters competing for sales to PEMEX by providing it with a simple and easily accessible credit facility. It is expected that the main beneficiaries of the line of credit will be small- and medium-sized Canadian manufacturing companies.

The University of Alberta has established a non-profit company to do research on materials, design and construction of equipment for Arctic and offshore development. Peter Adams, university dean of engineering since 1978, has been named president of the Centre for Frontier Engineering Research. The centre will be financed by the government of Alberta, the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations and several private companies.

Canadian ski-jumper Horst Bulau placed second in the World Cup championships in Cortina, Italy, recording his best result since he placed first in the season's opener in December in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Three other Canadian skiers placed in the top 14: Steve Collins and David Brown of Thunder Bay, and Ron Richards of Oshawa, Ontario.

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Canada 

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News briefs

A minor shuffle in the federal Cabinet was announced recently by Prime Minister Trudeau. Céline Hervieux-Payette became Canada's first Minister of State for Youth while backbencher Jacques Olivier took over her portfolio as Minister for Fitness and Amateur Sport. Newfoundland Member of Parliament Bill Rompkey assumes the position of Minister of State for Mines.

Nelma Data Corp. of Mississauga, Ontario, has signed a two-year, \$4.6-million marketing agreement with Ayyash Enterprises Inc. of Toronto for the sale and distribution of Nelma's Persona business computer. The machine will be sold to more than 12 Middle East countries.

The Soviet Union will participate in Expo 86, bringing the number of foreign governments and organizations taking part in the fair to 26, British Columbia Tourism Minister Claude Richmond has announced. "The Soviet Union is among the world's most advanced nations in the area of transportation and communications and their participation will be of

immense benefit to the exposition," Mr. Richmond said. The world transportation fair will be held in Vancouver from May 2 to October 13, 1986.

Robert W. McLaren, Canadian High Commissioner in Zimbabwe, has been named managing director of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and Assistant Commonwealth Secretary-General. The appointment was made recently by the Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath S. Ramphal.

One of the world's largest earth-built dikes has been completed after ten years by Suncor Inc. at its giant oil sands plant near Fort McMurray, Alberta. Called the "East-West Dike", the giant wall stretches nearly three kilometres, is 550 metres thick at the base and towers some 79 metres.

J. Tuzo Wilson, the internationally known geophysicist, has been appointed chancellor of York University, Toronto. Dr. Wilson, director-general of the Ontario Science Centre, is widely recognized for his modification and advancement of the theory of continental drift.