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revised sharply upwards

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now second biggest donor


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Editors
Richard Starks
Miriam Murcutt

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*Other Canadian
government offices in the
United Kingdom*
Canadian High Commission
Macdonald House
1 Grosvenor Square
London W1X 0AB
Tel: 01-629 9492

Canadian Consulate-General
Bristol & West House
2 St Philip's Place
Birmingham B3 2QJ
Tel: 021-233 2127

Canadian Consulate-General
Ashley House
195 West George Street
Glasgow G2 2HS
Tel: 041-248 3026

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Editorial

This issue of *Canada Today* has been delayed a few days so that we can bring you a profile of Canada's new prime minister.

In addition, in this issue, we focus on some of the areas where Canada has recently gained widespread recognition – in the fields of computer technology, natural resources, third-world food aid, and arts and culture.

Of particular interest to readers in the United Kingdom is the contract that Canada's University of Waterloo has won to computerise the Oxford English Dictionary. Its significance is that it is an acknowledgement of Canada's ability to provide custom-made software for unusual or unique applications.

In the area of natural resources, Canada (like the United Kingdom) has recently revised its estimates of its oil and gas reserves. And (again like the United Kingdom) its revised estimates show that it has a lot more "wealth in the ground" than it previously thought.

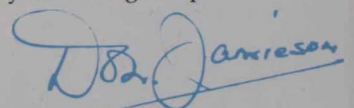
Canada's fisheries are also taking on a new importance (as an article in this issue explains.). Its east coast fisheries, recently in financial difficulty,

have now been reorganised. Their future is more secure, and for buyers in the United Kingdom (and elsewhere) this is expected to lead to even higher quality fish and fish products.

Some of this fish – worth about \$25 million or £14 million a year – is shipped overseas as food aid to developing countries. It's part of Canada's increasing commitment to food aid, which comes at a time of widespread famine caused by some of the worst droughts in memory.

Canada, in fact, now supplies about 20 percent of the total United Nations aid to the world's hungry, making it the second largest donor of food aid, after the United States (see article on page 7).

Finally, in this issue, we take a look at the changing face of Canadian English-language literature. And we preview an exhibition of Ontario art, which, until October 2, will be on show at the Canada House Gallery in Trafalgar Square.



Canadian High Commissioner

Brian Mulroney forms new government after landslide win in federal election

Dept. of External Affairs
Min. des Affaires extérieures
OTTAWA

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Canada has a new government and a new prime minister.

On September 4, Canadians went to the polls and by a huge majority chose Brian Mulroney, the 45-year-old leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, to form the next federal government.

Mr Mulroney becomes Canada's 18th prime minister. His victory not only brought to an end 21 years of nearly uninterrupted rule by the Liberal Party, but it also gives the Liberals their worst defeat since Confederation.

Brian Mulroney, a relative newcomer to Canadian politics, won the leadership of the Progressive Conservative Party in June, 1983. In August of that year, he was elected to the House of Commons. Until then, he had never held elective office, although he had been active in party politics and community affairs since his college days.

A native of Baie Comeau, Quebec, Mr Mulroney worked his way through university in Nova Scotia (where he studied political science) and in Quebec City (where he studied law), then practiced law in Montreal until 1976. That year he joined the Iron Ore Company of Canada (first as vice-president, then as president) where he remained until his leadership win.

The man he defeated in the federal election is John Turner, who became leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Canada in June of this year, following the resignation of Pierre Trudeau.

Mr Turner, 55, held several portfolios in the Trudeau government, including justice and finance, but he resigned from Parliament in 1975 to spend the next nine years practicing corporate law in Toronto.

The Conservatives now hold 211 of the 282 seats in the House of Commons. The Liberals have 40. And the socialist New Democratic Party has 30. (There is one independent.)

In the previous federal election, held in 1980, the Liberals won 147 seats; the Conservatives 103; and the New Democratic Party 32.

Pattern of voting now been broken

The key to the Conservatives' victory is that it broke a pattern of voting that has prevailed in Canadian politics for much of this century.



Canada's new Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney

Canadian political life, following Confederation in 1867, was dominated by the Conservatives, but two events helped tip the balance against them. During World War 1, they were strong supporters of a military draft, and that alienated voters in Quebec. Later on, they had the misfortune to be in power during the Great Depression. That, too, cut into their popularity, and since 1935 they have been forced to live in the shadow of the Liberals.

The Liberals have been in power for 42 of the last 49 years, losing only to John Diefenbaker (1957-63) and to Joe Clark (1979-80).

In recent years, the Liberals' base has increasingly been concentrated in Quebec. In the 1980 election, they won 70 of the province's 71 seats. The Conservatives took one.

Meanwhile, the Conservatives have emerged as the dominant party in the West. In the 1980 election, they won 43 seats in the three western provinces, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Liberals took none.

It was this political imbalance that was shattered during the 1984 election, as the Tories invaded the Liberals' stronghold, picking up 58 seats in Quebec and leaving just 17 for the Liberals. At the same time, they held their own ground, and indeed made gains in every province except Alberta (where they already held all 21 seats).

The result: The Conservatives now have the largest majority government in Canadian political history.

Here's how the parties now stand in the House of Commons	Province	Progressive Conservatives	Liberals	NDP	Independent
	British Columbia	19	1	8	0
	Alberta	21	0	0	0
	Saskatchewan	9	0	5	0
	Manitoba	9	1	4	0
	Ontario	67	14	13	1
	Quebec	58	17	0	0
	New Brunswick	9	1	0	0
	Nova Scotia	9	2	0	0
	Prince Edward Island	3	1	0	0
	Newfoundland	4	3	0	0
	Yukon	1	0	0	0
	North West Territories	2	0	0	0
	Total	211	40	30	1

Canada restructures its east coast fisheries

Changes mean steady flow of prized Atlantic fish to UK (and other) buyers

East coast fishing industry has been restructured around three strong corporations – Fishery Products International Ltd in Newfoundland, National Sea Products Ltd in Nova Scotia and les Pêcheries Cartier in Quebec.



Photo: External Affairs

Not long ago, the deep-sea fishing industry on the east coast of Canada was in serious financial trouble. But not any more. After restructuring, the industry has pulled itself out of its difficulties and now looks to be facing an excellent future.

For foreign buyers, this means a steady flow of the highly prized Atlantic fish. It also means even higher quality, as the new efficiencies within the industry show up in the final product.

For Canadian producers, the restructuring means a new (and much needed) lease on life. Fishing is an important industry in Canada, employing 100 000 people directly, but giving work to thousands more who work in affiliated industries such as vessel design and construction, gear manufacture and supply, and wholesale and retail operations.

Canada is world's biggest exporter

Fishing is also an important export industry. In fact, Canada is the world's leading exporter of fish – a position it has held for the past six years – sending some \$1600 million (£885 million) of fish and fish products each year to about 50 other nations. This accounts for about 74 per cent of Canada's total fish production.

Most of these exports go to the US (about 62 per cent of total exports) and the countries of the European Economic Community (16 per cent), although Japan (12 per cent) is also an important market, especially for the fisheries on Canada's west coast.

The main species exported are west coast salmon and herring and east coast cod, flatfish, crab, lobster and scallop.

In addition, Canada ships overseas some \$25 million (£14 million) of fish each year as food aid to developing countries, either through the Canadian

International Development Agency (CIDA), through the United Nations World Food Programme or through bilateral agreements (see article on page 7).

Growth has been rapid

In spite of the economic problems on the east coast, Canada's fishing industry has been growing rapidly in recent years. Partly, this has been the result of improved fishery resources (through sound stock management), a steady demand both at home and abroad, and a number of successful advertising and promotion campaigns run by Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

But it has also been the result of the declaration, in 1977, of a 200-mile fishing zone. Since that declaration, landings of groundfish have risen more than 50 per cent and landings of cod have risen more than 100 per cent.

Triple-size salmon being raised in B.C.

British Columbia is leading the world with a fisheries research programme that is putting salmon almost triple the normal size into Canadian waters.

A federal Fisheries Department project is releasing nearly half a million salmon into coastal waters specially reared for large sizes and higher production. The fish get fat because they're sterilized and devote all their energy to growing. While their untreated counterparts wear themselves skinny getting to spawning grounds, the sterilized fish just swim about eating and growing.

About 200 000 sterilized coho will be released into the Pacific Ocean this summer, followed by another 225 000 next year.



Photo: External Affairs

Canada continues to lead the world in fish exports. About 74 per cent of Canada's total fish production is sent abroad.

Future looks bright

On the resource side, the future of Canadian fisheries appears bright. Stocks that had been depleted by overfishing are now resuming previous levels. For example, the total allowable catch (TAC) from the cod stock off the northeast coast of Newfoundland and southern Labrador is expected to jump from 260 000 tons in 1983 to 350 000 tons in 1988.

Also, specific programmes are being carried out across the country to conserve and protect fishery resources, to upgrade quality and to help the industry develop new products and more effective harvesting, production and marketing techniques.

TACs are enforced by fishery officers, while inspection and quality-improved programmes guarantee that customers at home and abroad receive the best of Canada's 100 commercial species of fish and seafood.

In addition, a number of centres in key coastal and inland areas conduct extensive research programmes. They include studies in biology, ecology, population dynamics, distribution, migration pat-

Commercial fish landings in Canada 1983

	Millions	
	£	\$
Atlantic		
Groundfish	152	275
Pelagic and estuarial fish	26	47
Molluscs and crustaceans	163	295
Pacific		
Pacific coast fish	112	202
Groundfish	20	36
Shellfish	7	12
Inland	28	51
Total	508	918

terns, stock forecasting, quality control, and social and economic analyses. All are designed to improve understanding of the marine world and of the way the fishing sector can best take advantage of it, without over-exploiting it.



Photo: External Affairs

New estimates show sharp rise in Canada's oil and gas resources

Canada's oil-and-gas expertise is regularly on show at exhibits in Aberdeen (next exhibit in August, 1985) and Stavanger (April, 1986). Also, next month Canada will host CORE 84 (Canadian Offshore Resources Exposition) in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



Photo: Richard Bell, External Affairs

Earlier this year, when the UK government was revising its estimates of Britain's resources of North Sea oil and gas, the Canadian government was undertaking a similar review of its oil and gas resources.

When the new estimates were released (in an extensive report by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada), they showed that Canada - like the UK - has a lot more 'wealth in the ground' than had previously been thought.

The new estimate of Canada's conventional oil resources totals 5893 million cubic metres (or 37 070 million barrels). That's an increase of more than 23 per cent over the previous estimate of 4770 million cubic metres made in 1976.

What's more, this estimate does not include any of the oil that could be recovered from the heavy oil reservoirs and oil sands deposits in western Canada. That oil could be found in quantities that exceed all those from conventional-oil sources.

As for natural gas, the latest estimate places Canada's resources at 12 522 billion cubic metres (or 442 025 billion cubic feet), again significantly higher than the previous estimate in 1976.

Estimating method accepted internationally

Estimating resources is, of course, a difficult and delicate operation. It's hard enough estimating known resources, but assessing potential ones, not yet discovered, obviously involves a certain amount of guesswork.

In making its estimates, Canada uses a method that was pioneered by the Institute of Sedimentary

Explorer One, Dome Petroleum's drill ship in the Beaufort Sea.



An artificial island created in the Beaufort Sea

Photo: Mike Beedell, External Affairs

the largest source, with an estimated 2102 million cubic metres. It is followed by the Beaufort-Mackenzie area, western Canada and the Arctic Islands.

Natural gas is concentrated most in western Canada, where there are 4615 billion cubic metres, followed by the eastern Canada offshore area, the Arctic Islands and Beaufort-Mackenzie.

The estimates are, of course, constantly being revised. It is particularly hard to pinpoint resources in the Beaufort-Mackenzie area and the Arctic Islands. As a result, the latest figures are almost certainly conservative and could easily be revised upwards at a later date.

In the Arctic, there is a minimum of geological information on which to base an assessment. Several hundred more wells will have to be drilled before a more accurate picture can be drawn.

and Petroleum Geology in Calgary. This method gives a number of estimates of potential resources (those not yet discovered), and for each one it assigns a probability of that estimate proving to be accurate.

This method is now internationally accepted as one of the most meaningful ways of assessing oil and gas resources.

The latest estimates are reached by adding the potential resources at a 50 per cent probability to the known resources (right-hand column of the table below).

Resources in four key areas

As the table shows, Canada's oil and gas resources are concentrated in six areas – four of which are especially important.

The new estimates show that for conventional oil resources, the eastern Canada offshore is

New fields being discovered

Also, new fields are still being discovered. Oil strikes were recently announced in northeastern



Photo: CP Laserphoto

Drillships at Inuvik, Northwest Territories

Conventional oil and gas resources of Canada	Reserves and Discovered Resources	Potential			Estimated Total Resources
		High Confidence	Average Expectation	Speculative Estimates	
		Oil 10⁶m³ (Recoverable)			
Western Canada Sedimentary Basin	754	234	593	1210	1347
Cordilleran Basins	-	-	50	110	50
Beaufort Sea-MacKenzie Delta	117	307	1347	2962	1464
Arctic Islands	76	316	686	1305	762
Eastern Canada Offshore	225	512	1877	3392	2102
Paleozoic Basins – Eastern Canada	0.8	20	167	605	167.8
Total	1173	1486*	4720	8995*	5893
Gas 10⁹m³ (Recoverable)					
Western Canada Sedimentary Basin	2111	1544	2504	4930	4615
Cordilleran Basins	-	40	270	760	270
Beaufort Sea-MacKenzie Delta	286	871	1865	4103	2151
Arctic Islands	361	1100	2257	3662	2618
Eastern Canada Offshore	246	725	2423	4713	2669
Paleozoic Basins – Eastern Canada	8.8	46	190	660	198.8
Total	3013	4342*	9509	18285*	12522

* These numbers do not add arithmetically but must be summed using statistical techniques.

Source Oil and Gas Resources of Canada, published by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

Drill rig Atkinson H25, 50 miles northwest of Tuktoyaktuk in the Northwest Territories



Lesser Slave Lake, Alberta

Photo: External Affairs

British Columbia and at several locations in north-central Alberta's Peace River Arch, one of the most lucrative oil zones discovered in the province in the last few years.

These and other recent finds go a long way towards dispelling any notion that there is little oil left to be discovered in western Canada.

Meanwhile, new seismic studies off the Nova Scotia coast indicate that there may be another gas field linking the large Venture field to the smaller Olympia field.

The seismic tests are taken before drilling starts, to get an indication of geological structure. They are by no means conclusive, but in this case they have been labelled 'extremely positive'.



Photo: External Affairs

Canada increases food aid; now second largest donor

The early 1970s were crisis years for much of the world's population. Widespread drought, mainly in Africa, meant that millions of people were facing starvation. After a hastily organised United Nations conference, the World Food Council was set up to try and ease the problem.

Ten years on and the crisis still prevails. In fact, in many areas of the world, it has become even more acute.

Much of Africa is suffering the worst drought in memory, and famine is now widespread. The United Nations estimates that Ethiopia alone will require some 200 000 tonnes of food to prevent mass starvation.

Against this background, Canada has moved quickly to increase its food aid this year, and to commit itself to still higher levels in the years to come.

Allocation almost doubled

The bulk of Canada's food aid is bilateral, arranged between the Canadian government and the



Photo: Mia Klaus, External Affairs

Canada's food aid for the year	Millions	
	£	\$
1984-85		
Bilateral aid, government-to-government	108	195
Multilateral aid		
– through the World Food Programme	69	125
– through the International Emergency Food Reserve	4	7
Support for non-government organisations	7	13
Reserve funds for emergencies	13	23
Total	201	363

governments of each of the 20 countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas that will receive aid this year.

Most of these countries are in Africa. Their allocation this year will be almost double that of last year, because of the prolonged and devastating drought.

Most of the rest of Canada's aid is offered on a multinational basis, primarily through the United Nations' World Food Programme. It uses food aid in food-for-work projects and in other projects aimed at poor and nutritionally deprived peoples.

20 per cent of UN total

For 1985 and 1986, Canada has already pledged aid that will make it the second largest donor of food aid in the world, after the United States.

This food-aid 'package' is expected to represent about 20 per cent of total United Nations aid to the world's hungry. It will also result in an increase of \$30 million (£17 million) in Canada's contribution to the World Food Programme and the International Emergency Food Reserve, which comes under the World Food Programme.



Photo: Dilip Mehta, CIDA

Unloading grain in Bangladesh

Canadian computer expertise focuses on specialised areas

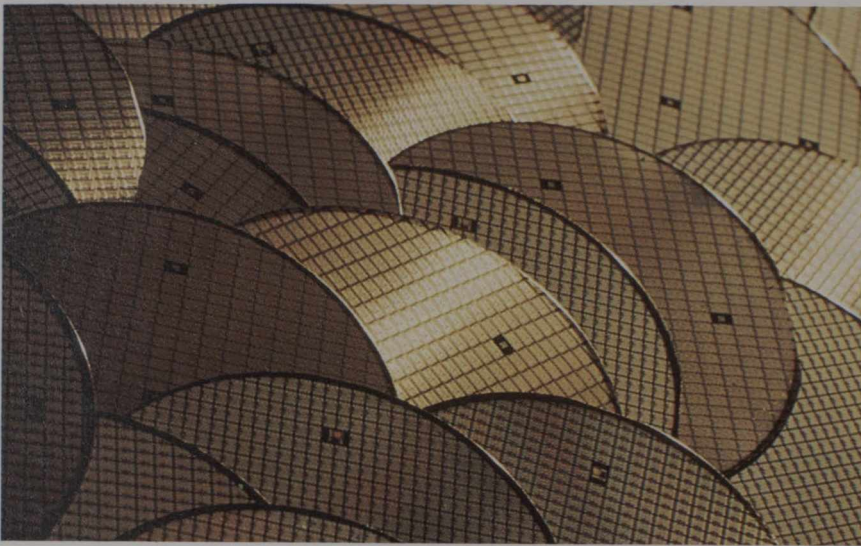


Photo: External Affairs

Processed silicon wafers each containing hundreds of chips

Canada's international computer industry consists of more than 125 companies that operate globally and make Canada the world's eighth largest exporter of computer equipment. Together, the companies form a strong, highly regarded industry that offers state-of-the-art components and services.

But the industry also has a problem. Because of its close proximity to the United States, the Canadian industry faces competitive challenges not found anywhere else. In world markets, there is a danger that it will be overshadowed or even overlooked.

For this reason, Canadian computer companies have opted not to challenge the (primarily US) multinational suppliers of general-purpose computers and associated hardware. Instead, they have concentrated on the design and manufacture of innovative products for which the need is not being met by other nations.

In particular, Canada's ability to supply custom-made software, designed to handle unusual and complex situations, is increasingly being recognised internationally.



Photo: External Affairs

Here's where Canadian firms excel

- Canada's lead in word processing systems is internationally recognised, with products being sold in more than 80 countries. Suppliers are now moving into the Integrated Electronic Office Systems.
- Canadian manufacturers of intelligent computer terminals export their products worldwide to serve a variety of needs. Some terminals are particularly suited to graphics, while others are geared towards computer-aided learning and industrial data collection. A special high resolution terminal has been developed for Telidon, Canada's contribution to the world of interactive video technology.
- Canadian suppliers are also very active in the field of CAD/CAM graphics with specialised terminals and software languages.
- Data communications products have been developed in Canada to link computers to different data networks, including packet switching.
- Canadian firms are also at the forefront of developing custom-designed on-line computer systems for banks, fleet management, hospitals, stockbrokers, mapmaking and retailing applications, using the latest advances in distributed data processing.
- Canadian manufacturers produce proprietary software packages in data base management, file retrieval and user-friendly software productivity tools.
- Desk-top microprocessors are available for financial management applications in small businesses.
- Canadian firms have generated specialised data bases to provide quick reference to financial, legal and literary areas, economics, current events and other subjects.
- Canadian designed microcomputers are capable of receiving a wide variety of software services through cable television networks. With this technology, it is possible to create a communications network that gives home-computer users access to large computer data-bases at a small cost relative to existing distribution methods. ♦

Canada's University of Waterloo chosen to computerise the OED

Earlier this year, Canada's strength in the computer field was forcefully underlined when the Oxford University Press chose Canada's University of Waterloo to help computerise the Oxford English Dictionary (OED).

The University of Waterloo has long enjoyed a reputation for supplying the best in computer software and computer services. But it was nonetheless pleased to be chosen ahead of 13 high-technology firms and other universities, which were also keen to take on the challenge.

And a challenge is just what the job will be. From 'a' to 'zymurgy', the OED contains 500 000 entries, defined in 60 million words, presented on

21 000 pages and contained in 16 volumes and four supplements. In computer terms, that means it will take some 500 million keystrokes to transcribe - a task that will keep 120 keyboard operators busy for 18 months.

Altogether, the total time for transforming the dictionary into computer software is likely to be anywhere from two to four years. In contrast, it took 44 years to publish the final printed volume after the first was published in 1884.

Immediate changes will be possible

At the moment, the 'data base' of the OED - the information on which it is founded - is stored in

Interim Director J C Grey, on right, with Prof John Stubbs who became the new director of the Waterloo OED project on 1 September.



Photo courtesy of J C Grey

40 filing cabinets on about three million pieces of paper, some of them handwritten by the dictionary's first editor, James Murray.

Keeping this information up-to-date has become an impossible task, particularly since the rate of change in the English language has accelerated rapidly in recent years. Words are assuming new meanings, and new words are constantly being coined, many of them from the world of computers.

When the computerisation is complete, however, it will be possible to make additions and changes in the language without any delay and with relatively little effort. The result will be the largest and most up-to-date bank of words – and their meanings – in any language.

Not that the OED has been doing too badly in keeping itself up to date; it first recorded the word 'computer' as far back as 1897. ♦

Canada's first astronaut to follow long line of successes in space



Next month will see the launching of Canada's first man in space, when a career naval officer from Quebec will fly as a 'payload specialist' on the US space shuttle *Discovery*.

Marc Garneau (and his 'backup' astronaut, Robert Thirsk) will be following a long line of Canadian successes in space, going back more than 20 years.

In 1962, Canada became the third country (after the USSR and the US) to join the space age when it launched the scientific satellite *Alouette* into orbit on a NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) rocket. Ten years later, it was the first country to put a domestic communications satellite into orbit, when it launched *Anik A-1*.

As a payload specialist, Garneau will be conducting a number of scientific experiments. Among them will be a test of part of the (Canadian) National Research Council's 'space vision system' – a state-of-the-art development in robotic technology, which is expected to make it easier for astronauts in space to approach, capture and then berth large satellites, and to assemble other structures in space.

Garneau will also test human reflexes and loss of orientation in the weightlessness of space. An important part of the work will be studies of space motion sickness.

In another set of experiments, he will use monitoring instruments to measure the electrical fields around the space shuttle as it flies about 300 kilometres above the earth. And in a fourth experiment, he will measure the state of the El Chicon volcanic cloud in the earth's upper atmosphere.

Garneau is one of six Canadian astronauts training for a flight in space. The six were chosen from a field of more than 4000 applicants, who responded to a newspaper advertisement placed early in 1983. ♦

Marc Garneau, Canada's first man in space



Photo: National Research Council of Canada

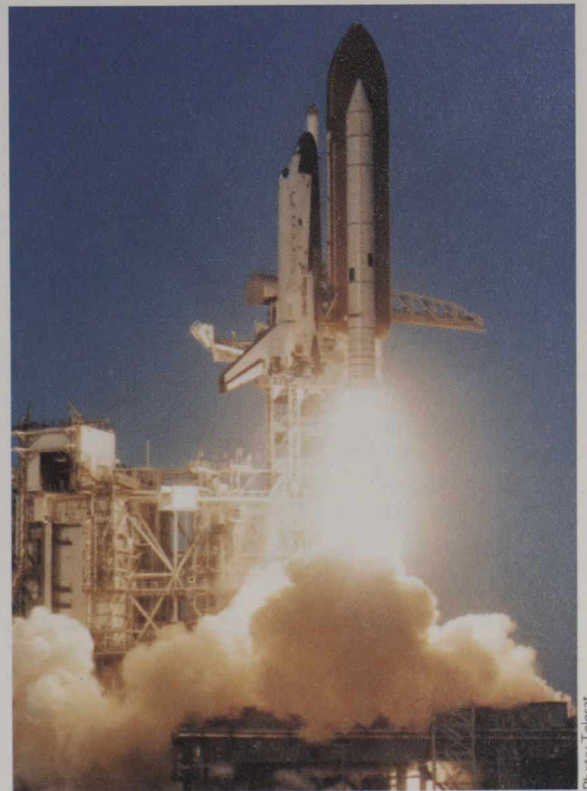


Photo: Telesat

Canada announces new space plan

Canada has announced a new space expenditure plan of \$122 million (£68 million) for the years 1984/85 to 1986/87. This 38 per cent increase brings the government's commitment to space over this period to almost \$446 million (£248 million).

International

New institute planned to promote world peace

The Canadian government has introduced legislation to set up a government-financed 'think tank' on disarmament and defence issues. The research group will have 'great independence', the government says, despite its being paid for by Ottawa and being obliged to make annual reports to parliament.

The group, to be known as the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, is being established to 'increase knowledge of the issues related to international peace and security, with particular emphasis on defence, arms control and disarmament'.

It will collect and distribute information, promote studies, encourage public debate in international peace and security and 'foster, fund and conduct research of particular interest to Canadians and the Canadian government'.

Canada and Soviet Union sign new air agreement

Canada and the Soviet Union have signed a letter of understanding that could rebuild much of the lost Aeroflot air traffic to the Gander, Newfoundland international airport.

The agreement was drawn up months ago, but was put on hold by the Canadian government after the Soviet downing of a Korean Air Lines jumbo jet last September, which claimed 269 lives including those of eight Canadians.

It calls for construction of a tanker discharge facility at Lewisport, near Gander; two jet fuel storage tanks there; and another tank at the airport itself.

The agreement also regularises a practice of Aeroflot flying fishing crews from Montreal to Gander to rejoin ships in dry dock at St John's.

New acid-rain commitment signed by nine other nations

Canada and nine European nations have reached an environmental milestone, having signed a five-point declaration promising to reduce pollution that



Photo: Information Canada Photothèque

leads to international acid rain.

The ten countries – Canada, West Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland – have committed themselves to reduce sulphur dioxide, which forms sulphuric acid rain, by 30 per cent by 1993. They have also promised unspecified cuts in other air pollutants, mainly nitrogen oxides, which form nitric acid.

The 30 per cent sulphur cut was described as probably not enough to save the European environment, but it will retard damage. It was also described as the highest figure considered acceptable to most nations.

Business

Foreign banks to have more room to grow

Legislation planned by Ottawa will give foreign banks operating in Canada twice as much room to grow as they had before. A new bill, which doubles to 16 per cent the portion of total domestic banking assets the country's foreign banks can hold, should increase competition in the industry.

The Canadian Bankers' Association, which represents the country's 58 foreign and 13 domestic banks, welcomed the legislation as a 'positive effort on the part of the federal government to respond to criticism of the eight per cent ceiling.

'This bill should largely lay to rest the recent controversy over reciprocity, especially with the US'.

Fewer restrictions sought in Canada-UK bilateral trade

Canada has called for relaxed trade restrictions with the UK, especially those affecting newsprint.

In a two-day colloquium on Canada-UK relations, reference was made to the long-standing and unique bilateral relationship between Canada and Britain and the need to intensify that relationship. Newsprint was just one example of how Canada's traditional markets in Britain are being threatened by actions of the EEC, but that situation could be alleviated if Britain would promote Canadian interests in the Community.

In reply, Lady Janet Young, Minister of State for the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, acknowledged that there is some truth in the criticism that the EEC is too preoccupied with its own internal problems to the detriment of its proper role in world affairs. This she attributed to the relative youth of the EEC and its 'inevitable growing pains'.

However, she said Canadian interests will not be forgotten as Britain forges new economic ties with the Community. 'Britain recognises that Canadians have very real concerns', she said.

Time lost through strikes falls to six-year low

Time lost in Canada because of strikes declined to a six-year low in 1983, falling to 4.5 million days from 5.8 million in 1982 and 8.9 million in 1981. The labour department says the total was the lowest since 1977 when 3.3 million days were lost because of strikes.

More significant perhaps is the fact that 93 per cent of the 579 major collective agreements negotiated by labour and management in 1983 were settled without strikes.

The major strikes of 1983 involved public servants in Quebec and British Columbia, construction workers in Nova Scotia, Hydro employees in British Columbia and teachers in Newfoundland.

Charter airlines in Canada win reduced regulation

Canada has given the go-ahead to a deregulation that will allow charter airlines greater freedom to apply to fly anywhere in the country, using whatever type of aircraft they prefer and however often they wish.

Also, the government has told Air Canada, the Crown-owned company that controls over two-thirds of the domestic market, to refrain from such 'unfair competitive practices' as undercutting prices to drive other airlines off routes.

The government hopes the reduction of regulation will lead to a competitive system giving consumers greater choice on price and service.

Canadian office furniture now a big seller in Britain



Photo: Externaal Affairs

Canadian office furniture is big business in Britain. Montreal's All Steel Canada Limited – through its British agents, Wiltshier Contract Furniture – recently established a new division in London to fully promote the Canadian company's highly successful office furniture systems.

The new division, All Steel Systems Furniture, displays (through an office complex in London's Covent Garden) the Canadian manufacturer's latest lines in screen-based furniture, freestanding desks, work stations and comprehensive storage facilities.

According to Erol Russo, All Steel Canada's director of international sales, the advanced styling of the All Steel office furniture has been largely responsible for its selection and

installation in the offices of many banks and commercial enterprises throughout Britain.

The two companies say the volume of business has been 'most satisfying' and expect sales to 'increase considerably' as a result of the new operation.

Technology

House buying in Toronto now handled by computer

Real estate agents in Toronto can now buy or sell property listed in the city with personal computers through one of the most advanced computerised listing services in North America.

About 13 000 brokers and agents can subscribe to its on-line database for \$40 (£22) a month per terminal. Each subscriber is assigned a code to prevent unauthorised entry into the system. Agents can access the database with a variety of microcomputers.

A user can call up any listing by address, street, district or by specifying a search that is limited to ignore houses that are too expensive or of the wrong kind for the potential buyer.

The application of computer power to realtors' needs has many advantages, including – access to multiple listings of residential and commercial property listed by member brokers, updated immediately; – storage of sold listings to aid in determining property value; – 'reverse prospect' functions to

identify a potential buyer to other agents to permit immediate matching of buyers and sellers; – identification of open houses by date, street, district or type of house to enable a buyer to focus his attention on desired listings.

First university seminar to be held by satellite link

Next month, Edinburgh University and the University of Carleton in Ottawa will share a world first, when they link by satellite and hold a live seminar involving people at both locations.

The seminar is being arranged and financed by Northern Telecom. It will last for two hours, and if it is successful, it will be the first of many such link-ups.

The subject of this first seminar, fittingly enough, will be the effects of new technology on society.

Brain waves could be used to activate machine systems

The prospect of getting a machine to perform a task simply by thinking about it could soon be demonstrated by a group of researchers at Simon Fraser University in Richmond, British Columbia.

The researchers have a contract to study the magnetic fields produced by nerve cells in the brain, and to apply the research to medical diagnosis and to military applications, including the use of brain waves to activate machine systems.

At the heart of the work is a device called a biomagnetometer,

manufactured by CTF Systems Inc. It measures the electro-magnetic field generated when impulses travel between neurons – the nerve cells – in the brain.

Medical

Rare-disease laboratory being built in Ontario

Canada's first laboratory for testing contagious diseases is being built by the Ontario government.

The laboratory, which should be ready by spring 1985, will mean that blood and tissue samples from Canadian residents or visitors suspected of suffering from exotic, possibly fatal, diseases will no longer have to be sent to the United States for analysis.

There are only two laboratories in North America now able to study dangerous viruses. They are the Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, and a US military centre at nearby Fort Detrick. The Ontario laboratory will be located in Toronto.

The laboratory will test for rare diseases such as Lassa fever (an often fatal influenza-like virus originating in Africa) encephalitis and Q-fever (a rare influenza that strikes half a dozen Ontarians annually).

All tests will be done in air-tight, stainless steel cabinets, and all material will be sterilised before removal from the cabinets and from the laboratory.

First electrical implant corrects spine curvature

A 13-year-old Toronto girl is believed to be the first person in the world to have had an electrical device implanted in her back to correct the curvature of her spine.

The surgery was performed recently by Dr Walter Bobeckko, the inventor of the technique and chief of the orthopaedic surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He called the technique a big step forward in treating scoliosis, a condition in which the spine curves sideways, deforming the patient.

Ten years ago, Dr Bobeckko devised the first electrical-magnetic device to treat the

condition, but it could not be implanted. Instead, it was attached to the skin with a wire running from the device to a battery and a transmitter.

The new implant, about the size of a silver dollar, has no external wires or parts to entangle the patient or interfere with sleep.

Stamps

Glacier National Park subject for new stamp

A scenic view of Mount Sir Donald, part of Glacier National Park, 680 km northeast of Vancouver along the Trans-Canada Highway, is featured on a new stamp issued last month.

The new stamp is part of the ongoing series of high-value definitives on national parks, which began in 1979. It will remain on sale for an indefinite period of time.

Other national parks depicted in the series so far include Kluane and Fundy in 1979, Waterton Lakes in 1982 and Point Pelee in 1983.

Calgary artist Brent Laycock prepared the illustration for the stamp. Typography is by William Tibbles of Toronto. The Canadian Bank Note Company printed the stamp in four-colour lithography with one colour steel engraving.



Shown smaller than actual size of 48 x 30mm

Culture

Canadian writer wins UK mystery award

Canadian author Eric Wright, author of *The Night the Gods Smiled*, has been named winner of the John Creasy memorial award for the best first mystery of the year by the Crime Writers Association of Britain.

Eric Wright, 55, an English teacher at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, also was a co-winner this year of the City of



Photo: Information Services, Department of Communications

Mosaic

Toronto book award for works of literary excellence evocative of Toronto.

Terry Fox Story wins Canadian film awards

The *Terry Fox Story*, a biographical feature film on the late Marathon-of-Hope hero, emerged as a top choice in Canada's 1984 Genie Awards, taking best picture accolades and four other awards out of a total of eight nominations.

The ceremony celebrating the Canadian film industry also brought a surprise win to Eric Fryer, the young amputee who portrays Terry Fox in the film. It was Fryer's first acting effort in film or any other medium.

In a vote of the 600 members of the Academy of Canadian Cinema, Bob Clark and David Cronenberg shared the award for best direction for *A Christmas Story* and *Videodrome* respectively.

Maria Chapdelaine placed second in multiple Genie wins. The film – which took 11 nominations – emerged with four awards, all of them in technical categories.

The Richard Nielsen production of *The Wars* was a three-time winner, with trophies for Jackie Burroughs as best supporting actress, Martha Henry as best actress and for the film's three member sound editing team.

Tourism

ABTA international meeting to be held in Toronto



Photo: External Affairs

From November 4–9, Canada will play host to delegates at the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) international meeting and trade fair. The event promises to be a major success for Canadian tourism promotion.

ABTA, which has a membership of over 6000 travel agents and tour wholesalers, holds just one meeting outside the UK each year. And invariably, this meeting has been very important for the host country.

The statistics show that every country that has hosted an ABTA international meeting has seen an increase of 10 per cent or better in its travel bookings from the UK in the year following this event. (ABTA agents book more than 75 per cent of all travel from the UK).

More than 2500 ABTA members are expected to arrive in Toronto for the meeting and trade fair, and many of these delegates will buy pre- and post-meeting packages that allow them more time to explore Canada's travel opportunities.

One special event at the show will be hosted by Canadian Holidays and Travel Associates (CHTA). It will be a Klondike evening (with gold panning, black jack and dancing), which will allow ABTA delegates to meet the principals of major Canadian tour wholesaling companies. ABTA agents buy many of these companies' packages through UK sales agents and CHTA wants to provide the opportunity for face-to-face meetings.

Meeting and incentive buyers to get a taste of Canada

More than 300 UK corporate meeting planners and incentive travel buyers will soon be able to talk about, see and taste what Canada has to offer their companies as a meeting and incentive travel destination. They will be guests of Canadian Incentive and Conference Associates (CICA) at a gathering on November 21 at London's Inn on the Park.

CICA is a consortium of UK-based representatives of Canadian suppliers of meeting and incentive travel facilities and services. For the past several years, it has staged special promotions for major UK



Photo: Pat Morrow, External Affairs

customers, to bring them up-to-date on meeting and incentive travel opportunities across Canada.

This year, the CICA programme will run from noon until 9.00 p.m. and will have four major components:

- marketplace, where over 24 Canadian meeting and incentive travel suppliers will staff booths presenting their products and services;
- theme room, where buyers will be able to see presentations designed to show them the sort of themes a Canadian incentive programme can be built around;
- press conference, where the media will be told what Canada is offering meeting and incentive travel planners today;
- a continuous buffet, where guests will be invited to sample a wide range of Canadian foods, wines and beers.

Sport

Second Canadian team plans to climb Everest

Another Canadian climbing team will soon be tackling Mount Everest, but this time the ascent will begin from China instead of Nepal.

The 12-member team will include two climbers from the first Canadian attempt on the Himalayan mountain – Laurie Skreslet of Montreal, who, on October 4, 1982, became the first Canadian to reach the top of Mount Everest, and Dwayne Congdon of Canmore, Alberta.

The leader of the expedition,



Photo: Pat Morrow, External Affairs

expected to be on the mountain by March, 1986, will be Jim Elzinga of Toronto. The team has received final permission for the climb from the Chinese government. The west ridge route they will be attempting has been climbed twice before, but from the Nepalese side and by expeditions considerably larger than the planned Canadian team.

The 1982 climb, originally intended to be a first ascent of the South Pillar route, was completed on a southeast route, which had been successfully climbed many times before.

New approaches, new authors reflect thriving Canadian literature

This fall sees another long line-up of new titles from Canadian book publishers. It's another indication that Canadian literature is thriving. This article takes a brief look at the way English Canadian literature has developed. In a later issue, we will take a similar view of French Canadian literature.

BY GEORGE
WOODCOCK

One of the anecdotes often told by literary historians in Canada relates to the late nineteenth century poet, Archibald Lampman, who in 1880 read with delight a book called *Orion*, the first poems of another Canadian writer, Charles G D Roberts. Lampman thought that Roberts could write of the Canadian landscape as well as the English poets wrote of theirs, and he remarked 'It seemed to me a wonderful thing that such a work could be done by a Canadian, by a young man, one of ourselves.'

At the same time, Lampman also made a remark that has not so often been quoted 'A good deal is being said as to whether a Canadian literature exists. Of course it does not.' And, at the time he was writing, just about a century ago, what he said was correct.

Ever since the British North American colonies came together in 1867 to form the Confederation of Canada, cultural nationalists had been talking of the need for a national literature. But a literature is not created by a collective act of will, and for many years Canadian writers were enslaved by the pioneer mentality, which seeks to recreate in a hostile wilderness the institutions and the cultural patterns of the lost homeland.

First Canadian classics

It was Lampman and his contemporaries, Charles G D Roberts, Bliss Carman and Duncan Campbell Scott, who wrote the first poetry that took the Canadian landscape, and the life people lived in it, as the source of their imagery. These four men wrote the first true Canadian classics. But they hardly created a Canadian literature. That didn't happen until the 1920s and 1930s.

In those years, in the western plains, a whole school of prairie realists emerged, led by novelists like Robert J Stead (*Grain*, 1926), Maria Ostenso (*Wild Geese*, 1925), and – most important – Frederick Philip Grove.

Grove's urban counterpart was Morley Callaghan, who accepted the lessons of an undecorated prose learned from his friend Ernest Hemingway, and in the 1930s published a series of novels that read like laconic moralist parables, notably *Such Is My Beloved* (1934) and *They Shall Inherit the Earth* (1937); these novels admirably caught the ways of life and speech in the growing Canadian cities.

In poetry, the centre of the ferment of the years between the wars was Montreal, which still had a vigorous anglophone culture. Modernism found its first Canadian expression when FR Scott and A J M Smith worked together on the *McGill Fortnightly Review*, and published in it a kind of verse that was

cosmopolitan in form. In 1936, with a few other poets, they published an anthology – *New Provinces* – that marked the beginnings of Canadian modernism and also of a separate Canadian literary tradition.

Smith became a great anthologist, and his collections, such as *A Book of Canadian Poetry* (1943), *The Oxford Book of Canadian Verse* (1960) and *Modern Canadian Verse* (1967), not only displayed the growing variety of Canadian poetry, but also served a critical purpose by defining a tradition, a pattern of increasingly felicitous adaptation by poets to the spirit of an emerging national culture. Smith's anthologies are still the best introductions to Canadian poetry up to the mid-1960s.

Literary infrastructure

The development of a national literature is dependent on a great many factors, emotional and even material. The modernist movement in poetry and the realist movement in fiction during the 1930s might have been ephemeral if the Second World War had not in many directions increased the Canadian sense of existing as a separate nation, finally detached from the old imperial links with Britain and anxious to defend itself from being absorbed into a continental culture in North America.

Also, any national literature depends for its survival on the development of the kind of infrastructure which we often call a 'literary world', meaning the kind of ambiance in which writers are in touch with each other, in which responsible criticism develops, and in which there is reasonable certainty of publication through a network of publishers, periodicals and media willing to use literary material.

Such a world hardly existed in Canada before the mid-1960s, but the shifts in national consciousness that began during the Second World War were making it possible. In the 1940s, the direction of Canadian fiction was changed by the appearance of two classic novels, Hugh MacLennan's *Barometer Rising* and Sinclair Ross's *As for Me and My House*. Ross's book was a single triumph. But *Barometer Rising* was the beginning of a distinguished career, for MacLennan dominated Canadian writing in the late 1940s and the 1950s.

In the 1960s, there was a rapid coming to maturity of Canadian literature, and a notable variegation, in kinds of writing and in ways of writing, that accompanied it. In 1976, the noted Canadian critic, Northrop Frye, remarked on the 'colossal verbal explosion that has taken place in Canada since 1960'. And whether one looks at the number of books published, the number of maga-

Noted Canadian literary critic Northrop Frye



Photo: CP Lazerphoto - Erin Combs, Toronto Star



Margaret Laurence

zines in circulation, the number of publishing houses and bookstores in operation, or the number of Canadian books read by Canadians, there is no doubt that we have seen an enormous quantitative expansion in Canadian writing.

Most impressive novelist

Perhaps the most impressive novelist of the last two decades is Margaret Laurence; if I had to pick a notable Canadian prose epic I would choose her prairie tetralogy from *The Stone Angel* (1964) to *The Diviners* (1975). It has a breadth of vision, an historical sense, and a largeness of texture that are unique in Canadian fiction. Margaret Laurence is also important because she exemplifies how Canadian writers in this period were breaking out of the narrower patterns of the past. Some of her crucial



Mordecai Richler

years were spent in Somaliland and Ghana, and she perfected her craft by writing about Africa in her novel, *This Side Jordan* (1960), and her travel book, *The Prophet's Camel Bell* (1963), before she turned a very practiced hand to writing about Canada.

In maturing literary cultures, a related phenomenon to the travelling writer is the expatriate, who goes and stays away because only thus can he get a real perspective on his native world. The Englishman Malcolm Lowry and the Irishman Brian Moore were two expatriates from other countries who came to Canada and enriched its literature with books like Lowry's *October Ferry to Gabriola* (1970) and Moore's *The Luck of Ginger Coffey* (1960).

Among the Canadians who made themselves exiles, Mavis Gallant, whose stories have appeared often in the *New Yorker*, is a good example. Many of her stories are about other expatriates, while one of her best books, *The Pegnitz Junction* (1973), is a remarkable fictional study of postwar Germany. Another Canadian writer who lived long abroad is Mordecai Richler, but his novels were often set in Canada and always populated by Canadians. His period of residence abroad ended after the completion of *St Urbain's Horseman* (1971) which, with *The Apprenticeship of Druddy Kravitz* (1959), represented the high point of Richler's achievement in giving fictional expression to the vigorous multicultural society of Montreal.

Greater variation

This period also saw the emergence of Margaret Atwood, whose novels like *Surfacing* (1972) and *Bodily Harm* (1981) are tight and sinewy studies of neurotic frontiers; the quasi-mythical prairie novels of Robert Kroetsch (*The Studhorse Man*, 1969); and the later novels of the ironist Robertson Davies, which moved into a rich metaphysical vein (*Fifth Business*, 1970, and *World of Wonders*, 1975).

In poetry, the variation has been even greater, because more poets have emerged than fiction writers, and books of verse are more easily published than novels. It is hard to do more than indicate the contrasts in this crowded field. They have ranged from the ironic classicism of John Glassco (*A Point of Sky*, 1964) to the concrete idiom of B P Nichol (*The Martyrology*, 1972), and from the colloquial exuberance of Al Purdy to the lapidary restraint of Margaret Atwood, whose *Selected Poems* (1976) is her most substantial and representative selection.

The cultural forces of the country, like the political and economic ones, have been shifting radically in recent years, and the days when Montreal and Toronto were the literacy centres of English-speaking Canada are already in the past. Not only the West, but also the maritime provinces of the Atlantic coast are producing many interesting new writers and new movements in theatre and other areas close to literature.

Northrop Frye once remarked that, whatever its political shape, Canada is culturally decentralist, and Canadian writers have recently been proving it by their variety of approach, which is as much regional as it is personal.

Photo: CP photo—Globe and Mail

Photo: CP Lazerphoto—Maclean's

Art exhibition from Ontario now at Canada House Gallery

BY RALPH TURNER

A year ago, Ralph Turner, Head of Exhibitions at the Crafts Council in London, was invited to select for an exhibition from Ontario, to be shown at the Canada House Gallery and then toured. This is his account of the search, plus a brief description of the work of the four artists he decided to feature.

The exhibition, called *Art by Design*, was organised by Visual Arts Ontario in Toronto and the Canada House Gallery in London. It will be at the Gallery in Trafalgar Square until 2 October, before touring other galleries in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

Viewing hours at the Gallery are Monday to Friday 10.00 to 5.30; late night Thursday until 7.30; Sunday 12.00 to 5.30. Admission is free.

Crafts are notoriously difficult to define. The word itself denotes high standards, sweat and skill. These can be found almost anywhere – on the factory floor, hospital theatre, hairdressing salon, potting shed or hotel kitchen.

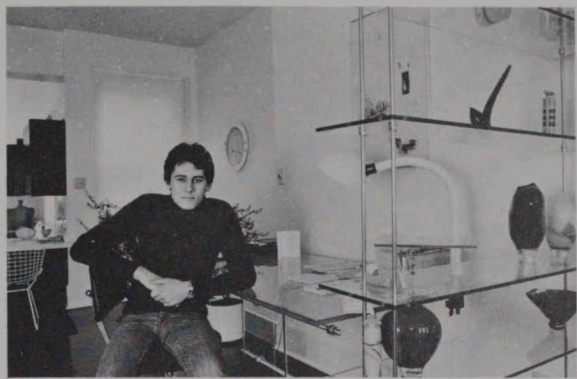
When Bill Boyle (then head of Visual Arts Ontario) asked me to select an exhibition from Ontario, I had certain reservations. My knowledge of the crafts there was limited to a handful of names and impressions gleaned from books, magazines and exhibition catalogues. It is one thing to know your home ground, another to take on the role of intrepid explorer.

The brief was straightforward – come to Ontario, see what's going on and select a show for the Canada House Gallery in London. Eventually I decided to go, reassuring myself that if my knowledge of Canadian crafts was sketchy, perhaps I did know what would have appeal here in the UK. I was even more reassured when I learned that Linda Beatty, the co-ordinator of the Ontario Project, was to be my right hand.

Linda Beatty's first challenge was to organise a crash course of introduction to the full spectrum of current work. We devoted almost two days to thousands of biographies and slides at the Ontario Crafts Council in Toronto. This was to form the foundation of my work, giving me the broadest possible view of every discipline across the province.

Meeting the makers

Gallery visits were arranged to see exhibitions, while studio and workshop visits provided first-hand experience of a variety of working situations – with the added advantage of meeting the makers



1.

Photo courtesy Visual Arts Ontario



2.

Photo courtesy Visual Arts Ontario



3.

Photo courtesy Visual Arts Ontario



4.

Photo courtesy Visual Arts Ontario

1. Max Leser
2. Ian Symons
3. Kai Chan
4. Barbera Astman

themselves. Many private collectors and museum curators were generous with their time, allowing me to look through their acquisitions and answering many questions that were to give me a much clearer and informed view of both the immediate ancestry of Ontario crafts and the current situation.

After so much frenetic activity, a clearer picture began to emerge. It occurred to me that the state of professional crafts in Ontario differs only in degree from that of the UK. Potters top the list in number and invention. Weavers and other textile artists work to their own designs, successfully attracting major commissions from industry and commerce (rather more so than their contemporaries in the UK, due primarily to the prevalence of corporate purchasers across Canada).

As one would expect from a land of forests, woodworking is also popular, although, with some notable exceptions, the work tends to be traditional. However, there is confident experiment in glass, metalwork and jewellery, and (as in Europe) many crafts people have shifted their loyalty from function and tradition to question the separation and distinction between art and craft.

This was the area that I decided to represent in my selection for *Art By Design*, believing it to be timely.

Finely crafted sculptures

Max Leser's exciting glass furniture is proof that innovative use of materials does not necessarily deny function. A glimpse of his own home reveals his passion for order and logic.

Ian Symon's work is in the vanguard of the current movement in studio ceramics. Possibly,

Max Leser
Coffee Table, 1983,
structural glass and stainless
steel, 40.6 x 91 x 91cm.



Photo: Kim Crowder

Ian Symons
1. Mug 1981, ht 8cm
2. Teapot 1982, ht 14.5cm
3. Mug 1982, ht 8.3cm
4. Teapot 1982, ht 15cm
5. Mug 1983, ht 7.4cm

All pieces are red earthenware with underglaze colours, scuffito, and transparent glaze.



Photo: T E Moore

Kai Chan
Lost Paradise Found
1983, dogwood branches,
mixed threads, 70 x 70 x
170cm.



Barbera Astman
in out and about
1982, mixed media,
(linoleum, wood, plastics)
22.9 x 114.9 x 22.9cm.

one detects an English influence, yet this prolific artist, not yet fully graduated, forms and decorates his vessels and plates with a confidence that belies his years.

I first saw Kai Chan's work at a Canadian exhibition at the opening of the Barbican Arts Centre in London. His handling of natural materials made an impression on me then, and when I again saw his finely crafted wooden sculptures in Toronto, I was taken by their tautness and subtlety.

Barbara Astman is probably the most widely known artist of the four. Her background in the fine arts could (for some) eliminate her from this exhibition, but the design and craft elements are such an important and integral part of her constructions that I feel the inclusion of her *Places* series in this exhibition to be right.

My selection, centring as it does on the fine-art end of the crafts, leaves out many popular disciplines, including Canadian folk art and North American Indian art. The sad fact is that this exhibition could not cope with such diversity. (Also, the other disciplines are covered by other exhibitions organised by Canada House.)

I do not find the traditional crafts inferior. Indeed, the contrary would be true, because again there is a similarity with the situation in the UK, where in recent years there has been a return to, and a renewal of, interest in the traditional crafts. ♦

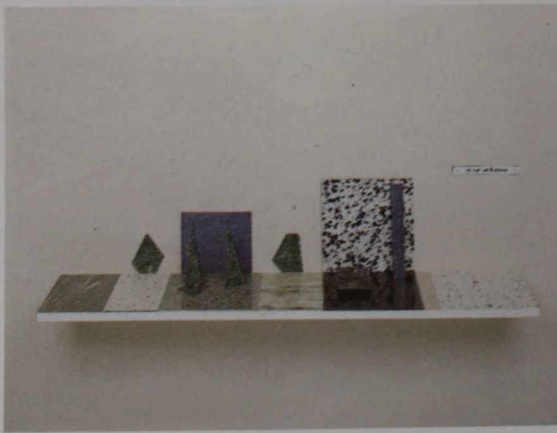


Photo: T E Moore