



Bulletin

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PROBLEMS OF SUPERSONIC FLIGHT

The aim of the National Facilitation Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission, which was reactivated two years ago to study all aspects of international air travel and air-cargo movement, is to speed-up, streamline and refine all procedures and formalities before the expansion of airline operations brought about by the introduction of supersonic and super-sized aircraft make the task impossible. The volume of air traffic during the next eight years is expected to be ten times what it is today.

Last May, the Facilitation Division of the International Civil Aviation Organization held a three-week meeting in Montreal with some 300 delegates from 63 countries and 11 international organizations to study problems of air-traffic control, inspection and facilitation with a view to simplifying methods of expediting passenger and cargo services without sacrificing the controls essential for the protection of member countries.

METHODS IN OPERATION

Several Canadian federal departments and agencies are now testing, or have already implemented, new methods to handle the congestion expected at air terminals when the "jumbo" jets and supersonic aircraft begin operating. For example, a co-ordinated system of customs and immigration examination of passengers, which began at Montreal International Airport during 1967 and spread to Halifax, Ottawa and Toronto, is now being instituted in Vancouver. The system permits faster movement of passengers who do not need more than a cursory examination by customs or immigration and enables officers

of both services to examine more carefully those passengers in whom they have a greater interest.

Because of a "selective" system of baggage checks introduced by customs, many air travellers entering Canada through such centres as Montreal, Halifax and Toronto are not even required to present their baggage for physical examination.

Since January 1968, inspecting officers have accompanied passengers on some flights to Canada and actually conducted complete *en route* clearance formalities. This meant that a sizable number of passengers could step off the plane, pick up their baggage with not much more than a nod to waiting officials.

IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE

Canadian officials have also been studying the feasibility of a new method of passport control which would shorten document inspection, speed-up passenger examinations and record full particulars of the visitor's passport data for control and statistical purposes.

The passport would be in the form of an embossed card, from which pertinent data could be extracted by mechanized means, much as in the manner of a credit card.

An added feature of the passport card would be the elimination of the time-consuming task of recording the data by hand, as is done at present.

Another experiment being undertaken in Canada could result in one of the biggest boons a foreign

businessman could hope for. This is a "facilitation card" that would permit the holder to bypass normal inspection points and go directly to the baggage-claim area. Applications for the card would be accepted from reputable businessmen with the necessary references, and the card would be issued following interview by Canadian Government officials abroad.

During the "life" of his card, a foreign businessman could make an unlimited number of "routine inspection-free" entries into Canada and the privilege would be timed to expire on the expiry date of his smallpox vaccination certificate.

CANADIAN STAMPS IN NEW YORK

Canada will take part in the International Philatelic Exhibition (Interpex) in New York from March 14 to 16. The Canada Post Office, which will display recent Canadian stamps, will also operate a sales booth where current issues including plate-blocks and sheets at face value will be available.

The display will constitute a series of photographs showing how the 1967 centennial stamp was produced, and a large number of development panels. Each panel is a record of the development of one stamp showing the original artwork, colour "pulls", and colour separations. The panels are from the heritage collection of the Canada Post Office, which is maintained as part of a Canadian history.

A special service will be accorded visitors to the Canadian display. Cards and letters bearing Canadian postage will be marked with a *cachet* indicating their origin at Interpex and then flown to Montreal, where they will be postmarked and entered into the mail-stream for Post Office handling.

HEALTH SERVICES COSTS STUDY

The Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. John Munro, has announced the formation of a secretariat to co-ordinate activities of a national study of costs of health services in Canada.

The establishment of a federal-provincial committee to study the rising costs of health services in Canada is the result of a resolution approved at the federal-provincial conference of health ministers held in Ottawa last November. The three basic areas to be examined are costs of hospital services, medical care and public health practices.

SERIES OF TASK FORCES

A report of the federal-provincial steering committee, which has been distributed to provincial health authorities, recommends that the study be carried out by a series of task forces. These task forces, which will probably be small groups, including both government and non-governmental experts in

all areas of health, will use existing information to develop recommendations, guides and standards for action. Progress reports of the task forces will be presented to the secretariat.

In the three major areas of study, the task forces will examine such matters as wages and salaries, the utilization of hospital personnel, the use of beds and facilities and the operational efficiency of health facilities, as well as patterns of medical practice and public health services.

MODISH MUKLUKS

The smartest thing on two feet today is a mukluk designed and manufactured by Greb Shoes Limited of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Pre-season orders from retailers in Canada, and from a wholesale outlet in the United States have already passed 10,000 pairs.

Overseas interest in the new footwear, generated with the help of the Winnipeg Regional Office of the federal Department of Trade and Commerce, has been shown by Norway, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and the U.S.S.R., and at the recent Canadian shoe fair in Montreal, a French buyer indicated interest.

Samples shipped overseas brought a "very positive" reaction from the Scandinavian countries, which have a winter like Canada's. Greb Shoes was surprised when an inquiry on supply and distribution came from the Soviet Union through the Moscow office of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Canadians abroad have equal enthusiasm for the furry overshoes. When samples were sent to the Canadian trade office in Moscow, the entire staff of the Canadian Embassy there decided to buy them for their own wear.

Heavy, water-repellant leathers are used in the manufacturing and hand-sewing is required to give the mukluk the comfort of the genuine mocassin construction. The new line is higher on the leg - from 12 to 18 inches - in both men's and women's styles.

"It's obvious that people living in snow climates aren't going to hide from the cold any more," says a spokesman for Greb Shoes. "The boom in skiing and snowmobiles shows they are eager for winter sports and recreation."

One of the best markets for the new mukluk will be the U.S.

Dr. C.R. Harris, head of the pesticide section at the Canada Department of Agriculture's London, Ontario, research station, has won the Bussart Memorial Award for his contribution to pesticide research. He was presented with a plaque and a \$1,000 cheque during the recent annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America at Dallas, Texas.

ARTS CENTRE FESTIVAL OPENING

Canada's National Arts Centre in Ottawa will open on June 2 with a two-week festival that will be essentially Canadian.

The 2,300-seat opera house, which has the largest stage in Canada, will open with a performance by the National Ballet of Canada of a new work entitled *Kraanerg*, which was commissioned from the French choreographer Roland Petit, with music by the Romanian-born composer Iannis Xenakis. Other ballets that will be performed by the National Ballet during the festival include *Romeo and Juliet* and *Swan Lake*.

On June 3, Le Theatre du Nouveau Monde of Montreal will present a new adaptation of Aristophane's *Lysistrata* on the "thrust" stage of the 900-seat theatre in the Centre. This musical drama, subtitled *Make Love, Not War*, with music provided by electronic effects recorded on tape, will include film and slide projections.

The following night a new play, *Party Day*, by Jack Winter of Toronto, will be presented in the 300-seat experimental studio, to be followed from

June 10 to 14 by *Orphee*, an experimental opera by Montreal composer Gabriel Charpentier, which will be dedicated to the architect of the National Arts Centre, Fred Lebensold.

Other items in the opening festival will include concerts by the Toronto and Montreal Symphony Orchestras, each presenting works by a Canadian composer; two performances by Gordon Lightfoot; a production by the Playhouse Theatre Company of Vancouver and chamber music by the Manitoba University Consort, the Oxford Quartet, the Duo Pach and the Cassenti Players of Vancouver.

On May 31, a few days before its official inauguration, the National Arts Centre will be opened to members of the public who may wish to tour its three theatres.

G. Hamilton Southam, director of the Centre, says that the national capital will never be the same again after the opening. "It will make the city an even more fascinating place to live in than it is now," he declared. (See also *Canadian Weekly Bulletin*, Vol. 23, No. 16, dated April 17, 1968, P. 3.)

SKIERS TRIUMPH IN SWEDEN

A team of young Canadian skiers has cracked the Scandinavian cross-country monopoly by taking top honours in the Swedish National Nordic Championships at Hassala, Sweden.

Paced by twin sisters, Sharen and Shirley Firth, the nine-member band of Yukon and Northwest Territories Metis, Indians and Eskimo youngsters established Canada as a growing power in Nordic ski competition and as a potential competitor for a gold medal in the 1972 Winter Olympic Games.

The 15-year-old Firth sisters placed first and second as they won the five-kilometre junior girls' title by a minute and a half over their nearest rivals. Team-mate Roseanne Allan ranked fifth.

The Canadian youngsters are representing Canada in a series of Nordic events throughout Europe. They are products of Territorial Experimental Ski Training (TEST), a cross-country ski-training programme financed through grants from the Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

While the spotlight centred on the twin sisters, the TEST boys weren't far behind. Fred "Express" Kelly, a 17-year-old Indian from Fort Good Hope, NWT, who startled the Canadian ski world last spring by winning the national junior cross-country title, figured prominently in two Swedish competitions. He won the seven-and-a-half-kilometre international Brgsjo race with a minute and a half to spare, and then placed fourth behind team-mate Roger Allen in the seven-kilometre Swedish national

junior title event, a mere six seconds behind the winner. John Truro, 19, also of Fort Good Hope, was third in the Brgsjo event.

TEST, an idea of Father John Mouchet, Oblates of Mary Immaculate, of Old Crow in the Yukon, has been sanctioned by the Canadian Amateur Ski Association, is backed by Fitness and Amateur Sports grants of \$50,000 over the past two years and is rapidly proving its worth.

Classified as an action research by the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport, to evaluate the effectiveness of competitive sports in motivating Indian, Metis and Eskimo students to higher achievement, TEST has nine teams and 170 participants operating from Inuvik and three teams and 25 participants at Old Crow.

The team will compete in Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Sweden, Lillehammer and Trondheim, Norway; Vaggeryd and Falun, Sweden; and Helsinki, Finland, before returning to Prince George, British Columbia, for the Canadian Junior Championships from February 10 to 16.

RECORD YEAR FOR EXPORTS

Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry and Trade and Commerce, stated recently that the growth of Canadian exports in 1968 was, in absolute terms, by far the largest ever achieved, and in percentage terms the largest of the past 17 years. He was commenting on preliminary statistics issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which indicated

that Canadian exports had reached \$13,576 million in 1968, an increase of \$2,165 million, or 19 percent above the level of the preceding year.

Mr. Pepin congratulated the business community on achieving an increase in foreign sales more than double the 1968 growth target of \$1 billion set by the former Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Robert Winters. He observed that this unprecedented increase in exports was achieved despite the continuation of intensely competitive conditions in international markets, and reflects the progressive broadening of Canada's internationally-competitive industrial base.

A strongly-expanding economy in the United States was the major external market influence under-pinning the exceptional export performance of the past year. Canadian sales to the U.S. reached \$9,183 million in 1968, an increase of \$1,860 million, or 25 per cent, compared to the 1967 level. Major exports gains were made in automotive products, base metals, lumber and wood-pulp, petroleum and natural gas and aircraft. Exports to the overseas markets as a whole were up by 7½ per cent.

Looking ahead to 1969, the expectation of some easing of demand pressures in the U.S. economy and somewhat less favourable external conditions generally will mean that export gains will be more difficult to achieve. The Minister indicated that a further growth in exports in the range of up to 10 per cent seemed a realistic expectation for the ensuing year.

Mr. Pepin emphasized that, changes in market conditions notwithstanding, sustained export growth was essential to the sound development of the Canadian economy. He called on producers to take all practical steps to maintain and improve their competitiveness with a view to the further penetration of world markets.

ROBERT PILOT EXHIBITION

One hundred paintings by the Newfoundlander Robert Pilot, whose landscapes are much sought after, are hanging in the National Gallery of Canada. The exhibit, which was first shown for a month at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in November, will be displayed in the Hamilton Art Gallery until February 25.

Robert Pilot, who was born in Newfoundland in 1898, was the stepson of Maurice Cullen and a friend of James Wilson Morrice, two Montrealers who

won international repute for their post-impressionist paintings. He studied under William Brymner at Royal Canadian Academy classes in Montreal, and in Paris with Pierre Laurens. Pilot, a veteran of both world wars, was an expert in camouflage during the Second World War and was awarded the MBE in 1944.

Robert Pilot has been popular for many years as a painter, and is particularly well-known for his winter scenes of Baie St Paul and Charlevoix County. Murals painted by Pilot are in the Chalet at the top of Mount Royal and in Montreal High School. His paintings are in many public and private collections, including those of Queen Elizabeth and Winston Churchill. He was president of the Royal Canadian Academy from 1953 to 1954, a member of the National Academy of Design, New York City, and an honorary associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Robert Pilot died in 1967 in Montreal.

FISH DON'T GO TO WAIST

Among the most enthusiastic supporters of Canada's annual "Fish 'n' Seafood" month is an organization known as the Weight Watchers, to whom fish is a "magic food".

In a recent letter to federal Fisheries Minister Jack Davis, Sheldon Reich, director of Weight Watchers of Montreal, points out the importance that the Weight Watchers have placed on the consumption of fish in their programme.

"Our members are compelled to eat at least five fresh fish meals a week, for we have found fish to be a 'magic' food for a slim, healthy life," Mr. Reich says.

Weight Watchers is an international organization with a membership of about 2 million throughout the world and about 40,000 in Canada. Weight Watchers' activities consist of a carefully-planned eating programme and regular attendance at weekly classes, designed to enable a person who is overweight to reach a realistic weight goal and maintain it.

The Department of Fisheries has, for some years, promoted fish as a low-calorie diet food through the booklet *Let's Serve Fish for the Weight Watcher*. This booklet, lists the species of fish low in fat content, together with more than 50 appetizing kitchen-tested recipes.

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