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Canada-Mexico discussions centre on trade and agriculture

A Canadian delegation, led by Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan attended the fourth meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee in Mexico City from January 7-9.

Excerpts from a joint communiqué, arising from the meeting, follow:

...The Canadian delegation reiterated its offer to participate in the development of Mexico's nuclear program offering their experience and pointing out the advantages offered by the CANDU system. The Mexican delegation noted this proposal with interest and indicated that international tenders would soon be called.

The Canadian delegation announced that Atomic Energy of Canada Limited intends to open an office in Mexico City to co-operate with Mexican authorities.

Both delegations agreed that there was the possibility of co-operation in this sector which will take into account the basic objectives of Mexico in the form of technological transfers, creation of joint ventures, Mexicanization and financing.

In this sector, the ministers attached importance to the symposium on nuclear energy sponsored by the Mexican Academy of Engineers which will be opened by Ministers Oteyza and Lumley on February 2 in Mexico City.

The ministers welcomed the Mexican and Canadian governments' announcement of an early signing of a technical agreement between Hydro Quebec and the Federal Electrical Commission (CFE) with regard to electric power generation and the long-distance transmission of electric power. Further, they noted with satisfaction the fact that CFE and Ontario Hydro expect to sign a similar agreement soon.

The subject of metallurgical coal was accorded considerable importance in light of the significant expansion of the Mexican steel industry in the near future. Presently known Mexican reserves are insufficient to meet current needs and thus Canadian co-operation is required in two main areas:

— joint co-operation in exploration in order to increase national production of

coking coal; and

— a secure supply of Canadian coal by means of a medium term supply contract.

The Canadian delegation expressed its interest in this proposal, and noted its international expertise in this sector and indicated that, as soon as possible, it will determine the possibility of signing contracts in this regard.

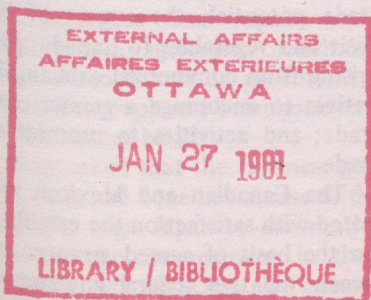
Further, both delegations confirmed that a joint seminar on thermal and coking coal will take place next February.

The Mexican delegation considered that good long-term possibilities exist for joint co-operation in mass urban transport and the rationalization of the transportation system in Mexico City and in other cities. In this regard, a joint committee exists which is working in this sector.

Crude oil trade

The ministers discussed the trade of crude oil between Mexico and Canada. Both delegations were pleased with the progress in the discussions between Naviera

The Canadian delegation included Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan, Energy Minister Marc Lalonde, Minister of State for Trade Edward Lumley and Canadian Ambassador to Mexico Claude Charland. The Mexican delegation, led by Secretary of External Relations Jorge Castañeda, included Secretary of Patrimony (Natural Resources) José Andrés de Oteyza, Secretary of Commerce Jorge de la Vega Dominguez, Secretary of Agriculture Francisco Merino Rábago and Mexican Ambassador to Canada Augustín Barrios Gómez. During their visit the Canadian ministers also met with Mexican President José Lopez Portillo.



Twenty-nine years ago today...
Viscount Alexander ended his term as Governor General of Canada and returned to Britain; Canadian Vincent Massey succeeded him.

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Minera del Golfo and Petro-Canada on the movement of Mexican oil to Canada.

The ministers also reported on joint efforts which are being carried out between NAVIMIM and Saguenay Shipping for the establishment of a regular transport line between both countries. The importance of this arrangement was underlined, because among other things, it would relieve the pressure on the railway system for transportation of commodities between both countries.

The ministers were pleased to note Canadian plans to have approximately 100 Canadian companies participate in the "Technology for the People" fair which will take place in November 1981 in Mexico City.

The ministers examined projects for joint co-operation in the fields of telecommunications and satellite transmissions. The Canadian side proposed the establishment of a joint committee for co-operation in satellite communications. The Mexican delegation reported on the situation with respect to international tenders for these projects.

Both delegations acknowledged the importance of the markets in the two countries for capital equipment for the construction, mining, forestry and paper industries, as well as sectors of major importance which are at a similar stage of development in Canada and Mexico. Both sides are working on the formation of joint ventures which will produce this type of equipment....

The identification of specific projects for joint investments in the following areas was advanced:

- livestock feed from cellulose waste;
- design of slaughterhouses and meat processing installations;
- mining equipment (winches);
- high pressure cleaning systems for industrial furnaces;
- design and installation of food refrigeration plants;
- auto parts; and
- design of systems for the storage, handling and distribution of grains.

In addition, the Canadian delegation noted that following previous discussions, technical studies designed to identify potential areas for industrial co-operation had been undertaken and would be available in early February....

The two delegations noted the need to increase the use of renewable energy resources. The Canadian delegation informed the Mexican delegation of the forma-

tion of Petro-Canada International, whose function is to support developing countries in petroleum exploration. In addition, within the ambit of the Mexican-Venezuelan agreement on the supply of petroleum to Central America and the Caribbean, the Canadian delegation offered the participation of Petro-Canada International and other agencies in energy co-operation in that region. The Mexican delegation expressed interest in the possibilities of this co-operation, in view of the forthcoming extraordinary meeting of Ministers of OLADE, which will draft a Latin American Energy Plan.

Agricultural program

In conformity with the third item of the memorandum of understanding on agricultural co-operation between the Department of Agriculture of Canada and the Ministry of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources of Mexico during the fourth meeting of the Ministerial Committee, there was established the Canada-Mexico Joint Committee on Agriculture....

Both sides presented an overview of the present state of the interchange in the area of agriculture that had been taking place in each country and, on the basis of the first item of the memorandum of understanding already mentioned. They then proceeded to determine the actions that would be included in the corresponding program of co-operation pointing out the advantage of establishing priorities for the order in which they will be developed.

With respect to the crop subsector, a mechanism of co-operation was established through the twinning of experimental stations in both countries, to study the problems of rain-fed agriculture and to undertake work in the fixation of nitrogen. Among other items, it was also agreed to reinforce the interchange of genetic material and of scientists.

Both ministers agreed that they would participate in the near future in an agreement on animal health for the importation and exportation of livestock and livestock products, establish co-operative research projects in animal production and veterinary medicine and also in the technical and scientific interchange in matters relating to bilateral trade.

The Mexican side pointed out its interest in reinforcing the activities of co-operation in areas specifically related to forestry. The Canadian delegation offered to bring this matter to the attention of the appropriate Canadian authorities....

The ministers reviewed the trade relations between Mexico and Canada and agreed that, while trade grew substantially during the last year, it still does not correspond to the true potential of their respective markets.

Trade relations

Taking this situation into account, the Mexican and Canadian delegations agreed to enhance their joint efforts in order to increase and widen bilateral trade relations in an equitable way.

Recognizing that trade in agricultural products is an important component of this exchange, the ministers discussed the conclusion, during the current year, of an agricultural commodities supply agreement, referring principally to powdered and industrialized milk, wheat, black beans, canola and corn for which the two sides specified, in some cases, the quantities Mexico requires and Canada is able to supply, leaving pending certain details with regard to price and contract arrangements. In response to the Mexican request, Canadian ministers agreed to locate Canadian resources to co-operate in the establishment of an evaporated milk plant in Mexico....

The ministers agreed to create a trade working group under the aegis of the Canada-Mexico Ministerial Committee... with the intention that it would examine all matters relating to mutual trade and proposed policy and promotional measures to increase bilateral trade.

The two sides agreed that the first meeting of the trade working group would be held in Canada during the first half of this year at which time the following topics, among others, would be examined: Canadian supply of food products to Mexico; products which have trade potential; the export of Mexican fruit and vegetables to Canada; problems arising from commercial exchanges; alternatives to encourage a greater reciprocal trade; and activities to promote mutual trade....

The Canadian and Mexican ministers noted with satisfaction the establishment on the basis of agreed arrangements between the two federal governments, of Canadian provincial offices in Mexico and considered that these play a useful role in the development of bilateral relations in the areas of trade promotion, culture and tourism....

The two foreign ministers had a wide

(Continued on P. 8)

Japanese industry minister visits

Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry Rokusuke Tanaka paid a visit to Canada, January 12 and 13, at the invitation of Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce Herb Gray.

During a meeting in Ottawa, the two ministers noted the strong and steady expansion of trade and the closer economic ties which have developed between Canada and Japan in recent years. They agreed that these trends were likely to persist in the 1980s.

Mr. Gray said that some progress had been made recently in sales of Canadian manufactured goods to Japan as a result of the efforts of a number of Canadian companies, and recent co-operation between Canadian and Japanese companies in winning projects in third countries. However, concerns persisted over the composition of Canada's trade with Japan.

"Japan sells us manufactured goods but Canadian exports to Japan are almost entirely natural resources. Less than 3 per cent of Canadian exports to Japan are end products", the minister explained.

Increased manufactured exports

Mr. Gray said that Canada attached importance to increased exports to Japan being composed of manufactured goods and resources in a more fully processed form. "Canada has a number of unique technologies such as the CANDU reactor which should find a ready market in Japan," Mr. Gray added.

Mr. Tanaka advised Mr. Gray that his government had instituted studies on technical aspects of the CANDU nuclear reactor system. Mr. Gray welcomed Mr. Tanaka's assurance that Japan would apply the recent agreement concluded with the United States on procurement by Nippon Telegraph and Telephone on a non-discriminatory basis.

Mr. Gray asked that the Japanese government, as it had done in the case of the U.S. market, urge Japanese automotive exporters to exercise restraint in their exports to Canada. Mr. Gray also stressed the importance of having more Canadian content in Japanese cars sold both in North America and world markets in light of the very strong position of Japanese cars in the Canadian market. The minister referred to the Canadian government's goals of achieving more Canadian auto



Industry Minister Herb Gray (left) meets Japanese Trade Minister Rokusuke Tanaka (right) in Ottawa. Mr. Tanaka met with Ontario officials in Toronto.

part sales to Japanese companies and of encouraging Japanese companies to consider Canada as a location for production facilities in North America.

Mr. Tanaka said his government was sympathetic to these Canadian objectives and would encourage Japanese automotive manufacturers to respond positively.

Bilateral trade

Japan is Canada's second most important customer after the United States. Bilateral trade between the two countries reached \$4.3 billion in 1977, \$5.3 billion in 1978 and \$6.2 billion in 1979, and it is estimated to exceed \$7 billion in 1980.

Canadian exports to Japan were worth \$2.7 billion in 1976 and \$4.11 billion in 1979. The latest figures indicate a steady increase during the first 11 months of last year. Exports to Japan increased by 9.3 per cent and imports by 24.5 per cent.

The two ministers confirmed the establishment of the Canada/Japan Working Group on Resource Processing and agreed that the first meeting between officials should take place in Tokyo in February.

During his visit to Ottawa, Mr. Tanaka also met with Minister of Finance Allan MacEachen, Minister of State for Economic Development Bud Olson and Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Marc Lalonde. Mr. Tanaka also visited Toronto where he met with Ontario government officials.

Incentives for manufacturers

The Canadian government has an incentive program in place that allows Canadian manufacturers to test and adapt their technology in developing countries.

The program, which offers manufacturers up to \$250,000 a project, is designed to lead to long-term co-operation between Canadian firms and their developing country counterparts.

Dr. MacGuigan, in announcing the program last October, said that he hoped the program would encourage firms to examine their product lines with a view to new applications in the Third World.

For example, Canada is a world leader in the most up-to-date forms of power generation, ranging from the production of gasohol through processes both simple and ultra-sophisticated, to low-head turbines for mini-hydro, solar power and wind generation.

"This new facility will enable the Canadian firms involved, many of whom are small- and medium-enterprises, to prove their technology on site through demonstration projects," said Dr. MacGuigan.

In more traditional sectors such as agricultural implements and production machinery, the Canadian Technology Transfer Facility enables companies to test and adapt their equipment to make it appropriate to the developing country environment, a better product for the recipient and a more marketable one for the producer. The minister said that he hoped the program would make a contribution to the industrialization of developing countries.

CRTC reviews radio programming

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) is planning its first general review of radio and its first on FM programming since the commission published its FM policy in 1975.

The commission wants to determine the extent to which standards are reduced if cable radio brings in a variety of distant signals.

And satellite radio opens the way to so-called super-stations which can broadcast throughout the country at the expense of competition and regional interests.

Canada/Ivory Coast program

Canada and the Ivory Coast have signed a memorandum of understanding providing a \$6.6-million grant to the African country for a \$41-million rural electrification program.

The memorandum was signed in Ottawa by Marcel Massé, president of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Ivory Coast Ambassador Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye.

The purpose of the fourth Ivory Coast-Canada rural electrification program is to link the towns of Odienné and Séguéla with the Ivory Coast electric energy network and supply electricity to the surrounding towns and villages, benefitting an estimated 90,000 people.

Through the program, Canada and the Ivory Coast have sought to reduce regional disparities and promote economic, social and cultural development in these rural areas in order to integrate them into the national economy.

This grant, which will ultimately be complemented by a \$34.4-million loan, will pay for engineering services, the equipment and fittings needed to install power lines in the two areas, the development of senior managerial staff, the training of transportation and distribution technicians and the sending of line installation and maintenance instructors to Ivory Coast.

Energy legislation introduced

Legislation to implement a new legal framework to govern oil and gas resource-development activity in Canada's frontier regions was tabled recently in the House of Commons for first reading. The principal elements of the bill, the Canada Oil and Gas Act, were set out in the National Energy Program.

The new legislation will apply to all Canada lands, that is all lands in the territories and offshore. Together these comprise a total area almost twice as large as that of the ten provinces combined, some 2.5 million square miles of land offshore and about 1.5 million square miles in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. This vast area presents Canada's best prospects for large new reserves of conventional petroleum.

The regulatory regime currently governing oil and gas resources in Canada

lands is no longer appropriate to resource-development needs. The proposed act constitutes a major restructuring that results in a thoroughly modern land-management regime. When enacted, the new legislation will replace the Territorial Lands Act and the Public Lands Grants Act as concerns the disposition and management of oil and gas rights in Canada lands. It will also include amendments to the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act that will strengthen existing provisions for the supervision and control of frontier oil and gas activities in the interests of safety and pollution prevention.

The proposed new Act will play a very important part in the achievement of the National Energy Program objectives of security of energy supply, opportunity for Canadians to participate in energy development, and fairness in revenue sharing. Principal objectives of the proposed Act include ensuring active exploration and development of frontier oil and gas rights, increasing Canadian ownership of frontier oil and gas reserves, ensuring that Canadians receive a fair return for these oil and gas resources, and optimizing the employment of Canadians and the use of Canadian goods and services in frontier oil and gas activities.

Federal oil and gas rights already issued cover some 300 million acres in the frontier regions, including the bulk of those areas considered prospective for oil and gas from the standpoint of current technology. The basic terms of these outstanding oil and gas rights were established under regulations originally promulgated two decades ago and they are not appropriate to the current energy situation.

Oil and gas rights

Under the proposed Act, all non-producing federal oil and gas rights will be converted to the new modernized regime within one year of passage of the Act. The terms and conditions of rights issued under the new regime will be designed and negotiated with prospective operators in accordance with perceived geologic promise, operating conditions and desired activity level. They will involve stiffer work obligations and will in all cases require the drilling of wells, the only means of definitely ascertaining the presence of petroleum.

The proposed Act also constitutes a major component in the achievement of the government's goal of ensuring that by

1990 at least 50 per cent of Canada's oil and gas production is owned by Canadians. An important provision in the proposed Act is designed to vest in the federal Crown a 25 per cent share in oil and gas rights in Canada lands. Another requires a minimum of 50 per cent Canadian ownership in respect of any oil or gas produced from Canada lands.

Although the emphasis is on the early assessment of the oil and gas potential of Canada's frontier regions, this "need-to-know" requirement will not be fulfilled at the expense of the fisheries or the environment. The new Act will provide for levying assessments on operators to cover the costs of biological and physical research designed to ensure safety and pollution prevention. Moreover, there will be provisions in the form of amendments to the existing Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act to make the existing system for control of frontier oil and gas activities even more stringent, including provisions for absolute liability on the part of operators for any possible pollution damage.

System keeps embassies in touch

Ambassadors representing Canada in more than 100 countries need to be able to communicate quickly and easily with headquarters in Ottawa in order to make timely decisions.

To do this Canada's Department of External Affairs developed what is considered to be a unique switching system to control the flow and distribution of messages among 120 embassies, other Canadian government agencies and departments, the world-wide telecommunications network and the department itself.

Canadian National/Canadian Pacific (CNCP) Telecommunications put together the New Ottawa Communications Switching System (NOCAMS, as the system is called). Faced with developing a software program more complex than routine message switching, CNCP incorporated provisions for handling classified as well as unclassified messages. The program queues messages for transmission according to established priorities and switches them over a world-wide network.

The Department of External Affairs system currently averages 25,000 messages daily from 24 time zones. The system operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Virus bank aids research

Agriculture Canada has 45 research stations across Canada but only one, located in Vancouver, specializes in virus research.

The bank of plant viruses maintained at the station contains about 50 types of disease. Specimens are provided on request to university and government scientists.

Freeze dried

Viruses are kept in bottled solutions or as freeze-dried powders. The freeze-drying method is one of several breakthroughs made at the Vancouver station.

Other discoveries that have paralleled studies in human virus research include:

- a chemical, extracted from carnations, that has proven to be a potent anti-virus agent. It appears to be similar to interferon, a substance that is seen as a weapon against human virus infections and possibly against cancer;
- a sensitive virus-identification technique perfected at the lab and adopted by scientists around the world; and
- an apparently ordinary virus disease common to cherry trees, that has been found to be unlike any known infection of plants or people.

Station manager Marvin Weintraub considers the pure research done at the centre to be an investment.

"There is invariably a 25-year period from the first bench experiments to the final practical use," he says.

Cherry disease

A virus infection called little cherry disease wiped out the sweet cherry industry in the Kootenays, British Columbia, during the 1920s and 1930s. It now is making its way towards orchards in the Okanagan and the Lower Mainland of B.C.

The infection cannot be stopped easily because it takes hold before the symptoms — small cherries — are visible. Research is being directed towards early detection. Biologist Harry Ragetli is working to isolate microscopic rod-shaped objects that may be the actual virus.

Weintraub indicated the difficulty of the needle-in-a-haystack operation. He held up a cigarette lighter.

"If you put all the virus particles in a cell together and the cell was the size of this room, then the viruses would be about that much."

Last Mackenzie papers released

The last of former Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King's papers were recently made available for research by the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

The documents for the year 1950 include Mackenzie King's diary, his political correspondence, the Prime Ministerial Notes and Memoranda, as well as his personal correspondence.



William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canada's Prime Minister for 21 years.

The diaries for 1950, contained in 325 pages, describe Mackenzie King's life until his death on July 22. Though King was not actively involved in politics in 1950, he did receive a number of awards for services he rendered during the Second World War. From Holland he received the Order of the Grand Cross of the Netherland's Lion (March 11), from Belgium the Order of Leopold (March 29) and from Luxembourg the Grand Cross of the Order of the Oak (May 4). Other highlights for Mackenzie King were the visits of the Duke of Windsor on April 17, 1950 and the Prime Minister of Pakistan Liaquat Ali Khan on June 1, 1950. King watched international events with interest throughout 1950 and was particularly worried about the outbreak of hostilities in Korea.

Declining health

Mackenzie King was primarily concerned with his declining health during the year. He never completely recovered from the heart attack he suffered at Christmas

1949 and subsequently he was under constant medical supervision.

King continued his friendship with Joan and Godfrey Patteson, spoke constantly to John D. Rockefeller Jr. on the phone, and continued his correspondence with such close friends as the Salisburys, Violet Markham and Julia Grant. His main wish throughout the winter and spring of that year was to move to Kingsmere, his estate near Ottawa, which he did on June 26, 1950.

King was also preoccupied with his will and the state of his personal papers. The fact that he was never able to begin his memoirs was a major disappointment for him.

In addition to the textual documents, photographs and sound and video recordings related to Mackenzie King's activities in 1950 were also made available by the Archives. The photographs, which were originally with the Mackenzie King Papers, are now in the custody of the National Photography Collection. In the course of their work, the National Film, Television and Sound Archives has acquired both sound and video recordings which relate to Mackenzie King and his political era.

Athletes in world rankings

Canadian athletes have made their mark recently on the world scene.

Steve Podborski of Toronto won two consecutive World Cup downhill skiing races in St. Moritz, Switzerland and Garmish-Partenkirchen, West Germany.

Podborski completed the 3,110-metre St. Moritz course in a record time of one minute 54.31 seconds. He won his second race January 10 on the 3,320-metre Kahdahar course in a record one minute 55.48 seconds. On the same course Ken Read of the Canadian team fell and suffered injuries which have put him out of World Cup competition for the rest of the season.

Also in Garmish-Partenkirchen, Horst Bulau of Ottawa won his first World Cup ski-jumping event. He collected 226.4 points with jumps of 95 and 100 metres. The victory gave Bulau 25 points for the season and fifth place in the World Cup standing after two events.

In indoor track and field competition at the Saskatoon Indoor Games, Angella Taylor of Toronto set a world indoor record of 0:36.71 in the women's 300 metres. The old mark was 0:37.13.

Two pedal from tundra to Horn

Two Canadians have returned from a 17-month bicycling trip that took them from northern North America to the south end of South America, reports the *Canadian Press*.

Richard Nash, 26, and Carmine Militano, 27, of Winnipeg left in July 1979 from Inuvik, Northwest Territories, and travelled an estimated 25,000 kilometres to Ushuaia, Argentina, on Tierra del Fuego.

Mr. Militano, a geophysicist, said he learned that life in other countries is not always the way it seems in travel magazines.

Dr. Nash, a physician, said he learned how to get along with people 24 hours a day. He said the two learned enough Spanish to be able to read newspapers.

Voices for the voiceless

An artificial larynx developed by a Canadian researcher could return the power of speech to the thousands of people who have lost their voice boxes to cancer.

The human larynx consists of two taut tissue bands that expand and contract like naturally fretted guitar strings as air is pumped up through them from the lungs. The lips, tongue and teeth shape the ascending sounds into words.

The artificial voice box, which medical researcher John Frederickson developed in conjunction with the University of Toronto Biomedical Instrumentation Development Unit, is a stainless steel disc that, implanted at the back of the throat, compensates for the missing larynx by making its own sound.

One of the faces of the disc, which is 3.5 centimetres in diameter, is as taut as a drumhead and vibrates in response to an externally generated electrical signal from a battery pack carried in the user's pocket. The vibrating disc sends a tone up the user's throat, where his mouth shapes the sound in the usual way. The artificial voice sounds flat and metallic compared to a normal human voice and the device can provide only one tone in contrast to the many tones of the natural larynx, however, it does provide comprehensible speech.

A prototype of Frederickson's device, used for a year by two volunteers in

1978, was considered a success, the main drawback being that it was rather large and weighed 65 grams (2.29 ounces).

His new device, less than half the weight of its predecessor and only five millimetres thick, will be ready for a year's testing by six volunteers at the end of the year.

Captioned TV planned

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) have taken steps to open the world of television to deaf Canadians.

The CRTC gave the broadcasting network permission to transmit captioned television programs.

The system, known as closed captioning, allows people who have trouble hearing to follow what is happening on the screen by reading the dialogue at the bottom of the screen.

The CBC is initially making available to deaf people, who have decoders, the popular American series *Barney Miller* in captioned form. This will be followed shortly by two other American shows.

Terry Fox honoured

Terry Fox, whose Marathon of Hope raised millions of dollars for cancer research, was recently recognized by the *Canadian Press* and the *Toronto Star* for his accomplishments in 1980.

The young amputee from Port Coquitlam, British Columbia was selected as the



Terry Fox

top newsmaker of 1980 by editors of Canadian Press member newspapers, and radio and television stations served by CP's associated company Broadcast News Ltd. Fox is the first non-politician to win CP's newsmaker award since 1965.

Fox was also named winner of the Lou Marsh Award, which recognizes the outstanding athletic accomplishment of 1980 in Canada. He was the unanimous choice of a seven-man selection committee. The award, first given in 1936, honours the late sports editor of the *Toronto Star*. For the award *Star* readers nominate athletes and the committee votes on the nominations.

Fox, 22, covered more than 5,000 kilometres of a cross-Canada run, from April 12, when he left St. John's to September 1, when his one-legged cross-Canada run ended near Thunder Bay with the discovery of cancer in his lungs. He set out with the hope of raising \$100,000 for research; more than \$20 million has been pledged so far.

School planned to ease shortages

The Ontario government has announced construction of a school for machinists and tool and die makers in northwest Toronto as part of a counter attack against a growing nationwide shortage of skilled workers.

Called the Centre for Precision Skills Training, the \$1.9-million school is planned as a pilot project and will involve approximately 40 area employers. It is scheduled to open next September.

The project will have places for only 40 students initially. If the project works, however, plans call for rapid expansion of the program.

A major objective is to overcome complaints that traditional apprentice programs saddle employers with workers who are unproductive in the early stages of their training and who must take eight-week-long classroom breaks every year.

Students at the new centre will take all their classroom training before applying for apprenticeships in industry. Moreover, they will be provided with up to 2,000 hours of shop experience in a simulated factory setting.

It is expected that the combination will reduce the total apprenticeship period by as much as a year and provide employers with workers who are productive from the outset.

News of the arts

Contemporary art to tour Ontario

VIEWPOINT: 29 by 9, an exhibition of the works of 29 contemporary Ontario artists, which opened recently at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, will travel throughout the province during the next two years.

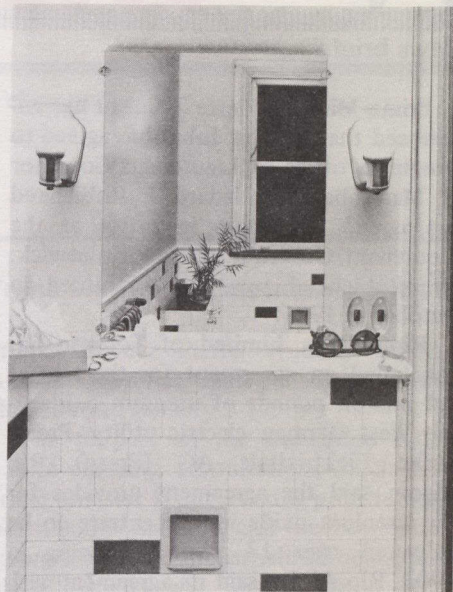
The exhibition, funded partly by the Ontario government, is the first in a series of cultural programs, entitled *Future Traditions*, which is being sponsored by the Allstate Foundation of Canada.

VIEWPOINT: 29 by 9 is intended not only to present the major works of leading Ontario artists but also to offer public galleries an opportunity to acquire the works, to increase attendance at the museums through a wide-ranging education and promotion program and to provide a forum for discussing the direction of the arts during the next decade. Funds totalling \$54,000 have been allocated to an arts-purchase program with each of the nine galleries involved in the project receiving \$6,000 to acquire a work or works from the exhibition.

The exhibition was organized by Glen Cumming, director of the Art Gallery of Hamilton, in co-operation with eight other participating gallery curators.

The criteria for inclusion in the exhibition were that, in the opinion of the nine curators, "works chosen were of museum quality and the artists whose works were selected were significant today and would continue to be significant in the future".

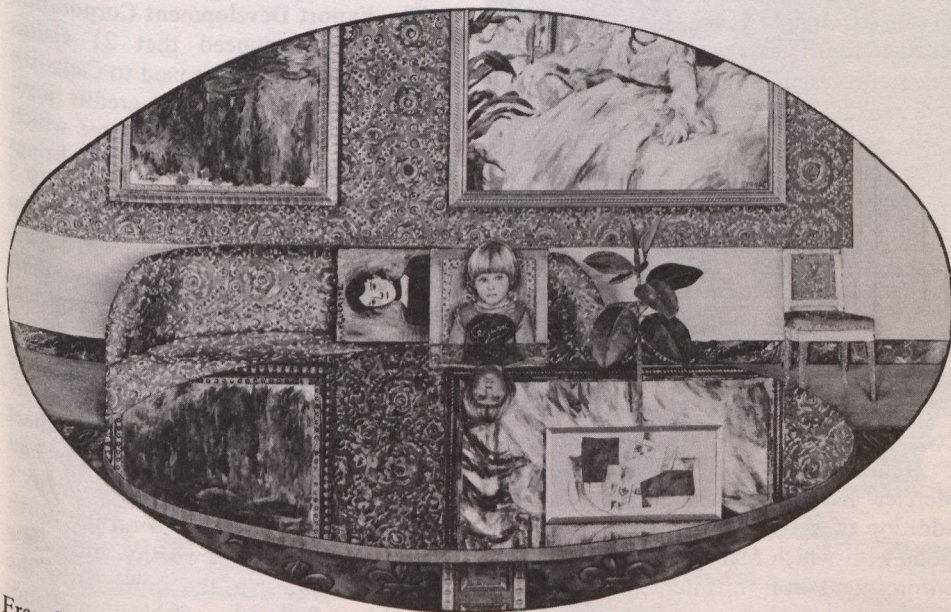
Works chosen range from the colour-field paintings of Joseph Drapell, Carol



Mirror by Jeremy Smith.

Sutton and Milly Ristvedt-Handerek to the photographic art of Barbara Astman and Suzy Lake and the sculptures of Paul Sloggett, Ric Evans and David Craven. Photography has exerted a strong influence on many of the works, whether the medium is used directly or, as in the work of Lynn Donoghue, Phil Richards and Jeremy Smith, where a photographic reference is implied.

A visual arts symposium, entitled *Vistas*, was held in conjunction with the opening of the exhibition. Following its close in Hamilton, February 22, the exhibition will travel to Toronto, Oshawa, London, Windsor, Stratford, Kitchener, Kingston, St. Catharines and Sudbury.



French Revolution by Phil Richards, one of 29 artists whose work is exhibited.

Film rights sold

Reporter John Fraser has sold the rights to his book, *The Chinese: Portrait of a People*, to CBS Theatrical Films in Hollywood. The property has been assigned to a Toronto-based film team for production.

The book by Fraser, former China correspondent for *The Globe and Mail*, has already been named the January main selection for the American and Canadian Book-of-the-Month Club. The book was sold along with a companion book-in-progress by Fraser's wife, CBC producer Elizabeth MacCallum.

Fraser's book was published in Canada by William Collins Sons.

Canada-Belgium literary prize to Quebec writer

Canadian writer Victor-Lévy Beaulieu has been awarded the Canada-Belgium literary prize for 1980.

The annual \$2,500 prize is awarded in alternate years to French language writers in Canada and Belgium. The jury's decision is based on an author's over-all contribution to literature rather than for an individual work. The prize is financed, on the Canadian side by the Department of External Affairs and administered by the Canada Council.

Laureates are selected by a jury appointed by the Belgian Ministry of French Culture and by the Canada Council. The Belgian jury this year was composed of Charles Bertin, Pierre Mertens and Claire Lejeune of the National Council for the Dramatic Arts and Marc Quaghebeur of the Ministry of National Education and French Culture.

Victor-Lévy Beaulieu was born in Saint-Paul-de-la-Croix, Quebec in 1945. In addition to his literary production, he is active as a publisher, journalist, teacher and critic and founded VLB Editeurs et Editions de l'Aurore. His works include *Mémoires d'outre-tonneau* (1968), *Race de monde* (1968), *La nuitte de Malcomm Hudd* (1969), *Pour saluer Victor Hugo* (1971), *Jack Kérouac* (1972), *Monsieur Melville* (1979) and *Una* (1980). He was awarded the Grand Prix littéraire de Montréal in 1972 for *Les grands-pères* and received the Governor General's Award in 1975 for *Don Quichotte de la démanche*.

Canada-Mexico (Continued from P. 2)

ranging and frank exchange on the current situation in Latin America, with special reference to Central America and the Caribbean....

The Canadian foreign minister explained the importance which Canada attaches to its relations with the Commonwealth Caribbean and welcomed Mexico's increased interest in that area by the energy co-operation program established by Mexico and Venezuela for the countries of Central America and the Caribbean within the spirit of the global energy plan proposed by Mexico to the United Nations.

International co-operation

The ministers recognized the increasing urgency and importance of achieving effective advances in international economic co-operation for development. The fact that, in spite of repeated attempts, it has not yet been possible to achieve the understandings which will permit the initiation of global negotiations with regard to raw materials, energy, trade development and money finance constitutes a clear indication that it is necessary to find, and put in practice, formulae which permit the effective mobilization of the political will that is needed to resolve the principal problems of international economic relations.

Both countries have committed their efforts to the exploration of one of these formulae: the convening in Mexico in June 1981 of an international meeting regarding co-operation and development at the level of Heads of State and/or of government. The ministers agreed to continue participating actively in the preparations for this meeting and confirmed their intention to attend the March preparatory meeting of foreign ministers in Vienna....

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News briefs

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has announced that Francis Jobin has agreed to remain in office as Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Hédard J. Robichaud has agreed to remain in office as the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. Mr. Robichaud was first appointed in October of 1971.

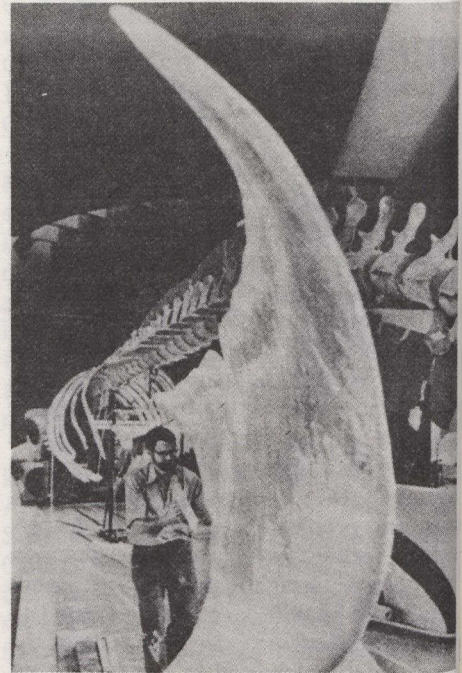
Rio Algom Limited of Toronto has concluded an agreement for the sale of 3.4 million pounds of uranium oxide to the West German electric utility, Preussische Elektrizitäts AG (Preag). Rio Algom said the agreement provides for the uranium oxide in concentrate to be delivered over 13 years beginning in 1983. Rio Algom said its agreement with Preag has been approved by the Euratom supply agency and is subject to Canadian government approval.

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan has announced that a group of insecticides used on house and garden plants has been ordered off the domestic market. The action applies to all domestic-class pesticide products containing the active ingredient disulfoton.

New York Ranger hockey player Phil Esposito has retired from the National Hockey League (NHL). The 38-year-old Esposito is a native of Sault St. Marie, Ontario. Esposito, who started his career 18 years ago with the Chicago Black Hawks, leaves behind a record that includes NHL records of 76 goals and 152 points in one season. He was an NHL first all-star six straight years, led the league in scoring four years consecutively, was twice the league's most valuable player and ranked second in NHL history in goals and points with 778 and 1,589 respectively.

The Canadian government will purchase 353, three-quarter ton, 4-wheel-drive pick-up trucks from General Motors of Canada for use at Canadian Forces bases across the country. The contract, worth approximately \$3 million, was awarded to General Motors which had submitted the lowest bid among four contenders for the government contract.

Manitoba Attorney General Gerry Mercier has announced that, with the addition of Virginia to the list of jurisdictions with which Manitoba has reciprocal enforcement of maintenance arrangements, the province now has more such agreements than any other province in



Artist Paul Geraghty shapes a plaster cast for the tail flukes of a 10-metre fin whale being reconstructed at the Ontario Science Centre in Toronto. Geraghty has restored and treated the bones of the whale washed up on the Nova Scotia coast and is making the shell from fibreglass.

Canada. As a result Manitobans with a maintenance order in their favour may apply to a court in any one of 62 reciprocating jurisdictions around the world, including all Canadian provinces and territories and 38 American states, to secure the payment of arrears.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced that 21 claims totalling \$664,000 were paid to Canadian exporters under its export credits insurance program during the quarter which ended September 30, 1980. This brings claims paid in the year to date, to \$9.5 million. The program protects Canadian exporters in cases in which foreign buyers are unable or unwilling to pay their bills as a result of commercial or political developments.

Canadian sailor Reuben Noseworthy of Halifax was surprised recently when he received a letter from Irishman Michael Meenan. Meenan wrote to say that he had found a rum bottle with Noseworthy's address in it at Tory Island on the north coast of Ireland. Noseworthy and a few others had thrown the bottle into the Straight of Belle Isle, off Newfoundland, 15 months and two days earlier.