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Industrial development drive to boost Canadian production, 1

Federal Republic of Germany interested in Canadian flight simulators, 2

Brief history of political parties in Canada, 3

Restaurants benefit from hydroponic herb-growing system, 4

Science news service in Asia, 4

Loan helps India's farmers, 4

The guard is changing, 5

Immunization possibility against multiple sclerosis, 5

Regulations help toward protection of ozone layer, 5

The crying need for laughter, 6

News of the arts — film, theatre, 7

News briefs, 8

Industrial development drive to boost Canadian production

Robert Andras, President of the Board of Economic Development Ministers, and Supply and Services Minister Pierre De Bané, outlined on April 17 a new effort by the Federal Government to spur Canadian industrial and technological growth.

A product development fund of \$115 million over three years would assist companies to make products not currently manufactured in Canada. The grants would benefit particularly industries engaged in high technology.

More than \$20 million in government contracts would be shifted to slow-growth areas of Canada, where unemployment is higher than in other regions.

The money allocated is within the fiscal framework announced last August by the Prime Minister.

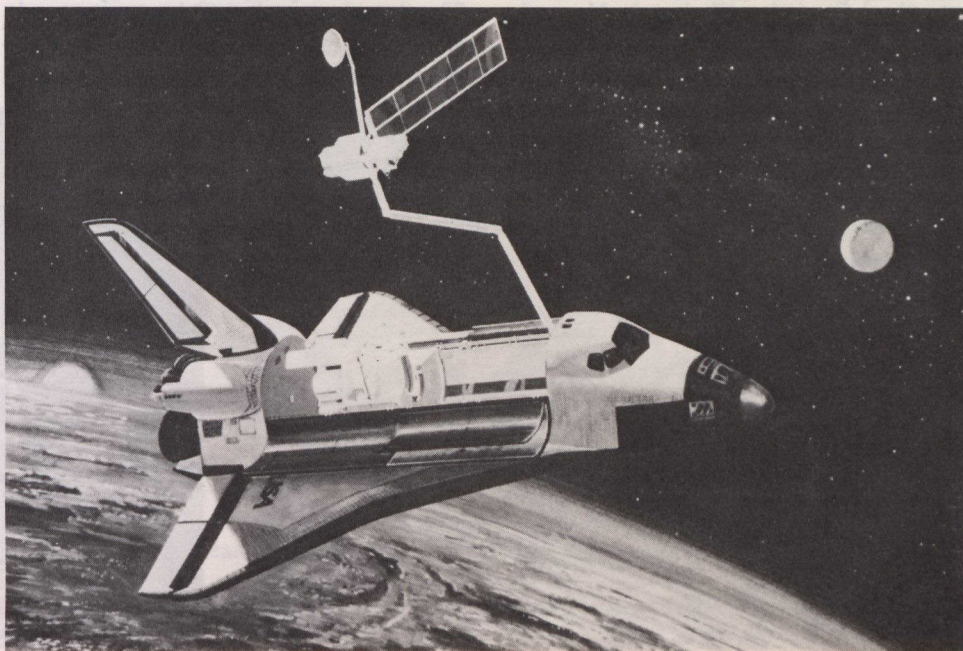
"The objective of this policy," Mr. Andras stated, "is to increase the opportunities for Canadian industry to

benefit from government purchases. This can be accomplished because even a small percentage change in the total purchases of the Government brings millions of dollars of new activity to Canadian business and industry".

The Government has taken \$25 million from its economic development budget to cover the product development fund's first year. The remaining \$90 million planned over the next two years would be allocated within the over-all expenditure budget.

Spur for electronics firms

Mr. Andras also outlined a national development policy for the electronics industry, in which \$50 million would be available to help firms carry out large projects and encourage the development of microelectronics technology. An additional \$20 million would be spent to



Canadian technology produced the remote manipulator system (RMS), the arm attached to the United States' Space Shuttle (above), which will enable astronauts to deploy satellites into space from the Shuttle's cargo bay and to retrieve orbiting satellites for servicing or return to earth. Spar Aerospace Products Ltd. of Toronto, in co-operation with the National Research Council, developed and built the RMS.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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Three-hundred-and-nine years ago today...

The Hudson's Bay Company was granted a charter by King Charles II. Last month, the Thomson newspaper family gained control of the Bay in a \$37-a-share offer for 75 per cent of the stock. The offer drew 20.59 million shares, or 89 per cent, by the time the offer expired April 17.

May 2/79

strengthen Canada's communications satellite industry. As part of the policy, the Government would also use its purchasing power to enhance the performance of the electronics industry in Canada.

"The 'information revolution' the world is now experiencing has tremendous implications for Canadians and for the electronics industry in this country," Mr. Andras said. "Improvements in electronics technology have high payoffs in two ways: they advance productivity throughout Canadian industry and they introduce a host of new products for Canadian consumers and business. The measures outlined today will help this important and crucial sector in Canada to continue to expand in an increasingly competitive international environment featuring rapid technological change and extensive direct support by governments."

The \$50 million in assistance to electronics firms over the next three years would be used two ways: one is for expansion of the Department of Industry,

Trade and Commerce's Enterprise Development Program, which would help electronics firms increase production as well as research and development. It will assist in projects that would not otherwise be undertaken in Canada.

The other step is to encourage the increased use and production of microelectronic devices (integrated circuits) in Canada. (Integrated circuits are tiny silicon chips that perform functions that in the past often needed rooms full of electrical gear.) Microelectronics is the key technology which will determine the competitiveness of electronic industries round the world. The output of electronics firms in turn is becoming critical to improvements in productivity in all of industry.

Satellite promotion

The second part of the policy is the promotion of a strong, Canadian capability in the rapidly growing technology of satellites. In the past, Canadian satellites

had to be purchased from firms outside the country with only some of the sub-contract work done by Canadian companies. Telesat Canada, this country's domestic satellite communications carrier, is now in the process of purchasing two new satellites. The first of the twin spacecraft, to be known as *Anik D* satellites, will be needed early in 1982, to replace the now orbiting *Anik A-3* satellite, which will by then be at or near the end of its useful lifetime.

Mr. Andras announced that the federal Cabinet had taken money from its economic development budget to make an offer of about \$20 million to Telesat Canada in connection with a bid by Spar Aerospace Limited of Toronto to build the two satellites. The money would go to cover the extra costs incurred by Spar to "tool up" to a higher capacity. The move, subject to working out details by Telesat and Spar in the \$60-\$80 million contract, would result in about 300 new jobs at Spar.

Federal Republic of Germany interested in Canadian flight simulators

CAE Electronics Ltd. of Toronto, has been awarded a Canadian Commercial Corporation contract worth approximately \$32 million to develop and manufacture five flight simulators for the Tornado Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MRCA) for the Federal Republic of Germany. In dollars, it is the largest single contract

ever won by CAE Electronics.

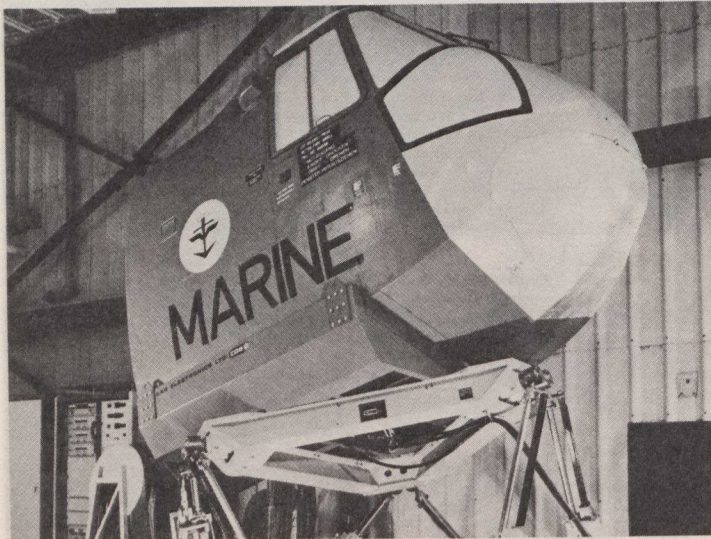
The Canadian Commercial Corporation, with which the company signed the contract, is acting as prime contractor to the Federal Republic of Germany.

CAE Electronics has been developing a pre-production Tornado simulator for West Germany, which will remain in the

CAE plant until the five production simulators are delivered.

The simulators are being manufactured for both the West German Air Force and the Navy.

CAE Electronics Ltd. a subsidiary of CAE Industries Ltd., is one of the foremost producers of military and commercial flight simulators for defence forces and airlines in the world.



Ordinary delivery of product to client took a different turn recently when Cyril Brayne of Supply and Services Canada (right), took part in the in-plant acceptance ceremony of a Sea King helicopter flight simulator (left), produced by CAE Electronics Ltd. for the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) and its client the West German Navy. The CCC presented the Germans with a book on Canadian history; the latter handed over to the Canadians a 'knotical' board depicting various kinds of knots, complete with German names. Colonel Guenter Albrecht of the West German Navy holds the board with Mr. Brayne.

Brief history of political parties in Canada

As May 22, the date of the federal general election draws near, candidates are campaigning hard, holding meetings, debating issues and trying to win support from voters, some of whom are still uncommitted to any party. Recent polls indicate very little difference in the estimated popularity of Canada's main parties, the Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives, with sometimes as little as one percentage point separating them.

In a paper entitled Political Parties in Canada, Professor Robert Jackson, who chairs the Political Science Department of Ottawa's Carleton University, outlines their history. As the tension in Canada mounts with the fast-approaching race to the House of Commons, Canada Weekly will publish in this issue and the next one, excerpts from Dr. Jackson's material on the four parties – the two mentioned above, followed by the New Democratic Party and the Social Credit Party.

The paper states views which are Dr. Jackson's own.

Progressive Conservative Party

The oldest Canadian party, the Progressive Conservative, can be traced back to 1854 when John A. Macdonald brought together a working alliance called the Liberal-Conservative, which included eastern commercial interests, Conservative French Canadians, and Ontario Tories. Their objective was to bring about Confederation and then implement a national policy which entailed encouraging national unity and development of the country by promoting a national railway, industry and commerce. Maintenance of the British connection and establishment of relatively high tariffs were fundamental to their political stance.

French Canadians were traditionally cautious of the Conservatives because of the party's strong British orientation. The execution in 1885 of Louis Riel – the rebel French-speaking leader of the Métis of Western Canada – and later the imposition of military conscription on reluctant French Canadians in 1917, drastically reduced the party's popularity in French Quebec. Robert Borden, who had become Conservative Prime Minister in 1911 before the war, continued after the 1917 election as head of a Union government, a coalition of Conservatives and English-speaking Liberals.

Neither Arthur Meighen nor his successor, R.B. Bennett, was able as Conservative party leader to make new inroads in Quebec. In the 1920s, the party structure rapidly became over-centralized in Ontario. Westerners, who lacked a strong party tradition, formed the temporarily successful Progressive Party with a labour-farm oriented platform, and undermined Conservative strength in the prairies. In

power again during the worst of the depression years, 1930-1935, the Conservatives were assured of further unpopularity and loss of support.

In 1942, the Conservatives tried to consolidate their forces by choosing John Bracken, the Progressive premier of Manitoba, as their leader and renamed their party the Progressive Conservatives. However, party fortunes did not improve until 1957 when they formed a minority government under a new leader from the West, John G. Diefenbaker. This upset victory preceded a landslide in 1958. In that election the party captured not only the western and Ontario vote, but also 50 seats in Quebec. However, the victory was ephemeral, and in the 1963 election the Conservatives were defeated.

In 1967, Robert Stanfield replaced John Diefenbaker, but conflict over the leadership created factions within the party and disrupted the organization at the local level. Mr. Stanfield was unable to gain strength in the province of Quebec. In 1972, the Conservatives won 18 per cent of the popular vote in Quebec but only two of its 74 seats. They lost again in 1974, following a campaign for wage and price controls, which paradoxically were instituted by their Liberal opponents the next year. Joe Clark, a 36-year-old Albertan, replaced Robert Stanfield following a leadership convention in 1976.

The loss of French Canadian support has been the single most important factor in the decline of Conservative strength in the twentieth century. Quebec, the second most populous province in Canada and the only one that is predominantly French and Catholic, traditionally votes

as a bloc, so that it is virtually impossible for a party to form a majority government without its support. Since 1891, the Conservative Party has won a majority of the Quebec seats in a federal election only once, in 1958. The Conservative challenge today is to build a significant electoral base in Quebec and restore the party's national representation or to capture the great majority of the seats in the other nine provinces.

The Liberal Party

The Liberal Party as a national force was much slower to develop than the Conservative. The opposition to John A. Macdonald's first government consisted of Clear Grits from Ontario, le Parti Rouge from Quebec, and anti-Confederation Nova Scotia MPs. They were generally considered to be more egalitarian and proletarian than the Conservatives, and were said to believe in solving major inequalities through governmental action. There was no real unity in the group until Wilfrid Laurier became leader in 1887. During his 15-year tenure (1896-1911) he transformed these early Liberals into a national party and entrenched the Liberal Party in Quebec.

The Liberal coalition was temporarily destroyed following the "conscription crisis" and the election of the Union Government in 1917, but in 1921 William Lyon Mackenzie King became leader and proceeded to rebuild the Liberal Party into a strong organization which dominated Canadian government for most of the present century. King himself retains the record for number of years in power; he was Prime Minister for 21 years, five months (1921-1930, 1935-1948). Under his leadership, the Liberals made efforts to accommodate agrarian protest from the West by forming an alliance with the Progressives, but this alliance collapsed when the Progressives joined the Conservatives. The Liberals under Louis St. Laurent (who was defeated by John Diefenbaker in 1957), and his successor Lester Pearson (party leader from 1957-1968, Prime Minister from 1963-1968), continued more or less successfully to accommodate Quebec aspirations.

In 1968, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, a 48-year-old relative newcomer to federal politics, assumed leadership of the Liberal Party. He has since led the party to three electoral victories. In the 1974 election Quebec remained the party stronghold. The main Liberal weaknesses were in

British Columbia and especially in the prairie provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba) where only four of the 45 constituencies returned Liberals. Survey results show that the party attracted substantial numbers of votes from almost all sectors except farmers.

Having won all but six of the 24 general elections since 1891, the Liberal Party has naturally built strong, politically advantageous ties with most parts of the Canadian economy. Traditionally, it has tended to espouse centralizing policies in its dealings with the provinces. Recently it dramatically increased the Government's participation in the economic life of the country with the 1975 decision to impose wage and price controls.

(Next week the New Democratic and Social Credit parties will be featured.)

Restaurants benefit from hydroponic herb-growing system

The hydroponic Herb Market, manufactured by Applied Hydroponics of Canada Inc., Montreal, allows cooks to have home grown, garden-fresh herbs at their fingertips throughout the year. Some gourmet chefs consider it essential — gastronomists certainly enjoy the results.

The Herb Market enables chefs to prepare dishes that previously were impossible because of the limited commercial supply of fresh herbs.

Designed to occupy a minimum of space, the food service equipment can yield 567 to 1,701 grams (20 to 60 ounces) of fresh herbs every week.

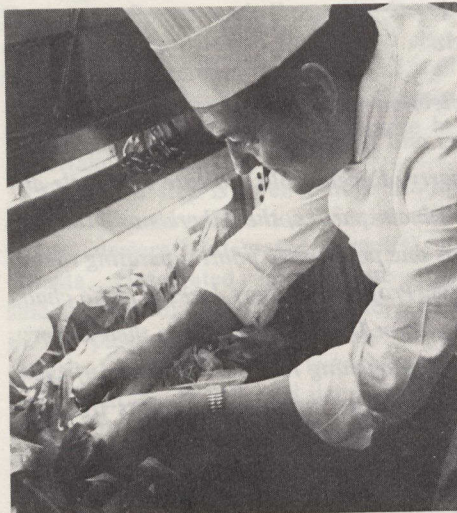
Award-winning chefs Albert Schnell of the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal and Jurgen Mehlhorn of the Montreal Airport Hilton are enthusiastic proponents of the system.

Says Chef Schnell: "There is no substitute for fresh herbs. You feel the difference. Once a chef has tried a hydroponic herb-growing system, he'd never give it up."

No weeding

Because hydroponic gardening requires no soil, it is an extremely clean system which needs no tilling, weeding or pest control.

Instead of soil, plants grow in a gravel-like material that is kept wet with a constantly recirculated nutrient solution of water and minerals pumped through hosing from the bottom half of each tub.



Albert Schnell of Montreal's Queen Elizabeth Hotel, snips some fresh sorrel from his garden to use in a new salmon recipe.

Overhead adjustable fluorescent lamps provide the exact light spectrum for optimum growth and continuous harvest year-round.

Plants grow to maturity more quickly and remain productive; each day, the cook snips off what is needed and the plant continues growing.

The system, which is economical to operate, pays for itself in approximately six months. It is marketed in Canada and the United States by Applied Hydroponics of Canada Inc.

(From Canada Courier, Vol. 16, No. 8.)

Science news service in Asia

An experiment to set up a science news service in Asia was both a success or failure, depending on your point of view, according to Mac Laing, a Canadian journalist who participated in the effort for two years.

Mr. Laing said the venture was successful because 200 newspapers and other media in seven languages used the stories, and 300 articles were written. The failure was that generally they did not pay for the service.

Mr. Laing was speaking at a seminar at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa. A professor of journalism at the University of Western Ontario, he outlined his association with the Press Foundation of Asia (PFA) and its science news service. IDRC sponsored the project in conjunction with the PFA.

The science articles formed part of the

"Depthnews Service" of the PFA. Asian writers concerned about the calibre of journalism in Asia formed the PFA ten years ago and have promoted better coverage of development-related events by training journalists and setting up the Depthnews Service. PFA asked IDRC to find a North American journalist to assist with the science component of the service. IDRC chose Mr. Laing, a former science writer with the *Toronto Telegram* and writer-editor for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

Mr. Laing, who worked at the PFA office in Manila, drew on a network of 11 correspondents in New Delhi, Colombo, Tokyo, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur. The stories covered a wide range of topics from health to agriculture to disasters to nuclear technology.

The effect of the service remains to be assessed. It is difficult to determine why people buy newspapers, he said. Mr. Laing commented that a 3,000-word story on leprosy was printed in its entirety. Normally, he said, such a long article would be pared down. He never knew if the article was being used on its own merit or "through madness on the part of the editor".

He noted that a readership survey was necessary. He knew the articles were read by the "elite" — the scientists and development workers. But he doubted if people in general could buy newspapers.

The service continues to thrive under the management of a young Philippino journalist hired to take over after Mr. Laing's departure.

(From Development Directions, January/February 1979 issue.)

Loan helps India's farmers

The Canadian International Development Agency will lend \$15 million interest-free to India to help in a massive program to improve production. Most of the money will finance small-scale irrigation works, said the announcement from CIDA.

Payment is due over 50 years, beginning only after the first ten years.

The loan brings Canada's total assistance to India over the past three years to more than \$175 million.

CIDA also announced it would supply \$10-million worth of material to El Salvador for that country's hydro and geothermal power system.

News of the arts

The guard is changing

Women will parade on Parliament Hill this year as part of the Changing of the Guard, for the first time since the ceremony began in Ottawa 21 years ago. The decision to permit women to join previously all-male ranks was made by Defence Minister Barney Danson in January. About ten women are expected to march in the military drill which attracts thousands of tourists at 10 a.m. daily during four summer months in the capital.

The ceremonial guard, a 288-member non-combat militia unit, follows the traditions of the Governor-General's Footguards and the Montreal-based Grenadier Guards. Major Wayne Brocklehurst, commander of the ceremonial guard, stated that preference was given to members of these units in recruiting for the summer job. The remaining positions are offered to members of other reserve military units, and finally to applicants from the public. Among the female recruits, three are at present serving in the militia. Although the height requirement of 1.7 metres has been decreased to 1.65 metres to accommodate female applicants, women will still have to pass a medical exam and undergo the same training tests as their male counterparts.



Changing the Guard on Parliament Hill.

Immunization possibility against multiple sclerosis

Within the past year, reports of immunological treatment of cancer and meningitis have attracted public attention (see *Canada Weekly*, Vol. 6, Nos. 11 and 49). Most recently, a medical team in Montreal has applied inoculation in the fight against multiple sclerosis (MS), reports Janice Hamilton of Canadian Press.

Drs. J.B.R. Cosgrove of the Montreal Neurological Institute, Guy Lamoureux of the Frappier Institute and Pierre Duquette of Notre Dame Hospital are attempting to boost the immunity of his patients and halt the progress of the disease by injecting an experimental group with a complex protein, known as the "transfer factor", derived from the white blood cells of healthy individuals.

Type of test

To obtain a sufficient quantity of the serum, 60 donors were hooked up to a machine which collected white blood cells for four to six hours. Half of the 30 MS patients, who volunteered to participate in the experiment were inoculated with the serum, while the other half received a placebo treatment.

The researchers are observing both groups to compare the recurrence of MS attacks. They acknowledge, however, that their work is complicated by both individual differences in the progression of MS and by the irregularity of attacks in the same patient.

Multiple sclerosis, a degenerative disease of the nervous system, affects the myelin, or protective sheath covering nerve fibres thereby weakening the transmission of nerve impulses. Typical symptoms include tingling or numbness in the extremities, blurring of vision and eventual paralysis. The disease is prevalent among inhabitants, aged from 20 to 40, of northern climates.

Measles theory

Although the exact cause is unknown, the Montreal doctors attribute MS to a defect in the body's immune system which increases susceptibility to certain viral infections. According to Dr. Cosgrove, MS may be related to a measles virus: he notes that a significant proportion of MS patients have a higher than average count of measles antibodies. "It may be that the measles virus changes in the body as we

grow older and locates itself in the nervous system in a different form so we can't find it when we look for it," he suggests.

Although no conclusive results are cited in the report it is conceivable that the research efforts will lead eventually to the development of a vaccine to treat MS. The hope of Dr. Cosgrove and his colleagues, he states, was to "transfer something healthy into the patient and by changing his immunity, stop the progress of the disease".

Regulations help toward protection of ozone layer

Minister of the Environment Len Marchand has announced last month new regulations under the Environmental Contaminants Act which would ban certain chlorofluorocarbons as spray-can propellants in hairsprays, deodorants and antiperspirants.

The ban, which is intended to come into effect on December 1, 1979, will, it is hoped, reduce the rate of depletion of the ozone layer of the earth's atmosphere.

"Our research," said the minister, "as well as that conducted in other countries, was aimed at predicting ozone depletion. The verdict is not unanimous among the world scientific community, but the consensus is that a 15 percent reduction in the ozone layer by the year 2000 can be expected, based on the 1973 chlorofluorocarbon release rate."

Earlier estimates had put the depletion at 10 per cent.

He said studies were under way to find ways of replacing non-aerosol uses of chlorofluorocarbons with environmentally acceptable alternatives.

Chlorofluorocarbons are suspected of posing a threat to the stratospheric ozone layer shielding the earth from the sun's ultra-violet radiation. Over-exposure to this radiation is associated with a variety of skin problems, including skin cancer. Adverse environmental effects are also suspected.

Canada produces only 2 per cent of total world emissions of chlorofluorocarbons into the atmosphere. A 50 percent reduction in aerosol spray consumption has already been accomplished in this country, as a result of action taken by Environment Canada in 1976, when discussions began with industry representatives.

The crying need for laughter

The Royal Bank of Canada, in its Monthly Letter, Vol. 60, No. 2, asks if the world is running out of humour the way it is said to be running out of oil. It sometimes looks that way as we watch those so-called "comedies" on television. But not really — the best jokes are the ones that spring from our daily existence. The article looks at humour as a great gift to the human race. Excerpts follow:

Humour, the moan goes up, doesn't seem to get around much any more. If it's not downright sick, then it's definitely green around the gills.

Nevertheless, in print, films and broadcasting, vast amounts of money and energy are being expended to make adults do what comes naturally to an infant who chuckles at the sight of his teddy bear. The airwaves are leaden with mercifully short-lived situation comedies; stand-up comedians proliferate on nightly talk shows; variety series sprout and wither within a matter of months.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation recently instituted a television quiz show entitled *Trivia*. On it, two teams matched wits to produce totally useless information. The purpose was to amuse.

To relieve the tedium, the quizmaster would occasionally toss out a question to the studio audience. One such went: "What is the most appropriate gift for a couple's twenty-fifth wedding anniversary?" Almost instantly, someone in the back of the hall called out, "Separate vacations".

With a sickly grin, the quizmaster quickly explained the significance of the sterling silver jubilee. Another laugh — live, on television — had been throttled at birth.

It was a striking instance of the difference between spontaneous and manufactured laughter — the funny *versus* the merely facetious....

Unconscious humour

Humour has a kind of life of its own, and it can launch a sneak attack on the funny-bone at the most unexpected times and places. For example, a retired beauty queen attempted in a magazine article not long ago to describe a day in her life. She set off with grim purposefulness, then ran into a spot of trouble early in her morning. "I'll either have my answering service call to wake me up or I use a

dumb little alarm clock that ticks, ticks, ticks," she wrote. "Then I get ready in a hurry...I sweep all the last minute things that I've lined up on the bureau into a bag. As I'm leaving, I check my body to make sure I've got all my clothes on."

If only for an instant, this girl had turned the serious and dull routine of preparing to face the world into a comic turn on her own doorstep, presenting a ludicrous image to the reader's imagination. Often such a picture will be produced within a person's own mind.

* * * *

Laughing at oneself

Laughing at oneself is one of the noblest and most difficult things a person can do, for it takes courage and intelligence to recognize your own foolishness and deflate your own pretensions and pomposities. The great men of humour have always laughed at themselves before anyone else. [Canadian humorist] Stephen Leacock was proud of his Doctorate of Philosophy, but he knew how to keep it in perspective. "The meaning of this degree," he once said in a lecture, "is that the recipient has been examined for the last time in his life and pronounced full. After this, no new ideas can be imparted to him."

* * * *

Finding sources of laughter

Shared laughter is often the product of shared hardship or adversity; of people being up against the same vicissitudes. A few years ago Canadian author and broadcaster Tony Aspler wrote an endearing and eloquent tribute to the humour of the Jewish race. Jewish humour, he noted, has a bittersweet quality of world-weariness and self-denigration. The history of the Jewish people has shown them that a sense of humour is a strong shield against suffering....Aspler told the story of a Mr. Moses Greenbaum, who had worked hard all his life to build up a fortune and decided the time had come to enjoy his wealth.

A golfing addict, Mr. Greenbaum had a consuming ambition to play on a superb course which unfortunately belonged to a club whose membership was restricted to Gentiles. So he decided to build up a whole new non-Jewish identity in order to join the club. He moved to a new neighbourhood; he cut off all contact with his family and friends; he changed his name by deed poll to Charles Montmorency Ffoulkesmythe. His application

to the club was accepted. He was so delighted that he decided to use the facilities the very day his membership card arrived.

Among the delights of the club was an inviting-looking outdoor swimming pool with a large number of people sitting around it. The ex-Mr. Greenbaum immediately changed into swimming trunks, scampered out to the pool, and surveyed his fellow members before plunging in. The water was icy. The shock made him gasp: "Oy vey!" Looking sheepishly around as he trod water, he added in a loud voice: "Whatever that means...."

Many people regard as abhorrent the poking of fun at another people's social customs or national traits. But the Jews — and the Scots, the Irish and the Newfoundlanders — have been telling stories on themselves for generations.

"Newfie" jokes

The vogue for "Newfie" jokes in Canada appears to have waned, and not before time, but that sometimes harsh and bleak island has produced a warm and generous breed of people who appreciate life's absurdities to the hilt.

For example, a small fishing village in Newfoundland had acquired a new fire engine after years of scrimping and saving by the town council. The old one was decrepit beyond repair, but its disposal had caused a crisis within the community. The council finally called a public meeting, and the entire adult population turned out. The air in the hall filled with tobacco smoke and suggestions for the fire truck's future. Someone suggested selling it for scrap, and other argued it would cost more to transport it to the junk yard than its sale would realize. Another advised mounting it on blocks and using it as a centre-piece for the children's playground. Various mothers objected strenuously on the grounds it would be too dangerous.

Tempers were flaring, husbands were snarling at wives, and the meeting was getting completely out of hand. Then came one of those inexplicable pauses that can cut a hubbub dead, and an ancient fisherman rose to his feet. Said he, "Why don't we just keep the thing and use it for false alarms?" Everybody went home laughing.

A sense of humour is the ultimate safety-valve on temper's head of steam. The situation, as the Irish put it, may be disastrous but it's never serious.

* * * *

News of the arts

An Oscar for National Film Board

The National Film Board received its fifth Oscar April 9, just in time to celebrate its fortieth anniversary.

Special Delivery, a seven-minute comedy directed by John Weldon and Eunice Macaulay, won in the best animated short category.

"We're bringing you home a birthday present!" said Ms. Macaulay when she and Weldon accepted the prize at the 1979 Academy Awards presentation in Los Angeles, California.

Special Delivery is about "love and death...sex and suicide...and the Post Office". It's a film for everyone who has put off shovelling snow from the front walk, then wondered if the mailman would come to grief braving the icy drifts. In this case he does — passing on to greener and less slippery pastures, as the hero lives to regret his wife's request to clear the front steps. But the story just gets spicier as the love and death triangle of hero, wife and postman unfolds.

The Oscar for *Special Delivery* follows last year's double win — by *Sand Castle* in the animation category and *I'll Find A Way* for best live action short film.

The NFB has received 50 Oscar nominations in its 40-year history, most of them for animation work. The Board won its first Academy Award in 1941 for the documentary *Churchill's Island* and the second in 1952 for Norman McLaren's animated film *Neighbours*.

Toronto — a stage for lively theatre

From the grandeur of the O'Keefe Centre, to the coziness of the Young People's Theatre Centre, Toronto's performing arts facilities are keeping pace with the city's growing reputation as a cultural provincial capital.

One of the more exciting new facilities belongs to Adelaide Court, a non-profit organization consisting of three theatre groups — Open Circle, New Theatre and Le Théâtre du P'tit Bonheur.

Two years ago, the Adelaide Court group leased the 126-year-old York County Court House from the city for \$1 a year. They then worked with the Toronto Historical Board and the Ontario Heritage Foundation to restore the building and convert it to a theatre.

The Court House, built in 1852, be-



Nir Bareket

Open Circle, a Toronto group, is seen here in *Mackerel* by Israel Horovitz, its first production at Adelaide Court which it shares with two other theatre companies.

came the County of York Municipal Hall in 1900, and later a Police Magistrates' Court. In more recent years the structure has been vacant.

When restoration started, many original characteristics, such as window, door and ceiling trim and moulding, were uncovered. These, plus the judge's bench, the spiral staircase and basement jail cells, were restored and made an integral part of the theatre.

The building was renovated to include a restaurant, lounge, summer café, offices and rehearsal halls, and two performing areas which the three groups share — Adelaide Theatre, with portable seating for 281, and Court Theatre, seating 150. It is the first time in Canada that three theatre groups have attempted to share facilities, costs and ideas while still maintaining separate identities.

Open Circle, founded in 1972, provides entertainment with strong social themes; Le Théâtre du P'tit Bonheur performs French-language plays in a primarily English city (almost half their audience is English); and New Theatre, founded in 1973, presents plays new to Canada.

Children's theatre

Another new facility in Toronto is the Young People's Theatre Centre, one of the world's most unusual and complete centres for children's drama.

Young People's Theatre (YPT), founded 12 years ago, reaches more than 400,000 children annually in schools and communities across the province. Three years ago, YPT leased a former stable and transformer building from the Toronto Transit Commission and, following a \$2.2-million fund-raising campaign, opened the doors to young theatre-goers in December 1977.

The Centre includes the main theatre, accommodating up to 330, with moveable stage and seating units; the studio theatre on the third floor holding 100; a production workshop for carpentry, costumes, painting and photography; a rehearsal hall; film workshop and Green Room; a lobby for art shows and mini-performances; and a restaurant. Carpeted catwalks and stairways also serve as comfortable story-telling areas.

Second City, one of Toronto's most popular theatre groups, also has historic accommodations. This group, which specializes in improvisational comedy, works in The Old Firehall, an impressive building dating back to Confederation in 1867.

The structure was renovated to include a theatre seating 200 and a restaurant holding 135. The red interior is reminiscent of the building's original purpose, and features a shiny, gold firepole in the corner.

The Old Firehall offers reasonably-priced dinner/theatre packages. Group rates for 25 or more are available.

Not all of Toronto's performing arts facilities date back to the previous century. The massive O'Keefe Centre opened October 1, 1959 with the world *première* of *Camelot*, starring Richard Burton and Julie Andrews.

The theatre, designed mainly for musicals, revues, opera, ballet, drama, jazz and symphony, has a restaurant, bar and snack areas. The auditorium, with excellent acoustics, seats 3,155. With one of Canada's largest stages — 18.3 m by 40.7 m (60 feet by 130 feet), the theatre is home for the Canadian Opera Company and the National Ballet of Canada.

Not far away is the St. Lawrence Centre for the Performing Arts, a centennial project designed to provide Canadian actors with a home of their own.

The theatre's prime tenant, Toronto Arts Productions, presents a season of drama including both classics and Canadian plays. The Centre's smaller auditorium, the Town Hall, with a seating capacity of 481, features regular meetings on topics of local concern.

Another Toronto institution is the Royal Alexandra Theatre, considered one of the most beautiful old theatres in North America.

Known fondly as the Royal Alex, the building was constructed in 1907 and refurbished by owner Ed Mirvish in the 1960s. It has seating capacity of 1,493 including the two U-shaped balconies. There are two bars in the theatre and a number of fine restaurants adjoining it.

The Stratford Festival's July/August concert series will feature such jazz artists as Dizzy Gillespie, Sarah Vaughan, and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, together with the Gary Burton Quartet and two non-jazz evenings of pop music featuring Canada's Kate and Anna McGarrigle, and Valdy.

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Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

News briefs

Canada recognized the Government of President Ysufu Lule of Uganda on April 16. The Government of Canada looks forward to friendly relations with the new Government of Uganda and increased contacts within the Commonwealth, said Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson.

An annual 3.7 percent growth in sales of appliances over the next five years has been predicted by the Canadian Appliance Manufacturers Association. CAMA estimates that 30 per cent of appliances are now more than ten years old, representing a substantial replacement market.

Canada signed trade agreements, at the conclusion of world trade talks last month, allowing more than 90 per cent of current Canadian exports to enter the U.S. at import tariff rates of 5 per cent or less, Deputy Prime Minister MacEachen announced on April 12.

Plans were announced in Calgary on April 2 for a five-block, \$166 million civic centre to be built in downtown Calgary. Cost of the project, which is scheduled for completion in 1983, could run to between \$233 million and \$271 million.

The Export Development Corporation recently concluded three financing agreements totalling \$44.66 million to support sales of Canadian goods to the Soviet Union's petrochemical industry. The sales which include air- and gas-injection compressors, valves, and submersible electro-pumping equipment, consisting of switchboards, transformers and cables for secondary recovery in oil fields, are by Dresser Industries Canada Ltd. of Calgary, Velan Engineering Ltd. of Montreal, and Borg-Warner (Canada) Ltd. of Toronto.

A syndicate led by Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) Limited has scheduled a \$50-million (Cdn.) offering of 5-year 10 percent annual coupon notes of First Canadian Investments Limited, a unit of the Bank of Montreal. Final terms were to be fixed according to market conditions April 25.

Manitoba's 1,200 fee-for-service physicians have voted to accept a new one-year government contract granting a 6.88 percent increase in fees — and an additional \$1.077 million for "improved anaesthesia, obstetrics, house calls and northern allowances", the Manitoba Asso-

ciation announced on April 4. The contract, retroactive to April 1, will expire on March 30, 1980.

Trade between Canada and China in telecommunications equipment could total \$1 billion in the next ten years if internationally competitive financing can be arranged, according to W. Bengler, vice-president of marketing development at Northern Telecom Limited. He added that economic benefits could include 700 or more new jobs annually for the company and an even greater amount of employment in Canada for contractors and supplies.

Hiram Walker-Gooderham and Worts Limited of Windsor, Ontario, plans to build a \$37-million bottling facility in Fort Smith, Arkansas, to produce cordials and specialty products. Construction is to be completed by the end of 1981.

CP Air will introduce a "no-frills" passenger service within Canada in June that will offer the lowest domestic fares available between Toronto and Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton, Ian Gray, CP Air president has announced. The fares are subject to CTC approval.

Husky Oil Limited of Calgary will spend \$61.4 million in 1979 on the first full year of a five-year program to double its heavy oil production to 40,000 barrels a day from the Lloydminster area on the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, J.E. Neilson, president, announced. Altogether, the company will spend a record \$114.1 million in 1979 on exploration and development.

The Canadian stock market performed better than the U.S. market last year and should continue in 1979, according to a report from the Toronto-based investment firm of McLeod Young Weir Ltd. But it will be supported by different forces and be less strong.

Noranda Mines of Toronto is expanding its Bell Copper division near Granisle, British Columbia, at a cost of \$19 million. The expansion will create about 50 new jobs.

National Hockey League Stanley Cup (at April 25), quarter final results in the best-of-seven game series: Montreal 4, Toronto 0; New York Islanders 4, Chicago 0; Boston 4, Pittsburgh 0; New York Rangers 4, Philadelphia 1. Montreal now plays Boston, and New York Islanders play the New York Rangers in the best-of-seven semi-finals.