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## Employment strategy includes cuts in unemployment insurance program

Employment and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen proposed an "employment strategy" on September 1, which he said would cost \$710 million in 1979-80 to create 113,000 work years of employment involving 368,000 people in jobs and training. The \$710 million, continued Mr. Cullen, would consist of \$570 million in cash expenditures, \$100 million in foregone tax revenue and \$40 million in unemployment insurance funds to be used for the creation of jobs.

At the same time, the minister announced steps to cut \$580 from next year's unemployment insurance program as part of the Government's commitment to reduce spending.

Changes to the UI program, once fully implemented in the 1980-81 fiscal year, would mean an estimated annual saving of between \$750 million and \$1 billion. Savings to the Government in the first full year would be from \$700 million to \$900 million, while savings to private industry were estimated at from \$50 million to \$100 million.

### Unemployment insurance changes

Following are the proposed changes to the UI program:

- *Higher entrance requirement for "repeaters"* — The entrance requirement will be increased for some claimants who have already received UI benefits in the year before a current claim. To qualify for UI benefit, repeaters would need the greater of the present variable entrance requirement or the same number of weeks of insured work as the benefit weeks they got in their previous claim.

- *New entrants to the labour market* — A dual entrance requirement is proposed for new entrants and re-entrants to the labour force. To qualify for UI benefit, they would need 40 weeks of insurable employment in the last two years. Of these weeks, ten to 14 (depending on the regional unemployment rate) would have to be in the last year.

- *Increase in minimum insurable earnings* — This change would require that a week of employment must consist of an increased minimum of employment, such as a minimum number of hours on the job or a combination of other factors, to be considered insurable.

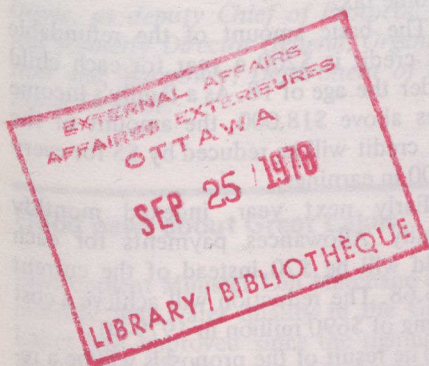
- *Reduction of weekly benefits* — The UI benefit rate would be reduced from 66 and two thirds per cent to 60 per cent of weekly insurable earnings.

- *High-income claimants* — Changes would involve a special recovery from high-income UI claimants whose gross income including UI is more than \$22,000 in any calendar year.

- *Refinancing the labour force extended phase of benefits* — Financing of the UI benefit structure would be made more equitable by sharing the cost of the second phase of benefits — now wholly paid by the Government — with employers and employees. Combined with the effects of the UI program changes, it is likely that premiums could be reduced in 1979.

The minister stressed the fact that "these changes are aimed directly at increasing the work incentive effects of the unemployment insurance program and encouraging people to look for, accept and remain at work".

Speaking of private industry growth and employment aside from youth employment, Mr. Cullen said that "total financial provision for stimulating continuing job opportunities and supporting economic growth will rise from \$110.5 million this fiscal year to \$247.0 million in 1979-80". He said it would produce 46,100 work years of direct employment or its equivalent next fiscal year, an increase from 23,600. Much of the increase in this sector would come from steps to enhance the ability of the Employment Tax Credit to assist businessmen in expanding employment and job-seekers in getting work. A large portion would come from the provision of \$70 million, ex-



*Fifty-four years ago tomorrow...*

The first airmail stamps were introduced in Canada during a flight from Haileybury, Ontario to Rouyn, Quebec.

Sept. 20/78



*Students hired by the Employment and Immigration Department, under the Summer Job Corps Program, clear away soil in search of Indian longhouses of five centuries ago. They helped Dr. William Finlayson, of the University of Western Ontario, in a major research project into Ontario Indian history this summer.*

clusively for skill training. Some \$20 million would be used for the development, with the provinces, industry and labour, of measures to help industry overcome critical trade skill shortages. Another \$20 million would, said Mr. Cullen, be added to the program of skill training in and by industry, and \$30 million would be used to cover the institutional costs of increased skill training for industry. A portable wage subsidy would be developed to spur the re-employment of people laid off as a result of the economic shifts that would be associated with future growth.

#### **Commitment to young Canadians**

A main feature of the 1979-80 employment program was the development of a strategy to increase youth employment, particularly in private industry at a cost of \$225 million in 1979-80. "We are expanding our Summer Youth Employment Program and will be increasing our expenditures on Year-Round Youth Employment and Employability from \$14.5 million planned for this fiscal year to nearly \$110 million in the coming year," the minister went on.

In 1979-80, the Government planned to mount Job Experience Training Program (JET), similar to last year's, which provided over 20,000 young people with training and orientation. This will provide private sector employment and work experience to over 63,000 young people.

"We will be utilizing unemployment insurance benefits, in the case of those eligible for them, to cover the cost of the \$1.50 an hour wage subsidy involved," said Mr. Cullen. "The Government will pay the subsidy costs of those not eligible for unemployment insurance. This productive use of unemployment insurance benefits will enable us to mount a \$55-million program at a cost to the Treasury and the taxpayer of only \$15 million.

"We will not, however, wait until next fiscal year to get the JET program moving. It will commence on September 15, 1978. If we, with the support of the business community, are able to meet our target for the program for this year our costs will amount to \$45 million. If, as I hope, employers can expand even more, we will provide the extra funds. We hope to have at least 58,500 additional young Canadians employed this winter because of this measure.

"With these reformulations and expansion the employment strategy, this year and next, will make an increasingly important and vital contribution to expanding employment in the private sector, to enabling industry to do the skill training it needs, to expanding our gross national product, and to helping resolve the employment problems of youth. It forms an integral part of the measures which have been and will be announced by the Government."

#### **Supplements, tax credits explained**

Minister of National Health and Welfare Monique Bégin recently announced further details concerning increases in Guaranteed Income Supplements to the elderly and the new federal program of refundable Child Tax Credits.

The proposed increase of \$20 a month to each household receiving Guaranteed Income Supplement payments will be added to the January 1979 cheques and considered part of the regular indexed Guaranteed Income Supplement payment.

The basic Old Age Security rate for all Canadians over 65 is now \$159.79 a month and the maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement rate is currently \$112.08 a month for single individuals and \$199.04 a month for couples. In all, about 55 per cent of the income of Canadians over 65 comes from publicly financed pensions.

The changes proposed in the system of Family Allowances and the new Refundable Tax Credit are intended to provide money to help Canada's working poor. At the same time it is intended to provide a stimulus to the Canadian economy, directing tax reductions to customers of basic Canadian-produced goods and services such as food and shelter.

The refundable credit will provide full benefits even to families who do not pay income tax.

The basic amount of the refundable tax credit is \$200 a year for each child under the age of 18. As a family's income rises above \$18,000, the amount of the tax credit will be reduced by \$5 for every \$100 in earnings.

Early next year, indexed monthly Family Allowances payments for each child will be \$20 instead of the current \$25.68. The reduction will achieve a cost saving of \$690 million in 1979-80.

The result of the proposals will be a re-channelling of over \$800 million a year as a result of the Refundable Tax Credit, and an increase of \$300 million for low-income elderly Canadians.

The changes do not involve an increase in social policy expenditures.

Agriculture Canada's experimental farm system was established in 1886. The department now has 47 experimental farms, research stations and other research establishments across Canada.

## New Chief of Protocol



André Couvrette (above), formerly Ambassador to Lebanon, is Canada's new Chief of Protocol. He replaces James R. Barker, who has been appointed Ambassador to Greece. Mr. Couvrette has also served in Rome, Lagos, Paris and in Dakar, where he was Ambassador and concurrently accredited to Mali, Mauritania, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and High Commissioner to The Gambia.

Also announced by the Department of External Affairs is the appointment of Brigadier General (retired) Michael Francis Doyle, as deputy Chief of Protocol. He was formerly Director General, Organization and Manpower, Department of National Defence.

## Good news about Great Lakes

Environment Minister Len Marchand said recently that water quality in the Great Lakes had improved since the signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement by Canada and the United States in 1972.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the deterioration of the Great Lakes has been arrested. Many of our recent scientific findings contain good news, even though serious problems remain to be solved," said Mr. Marchand.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Governments of Canada, Ontario and the U.S., there has been progress in upgrading municipal sewage treatment, 99 per cent completed in Canada and 63 per cent in the United States.

The minister said that phosphorus levels had decreased "significantly" in a number of areas on the Canadian shore of Lakes Ontario and Erie.

There has also been a lessening of Chlorophyll "A", a measure of algae growth, which has resulted in clearer water and better swimming conditions in Lake Ontario.

As well, PCBs, DDE and Mirex residue in herring gulls are down from 1975 levels, prompting a rise in the gulls' reproduction rates.

Mercury levels have declined in almost all species of fish in the western basin of Lake Erie; concentrations in some species are near or even below the acceptable guideline for human consumption.

Mr. Marchand also noted improvements in the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair and Lake Michigan.

Canada and the United States are expected to sign a revised Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement this autumn.

## Inuit travel depicted on new stamps

Postmaster-General J. Gilles Lamontagne announced recently that four 14-cent stamps depicting Inuit art would be issued on September 27.

The new stamps, the second group in the series begun last year, illustrate traditional and modern transportation in the Far North and reflect the rapidly changing culture in the area.

The stamps will be printed in two pairs, with the first showing a drawing of a woman on foot, by artist Pitseolak, and a soapstone sculpture of a sailing umiak, entitled *Migration*, by Joe Talurinili. The second pair of stamps portrays a stone-cut-and-stencil print of an airplane and an ivory sculpture of a dogteam and dogsled, by Abraham Kingmeatook.

### The search for food

Traditionally, the Inuit living in the Far North had to hunt and fish for their food. The need for mobility thus produced two types of water craft, the kayak and the umiak, as well as the dogsled. The snowmobile and the airplane, however, are now pushing the old methods of travel aside.

In winter, the travelling Inuit wore caribou furs, which were unsurpassed for warmth and lightness. Men shaved their whiskers because an ice-encrusted beard



could cause frostbite. They had no use for snowshoes, which were ineffective on the hard-packed Arctic snow. In spring particularly, they wore goggles fashioned from a piece of wood or ivory, with narrow slits as protection from the pain of snow blindness.

Travel was such an essential part of Inuit life that certain groups placed fox intestines on a newborn boy's feet to endow him with skill in crossing thin ice. On sled trips the Inuit often jogged to



give the dogs a rest or to keep warm. In summer, Inuit with heavy packs wandered far and wide seeking caribou or a plentiful supply of fish.

Sleds were built from driftwood, bone, or even frozen skins and fish. A layer of frozen mud topped with ice made the runners slippery. In a pinch, custard or oatmeal replaced the mud. Menacing, hundred-pound dogs, which provided the locomotive force, sometimes worked for days without nourishment.



## Exercise Maple Flag: Canada and the U.S. master military manoeuvres

The idea that "the military always trains to fight the last war" took a pounding at CFB Cold Lake, Alberta, this spring, when American pilots and ground crew flew north (and in one case south) to join their Canadian counterparts in Exercise Maple Flag D-1.

For a month, fighter pilots tackled one another above Cold Lake's 10,000-km<sup>2</sup> range, in exercises designed to hone their combat skills against other aircraft and ground threats under realistic battle conditions. Many exercises involved tactics developed in response to the latest generation of modern weapons.

Maple Flag was spawned from Red Flag, code name for the ongoing tactical exercise created by the United States Air Force Combat Maneuvers Center at Nellis AFB, Nevada.

U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps pilots have been learning lessons from their "combat" experiences above the desert sands since 1975. Divided into Red defending and Blue attacking forces, the pilots battle for superiority above sophisticated electronic warfare ranges.

While the Blue forces try to knock out targets, which include a tremendous array of built-to-scale airfields, missile sites, rail yards, tunnels and even troops, Red Force aircraft strike back, supported by ground threat simulators.

Last fall, Canadian and British detachments went to Nellis, turning Red Flag

into an international event. This year Canada and the U.S. agreed upon a joint exercise at Cold Lake.

### Survivability the issue

The rationale behind the creation of Red Flag was based on statistics which show that most aircrew are shot down within their first ten missions. In response the USAF developed exercises to improve survivability by exposing pilots to a wide range of realistic combat situations.

At Nellis, pilots practise tactics gleaned from Vietnam and recent Middle East conflicts, as well as tactics designed to beat weapons and situations they still haven't encountered in actual combat.

The Cold Lake range is an empty expanse of wooded hills and muskeg. Spring weather varies from long, sunny days to dour periods of low cloud cover. Fog sometimes obscures lakes and rivers, as it did during the first two weeks of Maple Flag (while the ice was still breaking up).

Five Canadian fighter squadrons were involved. Pilots arrived from 433<sup>e</sup> Escadrille, based at CFB Bagotville, Quebec, and another group from 409 Squadron in Comox, British Columbia, joined Cold Lake's own 417 Squadron and 419 and 434 Squadrons.

American participants arrived from widely scattered bases. They included detachments from the Marine Corps sta-

tion at El Toro, California, from David Monthan AFB, Arizona, from Langley AFB, Virginia, and from Bergstrom AFB, Texas. Some made the trip from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

### Action stations

By the end of April the routine was set: two major missions each day and a videotaped debriefing in the late afternoon. Scenarios, missions and even the lineup of aggressors and defenders changed daily.

Missions required careful preparation, taking into account the type of ordnance to be carried, route to be flown and procedures for attack. In order to increase effectiveness and decrease the risk of airborne confusion, formation leaders had to be familiar not only with their own mission, but with that of accompanying formations. A mass launch followed the pilot briefings, and once over the range the war began.

Making the low level ingress (range entry) which characterized air combat during recent Mid-east conflicts, the ground attack pilots started to hunt for the elusive targets. Avoiding a net of hovering fighters directed by ground controlled intercept (GCI) radars, each pilot would "pop up" to about 1,500 feet in the target area, sight the target, release his ordnance and rejoin his section.

But, as in real war, not all ground attack missions went smoothly. Fighter pilots flying a combat air patrol over the target area often took their toll of attacking aircraft.

No official tallies of kills and killers were kept during Maple Flag. The daily debriefing invariably included tales of victory and woe from both sides. But who won or lost was never the issue. Why someone won or lost was the real concern.

To the majority of American pilots, the exercise was familiar. Many of the U.S. forces are veterans of Red Flag, held ten times a year. But the flying freedom afforded by Cold Lake's isolated location came as a pleasant surprise.

Mass takeoffs unencumbered by the restrictions imposed in heavier travelled areas turned into dramatic international events. Pairs of *Eagles* roared down the runway only moments before camouflaged *CF-5s* hurtled along behind them, followed by flights of *Skyhawks*, silver *CF-104s* and so on.

The short trip back and forth to the range requires only visual flight rules. The



A USAF Corsair fires a Canadian-made CRV-7 rocket above the Cold Lake ranges. It was the first time that foreign forces had used the Canadian-designed rocket.

Sgt Richard Diaz, USAF

News of the arts



The aircraft flown during Exercise Maple Flag at CFB, Cold Lake, Alberta during the spring are (from left to right): CF-104, CF-5, CF-101, F-15, A-7, A-4, and another CF-5. Behind is a C-130, and HH-3 and CH-53 helicopters.

At Nellis, fighters share the route to the combat range with airline traffic, under the strict guidance of the Federal Aviation Agency.

At Nellis, fighters share the route to the combat range with airline traffic, under the strict guidance of the Federal Aviation Agency.

**New tactics practised**

Maple Flag mixed high and low altitude flying, depending on the mission and the threat.

Effective groundfire forced low flying aircraft higher during the Vietnam conflict. Now a new, and in some cases untried generation of surface-to-air missiles (SAMs), is prompting pilots to stay at lower altitudes again.

Two of the fighter pilot's worst enemies, SAM missile and anti-aircraft artillery threats, played an important part in Maple Flag exercises, although the Cold Lake range doesn't boast the sophisticated array of threats and targets available at Nellis.

Portable threat simulators operated by USAF technicians were set up in two locations on the range. Using video cameras and electronic sighting methods, the technicians recorded their share of kills (aircraft judged to be within missile

or gun range for too long).

Maple Flag was a trial exercise. But both sides expressed hopes of seeing it repeated, perhaps as early as next fall.

The potential offered by Cold Lake's uncluttered skies and large isolated range is tremendous. Air combat training, much like that conducted at Red Flag, could have a permanent home in Canada which

might even be shared with other NATO nations.

Whatever the future of Maple Flag one thing is certain. Cold Lake has earned a new significance on the international military map.

(The foregoing is from a report by Lieutenant Wendy Tighe for Sentinel, Volume 14, Number 3.)



Close-up of Canadian Forces aircraft CF-104s, on the flight line.

## Canadian heads International Union of Food Science and Technology

Joseph H. Hulse of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), became the first Canadian president of the International Union of Food Science and Technology on September 21 at their fifth congress in Kyoto, Japan.



Joseph H. Hulse

The International Union of Food Science and Technology, which was inaugurated during the third International Congress of Food Science and Technology in Washington D.C., in 1970, seeks to promote international co-operation in food science and technology. Its members include national institutes and academies from 37 countries, including the Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology, of which Mr. Hulse is a former president.

Mr. Hulse, director of the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences Division of Canada's IDRC, has been with the centre since its inception as a public corporation. It was created by Act of Parliament in 1970, to support research designed to adapt science and technology to the specific needs of developing countries. The centre is unique in that, although financed by Canada, it is governed independently by an international board of governors, who set its policies and priorities.

### IDRC work

According to the annual report, the Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences Division undertook 63 new projects totaling some \$10.6 million last year. In Sep-

tember '77, the division was involved in the United Nations Conference on Desertification which focused on two priorities — agriculture in the semi-arid tropics, and savannah forestry. In both areas, the division was instrumental in establishing projects, particularly in the poorest agricultural regions of the world.

Increasing attention was given to aquaculture research, producing the first successful breeding in captivity of milkfish (a major food source in Southeast Asia) in an IDRC-supported program in the Philippines. In India remarkable increase in fish production in village ponds was achieved using the techniques of polyculture (several non-competitive species of fish in the same pond).

Postproduction systems to reduce the losses of food incurred between harvesting and consumption continues to be important work in the division, as does research using crop and industrial by-products in combination with integrated animal production systems and improved pasture lands.

Prior to joining the IDRC, Mr. Hulse was special adviser to the president of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). He held senior positions with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), was director of research for Maple Leaf Mills Ltd. of Toronto, and head of Food and Nutrition Research with the Canadian Government's Defence Research Medical Laboratories. During 1970 he served as special adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the world protein problem.

### Something to sneeze at

Many Canadians are only too familiar at this time of year with the symptoms of hay fever — sneezing, watery eyes and a stuffed-up nose — caused by ragweed, hay-fever sufferers' greatest enemy.

Other plants produce air-borne pollen, but none in the abundance or with the same toxicity as ragweed.

Three species of ragweed occur in Canada, with one, the common ragweed, found in every province.

"With the clearing of land and the intensification of agriculture, ragweed has spread and become a serious pest," says Cliff Crompton, a weed specialist with



*Common ragweed occurs in every province. At this time of year its pollen is the enemy of hay-fever sufferers.*

Agriculture Canada in Ottawa.

While the ragweed hay-fever sufferer in central Canada wonders when he may again breathe freely, his counterparts in the Maritimes and most of western Canada should be free of the distressing symptoms. "This is because the common ragweed has made itself most at home in the low-lying areas of Quebec and Ontario. From mid-August to mid-September, hay-fever sufferers in these areas, particularly in and around the cities of Montreal and Toronto will be plagued by the highest ragweed pollen counts in the country," Mr. Crompton says.

In the Atlantic region, ragweed stands are only extensive in certain areas such as the Annapolis Valley. Even in these areas the problem is nowhere as serious as in Ontario and Quebec. Newfoundland in

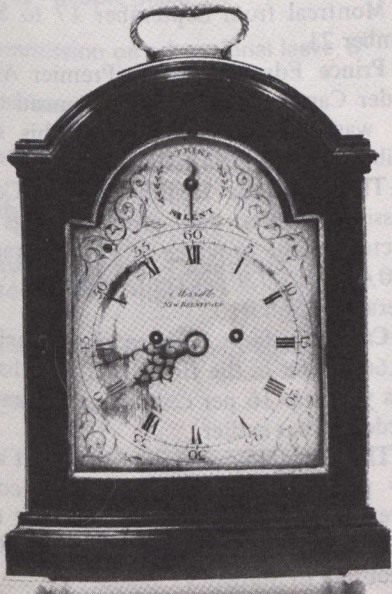
*(Continued on P. 8)*

# News of the arts

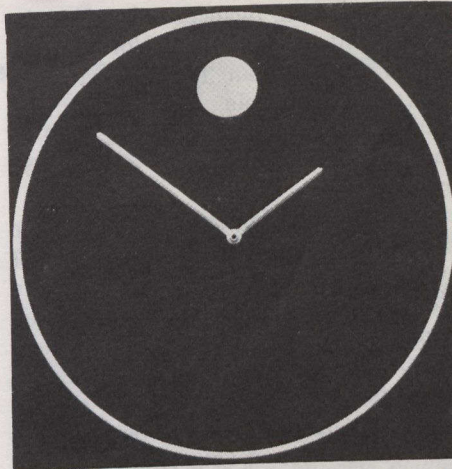
## Industrial design exhibition

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts' circulating exhibition on industrial design of the past and present will be shown at the Galerie Restigouche, Campbellton, New Brunswick, until September 30.

*Heritage of Yesterday and Tomorrow* encourages reflection on the impact of everyday objects. The theory of the show is that some of the objects — the London double-decker bus and the New York cab, for example — can be as important as the landscape in identifying the cities concerned.



Ebonized table clock (1780), from The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.



Painted aluminum and acrylic wall clock, designed by George Horwitt. An identical clock is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The exhibition includes loans from the collections of Archives Canada, the Château de Ramezay, the McCord Museum, the Montreal Military and Maritime Museum, the Musée du Québec, the Musée du Saguenay, and the Musée de Vaudreuil.

The objects range from saltcellars and peppermills to clocks and pans, from cauldrons and scales to kettles and cameras. In each case, older and contemporary versions are shown "with the purpose of stimulating perception rather than of simply allowing comparison", says Daniel Amadei, head of extension services of the museum.

A number of the contemporary objects have won awards in various countries. Many of the older ones are handmade, while contemporary pieces, conceived or manufactured by specialists, are distributed internationally.

## Theatre prepares for new season

John Wood, artistic director of English Theatre for the National Arts Centre, recently announced that the theatre's resident company would perform five productions during 1978/79, including three *premières*, and that the company would begin a national tour in January. The NAC will continue to be host in Ottawa to guest companies from across the country.

### The plays

The NAC theatre company will perform in: *Memoir*, John Murrell's comedy about Sarah Bernhardt, which opened at the Guelph Spring Festival last year, and which has been acclaimed by critics in London, England; *Hamlet*, interpreted in a 1930s setting, with Neil Munro in the title role, directed by John Wood; *Rabelais*, Jean-Louis Barrault's work taken from the five books of the Renaissance writer François Rabelais — a Canadian *première*, directed by John Wood with music by Alan Laing; *Floating World*, a satire on the brutality of war, by John Romeril, winner of the 1976 Canadian-Australian Literary Prize — the first North American production; *One Tiger to a Hill*, the world *première* production of a new play by Sharon Pollock — a drama about a hostage-taking incident in a Canadian penitentiary.

The Playhouse Theatre of British Columbia will perform its hit production of Tom Stoppard's comedy, *Travesties*, originally directed by Philip Hedley and featuring artistic director Christopher Newton.

## Arts briefs

The National Ballet of Canada has begun a five-and-a-half week tour to the Maritime provinces, Quebec and Ontario for a total of 31 performances. The repertoire includes the world *première* of Constantin Patsalas' *The Rite of Spring*; the country love story, *La Fille Mal Gardée*, by Frederick Ashton; Jerome Robbins' *Afternoon of a Faun*; *Motives II* and *The Dream*, both by Frederick Ashton; *Bayaderka, Act IV*; *Collective Symphony* by Dutch choreographers Van Manen, Van Schayk and Van Dantzig; Nureyev's Act III of *The Sleeping Beauty*; the *Don Quixote Pas de Deux*, and a *pas*

*de deux* from Ashton's *La Fille Mal Gardée*.

The Vancouver Art Gallery has started a car wash business to raise part of the \$100,000 necessary for the restoration of Emily Carr's paintings, which are beginning to deteriorate. The gasoline used as a paint thinner by the artist, poverty-stricken until her death in 1945, is eating the paper, the composition boards are buckling, and ultra-violet lights are discolouring the charcoal drawings. The gallery's collection is worth \$3.5 million.

The first major North American production of Tchaikovsky's opera *Joan of Arc* opens the Canadian Opera Company's 1978 fall season at the O'Keefe

Centre in Toronto. The season, which began September 13 and runs until November 4, will also include Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Richard Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

Three Canadian poets — P.K. Page, Earle Birney and Michael Ondaatje — will be in Britain from September 25 to October 8 on an exchange visit. Loughborough, Doncaster, Grimsby, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Liverpool, Bristol, Cheltenham and Oxford are on their itinerary. They will return to London for their final reading on October 8 at the Institute of Contemporary Arts. British poets visiting Canada on the exchange are C.H. Sisson, Geoffrey Hill and Brian Patten.

## Something to sneeze at

(Continued from P. 6)

particular is a haven from ragweed hay fever.

Manitoba has the dubious distinction of being a major centre for the giant ragweed, where infestations occur in the agricultural districts of the Red River Valley and pollen counts there are high enough to bring on the sniffles.

Canada's three most western provinces are almost free of ragweed pollen. The one exception is the southeastern part of Alberta, where several plants related to ragweed are common. Hay-fever sufferers tend to be sensitive to plants such as bur-ragweed and false ragweed.

The western ragweed, found in the dry sandy soils of the prairie region, resembles the common ragweed in general appearance, but is the least common of the three species and causes little problem. However, this weed is now found in Ontario and Quebec and adds to the discomfort of hay-fever sufferers in those areas.

To keep ragweed under control, continuous eradication programs must be carried out over a wide area with the proper use of herbicides.

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## News briefs

**Judge Robert Cliche**, the associate chief justice of Quebec's provincial court, who led a royal commission inquiry into corruption in the province's construction industry, died of a heart attack on September 5. He was 58. Judge Cliche was Quebec leader of the federal New Democratic Party from 1964 to 1968.

**The Canadian National Exhibition** set a new attendance record of 3,593,000 for 1978, passing last year's figure of 3,547,000.

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*Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.*

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

**Reductions in finances and staff** in the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs resulting from the Government's efforts to constrain expenditures will total \$32 million in 1978-79 and 1979-80 and include the elimination of over 150 man-years.

**Additional information** to help the public and municipal planning authorities avoid problems caused by flooding and erosion of the Great Lakes shores was announced recently by the federal and Ontario governments. New maps showing areas subject to flooding and erosion cover the Great Lakes shoreline area from the Sauble River on Lake Huron to Gananoque on Lake Ontario. The maps each cover up to 20 km of shoreline at a scale of 100 metres to the centimetre and are available at \$2.75 each from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Public Service Centre, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario.

**The Canadian International Development Agency** has made a \$60.5-million grant to Bangladesh to help it purchase essential industrial and agricultural goods from Canada.

**According to a study made public** recently, the raise in minimum wage in Quebec over the past 20 months has increased the number of unemployed in the province by between 25,000 and 42,000. Pierre Fortin, author of the study commissioned by the Quebec Minimum Wage Commission, says the already high minimum wage, to be raised to \$3.37 an hour on October 1, "has harmful effects on employment, on prices and the solvency of enterprises, and its net impact on the redistribution of income seems clearly ineffective by comparison with other instruments of redistribution".

**Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan** announced recently that the Animal Disease and Protection Act had been extended to cover the inspection and approval of animal embryo transfer centres. "Now that there are regulations in place, our Health of Animals Branch can inspect the centres for sanitation and check animals to ensure they are free of diseases prohibited by countries wishing to import Canadian livestock," Mr. Whelan said. The centres must also maintain comprehensive identification of embryos.

**This autumn Canadian apple growers** are expecting to harvest a crop substantially larger than the 1977 crop of 409,050,000 kilograms.

**The Export Development Corporation** and the Royal Bank of Canada have con-

cluded the financing of \$10.2 million to support the \$12-million sale of Canadian goods and services for the expansion of an electric generating station in Venezuela. The construction of an 87,000-kilowatt thermal generating plant, as part of the expansion of the Ramon Laguna generating station in Maracaibo, Venezuela, will sustain at least 470 man-years of employment for the exporters — C.I. Power Services Ltd. of Montreal, Quebec and Wilcox Canada Ltd. of Cambridge, Ontario — and some 20 sub-suppliers in Canada.

**About 800 of the world's leading** scientists, including some from Eastern Europe, attended the fourth International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases held in Montreal from September 17 to September 21.

**Prince Edward Island's Premier Alexander Campbell** recently announced that he was resigning his job and his seat (Liberal) in the provincial legislature.

**The Manitoba Health Services Commission** reports that gross earnings of doctors in the province in 1977 averaged \$60,440, up 7.9 per cent from the 1976 average of \$56,010.

**Canadian farm cash receipts** reached \$6.66 billion in the first seven months of this year, up 16 per cent from figures recorded a year earlier.

**The unemployment rate** in August was 8.5 per cent seasonally adjusted, compared with 8.4 per cent in July, but the jobless total declined by about 35,000, according to Statistics Canada.

**Solicitor General Jean-Jacques Blais** recently opened three new facilities of the Canadian Corrections Service in the prairie region. The new facilities, all located in Alberta, are a parole sub-district office in Lethbridge; Scarboro Centre, a larger community correctional centre in Calgary; and Edmonton Institution, a maximum security penitentiary in Edmonton.

**Canada will be one of nearly 400** exhibitors at the forty-eighth World Travel Congress of the American Society of Travel Agents to be held October 15 to 18 at Acapulco, Mexico. Participants in Canada's exhibit are the Canadian Government Office of Tourism, the provinces of Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories and the private firms of Zap Systems and Transum Worldwide Service.