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Multilateral trade negotiations benefit Canadian agriculture

Agriculture Minister John Wise has urged the Canadian agricultural industry to take advantage of the new, improved, and more secure export market opportunities created by the recently completed multilateral trade negotiations (MTN).

"After six years of tough bargaining, the negotiations are completed. But now the real action must begin. Tariff cuts on their own do not generate trade. It is now up to Canadian farmers, processors and exporters to translate these opportunities into cash sales," said Mr. Wise. "I look forward to working with all segments of the industry to meet the production and marketing challenges we face."

Tariff concessions for Canadian exports

U.S. concessions cover nearly \$500 million of imports from Canada and affect 80 per cent of the dutiable items exported from Canada to the U.S. About \$230-million worth of previously suitable Canadian agricultural exports to the U.S. now will enter duty-free. Another \$60 million will be subject to tariff reductions of 50 per cent or more. A number of U.S. and Canadian tariffs on products which

are traded both ways have been reduced and matched at a lower level.

The European Economic Community (EEC), Canada's largest market for agricultural products, will reduce tariffs on a limited but nevertheless significant range of agricultural products, affecting about \$140-million worth of Canadian exports.

In Japan, Canada's largest single country market for agricultural products, Canada obtained tariff concessions covering more than \$400 million of exports at 1978 levels.

In general, the tariff reductions will be phased in over a seven-year period beginning January 1, 1980 and ending January 1, 1987.

Canada's 1978 agricultural trade

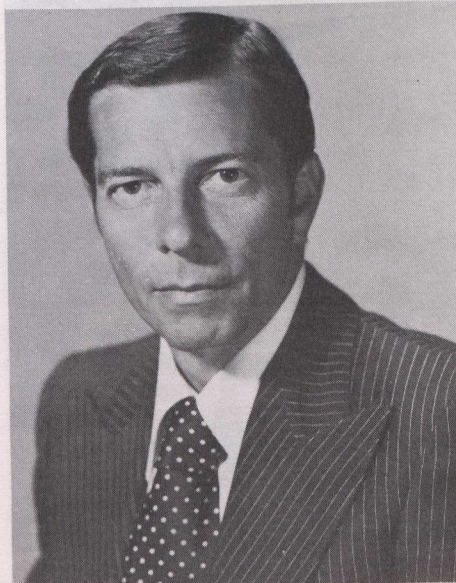
The value of agricultural exports and imports reached record levels in 1978. Last year, Canadian agricultural exports rose by 13.2 per cent in value to a new high of \$4,830 million. Agricultural imports had a similar growth in value, increasing by 12.8 per cent to just over \$4 billion. Canada's trade surplus rose by 15 per cent to \$817 million last year.

"Because of the lower value of the dollar there has been a greater demand in the international market-place for our agricultural produce, which has been translated into increased sales," explains Jim Lohoar, an economist at Agriculture Canada in Ottawa.

"At the same time, however, the lower dollar has made imported farm produce more expensive here in Canada.

"One reason for the higher value of exports has been the increased quantities of our goods sold abroad. For example, Canada exported 18.6 million metric tonnes of grains last year valued at almost \$2.4 billion, up from the 17.7 million metric tonnes we exported in 1977 worth \$2.2 billion. The volume of rapeseed also has increased sharply by 56 per cent in two years."

Other areas of export growth included processed grain products such as wheat



Agriculture Minister John Wise.

Twenty years ago this week...

Northern Affairs Minister Hamilton announced the discovery of oil at Eagle Plain in the Yukon. It was the first such discovery in the Yukon.

Aug. 15/79

flour and animal feeds, as well as oilseeds and oilseed products, pork, fruits and tobacco.

Canada's leading exports in 1978 were wheat (\$1,910 million), barley (\$380 million), rapeseed (\$370 million), furs, hides and skins (\$191 million), live cattle (\$165 million) and animal feeds (\$122 million). Grains accounted for 49 per cent of farm exports. Exports of dairy products remained unchanged from the figure recorded in 1977.

Where it all goes

In 1978, three markets — Japan, United States and the European Economic Community (EEC) — accounted for 53 per cent of Canada's export trade, compared with 57 per cent in 1976 and 55 per cent in 1977. Japan is still the country's most important single market, importing produce valued at \$833 million. The U.S. imported \$789 million of Canadian agricultural goods while the EEC provided a market for commodities valued at \$925 million.

"However, new markets showed promise last year. Other countries in the Pacific including South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines are growing markets. Each has a limited land base for its own agricultural production, coupled with large populations to feed. But these countries have developed manufacturing export

Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise and his provincial counterparts met in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, July 22-25 to discuss agricultural development plans for the 1980s.

Mr. Wise said he was pleased with the spirit of co-operation which prevailed during the meeting. All the ministers supported a proposed development strategy, which placed emphasis on marketing transportation, the development agreements between the federal and provincial governments and the need to explain the importance of agriculture to the general public. The ministers also agreed that more agricultural research was needed and that more must be done to aid farmers who are just starting out.

bases which are now providing the foreign exchange they need to buy our food," Mr. Lohoar says.

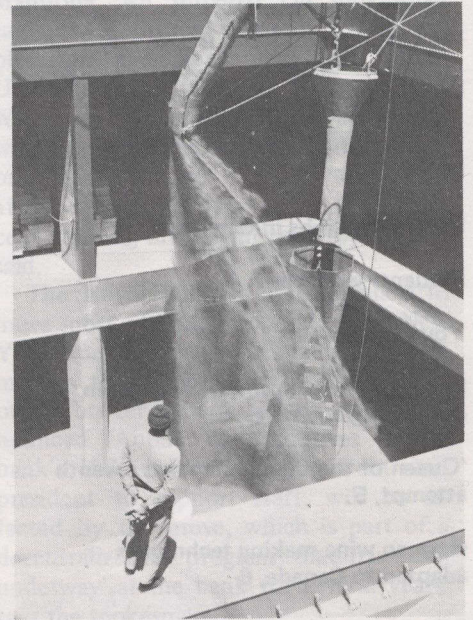
"Another area is the oil-producing nations. These countries are attempting to develop their agricultural base and are in need of breeding stock, feed grains, forage seeds, and farm machinery as well as our agricultural expertise."

Exports of potatoes and vegetables declined last year. Potato exports fell by 41 per cent in 1978 to levels recorded before the brief increase in 1977 that resulted from the drought in Europe.

Imports

"While the value of agricultural imports increased, the actual quantities imported rose only slightly and, in some cases, declined. One example of this was in the case of imports of corn. Last year Canada imported 419 thousand metric tonnes of corn, or 373 thousand metric tonnes less than [the volume required] in 1976. This lower level of imports has come about as a result of increased domestic corn production," Mr. Lohoar says.

The United States continued to be the major source of imported farm products, with trade from the U.S. increasing by



Loading wheat in hold of ocean-going freighter in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

12.3 per cent to \$2,300 million in 1978. Its share of imports was again about 58 per cent last year.

"Because of the reduced value of our dollar, there has been a slowing in the demand for imported produce. More domestic produce is finding markets at home, resulting in a greater degree of self-sufficiency, and greater production. The pork industry is one area which has experienced a turn-around last year. Where previously we had a deficit trade balance in pork, we now have a positive one," Mr. Lohoar says.

Fruits and nuts were the leading imports in 1978, increasing 26 per cent to \$818 million. Plantation crops, including tea and coffee, were valued at \$716 million. Other leading imports were vegetables at \$446 million, meats at \$331 million, oilseed products at \$263 million and sugar at \$211 million.



"Jet-set" cattle are loaded at Toronto International Airport for shipment to Haiti. Cattle exports accounted for \$165 million in 1978.

Tariff agreement terminated

The Canadian Government is ending the preferential tariff treatment South Africa now receives under the 1932 Canada/South Africa Trade Agreement and the British Preferential Tariff (BPT), the Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald, and the Minister of Finance John Crosbie announced July 27.

Termination of the agreement will not take effect before the end of January 1980. Legislation to withdraw the non-contractual preferences accorded South Africa under the BPT is expected to be introduced by the Government this autumn in conjunction with legislation to implement the tariff results of the multi-lateral trade negotiations (MTN).

The withdrawal of preferential tariff treatment from South African goods will mean that South African exports to Canada will be subject to most-favoured-nation rates of duty. Canada/South Africa trade relations in the future will be governed by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The decision to end the agreement resulted from a review of preferences exchanged by the two countries particularly in light of the extensive tariff changes which will be implemented as a consequence of the MTN, the ministers explained. The size of the imbalance in preferential trade in South Africa's favour indicated there was little economic justification for Canada to continue exchanging preferential tariff treatment, said the ministers.

Canada/U.S. reach accord on transboundary air quality

The Canadian and U.S. governments have agreed on seven principles that will form the basis of a co-operative agreement to improve the air quality along the boundary between the two countries. A joint statement outlining the principles was released in Ottawa and Washington on July 26.

In the statement both governments expressed concern over the acid rain phenomenon affecting the environments of both countries and agreed that this problem could be dealt with most effectively on a co-operative basis.

Acid rain is the sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide released into the atmos-

phere by cars and industries burning fossil fuels. The acid, which pollutes lakes and upsets the plant-growing capacity in land, falls to earth in rain, snow or hail.

Discussions on transboundary air quality were initiated in November 1978, and during the year the Canadian and American governments established a Bilateral Research Consultation Group on the Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants to co-ordinate research in both countries.

"...Both Canada and the United States share a common determination to reduce or prevent transboundary air pollution which injures health and property on the other side of the boundary. Recognizing the importance and urgency of the problem and believing that a basis exists for the development of a co-operative bilateral agreement on air quality, the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada therefore intend to move their discussions beyond the informal stage to develop such an agreement," says the joint statement.

The following seven principles were enunciated in the statement:

- Prevention and reduction of transboundary air pollution.
- Introduction of new technologies to control emission of pollutants.
- Increased notification and consultation on developments that could result in transboundary air pollution.
- Increased scientific information and research on air pollution processes, effects, and emission control.
- Expanded monitoring and evaluation of the effects of transboundary air pollution.
- Assessment of long-term environmental trends.
- Consideration of such matters as liability and compensation for the impacts of air pollution.

International meetings in Canada

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) will hold their joint annual meetings in Toronto in September 1982. About 5,000 delegates are expected to attend.

The two institutions are at the centre of the world's financial system. The IMF is responsible for overseeing the international monetary system, including the functioning of exchange markets and the provision of balance of payments finan-

cing. The IBRD (the World Bank) and its subsidiaries, the International Development Association and the International Finance Corporation, are the largest sources of financial assistance to the less developed countries.

The meetings will bring together ministers of finance, governors of central banks, senior officials, and special guests from the private financial sector of the 138 member countries of the IMF and the members of the World Bank.

Professional job outlook good

The job outlook for professional occupations remains good in Canada, according to a survey by the Technical Service Council, in Toronto.

Job vacancies rose 8.4 per cent in the second quarter of 1979 from the first quarter, according to the survey. During the previous 12 months, professional job vacancies increased 41.7 per cent across the country.

"Competition for qualified specialists is still intense...and we expect many of these shortages to continue for the balance of the year, although some new graduates are experiencing difficulty finding work," said N.A. Macdougall, the council's general manager and director.

The survey includes openings in manufacturing, mining, consulting and service industries.

The most serious shortages were for specialists with three to ten years' experience. Systems analysts and computer programmers were in greatest demand, with 225 job vacancies in the latest quarter. Mechanical sales engineers were next with 222 openings. There were 137 openings for plant engineers and 97 for accountants.

Other professional groups with high job vacancy rates were chemical process engineers, plant managers, petroleum engineers, mechanical draftsmen, electronic technologists, maintenance superintendents and municipal engineers. Openings for manufacturing engineers, industrial engineers and personnel managers also increased substantially.

There were fewer than ten openings during the latest quarter for each of the following groups: research analysts, research chemists, ceramic engineers, inorganic chemists, biologists, corporate lawyers, foresters, junior civil engineers and physicists.

First Canadian receives Columbia University medal



Columbia University

Dr. Helen K. Mussallem, executive director of the Canadian Nurses Association, recently became the first Canadian and the first nurse to receive the Teachers College/Columbia University medal for distinguished service. The citation read to Dr. Mussallem (centre) by President Lawrence A. Cremin (right) during the graduate school of education annual commencement convocation in New York City, stated in part, "Nurse and teacher of nurses, your lifelong concern for professionalism in nursing and in the education of nurses has been a powerful influence on Canadian health policies; through your wise counsel, you have advanced the quality of health care throughout the developed world."

Miners seek jobs in Canada

British coal miners are lining up to apply for jobs in Canada. In a recruiting drive to fill 40 jobs in Alberta from the Barnsley area in England, McIntyre Mines Limited of Toronto reported 700 applications.

"We can't believe it. We have had as many people to see us in two days as we expected in three weeks, said William McAdam, the company's assistant general manager.

Because of the flood of applications in Barnsley, McIntyre may call off further recruiting sessions planned for Doncaster, Durham and Nottinghamshire in England.

McIntyre is seeking workers for the Grand Cache area in the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains in northwestern Alberta.

A spokesman for the Canadian High Commission's immigration division said another company may also be planning to recruit mine workers in Britain. "To a certain extent, we have a shortage of miners in Canada," the spokesman said. "There tend to be shortages in isolated areas."

Students welcomed

The University of British Columbia's (UBC) International House provides a year-round opportunity for Canadians to explore places like Nigeria, Indonesia or Denmark without ever leaving the comfort of their living rooms.

This summer workers at International House are attempting to introduce Canadians to some 300 students from other countries, who are expected to begin their studies this September at UBC in Vancouver.

The new students, who are mostly graduate students, have little idea of what the university or the city is like, what the climate is like, or the people are like, and most do not have any contacts in the Vancouver area.

"Once they've been accepted, International House sends them a package of material that we've put together explaining what to expect in Vancouver. And they get an impersonal letter," explained Saf Bokhari, program co-ordinator for International House. "But we'd like to introduce them to people who live here

before they come."

The reception and orientation program provides a Vancouver person wanting to meet an overseas student with information about the new student. This person then writes the new student explaining details about Canada, Vancouver, the university, living conditions or any other relevant information. If possible the Vancouverite will also meet the newcomer on his arrival and will offer assistance in finding accommodation.

From mid-August to mid-September, International House will set up a booth at the Vancouver airport to greet overseas students. A personal Canadian contact has been arranged for about 200 of the 300 expected students.

Youth group aids Third World

Thousands of young Canadians have become active in a national organization aimed at increasing their awareness of the needs of the Third World, reports Guy Gervais in *Action* 1979.

The organization, Jeunesse du Monde, celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year, was founded for missionary purposes and has since developed into a broadly-based educational movement for co-operation with the Third World.

More than 200 Jeunes du Monde clubs unite, through pastoral work, franco-phone primary and secondary school students from Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick to work with various agencies such as Development and Peace, Help for the Leper, Rallye Tiers-Monde, Oxfam and Amnesty International.

The clubs provide information on a continuous basis through weekly meetings, projects, trips and exhibitions — activities designed to develop attitudes in young people which they will retain after they have left school.

The year's activities centre around a theme set by each school and are based on four fundamental objectives: the fight against racism, international peace, justice for all peoples and evangelization.

This year, as an exception, Jeunesse du Monde has proposed that its members draft a charter of young people's rights; points of comparison between Canada and Third World countries will be studied under the theme "the rights of young people in society".

Jeunesse du Monde's director, Joseph Foucher says that while the organiza-

News of the arts

tion's projects are often only stopgap measures, its most important role is in making young people aware, its continuity and the fact that its initiative supports a regular educational effort.

The clubs receive indirect assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). In 1978 CIDA provided nearly 50 per cent of the funds for a nation-wide education program in international solidarity. The program led various clubs to take charge of seven projects submitted by CIDA officers already stationed in Third World countries — including Rwanda, Senegal, Zambia, Haiti, Peru and Brazil — who then worked closely with the students in carrying out the projects.

In one such project, the members of the Jeunes du Monde clubs raised money to support a health education program proposed by Sister Biblane Parisien, in charge of preventive medicine in a Cap-Haïtien clinic in Haiti. The project, based at the Sacré-Coeur parish clinic, covered 23 districts where there are 15 primary schools; adults were given instruction at community centres and in schools with the help of the teachers.

Fund-raising constitutes the core of the students' project. The students follow the overseas phase of the project closely; results are evaluated and the repercussions on the school environment analyzed.

Such action projects are the basis of Jeunesse du Monde's principal activities, attempting primarily to channel energies and the desire to assist into concrete



The clubs provide information on a continuous basis through weekly meetings.

action. It is more productive, explains Mr. Foucher, to centre the entire awareness process around such exercises because the result is twofold: effective aid, although temporary, is provided and individuals are confronted with a real situation.

"We use evangelization as a means of effecting change and as a vehicle for promoting our search for justice and peace," says Mr. Foucher. "The repercussions of such a change in the attitudes of individuals, if it occurs, are immeasurable."

In June, Jeunesse du Monde celebrated its twentieth anniversary by holding a gathering in support of international brotherhood at Man and his World in Montreal. Other special anniversary events planned include a public festival at Place des Nations in Montreal, the publication of a charter of young people's rights and a three-week international conference to give francophone countries the opportunity to share co-operation and development education experiences.

Program assists business to invest in developing countries

Canadian companies interested in markets in less developed countries now can participate in a new program designed to stimulate increased involvement by the Canadian private sector in the industrial development and growth of these countries.

The Industrial Co-operation Program launched recently by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is to act as a "catalyst in bringing together appropriate commercial interests plus developing an environment where business has a better chance of success", says Maurice Hladik, director of the Asia and Africa bureau in CIDA's industrial co-operation division.

The program will have a positive developmental impact on developing nations in areas such as job creation, increased income, improved availability of manufactured goods, technology transfer, and exposure to technical and managerial skills, says Mr. Hladik.

Under the program, project planning is primarily the responsibility of the private sector, rather than that of the governmental planning process which marks more traditional aid programming.

CIDA plans to work directly with the companies and organizations involved in

projects, supporting their initiatives in ways which will minimize government intervention.

"Typically, companies taking advantage of this program," said Mr. Hladik, "view it as a marketing tool whereby a branch facility is established in a developing country for final assembly with key components coming from Canada."

At present, Canadian private sector investment in the Third World ranks fifth of all developed countries after the United States, Japan, West Germany and Britain. The investment totals approximately \$3 billion, increasing at an average annual rate of more than \$500 million.

(Canada Commerce, June/July 1979.)

'Queen of the Channel' makes seventh attempt

Cindy Nicholas of Scarborough, Ontario will represent Canada at the Fifth International English Channel Swim to be held between Dover, England and Cap Gris Nez, France on August 22.

Miss Nicholas, who has been nicknamed Queen of the Channel by virtue of a record-setting six crossings, left Toronto recently for Folkestone, England to begin training for the event, sponsored by the Saudi Arabian Swimming Federation.

Seventeen swimmers from 12 nations will take part in the mixed swim, including Californian Penny Dean who holds the world record of 7 hours and 40 minutes for the cross from England to France.

"I definitely don't think we will see a world record," said Miss Nicholas, who has been clocked at 8 hours and 58 minutes over the distance.

The twenty-one-year-old said she would go through a daily training routine for the swim and may even attempt a solo channel crossing if tides and weather are conducive.

"The water temperature is between minus 5 and 56 degrees Fahrenheit," said Miss Nicholas, "and that takes some getting used to. It's also a bit of a transition getting used to the wavy salt water. Jellyfish are also a problem."

Miss Nicholas, will be vying for a first prize of 1,000 pounds sterling for being the first across the channel.

Second prize of 750 pounds and a third prize worth 500 pounds are being offered by the Saudi Arabian federation.

German wine-making techniques adapted to Canada

An Ontario university professor is helping provincial wine-makers to produce better domestic wine.

Professor C.L. Duitschaever, of the University of Guelph's department of food and science, has been working for four years to adapt German wine-making technology to Canada. The process, which the professor studied at a research station at Geisenheim am Rhein in West Germany, is being praised for producing a fresh white wine with a cleaner colour and lighter aroma.

The Duitschaever process clarifies grape juice by spinning it and removing the sediment. Bentonite, a clay, is added to the clarified juice before fermentation. Bentonite absorbs protein matter in the juice, the professor says.

The juice is allowed to ferment for up to two months, three or four times longer than usual, at 10-to-13 degrees Celsius, about half the normal temperature. Professor Duitschaever says this makes fermentation less violent and preserves the primary bouquet — the aroma of the

grape as opposed to the scent developed during aging.

The project is the only one of its kind that Professor Duitschaever knows of in Canada. He says projects such as this are common in Europe "where they have stations that are solely devoted to this".

Dieter Guttler, wine master with Jordan Wines in St. Catharines, says his firm has been working closely with Professor Duitschaever for three years and that the method is definitely superior.

Professor Duitschaever says the biggest problem with Ontario wines is the variety of grapes that can grow in the Canadian climate.

"Wineries cannot do miracles, you can only do so much with the grape. If they have a first-quality grape, they can make a first-quality wine."

In the past, Ontario grape growers have used the native labrusca variety because it is the only one that could withstand northern climatic extremes. But experiments with French hybrids and vinifera varieties are also proving successful.

Salt drives moose into trouble

Scores of moose are involved every year in collisions with automobiles in Quebec's provincial parks and the province's tourism department has concluded it is mainly because of the salt.

The animals are attracted to the shoulders of highways in provincial parks because of the presence of road salt used to melt snow in the winter, the department says.

The salt often turns roadside pools of water into brine which the moose find tasty. In addition, the animals are attracted to the roads by the warmth of the pavement.

About 60 moose-vehicle accidents occur every year in La Verendrye Park, north of Montreal, and another 40 in Laurentide Park, north of Quebec City. Several of the accidents result in deaths and serious injuries to passengers.

To prevent the accidents, which take place most often after dark and during the summer months, the tourism and transport departments have begun an experimental program to remove the salty water near the roadsides.

Forest preserved as study site

One of the finest areas of virgin deciduous trees in Canada was designated recently as a forest preserve to be used as a study site for Canadian and international biologists and foresters.

The preserve, consisting of 120 acres in an area of 600 acres of land at Lac Doré, northeast of Ottawa, is owned by Herb Shaw and Sons Limited, an Ontario forest products company.

The forest, unique to eastern Canada, was officially dedicated at a special ceremony at the site as a joint project of the Shaw family, the National Museum of Natural Sciences and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. It will be known as the Shaw Woods Nature Preserve.

The tract contains white pine, hemlock, cedar, yellow birch, sugar maple, red maple, white ash, black ash, and numerous other species. Five years of discussion and planning between the National Museum, the Nature Conservancy and the Shaw family led to the establishment of the preserve.

In the fall of 1973, a museum research team sought the Nature Conservancy's assistance to protect the forest. The tract

was considered representative of Canada's heritage exemplifying the forest environment prevalent in the region before large-scale logging began during the nineteenth century.

The trees in the nature preserve are among the largest in Canada, east of the Rockies. White pines tower 138 feet in height, sugar maples are 123 feet, white ash rise 114 feet above the ground, hemlocks are 108 feet and beech, 105 feet.

(From The Forest Scene, June 1979.)

Marine transit meeting in Halifax

Representatives of marine interests from around the world will meet in Halifax to attend the International Marine Transit Association's (IMTA) annual conference to be held September 5-7.

The designing of cost-effective ro-ro (roll on, roll off) ferries for the 1980s will be the focus of the conference. Other topics of discussion will include: the availability of fuels, cost reduction through technological innovation, on-board maintenance, trends in insurance settlements and coping with regulatory authorities.

The IMTA represents ferry operators and others associated with the industry world-wide.

Montreal international marathon

The Montreal International Marathon will be held August 26 in Montreal, with some 100 male and female runners competing on the 42-km course. An open race, the following day, is expected to attract more than 5,000 competitors.

Jerome Drayton, a Canadian who won the Fukuoka, Japan marathon in 1969, 1975 and 1976, and the Boston marathon in 1977, will participate in this year's run. He was sixth at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and won a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games held last August at Edmonton, Alberta.

Olympic champion Waldemar Cierpinski of East Germany, Bill Rodgers of the United States, and Leonid Moseev of the Soviet Union have also confirmed their intention to enter the Montreal event.

Among other countries expected to be represented are Australia, New Zealand, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Poland and West Germany.

News of the arts

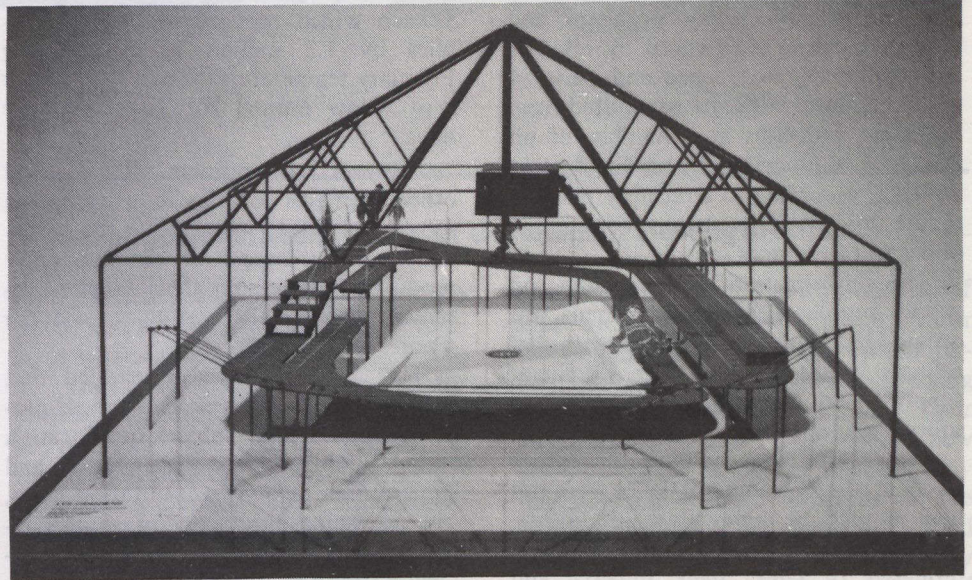
Theatre designs win special mention at Prague Quadrennial

For the second consecutive time, Canada has won special mention at the leading design and architecture congress, the Prague Quadrennial in Czechoslovakia.

The set and costume works of five designers, and architectural achievements by seven firms were entered in the Canadian exhibit at the 1979 event, which ended July 2.

The Canadian entry in the international exposition and competition was chosen by the Associated Designers of Canada and was sponsored by the Department of External Affairs.

The five designers were selected to reflect the vast diversity of scenic design in Canada. The designers and works chosen were: Susan Benson, *Julius Caesar*, *A Midsummer's Night Dream* (Stratford Festival); Michael Eagan, *The Dream Play*, *Woyzeck*, *De La Manipulation de Dieu* (National Arts Centre); Astrid Janson, *Les Canadiens*, *Esmeralda and the Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Toronto Workshop Productions); Cameron Porteous, *Oedipus*, *Tales from the Vienna Woods*, *The Crucible* (Vancouver Playhouse) and Robert Prevost, *Les Fourberies de Scapin* (Theatre de Nouveau Monde).



The set for Les Canadiens designed by Astrid Janson.

The four-yearly competition is sponsored by the Czechoslovakian ministry of culture as a world forum of scenic and costume design and theatre architecture. This year a special exhibit on puppets and marionettes was presented to mark the International Year of the Child. The Canadian entry featured the work of

Felix Mirbt in addition to that of seven puppet companies from across Canada.

Parts of the Canadian exhibition will be presented at Canada House in London in September and October and at the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris in November and December.

Canada-Wales writers exchange

The Canada Council and the Welsh Academy of Writers recently announced a new exchange program for writers from both countries.

Under the program, a Welsh writer will visit Canada for a week to ten days of talks, seminars and readings, as the guest of a Canadian writer. At a later date, the Canadian will visit Wales for a similar period.

The Canadian writer will be chosen by the Canada Council; and the Welsh counterpart will be chosen by the Welsh Academy of Writers. Return air fare for the Canadian writer will be paid by the Canada Council, and for the Welsh writer by the Academy. Accommodation will be the responsibility of the host writer.

The exchange program is open to English-speaking writers who have had a successful writing career over a number of years in the area of fiction, poetry or drama, and who are still active in their profession.

A whale of an exhibit

For the second year in a row the Museum of Natural Science in Ottawa is sponsoring two whale-sighting excursions on the St. Lawrence River.

The three-day excursions aboard a research vessel in late August and early September will be open to the public at a cost of \$203 for the trip starting in Ottawa.

Although there can be no guarantees of whales being sighted, five species of whale have been seen in the area selected for the excursions, say museum officials.

Meanwhile a whale exhibit, attempting to raise public awareness of the great mammals, opened at the museum recently.

The exhibit offers a glimpse into the history of whale hunting and a look at the lives of whales through a series of films, workshops and a family theatre.

The display is scheduled to travel the country, although an itinerary has not yet been announced.

Arts briefs

Film director Robin Spry has begun shooting an all-Canadian production of *Suzanne*, based on *The Snow Lark*, a novel by Ronald Sutherland, who wrote the screenplay with Mr. Spry. The movie, estimated to cost \$1.5 million, is being produced by Robert Lantos and Stephen J. Roth. The story is set in Montreal in the Forties, Fifties and Sixties, and filming will be on location in Montreal. Jennifer Dale will take the part of Suzanne. Others in the cast are Gabriel Arcand and Michele Rossignol of Montreal and Winston Rekert of Vancouver.

The first Canadian gallery to be devoted to theatre design was recently opened at Harbourfront in Toronto. The gallery, opened with the work of designer Mary Kerr, and will have monthly exhibits from members of the Associated Designers of Canada over the next year. The shows will consist of drawings, full renderings, photographs, models and costumes, all with accompanying texts.

Government report explains heating oil supply problems

The heating oil supply problems and increased prices experienced by retailers and consumers in Quebec and parts of eastern Ontario in February resulted from operating problems at a number of oil refineries combined with abnormally cold weather, according to a recently released report by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

The investigation into heating oil supply problems in Eastern Canada was ordered last March following concern that refiners might misuse their dominant supply position at that critical time to squeeze out resellers.

The investigation found that inventory levels at the beginning of 1979 were not high enough to compensate for unforeseen operating problems at the Montreal refineries of Gulf, Shell, Imperial and

Texaco which reduced heating oil supplies by 1.2 million barrels and for February temperatures which were 15 per cent below normal for 20 consecutive days.

However, the refiners affected, and other members of the industry, made substantial efforts to alleviate the potentially serious impact of the temporary product shortages on their reseller customers and on the consumer, said the report.

The investigation also revealed that independent fuel oil resellers whose product supplies were subject to allocation suffered operating inconveniences and some extraordinary transportation costs, but no major product shortage. All resellers experienced substantial price increases over a relatively short period.

The report recommended that:

- The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources should not issue a price guideline at this time. However, it should regularly review the market share of independent resellers and terminal operators and obtain information on margins available to independent resellers.
- Refiners should better explain their pricing and supply policies to independent resellers, and terminal operators should enter sales agreements only to the extent that their product supply requirements have been assured.
- Because the fluctuations in inventory levels and unexpected breakdowns which occurred this past winter may occur again, the National Energy Board should consider making export licences for heating oil dependent on specific supply conditions prevailing at the time of shipment rather than only at the time of the granting of the licence.

News briefs

Brigadier-General Claude LaFrance, 50, commander of 10 Tactical Air Group in St. Hubert, Quebec, has been promoted to major-general and appointed deputy chief of staff, plans, NORAD headquarters, Colorado Springs has announced. In addition Colonel David Wightman, 47, commander of the aerospace engineering and testing establishment Canadian Forces Base, Cold Lake, Alberta, has been promoted to brigadier-general and becomes chief, NATO airborne early warning program management agency, Brunssum, the Netherlands, the Department of National Defence has announced.

The Export Development Corporation has concluded an arrangement with the Banque Nationale pour le Développement Economique du Maroc (BNDE), on behalf of the Kingdom of Morocco, for the use of a \$200-million line of credit

for the procurement in Canada of Canadian goods and services by Moroccan companies.

Federal payments to provincial and municipal governments will reach an estimated 11.2 billion dollars in fiscal year 1979-80, approximately 22 per cent of the estimated total budgetary expenditures of the Federal Government, according to a report released by Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations William Jarvis.

Under an agreement between Dome Petroleum Limited of Calgary and Mesa Petroleum Company of Amarillo, Texas, the former will acquire Mesa's Canadian oil and gas properties and related facilities and equipment. Mesa will receive \$200 million in cash and short term interest bearing notes at closing plus a \$440-million interest bearing term-royalty on the producing properties. Mesa will retain a 12.5 per cent gross overriding royalty interest in the undeveloped properties, consisting of about 1.2 million net acres.

The Bank of Montreal has announced that William D. Mulholland, its president and chief executive officer, was named vice-chairman of the supervisory board of Allgemeine Deutsche Credit-Anstalt of Frankfurt at the German bank's annual meeting. The Bank of Montreal recently acquired a 25.1 per cent interest in Deutsche Credit from Norddeutsche Landesbank of Hannover, West Germany, with

an option to produce an additional 25 per cent. The Bank of Montreal also announced J.A. Horton, London-based vice-president of its Europe, Middle East and Africa division, was elected a member of the Deutsche-Credit supervisory board. The bank is also locating a senior management team in Frankfurt headed by senior vice-president C.T.V. Arentschildt.

The Nova Scotia Government will use a new expense monitoring system to reduce 1978's \$55 million-\$75 million deficit to \$17.6 million in 1979, provincial Finance Minister Matheson has announced. A revised control system using computers, which will be in place by April 1980, will enable the Finance Department to monitor all programs and departments on a monthly, weekly or daily basis.

William Valliere believes any animal's life should be saved — even if it means giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a skunk. A Toronto woman recently saw a family of skunks under a veranda and called the Toronto Humane Society, which referred her to Mr. Valliere the founder of the Sanctuary for Endangered Animals. "We flooded them out with a garden hose," Mr. Valliere explained. But the last baby skunk to surrender to the water appeared to be dead. I applied mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for about 20 minutes," he said, adding that even the ten-day-old kit had the familiar aroma.

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