

Canada Weekly

Volume 6, No. 22

May 31, 1978



Ottawa, Canada

Federal block funding for provincial social services, 1

Annual check-up under way for fitness questionnaire, 2

Japanese External Economic Affairs Minister visits Canada, 3

Argentinian refugees welcome, 3

Progress report following conference of First Ministers, 3

Education characteristics, 4

Another unsung hero, 4

Adult training in Nova Scotia, 5

Cheap liquid fuel with wood base, 5

Adventure in Ottawa for 270 young Canadian citizens, 5

Aerial thermography — important in energy conservation, 6

New salmon hatcheries, 6

News of the arts — publishing, arts brief, 7

News briefs, 8

Federal block funding for provincial social services

Increased funding and greater flexibility for the provinces form the basis of social services financing legislation introduced in the House of Commons on May 12 by Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin.

The legislation provides for federal contributions for social services such as day care for children, transportation for the disabled and home support services. Federal contributions to social services will rise in the next ten years to \$70 for each Canadian from the current national average of \$22, or from a total of \$577 million in 1978-79, the first year of the new funding, to approximately \$1.9 billion in 1987-88.

Under the proposed Social Services Financial Act, provinces will receive lump-sum payments for social services rather than a percentage of actual expenditures (formerly the Federal Government contributed about 50 per cent of the provinces' costs, under the Canada Assistance Plan). A renewed and conditional shared-cost approach had been proposed in the social services bill introduced in the House of Commons in June 1977. However, after provinces had expressed their desire for greater flexibility, federal and provincial welfare ministers met in Ottawa in March, and agreed to adopt a block-funding approach. A similar funding arrangement has been in effect since April 1977 for health services.

Ottawa's contribution under the block-funding agreement will be based on a formula that takes into consideration the amount of money the provinces received in 1977-78 for social services under the Canada Assistance Plan, the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act, and the Young Offenders agreements in some provinces. In addition, the fund will be increased each year, based on the growth of the gross national product and of the population. Approximately \$150 million will be added to the block fund next year to provide for further development of new services. During the ten



Monique Bégin

years, provincial differences above or below the current national average contribution will be eliminated.

New era of co-operation

"This social services financing bill signals the beginning of a new era of federal-provincial co-operation," said the minister. "And it is co-operation based on trust. Although concerns have been expressed about the freedom provinces will now have to spend these funds as they decide, I have every confidence that the provinces will continue to meet the social services needs of their area. Both the Federal Government and the provinces are committed to providing as effective and appropriate a network of social services as economically as possible."

"This new arrangement will provide for the development of social services, and will also allow the provinces to have greater flexibility in order to meet their own requirements," she stated.

Probable inclusions

While specific social services will be determined by the provinces, it is expected that they will include: crisis intervention; information and referral; family planning;



The Royal Military College of Canada, in Kingston, Ontario, opened one-hundred-and-two years ago tomorrow, with a class of 18 gentlemen cadets.

May 31, 78

History and progress of social services in Canada

In Canada, the provinces are responsible for the provision of social services. In the early years of Confederation, the provinces relied on private, religious and charitable organizations to provide them. As these services became more important in the lives of Canadians, provinces and municipalities began to take increased responsibility for their delivery and financing.

In recognition of the growing impact of social services, the Federal Government became directly involved in their financing on behalf of special groups. In recent years, two of the more important pieces of legislation have been the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (1961) and the Canada Assistance Plan (1966).

The Social Security Review undertaken in 1973 identified the need for an increased range of services to a wider clientele. As a result, Bill C-57 was introduced in June 1977.

It soon became increasingly apparent that the traditional funding mechanism, conditional cost sharing, was not as appropriate as it had been. The provinces wanted more autonomy and flexibility, the Federal Government more control on expenditures and both wanted to be able to devote more of their resources to the development of the social services sector. The provinces were therefore offered a substitute method of financing, block funding, for the same set of services that the federal and provincial Ministers had agreed were necessary for the country. Through the Social Services Financing Act, the Federal Government is responding to the changing social and personal needs of Canadians by committing increased funding to assist the provinces with the costs of providing, developing, extending, and improving social services throughout Canada to ensure that adequate services are available to all Canadians.

children's services; rehabilitation services; social integration services; day care for children; home support services; meal services; day care for adults; transportation services for the disabled; counselling; employment-related services; community development services; and community-oriented preventive services.

The bill also calls for the establishment of a \$50-million Rehabilitation Fund, which will provide cost sharing for build-

ing or improving rehabilitation centres.

Funding under the proposed Social Services Financing Act should be effective retroactively to April 1, 1978, as agreed to at the federal-provincial meeting in March.

Direct social assistance to individuals (welfare) will continue to be cost-shared with the provinces by the Federal Government under the Canada Assistance Plan and will not be affected by this bill.

Annual check-up under way for fitness questionnaire

The Canada Health Survey, an on-going national study begun recently to obtain information on the health status of the Canadian population, will involve approximately 12,000 homes (38,000 individuals) from 78 communities this year. Households were chosen at random by Statistics Canada, which is co-sponsoring the survey with the Department of National Health and Welfare.

An interviewer will visit each household and complete a general questionnaire about its members, their health and use of health care facilities. Each member of the household 15 years of age and over will be asked to complete a confidential, self-administered questionnaire on exercise, smoking, alcohol use and driving.

In one-third of the households a nurse will return with the interviewer to conduct a series of physical measures and tests, including measurements for blood pressure, height, weight, and skinfold thickness, blood samples to assess immunity and other risk factors, as well as the Canadian Home Fitness Test which measures heart and lung efficiency. Results of the tests will be mailed to participants and, if they wish, to their family doctors. Individuals will be free to choose to take part or not in the survey.

Emphasis on positive health

Data obtained in the Canada Health Survey will complement existing information, which now comes primarily from vital statistics and health insurance records, and will be used by provincial and federal governments, professional associations and university researchers for health planning purposes. In particular, because the survey studies exposure to the risks of future disease, it will be possible to plan to reduce these risks and avert later problems.

The Canada Health Survey is unique in its content and design. While surveys undertaken by some countries focus on morbidity and health care delivery, the Canadian survey places more emphasis on lifestyle and positive health. It is also more extensive than other studies in the range of information collected, using interviews and physical measurements.

The first results from the survey should be available in 1979, with yearly reports thereafter.



Working parents and budding artists depend on day-care centres.

Japanese External Economic Affairs Minister visits Canada

Japanese Minister of State for External Economic Affairs Nobuhiko Ushiba, on a short visit to Ottawa on May 5, called on Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. He also attended a working luncheon given by Mr. Jamieson at which the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Allan MacEachen were present.

The purpose of Mr. Ushiba's visit was to exchange views on the forthcoming Bonn Summit and on the current state of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations in Geneva. He also briefed Canadian ministers on the outcome of Prime Minister Fukuda's visit to Washington, May 2 to 3.

Mr. Ushiba assured Canadian leaders that Canada's growing trade with Japan, which exceeded \$2.5 billion in exports in 1977, would not be undermined by any Japanese moves to reduce that country's massive trade surpluses with the U.S.A. and the European Community.



(Left to right) Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson, Japanese Ambassador to Canada Yasuhiko Nara, Minister for External Economic Affairs Nobuhiko Ushiba and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau confer in Ottawa on May 5.

CP

Argentinian refugees welcome

A Government program to admit 100 Argentine political prisoners and their families into Canada as refugees was announced May 16 by Immigration Minister Bud Cullen.

He said Canadian representatives would be sent into Argentine prisons to interview possible refugees. There are an estimated 8,000 political prisoners in Argentina, which has been ruled by a military junta since March 1976.

The federal Cabinet approved the program after more than a year of requests for humanitarian action from the United Nations, Members of Parliament, church groups, Amnesty International and other organizations and individuals.

He said priority would be given to prisoners with relatives in Canada and to individuals who are offered sponsorship by Canadian companies or groups of five or more adults here pledging financial assistance to a refugee for a year.

The Argentine Government indicated only recently that it would co-operate with Canadians going into the prisons. Ottawa has had a similar program in Chile under which 115 political prisoners and their 234 dependants have entered Canada.

Progress report following conference of First Ministers

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau wrote to the provincial first ministers on April 10 to report on the progress which the Federal Government had made towards fulfilment of the commitments undertaken at the First Ministers' Conference in February. The Prime Minister informed his colleagues that:

- a formal request had been put to the Economic Council of Canada for it to analyze price and cost developments for a limited post-control period, in co-operation with provincial governments;
- work was under way to establish a formal system for the exchange of information between the federal and provincial governments on compensation for public employees;
- the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce had invited his provincial counterparts (along with leaders from business, labour and academic fields) to participate in the selection of 23 working groups attempting to improve economic performance of Canada's manufacturing, construction and tourist industries;
- on multilateral trade negotiations, the Federal Government had begun a new round of consultations with the provinces on those aspects of foreign offers of parti-

- cular interest to individual provinces;
- the nature of federal participation in the "Buy Canadian" campaign was under study;
- the Minister of State for Science and Technology had begun to arrange for early federal-provincial discussions about the need for a substantial increase in industrial research and development in Canada;
- the Federal Government had taken action to advance the energy capital projects announced in February, particularly the Gull Island hydro project on the Lower Churchill River, tidal power development, certain energy projects in the West, and the northern pipeline;
- much joint work was under way towards development of agreements on such issues as federal-provincial harmonization of stabilization programs in the agricultural industry;
- the Prime Minister would propose an Atlantic Fisheries Ministers' Committee;
- a committee had examined a proposal for "global" funding of housing programs and reported to the federal and provincial ministers responsible; and
- the Minister of Employment and Im-

(Continued on P. 8)

Education characteristics

Results from the 1976 census indicate that 37.7 per cent of the Canadian population have a secondary school graduation certificate or a higher degree, certificate or diploma.

The 1976 census contained for the first time an enquiry on non-university certificates or diplomas (such as those obtained at nursing schools and community colleges). The results show that 11.1 per cent of the population possess the qualifications mentioned. Numbers in this category exceed the totals of all the other post-secondary qualifications combined.

In terms of current school attendance (defined as either full-time or part-time attendance at an educational institution between September of 1975 and June 1, 1976) the results show that 34.3 per cent of the population between 15 and 24 years of age were attending school full-time, and 4.4 per cent were attending part-time. The corresponding figures for 1971 were 46.9 per cent and 5.2 per cent respectively.

The table shows distribution of the population not attending school full-time.

Another unsung hero

Reginald Aubrey Fessenden has been called "the father of radio", but his name remained almost unknown to Canadians until a biography by Ormond Raby appeared last year. Even some standard reference books still give him scant credit, although those who have studied the history of radio transmission claim that he was a more important inventor than Marconi.

Born in East Bolton, Quebec, on October 6, 1866, Fessenden was educated at Bishop's College in Lennoxville, Quebec, and worked a while in the Edicon Laboratories in the United States. Certainly, even though popular fame was denied him, Fessenden earned a fortune during his lifetime.

Quite early in his career, Fessenden speculated that if an electric impulse over a telephone wire could be heard in the natural tones of voices and music, the same could be achieved by radio. He triumphantly proved his theory when he broadcast a program of voices and orchestral music, on December 21, 1906, which was carried from a tower he had erected

in Massachusetts in the U.S., and was heard as far away as Scotland, where another tower had been built to receive it. It was the first radio broadcast. Up till then, radio messages had been carried only by Morse code.

Other inventions

Among numerous other inventions, Fessenden can claim credit for the radio telephone, the radio compass and an oscillator for submarines. As an indication of the importance of his patents, he sued the Radio Trust of America for infringements of his patent rights and was awarded \$2.5 million in 1928.

When Fessenden died in Bermuda in 1932, the *New York Times*, the *Herald Tribune* and the *London Observer* all hailed him as the father of radio broadcasting, and the world's outstanding genius in electronic communications. It was not until 45 years later that *Radio's First Voice* was published, making his name known to his fellow Canadians.

Marcus Van Steen prepared the preceding article for Canadian Scene dated May 12, 1978.

Population 15 years and over, not attending school full-time, showing highest degrees, certificates and diplomas, Canada and provinces

Statistics Canada 1976 census	No degree, certificate or diploma	Secondary school graduation certificate	Non- university certificate or diploma	University certificate or diploma	Bachelor degree(s) number	Degree in medicine dentistry or veterinary medicine	Master's degree(s)	Earned doctorate	Total
Newfoundland	242,160	46,960	32,185	5,335	9,065	725	1,725	485	338,640
Prince Edward Island	53,945	8,745	8,965	1,125	2,855	235	510	145	76,520
Nova Scotia	372,055	70,240	67,240	7,390	22,580	1,770	4,825	1,495	547,595
New Brunswick	305,920	60,845	48,760	4,965	15,625	1,005	2,860	835	440,820
Quebec	2,462,690	1,012,245	423,515	68,415	156,740	13,950	42,910	10,690	4,191,160
Ontario	3,456,175	998,570	620,445	81,085	287,750	22,290	64,415	19,605	5,550,345
Manitoba	480,040	84,590	76,295	9,550	31,915	2,420	5,505	1,875	692,180
Saskatchewan	441,290	73,145	64,115	11,730	21,575	1,850	3,415	1,250	618,380
Alberta	734,685	200,305	158,115	19,785	67,275	4,125	11,570	3,995	1,199,855
British Columbia	1,024,750	331,105	208,030	31,150	85,095	7,115	16,240	4,810	1,708,300
Yukon	8,125	2,585	2,190	250	735	65	105	5	14,060
Northwest Territories	16,340	2,730	3,220	400	1,195	65	200	25	24,175
Canada	9,598,180	2,892,065	1,713,075	241,195	702,415	55,615	154,275	45,210	15,402,030
Newfoundland	71.5	13.9	9.5	1.6	2.7	0.2	0.5	0.1	100.0
Prince Edward Island	70.5	11.4	11.7	1.5	3.7	0.3	0.7	0.2	100.0
Nova Scotia	67.9	12.8	12.3	1.3	4.1	0.3	0.9	0.3	100.0
New Brunswick	69.4	13.8	11.1	1.1	3.5	0.2	0.6	0.2	100.0
Quebec	58.8	24.2	10.1	1.6	3.7	0.3	1.0	0.3	100.0
Ontario	62.3	18.0	11.2	1.5	5.2	0.4	1.2	0.3	100.0
Manitoba	69.4	12.2	11.0	1.4	4.6	0.3	0.8	0.3	100.0
Saskatchewan	71.4	11.8	10.4	1.9	3.5	0.3	0.5	0.2	100.0
Alberta	61.2	16.7	13.2	1.6	5.6	0.3	1.0	0.3	100.0
British Columbia	60.0	19.4	12.2	1.8	5.0	0.4	1.0	0.3	100.0
Yukon	57.8	18.4	15.6	1.8	5.2	0.5	0.7	—	100.0
Northwest Territories	67.6	11.3	13.3	1.6	4.9	0.3	0.8	0.1	100.0
Canada	62.3	18.8	11.1	1.6	4.6	0.4	1.0	0.3	100.0

News of the arts

Adult training in Nova Scotia

Employment and Immigration Canada will contribute about \$85 million over the next three years towards the cost of adult training programs administered by it and the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

"Close to \$13.5 million per year has been designated for spending on institutional training programs such as upgrading, apprenticeship, and skill courses," stated Carmen Moir, Deputy Minister of Education for the province.

"Over 9,000 Nova Scotians will benefit from this type of training in the coming 12 months," he added.

J.P. LeBlanc, Director General of Employment and Immigration Canada for the Nova Scotia Region commented, "In addition to this direct payment to the province, Employment and Immigration will be contributing over \$9.2 million per year in income support and training allowances."

Industrial on-the-job training programs will receive \$5.1 million in 1978-79 to assist employers with new employees or with the retraining of present staff. Approximately 5,200 workers in the primary industries and manufacturing sectors will be assisted this year.

"A further \$300,000 in 1978-79 will be used for improvements to existing training programs and the development of courses to meet our future labour market needs," Mr. Moir stated.

Cheap liquid fuel with wood base

Environment Minister Len Marchand said recently a consultants' study had concluded that methanol fuel could be produced from a combination of wood and natural gas for about 35 to 50 cents a gallon by the mid 1980s.

Noting that oil prices would probably be in the \$25-a-barrel range by the middle of the next decade, the minister said methanol production could by then have become a profitable enterprise.

The consultants' report, which will be released soon by Intergroup Consulting Economists (Winnipeg), does not represent Government policy.

"The potential role that forest biomass could play is seen by the consultant study to be very large. The volumes of residues that are either surplus to or unusable for

the fibre needs of conventional forest product plants are sufficient to support a major methanol industry. This would eventually be capable of producing over 11 billion gallons of methanol annually across Canada," said Mr. Marchand. He also noted that British Columbia could produce some 3.5 billion gallons of that annual total, creating an important new export for the province.

Consultants estimate that the costs of producing methanol from various materials are: from forest biomass alone — 50 to 65 cents a gallon; from coal — 45 to 55 cents a gallon; from forest biomass combined with natural gas — 35 to 50 cents a gallon.

Mr. Marchand noted that about three gallons of methanol were required to power a car over the distance covered by two gallons of gasoline. The most efficient and economical use of methanol would probably be in a gasoline-methanol fuel mixture, he said.

While methanol is only one of several options now being studied by the Federal Government as alternative liquid fuels, its technical properties "establish it as an interesting and possibly front-running contender".

Mr. Marchand warned that any development of the forest for energy production would have to be handled in a manner acceptable to environmentalists.

Adventure in Ottawa for 270 young Canadian citizens

Adventure in Citizenship, the twenty-eighth edition, began on May 15 when 270 senior high school students, selected and sponsored by Rotary Clubs across Canada, began a four-day visit to Ottawa.

Their "adventure" started with a welcome from Mayor Greenberg and Ron Merriam, president of the Rotary Club of Ottawa, in the Railway Committee Room on Parliament Hill, prior to a visit to the Commons.

The "exposure to the multitude of complex aspects that make Canada the nation it is today" continued with a speech from the Co-Chairman of the Task Force on Canadian Unity, Jean-Luc Pepin, who described the workings of the "tool of democracy".

In the afternoon, the students visited the Senate Chamber and were received by Speaker Renaude Lapointe. Several visits to diplomatic missions, including Portugal, Mexico, Greece and India, were planned for later, and as one student said:

"My mind is boggling — if only the schedule wasn't so tight and the time so short..."

The schedule also included: a parliamentary discussion at Carleton University; an RCMP band concert and the Musical Ride; a visit to the Museum of Man; a tour of the city, including Rideau Hall, home of the Governor General; and a presentation of citizenship certificates by Judge Paul Tardif of the Citizenship Court.



High school students visiting Ottawa on a four-day visit, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs across Canada, lunch at the Château Laurier Hotel.

Aerial thermography — important in energy conservation

The following article, reprinted here in edited form, was prepared by R.J. Brown and J. Cihlar for GEOS, Winter 1978, published by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

The mysteries of infrared radiation were first revealed in the early 1800s, after discovery by Sir William Herschel, an English astronomer. Looking for a way of shading his eyes, he undertook an extensive study of solar radiation. In his experiments, he placed thermometers at different places in the spectrum after the sun's rays had been passed through a prism, and found the highest temperatures were just beyond the red end of the visible light. The public was fascinated by the existence of radiant energy invisible to the naked eye.

Until about 1960, only the military applied infrared remote sensing. In the Vietnam war the U.S. used aerial thermography to show up enemy positions, for instance. Then it was applied to environmental problems, and only in the last couple of years have thermograms been used to detect heat loss from buildings.

Now, aerial thermography can produce rapid, inexpensive heat-loss surveys of large industrial and residential areas, and detailed computer or visual analysis of the aerial data can identify areas needing further investigation.

Between January 1974 and April 1977, the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS), Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, has made aerial thermograms for 18 Canadian groups representing government departments, universities and private industries....

Aerial thermography is particularly useful for assessing heat losses from flat-roof buildings. Relative amounts of heat loss can be determined by visual interpretation for this type of structure. For example, the accompanying aerial thermogram of several office buildings reveals light areas that correspond to warm surfaces. It can be readily seen that roofs A and B are distinctly warmer than roof C.

D was found to coincide with an interior corridor which carries a warm-air duct above a false ceiling close to the structural concrete. Heat loss from an underground heated garage marked E is the most striking feature on the entire

thermogram, vividly illustrating the poor insulating properties of concrete.

Houses harder to analyze

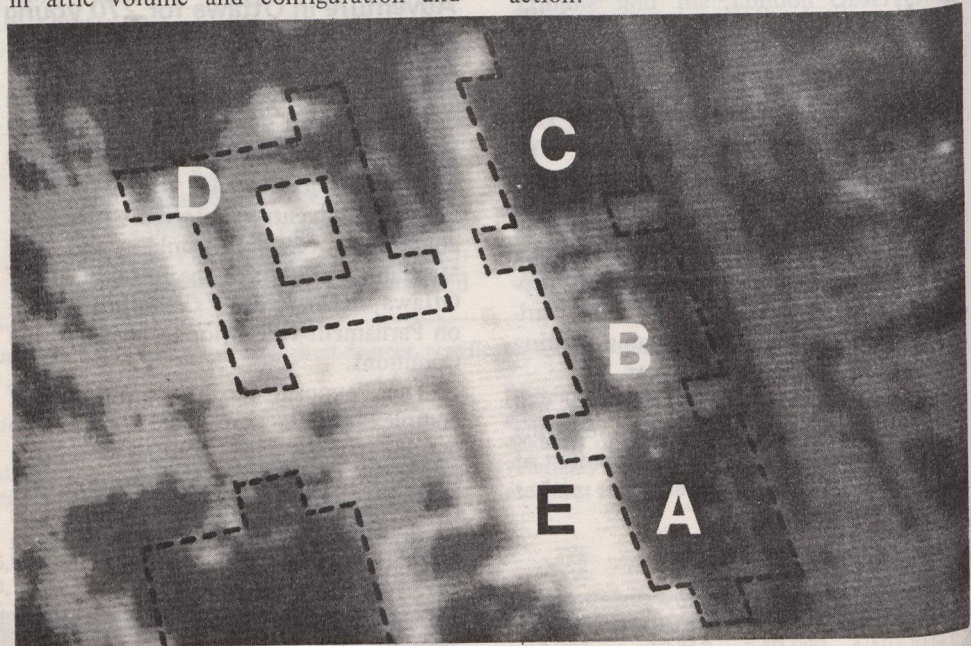
Interpretation of thermograms of residential houses is less straightforward, complicated by effects of attic ventilation and roof pitch. Heat is normally conducted through a flat roof directly from the building interior to the exterior surface, but the attic of a residential house acts as a buffer between the roof surface and the house interior. Also, attic ventilation dissipates some of the interior heat losses, reducing the amount of heat which can be dissipated by radiation. This reduces thermal contrasts between well and poorly insulated houses. Variations in roof pitch affect ventilation through changes in attic volume and configuration and

also directly influence the infrared energy received by the infrared line scanner.

* * * *

Aerial thermography definitely has a role to play in conservation programs. Its main use is in identifying damaged flat roofs and poorly insulated and/or ventilated residences. It also shows up some poor conservation practices. For instance, thermal heaters in sidewalks or ramps operating when there is no snow or ice to melt, leaks in heat distribution pipes and poor architectural design can all be seen on aerial thermograms.

Aerial thermography cannot tell if a home-owner has turned his thermostat down at night, but it can detect where heat losses are occurring and how big the losses are, and help set priorities for action.



In this imagery of an office complex, A and B are roofs in need of repair, C has been repaired, D is a corridor carrying a heating duct and E is a heated underground garage.

New salmon hatcheries

Work will begin soon on the construction of a \$1,795,000-salmon hatchery at Tlupana Inlet in Nootka Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Also planned under the Federal Government's multi-million dollar Salmonid Enhancement Program is a hatchery on the Puntledge River near Courtenay, British Columbia, to cost an estimated \$4,571,000.

When completed, the new facilities are expected to produce an additional half million salmon and steelhead trout

for the benefit of commercial and sport fishermen in the province. Total expenditures during the two years of construction will be in the neighbourhood of \$6.5 million.

One of the long-range goals of the Salmonid Enhancement Program is to double the number of salmonids available to the commercial and recreational fishermen. In addition to increased numbers of fish the program will also generate significant economic, social and environmental benefits. The first five-year (1977-78 to 1981-82) phase of the program will involve expenditures of about \$150 million.

News of the arts

Publishers, film-makers meet

The Montreal International Book Fair, "a fair of the Americas and a unique centre of exchange for the film and book industries", took place April 12 to 14. Publishers representing Argentinian, Venezuelan, Brazilian and Mexican interests attended the fair, which this year focused on the growing interdependence of the film and book industries.

The fair allowed publishers and authors to promote the purchase and sale of rights for translations, paperback or special limited editions, or of secondary rights for adaptation to the theatre, television or cinema.

One of the highlights of this year's gathering was the announcement of the winner of the Seal Books First Novel Competition, on April 13. Twenty-three-year-old Aritha van Herk, an MA candidate at the University of Alberta, received \$50,000 (\$10,000 as prize and \$40,000 as non-returnable advance against royalties) for her novel, *Judith*, judged to be the best of 550 manuscripts offered for



Publishers and film producers from many countries negotiate rights for products on display at the Montreal International Book Fair.

competition. The author will be published in hard-bound edition in Canada by McClelland and Stewart, by Little Brown in the U.S. and by Andre Deutsch in

Britain. Following the hard-bound edition will be a mass market paperback published by Seal (Canada), Bantam (U.S.) and Corgi (Britain).

Children's literature prizes

The Canada Council recently announced the winners of its 1977 Children's Literature Prizes. The English-language prize, worth \$5,000, was awarded to Jean Little of Guelph, Ontario for *Listen for the Singing* (published by Dutton and Clarke-Irwin). The French-language award was shared by two winners, who each received \$2,500: for text - Denise Houle of St-Lambert, Quebec, for *Lune de neige* (published by Guy Maheux); for illustration - Claude Lafortune of Longueuil, Quebec for *L'Evangile en papier* (written by Henriette Major and published by Fides).

The Children's Literature Prizes, established by the Canada Council in 1976, were originally awarded annually to an English-language writer and a French-language writer for a book published during the preceding calendar year. Beginning this year, they may also be awarded to an illustrator, or split between a writer and an illustrator. All books written or illustrated by Canadians for young people are eligible, whether published in Canada or abroad. Last year's prizes were awarded to Myra Paperny of

Calgary, Alberta for *The Wooden People* and Bernadette Renaud of Contrecoeur, Quebec for *Emilie, la baignoire à pattes*.

Jean Little

Listen for the Singing, Jean Little's tenth novel for children, is the story of Anna, who is visually handicapped, and her family, who are German immigrants in Canada in the year 1939, when the Second World War begins.

Like Anna, Jean Little has been visually handicapped since early childhood. She worked with handicapped children in the U.S. and Canada until 1961, when she wrote her first novel, *Mine for Keeps*. Several of her books have been translated into Danish, German, Japanese and Dutch.

Claude Lafortune

L'Evangile en papier (The Paper Gospel) is a collection of stories from The New Testament, written for children. Mr. Lafortune has illustrated the book with coloured photographs of three-dimensional paper cutouts representing biblical figures. His expertise in the fabrication and use of such cutouts has earned him the nickname "paper magician".

Mr. Lafortune has a weekly television

series every Sunday morning on the CBC French network, also entitled *L'Evangile en papier*, which features his animated paper "people".

Denise Houle

Lune de neige (Moon of Snow) is a play about four children, a dog, a cat, and a monkey who journey to the moon for Christmas and meet well-known characters from folklore and literature.

Denise Houle has more than ten years' experience as an editor and writer of children's literature and has published stories and articles in children's magazines in Quebec, France and Lebanon. *Lune de neige* is her third book for children.

Arts brief

Ernest Buckler, 70, Nova Scotia-born novelist, critic and columnist, has won the 1978 Leacock Award for Humour and an accompanying \$1,500 Hudson's Bay Company prize. Buckler won the annual prize for his book of poems and short stories, *Whirligig*, published by McClelland and Stewart.

First Ministers' Conference

(Continued from P. 3)

migration had begun improving federal-provincial collaboration on the problem of youth employment, and on job creation.

In addition, the Prime Minister suggested that:

- the First Ministers maintain as the framework for their discussions on national economic matters, the development of a medium-term economic strategy;
- a federal-provincial conference of Finance Ministers be held in late spring to reassess the short-term economic situation;
- the search continue for ways to improve follow-up to the Conference.

News briefs

Princess Margriet of the Netherlands and her husband, Pieter van Vollenhoven, will visit Canada from June 7 to 18. The visit will begin by an official stay in Princess Margriet's birthplace, Ottawa. On June 10, the visitors will be guests of honour at the twenty-seventh Dominion Convention of the Royal Canadian Legion in Edmonton, Alberta. The Legion is an honorary godfather of their son, Prince Floris of Orange Nassau. The princess and her husband will also be received by Ralph Steinhauer, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta and Mrs. Steinhauer. After a short stay in Jasper, Alberta, the visitors will tour the North as guests of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Montreal Canadiens won the Stanley Cup for the third consecutive year on

May 25, after beating Boston Bruins 4-1 at Boston in the sixth game of the National Hockey League's seven-game final. Montreal took the first two games 4-1 and 3-2; Boston took the third and fourth games 4-0 and 4-3; and Montreal won the fifth and sixth games 4-1 and 4-1. Larry Robinson of Montreal won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the most valuable player of the series.

Winnipeg Jets have defeated New England Whalers in four straight games to win the World Hockey Association's championship and the Avco Cup. In the first game (May 12), the score was 4-1; in the second (May 16), it was 5-2; in the third (May 19), it was 10-2; and in the last game (May 22), the score was 5-3. Winnipeg Jets last won the Avco Cup in 1976, when they beat Houston Aeros in four straight games.

Chinese Canadians are celebrating this year the one-hundred-and-twentieth anniversary of the arrival of Chang Tsoo, the first immigrant from China, in June 1858, in Victoria, British Columbia. Many Chinese had been in the country before that but only on limited work permits. Chang Tsoo was the first to settle in Canada.

Sales of North American-built cars in April increased 7.1 per cent over those in the same month last year, according to figures released by automobile manufacturers. New car sales totalled 84,255 units, compared with 78,672 in April last year. Truck sales showed an even greater increase, up 17.6 per cent to 33,024 units from 28,092 last April. The combined car and truck sales for the month totalled 117,279 units, an increase of 9.8 per cent from 106,764.

Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Jack Horner has instructed the footwear quota review committee "to be more flexible with applications for imports of specific types of footwear". The committee issues permits for imported footwear, with the exception of canvas footwear, which is not under a quota. It will take a more flexible approach to articles such as English riding boots, cycling and orthopaedic footwear, and athletic shoes with spikes or studs, because production of those items is very limited in Canada.

The Federal Government has ended the year-old freeze on uranium exploration in the Baker Lake area of the Northwest Territories, subject to new environment controls.

Professor Robin A. Fisher of Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia has won this year's \$5,000 Sir John A. Macdonald prize for Canadian history. His book, *Contact and Conflict: Indian-European Relations in British Columbia 1774-1890*, about the effect of settlements on the fur-trading alliance between Indians and European trappers, was judged to have made the greatest contribution in 1977 towards an understanding of Canada's past.

The consumer price index has been driven up during the past year mainly by food prices, which have risen an average of 14.7 per cent. All other items, excluding food, have shown a moderate 6.1 per cent increase in the year up to April, according to Statistics Canada. Food for home consumption rose 16.9 per cent while restaurant meals climbed 4.3 per cent.

The Federal Government has proposed giving assistance totalling \$116 million to two auto makers as an incentive for them to locate auto parts plants in Canada. Of the total, \$86 million would be for General Motors of Canada Ltd., Oshawa, Ontario, to build an aluminum die-casting plant in Quebec, with the Quebec Government contributing 25 per cent of the amount. The second proposal is for \$30 million to Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., Oakville, Ontario, for the expansion of its present engine plant in Windsor, Ontario, or the construction of a new engine plant in the Windsor area. The Ontario government has been asked to contribute 25 per cent of the total.

A baby who weighed 0.8 kg at birth, three months premature, has just celebrated his first birthday. According to doctors, Jeremy John Plows, first child for Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Plows, of Burlington, Ontario, had only a 5 per cent chance of survival when he was first placed in an incubator at the medical centre of Hamilton's McMaster University. Jeremy, who now weighs 6.9 kg and has his first teeth, should have overcome his tendency to grow slowly by the time he is five.

We reported recently on a woman who was said to be threatening to sue Xerox because she and her husband kept having twins. To date, the copier company has not been approached by her counsel. The case, if concluded successfully, could establish a precedent. Already, a major coffee company is threatened with having supplied grounds for divorce.

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs.) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

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

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

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.