

# Canada Weekly

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Ottawa, Canada.

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## Vancouver — city where new hope for human settlements was born

*Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, came to a close on June 11 in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver, Canada's third largest city. Inaugurated on May 31 by UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, Habitat began with opening addresses by Governor-General Jules Léger and Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Other leading Canadian speakers were Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen and Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson, who presided over the plenary session.*

*This was Canada's first UN conference, and it also marked the first time that such an event had been held in a city other than a capital. Habitat was in fact, the idea of a Canadian, Dr. Victor Goldbloom, Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment, who submitted a proposal for such a conference at the United Nations Conference on the Environment in Stockholm in 1972.*

*Almost without exception, the heads of the delegations of the 131 countries, six national liberation organizations, 160 non-governmental organizations and a number of inter-governmental bodies represented at Vancouver commented in their speeches on the beauty of the city, which some saw as a model for human habitat.*

## The Vancouver Declaration

Canada was concerned mainly with control and value of land, indigenous peoples, status of women, safe water, nuclear energy and access to information.

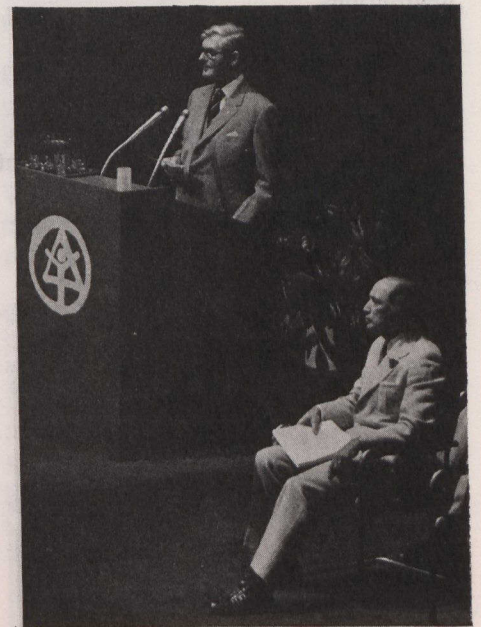
The plenary meeting, which included 18 sessions, closed with the adoption of the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements. The document, proposed by the "group of 77" developing countries, was approved by a vote of 89 to 15, with ten abstentions, including Canada.

Justice Minister Ron Basford, head of the Canadian delegation, explained that Canada could not vote for Article 4 of the Declaration of Principles because it established a link with the United Nations resolution that equated Zionism with racism.

Canada was in agreement with the remaining 54 clauses of the Declaration, which called for the improvement of the quality of life as the primary aim of human-settlement policy.

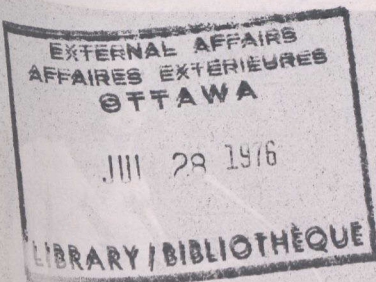
## International co-operation

The program of international co-operation, another main theme of the Conference, was adopted by consensus. One of its resolutions called for the



*Governor-General Jules Léger addresses delegates at the opening of Habitat. The Prime Minister looks on.*

formation of a special United Nations agency on human settlements. Its location and status in the UN Secretariat in relation to two other similar bodies (the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York and the United Nations Environment Program in Nairobi) will be dealt with at the



thirty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly in the autumn.

The Habitat Conference also adopted 64 recommendations on national measures to provide minimum standards for the inhabitants of rural and urban areas concerning housing, water, health, infrastructures and the environment.

In addition, delegates unanimously recommended that the UN General Assembly set up an audio-visual information centre on human settlements at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver to house, reproduce, enlarge and use a collection of some 200 films and slides presented at the Conference by over 120 countries.

All governments were asked to support and to participate in the United Nations Water Conference slated for March 1977 in Mar del Plata, Argentina.

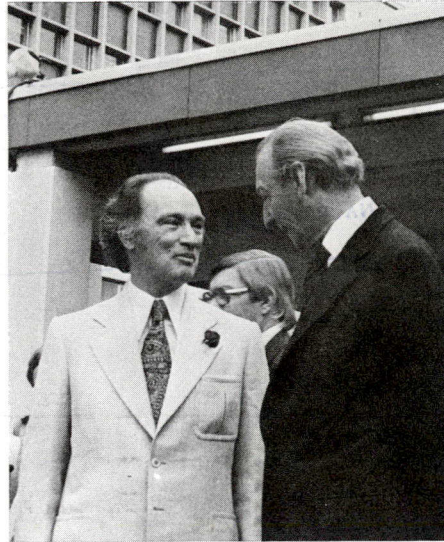
A recommendation to the effect that the UN Secretary-General submit to the General Assembly in 1977 a report on the living conditions of Palestinians in occupied territories was passed by a roll-call vote of 43 to three, with 42 abstentions.

#### A time to begin work

Although there was disagreement on some points, all delegates endorsed the statement of the Mexican representative who, in thanking Conference Chairman Danson, and Secretary-General of the Conference, Enrique Peñalosa, pointed out that the ex-



Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson, Habitat Conference Chairman addresses Habitat Forum.



The Prime Minister greets UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim.

change of views made possible by the Conference was a significant step toward international co-operation. Mr. Peñalosa stated that now was the time for the work to begin. Echoing words in Mr. Trudeau's opening address, Mr. Danson added that "the world we leave must be better than the one we now know", and that "posterity will judge us according to our accomplishments".

Still in the words of Mr. Trudeau, "Human settlements are linked so closely to existence itself,...are so laden with questions of rights and desires, with needs and aspirations, so racked with injustices and deficiencies, that the subject cannot be approached with the leisurely detachment of the solitary theoretician. We must make a commitment and follow it through, constantly reminding ourselves that it is man who is at the centre of the habitat question."

#### Habitat Forum

Habitat Forum – an unofficial conference held in parallel with the official one – took place at Jericho Beach, a few miles from downtown Vancouver (see also *Canada Weekly* dated June 16, 1976).

Some of the general public believed that the "real" conference took place at the Forum. The beach at Jericho, with its modest but imaginative structures, numerous audio-visual presentations, debates by non-governmental organizations and well-known personalities concerned about settlements,

was as crowded as the balcony of the Queen Elizabeth Theatre was empty during the UN plenary sessions.

Outstanding at the Forum and at Habitat was Barbara Ward, British economist and author, whose writings on settlement problems have warned her readers of the dangers that will face mankind in the year 2000, when population will have doubled to seven billion. Miss Ward, who objects to being called a pessimist, has in numerous conferences stressed the difficulties the next generation will face when the waters have been so polluted they can no longer be purified. Horrifying outbreaks of the plague, cholera and dysentery will succeed in conquering humanity if world leaders are unable to begin planning settlements for all mankind immediately – specially for the 50 per cent of the world's population which has so small a share of its riches, says Barbara Ward.

#### Declaration of the Symposium

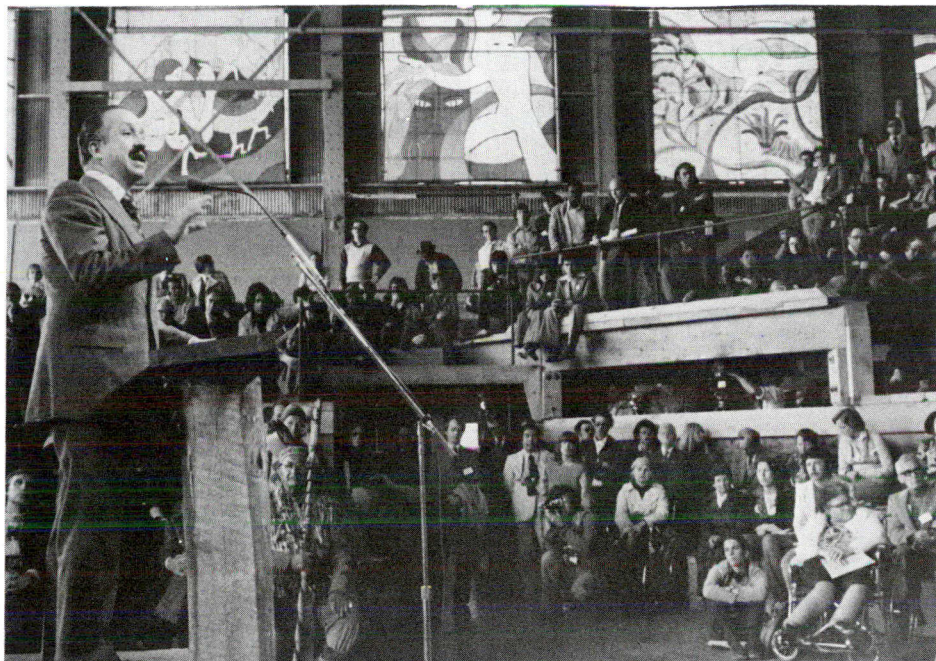
The Declaration of the Vancouver Symposium will no doubt come to be considered the most significant statement to emanate from Habitat. It was signed by 24 well-known figures, including U.S. anthropologist Margaret Mead, architect Buckminster Fuller also of the U.S., and Maurice Strong, the president of Petro-Canada, who played a key part in the Stockholm Conference on the Environment.

The Declaration states that "a first



Barbara Ward of Britain, economist and author, who objects to being called a pessimist.

Habitat photos by Richard Vroom.



Conference Secretary-General Enrique Peñalosa speaks at the opening of the

Habitat Forum – the “unofficial” conference on human settlements.

### Contribution to Mozambique aid fund

Canada will contribute up to \$400,000 to a special Commonwealth fund for technical assistance to Mozambique, Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen announced at the end of May, which is in addition to \$3 million in Canadian food aid to Mozambique announced April 30.

Mr. MacEachen said the contributions were consistent with the commitment undertaken by the Commonwealth heads of government at their meeting in Kingston, Jamaica in 1975, to help Mozambique enforce the United Nations sanctions against Rhodesia, as well as the UN Security Council resolution 386, dated March 17. The Minister noted the Government of Mozambique had requested assistance from the international community at the UN as a result of its decision to close its border with Rhodesia and to enforce the UN sanctions against Rhodesia on March 3.

The special fund will be limited to technical assistance, will be administered by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and financed by voluntary contributions over and above Commonwealth members' normal contributions to the CFTC.

Since the program is regarded as one

of emergency, it is expected to last from two to three years.

The CFTC, to which Canada is a major contributor, enables the provision of advisers, an export market development program and a training program for people of member developing countries.

Mr. MacEachen said it was clear the Commonwealth program would be closely co-ordinated with UN efforts. He noted that Mr. Shridath Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, maintained close contact with UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim on the question.

Dr. Gordon Goundrey, a Canadian economist (Memorial University, Newfoundland) with CFTC, who was nominated a member of a UN technical mission to assess the needs of Mozambique, has since been asked to help co-ordinate the UN program in Mozambique for three months.

### Royalty on summer tour in Canada

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, will tour part of eastern Canada this summer, starting with a visit to Nova Scotia July 13 to 15.

Stops will be made at Halifax, Dartmouth, the Annapolis Valley, Windsor, Kentville, Wolfville, and the Canadian

priority must be to see that settlements are no longer ‘residuals’, the outcome of decisions reached on other issues.... They must themselves be seen as ‘lead sectors’ in world recovery and world development.” The Declaration proposes a number of measures, including “a moratorium on the adoption of nuclear energy...control over land use... the introduction of conserving and recycling services,...the full participation of all residents in the decision-making that determines policies for their settlements, and...a commitment on the part of the international community to make the basic services in human settlements a first call on capital assistance”.

Although not all of these proposals were adopted or even examined by the United Nations Conference, agreement was reached on a sufficient number of them to fulfil the wish expressed in the Declaration that Vancouver be known as “a city where new hope was born”.

Forces base at Greenwood.

From Nova Scotia they will go to New Brunswick July 15-16, visiting Fredericton, Chatham and Newcastle.

The royal couple will visit Kingston, Ontario July 20 aboard Her Majesty's yacht *Britannia*, for the Olympic sailing races.

Later, they will tour Upper Canada Village at Morrisburg, Ontario and thence to Montreal for the main Olympic events.

### Federal pension office moves East

Supply and Services Minister Jean-Pierre Goyer has announced the transfer from Ottawa of the Superannuation Division of his department to the Moncton area in New Brunswick.

“The installation of this division in the Moncton area will create approximately 400 jobs in a part of the country where jobs are scarce and the rate of unemployment has already exceeded 14 per cent in recent months,” said Mr. Goyer.

The annual salaries of the 400 employees of the Superannuation Division total some \$4 million, “which will constitute a very substantial contribution to the region's economy”, said Mr. Goyer.

The Superannuation Division, which

administers the pension plan for Federal Government employees throughout the country, handles contributions, computes payments and pays pensions. The division is also involved in the administration of the Public Service Management Insurance Plan, the Group Surgical-Medical Insurance Plan and the Disability Insurance Plan. In the course of a year, the division answers about 125,000 requests for information.

Although some employees now working in the Superannuation Division in the national capital region may wish to relocate to Moncton, it is expected that most of the staff will be recruited in the Moncton area.

### Olympics arts and culture festival free shows

Program director-general of the Olympics arts and culture festival, Yvon Desrochers, has announced that more than 1,000 free shows will be presented by some 250 Canadian groups and artists in Montreal in July.

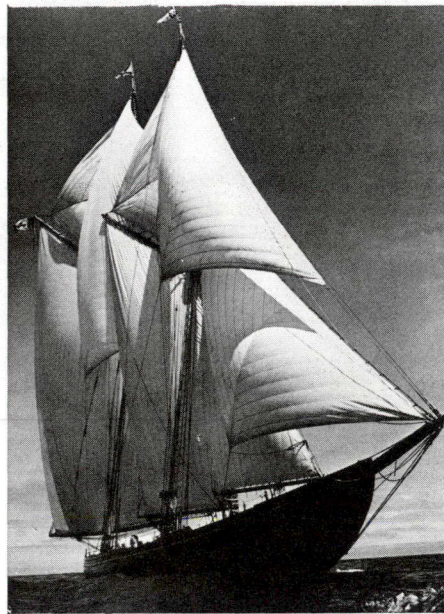
Man and his World's Place des Nations, with a capacity of 12,000 seats, will be one of the main rallying points for this festival, where six events will be held in the earlier part of July, featuring entertainers from the province of Quebec. From July 18 to 31, the Canadian Fold Arts Council will hold 130 presentations with performances by groups from all provinces.

Among other events, the arts and culture festival will sponsor 50 chamber music concerts, five French-speaking poetry recitals and four English-language poetry recitals, as well as 510 clown, mime, and acrobatic shows, 28 "pop" music concerts and 125 traditional Quebec song and music programs.

Also scheduled are photographic, tapestry, engraving and painting exhibitions.

### Nova Scotia schooner visits U.S.

*Bluenose II*, duplicate of Nova Scotia's legendary North Atlantic racing schooner *Bluenose*, is on a goodwill tour of ports in the United States from New Orleans to New York City.



*Bluenose II*

The ship, displacing 285 tons, is operated by Nova Scotia's department of tourism.

Highlight of the *Bluenose* coastal trip will be at New York on July 4 when she joins 200 sailing ships from the United States and 30 seafaring nations on a four-hour "Operation sail" from Verrazano Bridge to George Washington Bridge on the Hudson River — some 19 miles.

Her presence will be a neighbourly acknowledgement by Nova Scotia of the U.S. Bicentennial.

While *Bluenose II* does not race, more than one million people have visited on board since her launching at Lunenburg in 1964. Her image is on the Canadian dime and 50-cent postage stamp.

### International Council of Women meet in Vancouver

The National Council of Women of Canada welcomed delegates from over 60 other national councils around the world to Vancouver on June 21 for the twenty-first triennial meeting of the International Council of Women. Well over 500 delegates had registered by the time the opening sessions began at the Walter Gage Centre of the University of British Columbia. About half are Canadians. Several also came from Canada's twin, the National Council of Women of Surinam.

The theme of the conference, "Challenge of the Future", with the three sub-themes: the full responsibility of women in public and private life; women as economic factors in the community; and young men and women as assets to development, covers aspects of Canadian life with which Canadian women have always been concerned. Life here has always been a challenge, whether it is the large size of the country, surrounded by three oceans and a southern border it shares with the United States of America; its relatively small population of 21.5 million, as of the latest census in 1971; its largely undeveloped northern area, stretching toward the North Pole, with tremendous potential of oil, gas and other resources; and its gradual emergence from an economy based on raw materials to a highly industrialized power in foreign trade.

The National Council of Women of Canada was established in 1893, five years after the International Council of Women was set up in Washington in 1888.

The Canadian National Council of Women now has 19 nationally organized societies federated with it, several with international connections. There are six provincial councils, including one in British Columbia. The 43 local councils, such as the one in Ottawa, are very active at the community level.

The current ICW meeting, which ends July 2, will be the third time this international organization has met in Canada. Earlier sessions took place in Toronto and Montreal. There are a number of Canadian women on the ICW executive, including the national president, Mrs. Gordon B. Armstrong, who is from British Columbia.

Many more women in Canada are working today and the role of women in voluntary organizations, such as the National Council of Women, is undergoing change, as well as the subject matter of the programs undertaken by the various Councils and the time for the meetings. The status of women is a current question and the Federal Government is moving to implement a number of recommendations put forward by a Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada, whose report was tabled in Parliament in 1970. (A.H.)

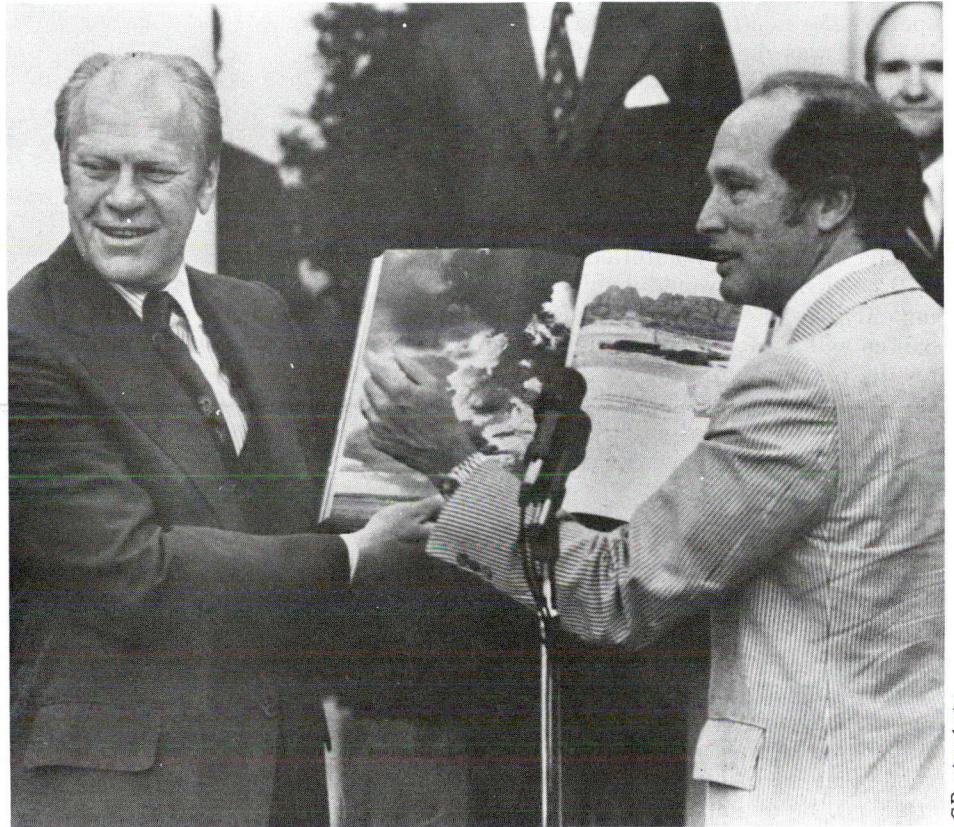
### Mr. Trudeau meets President Ford

*The Prime Minister and Finance Minister Donald Macdonald met with U.S. President Gerald Ford and State Secretary Henry Kissinger for over four hours in Washington on June 16. Talks centred on the economic summit conference in Puerto Rico, June 27 to 29.*

*A statement issued by the White House said the two leaders also spoke of bilateral relations in general, issues related to the North American Treaty Organization, nuclear non-proliferation and North-South relations.*

*"Both leaders agreed that the summit consultations should contribute importantly to advancing the shared objectives of industrialized democracies," the statement continued.*

*While in Washington, Mr. Trudeau (right) presented the book *Between Friends/Entre Amis* to Mr. Ford as a Bicentennial gift from Canada, which shows photographs taken along the 5,500-mile frontier between the two countries.*



CP wirephoto

### Caffeine keeps premature babies breathing – successful studies in Montreal

It has been estimated that nearly a third of premature babies soon develop spells of apnea, or cessation of breathing. Most of them start breathing again after a few seconds, but a few may suffer an apneic spell lasting as long as 20 or 30 seconds. In such cases, the heart rate may drop from its normal 140 beats a minute to less than 100 and the baby may turn blue.

Dr. Jacob V. Aranda, acting director of Neonatal Research at the Montreal Children's Hospital and Assistant Professor in McGill's departments of Pediatrics and Pharmacology, is concerned with finding the causes of and effective therapy for apnea. The worry is that babies suffering apneic spells may suffer oxygen deprivation and consequent brain damage.

The most common treatment for apnea is simple tactile stimulation. The person monitoring the baby simply flicks the soles of its feet. If this proves ineffective, other types of stimulation may be used. In some cases, the baby may be given additional oxygen to aid breathing.

Some of the causes of apnea are infections, metabolic problems, low calcium and low glucose. When these problems are treated, the apnea will also be cured. However, there are some as yet unidentifiable causes of apnea. One theory attempts to explain apnea by immaturity of the nervous system. The brain co-ordinates the reflexes concerned with expiration and inspiration. But in premature babies these reflexes may not be as well developed, and their responses to chemical drives such as oxygen deprivation or carbon dioxide are not as quick as in adults. This may explain why the use of a central nervous system stimulant such as caffeine has been effective in reducing the frequency of apnea.

Caffeine and a related compound, theophylline, are methylxanthines – the active derivatives of coffee and tea.

#### Caffeine was last resort

Aranda and his colleagues tried caffeine out of frustration, he says, on a

premature baby who was in intensive care at the Montreal Children's Hospital in August 1974. The baby stopped breathing on an average of every three to five minutes, and every form of therapy they had tried had failed. When the baby responded positively to caffeine within 15 minutes, and had no further apneic spells, he decided to do some formal investigation into the use of caffeine.

To date, Aranda has analyzed figures and data on 18 babies. Their birth weight ranged from 685 grams (about 1.5 pounds) to 1,985 grams (about 4.37 pounds), with a mean birth weight of 1,065 grams (about 2.35 pounds). These babies were very premature, with a mean gestation time of 27.5 weeks, compared with the normal 40 weeks. Though some exhibited apnea at birth, the mean age of onset of apneic spells was 6 days. Caffeine was administered orally at a mean age of 18.2 days, with significant results.

In a few, the apnea was completely abolished. In the others, not only was the apnea considerably decreased, but the baby was more responsive to other therapy such as tactile stimulation.

The mean daily incidence of apneic spells before caffeine treatment was 13.6, but was reduced to 2.1 after caffeine treatment. There was also a significant increase in respiration from 55 to 62 breaths *per* minute. However, no change was found in the heart rate.

Despite the apparent great success of caffeine therapy for apnea, Dr. Aranda feels that a controlled study is still needed. This would involve treating only one of two similar groups of babies with caffeine and comparing the results obtained with the two groups. He is planning to do this in co-operation with the neonatal units in the Royal Victoria and Jewish General Hospitals.

### The seal who thought he was "people"

He was found on the beach and taken to the local animal hospital. Weighing 20 pounds, he was just an infant, so young that the umbilical cord was still attached. He couldn't even swim — he hadn't learned how!

Henry, as he was soon called, was very thin and weak; the veterinarian diagnosed pneumonia, and prescribed heavy doses of penicillin. The Inspector of the Comox Valley Branch of the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals took the infant home, and put him into a basement shower with a sleeping bag to lie on; a kind neighbour donated a rubber tank to be filled with water.

During the night Henry was fed a preparation of cod liver oil, canned milk and water, from a bottle — nine ounces at a feeding — every three hours! The responsibility for that task fell to the Inspector's wife.

The following morning Henry was put into the water and promptly sank. He

refused to try to swim. So the Inspector and his wife became swimming instructors to a seal. By the end of the first day, Henry had gained enough confidence to swim a little, as long as he could hold the Inspector's hand in his mouth.

Soon he was venturing into the water alone, swimming for a short while, then coming ashore to rest. The Inspector's collie dog took it upon himself to watch over the youngster, ensuring that no other dog could come near.

In time, it was decided that Henry must return to the ocean, but Henry

thought otherwise. He was taken out in a boat and turned loose, but refused to leave. He just swam around for a while, then returned to the boat.

Eventually, because he refused to become a "wild" seal, and because a full-grown seal is rather a large house pet — and perhaps because, by this time, he thought he was "people" — Henry was taken to Sealand of the Pacific, in Victoria, B.C., where he receives all the care and attention he requires, and where he enjoys the admiration of hundreds of friendly visitors.

### News briefs

■ The four western provinces have expressed unanimous opposition to the "user-pay" principle enunciated by federal Transport Minister Otto Lang which calls for users to bear the full costs of transportation without exception.

■ George Knudson of Toronto won the \$20,000 Peter Jackson Ontario Open golf tournament at Hamilton, June 20, with a 54-hole total of 203, ten under par, the first time he had won a tournament since 1972.

■ Marcel Lessard, Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, represents Canada at the Seychelles independence celebrations being held from June 26 to July 1.

■ The Department of National Defence will spend \$11.5 million to improve equipment on *Tracker* aircraft for patrolling Canada's proposed 200-mile fisheries zone, said a Department official on June 17.

■ The Canadian International Development Agency will provide \$1.4 million during the next five years to help Botswana develop its road transport system. CIDA made the announcement during the visit to Canada of the President of Botswana.

■ The Commons Justice Committee narrowly defeated on June 16 an amendment to the Government's peace and security legislation that would have made evidence obtained by illegal "wiretaps" inadmissible in court. The Committee passed the gun-control section of the bill that includes about 30 amendments and would require any owner or buyer of rifles, shotguns or ammunition to have a certificate indi-

cating fitness to possess a firearm.

■ Companies that increase their productivity will be allowed additional profits under new incentive regulations released by the Anti-Inflation Board June 15. The draft regulations permit companies to earn at least an 8 per cent return on their investment plus an incentive offer allowing them to increase their profit margin on products even if the average price of those products remains frozen.

■ For the year ending in April, Canada had the fifth lowest consumer price increase of 24 nations surveyed by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Canada's 12-month index increase of 8.9 per cent was fifth after Switzerland, West Germany, the United States and Austria.

■ Saskatchewan Liberal leader Dave Steuart announced that he would hand over the leadership of the party at a leadership convention in December.

■ Canadian cable-television operators have incorporated a company, Pay Television Network Ltd, to introduce pay television to Canada under a policy change announced recently by Communications Minister Jeanne Sauvé.

■ National unemployment declined to 7.1 per cent seasonally adjusted, in May from 7.4 per cent in April, the highest in 15 years.

■ Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced on June 21 that about 1,000 Lebanese tourists in Canada would be allowed to remain as refugees from their war-torn country. Canadian regulations will be relaxed to allow them to seek landed immigrant status if the Lebanese community in Canada will help them find work.

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