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Canada



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magazine
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Canada Hosts Economic Summit

- International space station uses Canadian expertise
- Saskatchewan celebrates Grey Owl's centenary
- UK rediscovers wood-frame construction
- Canadian theatre groups join Edinburgh Festival



In this issue

Editors

Richard Starks
Miriam Murcutt

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Other Canadian government offices in the United Kingdom

Canadian High Commission
Macdonald House
1 Grosvenor Square
London W1X 0AB
Tel: 01-629 9492

Front cover: Prime Minister Mulroney greets British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arriving for working dinner at The Hunt, Scarborough, near Toronto.

Editorial

It is always difficult in a magazine of 16 pages to capture the spirit and essence of a country the size of Canada. But in this issue, we are able to give an indication of the range and scope of Canada's many interests.

On the international front, Canada has just played host to the annual Economic Summit of major industrialised nations - the so-called G-7 summit - which was held in Toronto in June.

This is the third summit meeting that Canada has hosted in the past 10 months as well as the winter Olympics held in Calgary in February.

In October last year, Canada hosted the Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit in Vancouver; and in September, it hosted the Francophone Summit in Quebec.

On the technological front (but still in the international sphere), Canada has just confirmed its participation in the United States space station programme, along with a number of European countries.

Canada was the third country in the world to put a satellite in orbit (after the Soviet Union and the US) and will be drawing on its 25 years of space-technology experience to construct the station's Mobile Servicing System (see article on page 4).

Elsewhere in this issue, we show how Canada is taking constructive steps to reduce the damage

caused by acid rain; and conserving wilderness heritage through a national parks system which covers an area that is about the size of England and is by far the largest in the world.

We also report on Canada's participation in this year's Edinburgh Festival, and preview an upcoming exhibition of Canadian sculptures that is moving from the Venice Biennale to the Canada House Gallery in London.

And finally, we report on that most Canadian of institutions, the RCMP Musical Ride, which the Mounties recently performed in Britain before setting off on a tour of much of the rest of Europe.

International conferences, space technology, wilderness protection, the Edinburgh Festival and the RCMP all provides a glimpse of some of the diverse interests that Canada now pursues both at home and around the world.



Canadian High Commissioner

Canada hosts Economic Summit

Min. des Affaires
OTTAWA
JUN 31 1988



Toronto, host city of this year's annual G-7 Economic Summit

Leaders of the world's top seven industrial nations and representatives of the European Commission met last month in Toronto for their fourteenth annual Economic Summit completing the second cycle of Summit meetings. They discussed the challenges faced by the world economy against a back drop of improved economic growth and prospects of lower international trade imbalances.

Summit leaders reviewed progress over the last seven years with some satisfaction. They noted that interest rates and inflation had been brought down considerably and that most are now in their sixth consecutive year of economic growth. They reiterated their intention to cooperate in the conduct of macro-economic policy and to continue efforts to reduce the various imbalances in the world economy.

The Toronto summit was most noteworthy for progress made in responding to the needs of the poorest countries with unsustainable levels of debt. The Leaders agreed in principle to a 'menu' approach by which governments would offer debt relief through interest rate concessions, write down of principal, or longer repayment periods. Details will be worked out in the Paris Club. This achievement was particularly welcomed by Canada's Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney, who both at Venice and again this year in Toronto had made progress on this issue a major objective.

Trade policy was also a major topic of discussion and in reiterating their opposition to protectionism, the Leaders agreed that the GATT should become more dynamic in the surveillance of trade policies, more effective in dispute settlement procedures, and expand the range of issues covered to include services and various trade-related measures. They also warmly welcomed the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement and the steady progress of the European Community to complete the internal market by 1992.



G-7 Leaders pose for an informal photograph outside the University of Toronto's Hart House.

A third area of discussion was agricultural policy and the need to reduce subsidies which distort agricultural trade. Leaders supported efforts to adopt both short term and long term measures - particularly through GATT negotiations - which will promote reduction in subsidies.

Finally, the Leaders supported progress made at the OECD to encourage structural reforms and to monitor progress that individual members make. In an annex to the communique they committed themselves to certain reforms in their own countries and also to discuss structural policies within the G-7 group of Finance Ministers. The progress made in Toronto demonstrated the gradual evolution of international economic policy coordination which has been strengthened over the last several years.

The Summit political statement congratulated President Ronald Reagan (along with USSR Secretary-General Mikhail Gorbachev) for their progress in reducing offensive arms, and reaffirmed commitments to strengthen cooperation against terrorism. A special task force was established to coordinate efforts to curtail the illegal use of drugs and to trace or confiscate the drug traffickers profits. Views on South Africa, the Middle East and Cambodia were summarised in the Chairman's summary read by Canadian Secretary of State Joe Clark.

Significantly, this year's revised Summit format, introduced at the instigation of Prime Minister Mulroney, afforded opportunity to discuss more informally long-term social and economic policy issues. These discussions covered a variety of subjects including education and training, literacy, and the environment. In fact, these social issues and concerns over illegal drug use and sport hooliganism combined to give a strong focus on 'quality of life' issues in rapidly changing urban environments.

Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the longest serving Summit Leader, praised the efficient organisation of the Toronto Summit and congratulated Canada's Prime Minister for his excellent Chairmanship of the discussions. She said that the Toronto Summit had produced 'one of the most successful communique and least argued over that I've come across'.

The Summit was held in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre which has a wide range of modern facilities. Over 4000 media representatives were housed on the exhibition floor which was turned into one gigantic newsroom, while other halls were used for press conferences and briefing sessions. Across the street, a parking lot was converted into Summit Square.

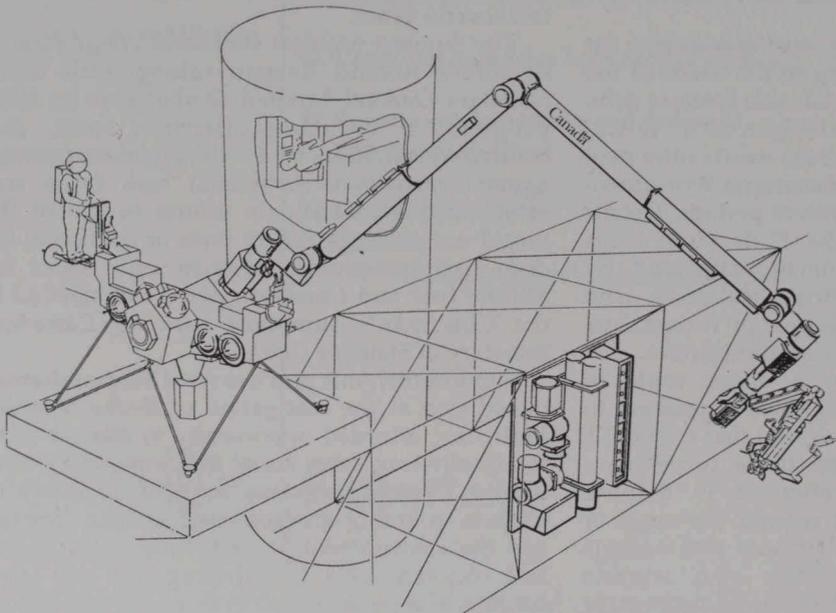
Toronto was chosen as the location for the Summit to emphasise its growing international stature. As Canada's Finance Minister Michael Wilson said in the run-up to the Summit: 'The choice of Toronto was in recognition of its stature as a major financial centre with rapidly growing links to the markets of the world'. There was universal praise for the efficient organisation of the Summit, the friendliness of Torontonians and the cleanliness of the City.



International space ventures

'The most significant international space project of this century'. That is how Canada's Science and Technology Minister Robert de Cotret describes plans for an international space station in which Canada will play a major role.

The space station is a joint venture involving the US, Canada, Europe and Japan, with the US as project leader. When it becomes operational in the 1990s, it will be used to conduct research into astrophysics, earth sciences, life sciences and materials-processing in conditions of near-weightlessness. It will also provide a base for assembling and servicing other associated platforms and vehicles, and for exploration of the solar system.



Canada's Mobile Servicing System will play a key role in the development of space.

Canada is no newcomer to the space age. The strategic importance of space technology was recognised very early on by both government and the private sector, and as a result of their close co-operation, the country's space industry has notched up some notable firsts - in communications satellites, for instance (see following article).

Participation in the international space station offers the opportunity to develop this technology still further and to reap some useful spin-offs. For these reasons, the Canadian government has set aside more than £500 million for the design, development, operation and use of the space station by the year 2000.

Canada to build Mobile Servicing System

Canada's main contribution to the new space station will be the Mobile Servicing System (MSS), which will play a key role in station assembly and maintenance, in servicing and manipulating payloads such as satellites and visiting spacecraft, and in berthing, loading and unloading the orbiter when it visits the space station.

The MSS will weigh 4800kg and its main platform will have an area of 25 square metres. It will be equipped with a 17.6-metre-long Remote Manipulator System as well as a Special Purpose

Dextrous Manipulator with two arms, each two metres long.

The Remote Manipulator System will be an adaptation of Canadarm, the robot system used in the US Space Shuttle programme. However, while it will be the same size as Canadarm, it will be able to manoeuvre over three times the mass. It will also be able to handle loads as big as the shuttle orbiter, as the orbiter approaches to resupply the space station every three months.

The Special Purpose Dextrous Manipulator, by contrast, will perform more delicate operations such as connecting and disconnecting utilities, mating and demating connectors, cleaning surfaces and changing faulty components. It will be able to work either as an extension of the main manipulator arm or as an independent arm attached to the station's truss structure. Both systems will be controlled from inside the station's command module.

Companies from all over Canada will be involved in the MSS's construction. The main contractor is Spar Aerospace Ltd (Montreal and Toronto), supported by the IMP Group (Halifax), CAE Electronics (Montreal), Canadian Astronautics (Ottawa), SED Systems (Saskatoon), and MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates (Richmond, BC).

Spin-off benefits, for industry, governments and universities

However, Canadian involvement in the space station will not be confined to the design and manufacture of the Mobile Servicing System. Industry, government and universities are looking forward to using the station to advance their scientific, technological and commercial interests.

Canadian astronomers, for instance, will be able to pursue their studies of the earth's upper atmosphere and the aurora borealis. They will be assisted by astronomical instruments mounted on the station, which will be able to view space without the obscuring interference of the earth's atmosphere.

Scientists from Canada have a particular interest in space life sciences, and one aspect of their studies will concentrate on how humans adapt to space. Agriculturalists, geologists and biologists, on the other hand, will use instruments on the station to scan the earth using remote sensing techniques, a field in which Canada has long been a world leader.

There is also considerable interest in utilising the near-zero-gravity environment of space to produce new and improved materials, such as semi-conductors, pharmaceuticals and glasses. The Canadian government has therefore set up a User Development Programme to prepare industry and other interested parties to exploit commercially the opportunities offered by the space station.

Canadian astronauts prepared to take-off

Up to eight astronauts can be housed in the space station at any one time. Canada is entitled to provide three per cent of the station's crew, which is equivalent to one six-month tour of duty every

draws on Canadian expertise

two years. However, a Canadian astronaut will also be needed in the early stages of the space station construction when the Mobile Servicing System is used for the first time.

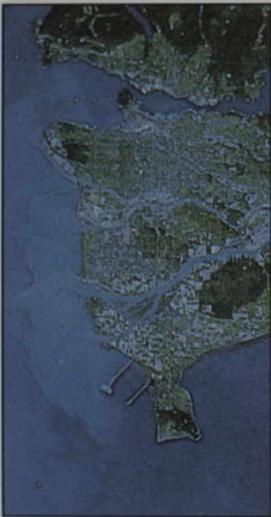
There are already six astronauts – five men and one woman – who are ready for take-off. Originally chosen to fly on the space shuttle – a project which was grounded after the Challenger accident in 1986 – they are now closely involved in the various technology committees for the MSS.

The space station will take three years to

assemble and it will continue to operate for 30 years. Canada's investment therefore represents along-term commitment to space technology and research.

However, it would be misleading to regard the country's interest as solely extra-terrestrial. According to Science Minister Robert de Cotret, 'Designing and building the MSS will enable Canada's space industry to develop numerous advanced technologies which will be applied and adapted to traditional earth-bound activities.' 

Canada pioneers space systems with a peaceful intent



Vancouver as seen from 50,000 feet by satellite. Remote sensing is being used to manage the country's resources and monitor environmental changes.

Canada's involvement with space reaches back more than 25 years. It began in 1962 with the launching of the satellite Alouette I, an event which distinguished Canada as the third nation in the world – after the Soviet Union and the US – to have a satellite in orbit.

Canada was quick to recognise the advantages of space technology to meet the country's social and economic needs. One particular problem for a country whose population is dispersed over such a large area has been providing effective communications. The launch of Anik A1 in 1972 provided a solution.

Anik A1 was the world's first telecommunications satellite in geo-stationary orbit, moving in such a way that it remained in a fixed position above the earth. For the first time, it became possible to provide communications links with remote communities which could not be reached by terrestrial systems.

Further advances were made by the Hermes experimental satellite in 1976. They brought down the cost of satellite transmissions and increased their accessibility, and included the establishment of a network of small ground stations and of satellite broadcasting to cable networks, as well as the introduction of home satellite dishes capable of receiving direct satellite transmissions.

Space technology solves terrestrial problems

But Canada's space pioneering will not stop there. 1990 will see the launch of two Anik E satellites – the largest and most powerful domestic communications satellite ever planned. And in 1992, MSAT – a mobile communications satellite – will be put into orbit to provide a network to terminals on vehicles operating on land, at sea or in the air.

In other areas, Canadian satellites are already playing an important role in education. One third of the country's tertiary institutions use teleconferencing in distance education programmes, while educational satellite networks such as ACCESS Alberta and British Columbia's Knowledge Network have pioneered alternatives to the traditional classroom.

Satellites are also playing a key role in extending health-care services to remote regions. By means of satellite transmissions, doctors operating on patients in isolated areas are able to consult with urban specialists and relay medical

data for analysis by sophisticated diagnostic equipment.

A further application of Canadian space technology has been in satellite remote sensing – particularly in agricultural areas where it can monitor changing crop conditions, detect disease and estimate potential yields. Canada has also used this technology in fields as diverse as forestry, geological mapping and exploration, water resource management and weather forecasting.

Remote sensing is, in fact, the fastest-growing sector of the Canadian space industry. More than 30 firms are involved in the design and manufacture of this equipment, making Canada a world leader.

Space companies reach for the stars

Canada's commitment to space research has resulted in a thriving space industry that is 90 per cent Canadian owned and has an annual growth rate of between 10 and 20 per cent. Companies like Spar, SED Systems, Canadian Astronautics, and Fleet Industries – to name but a few – have a world-wide reputation, and as a group export more than 70 per cent of their production.

The largest of the 100-or-so companies that make up the Canadian space industry is Spar, which in addition to making remote manipulator systems for the space shuttle, has designed and manufactured all 14 of the Canadian satellites

The largest segment of the Canadian space industry is devoted to satellite earth stations and related systems.



UK rediscovers the attractions of wood-frame houses

In Canada, there is a long tradition of building in wood, and Canadian-style wood-frame design and construction has been much admired in many countries around the world. One country which is benefitting from

Canada's experience is the UK, where wood-frame housing has started to make a major comeback after being subjected to some adverse publicity in 1983.

Solarhab by Interhabs Ltd of Halifax is based on the belief that the optimum house design begins with passive solar considerations.



Photo: Interhabs Ltd

Living in a country so abundant in forests, it is only natural that Canadians should choose to build houses of wood. Nowadays, some of the most cherished wood-based buildings from past centuries – from log cabins to elegant Victorian family houses – are being lovingly restored.

Wood features in many modern residential buildings, too, although it is often less conspicuous. For although the walls may be covered by other

materials, the framework of the house is constructed with standard dimension softwood lumber, designed for durability and erected by skilled carpenters on the building site. It is this wood framework which supports the floors and the roof.

This contrasts with the major method of house-building in the UK, where in a masonry or concrete house the support is provided by concrete breeze blocks.

Canada pioneers space systems continued —

launched so far. The firm was also responsible for Brazil's first domestic communications satellite which, together with ground control systems, serves a population of 130 million spread over 8.8 million square kilometres.

Other leading companies in space technology are MacDonald Dettwiler, a leading supplier of ground receiving and processing systems, and COM DEV whose equipment is currently in orbit in 35 satellites. Moreover, Canada's David Florida Laboratory is one of the few facilities in the world

able to simulate launch conditions and space environments. The European Space Agency's Olympus satellite is currently undergoing tests there.

Canada's contribution to space technology is being increasingly recognised. Recently the experimental satellite Hermes won the Canadian government, in conjunction with NASA, an Emmy television award for Engineering Excellence. With so much proven expertise to draw on, the Mobile Servicing System looks set to be another winner. ♣

Cape Cod style houses are common throughout Eastern Canada..

However, all-masonry construction has not always been the norm, even on this side of the Atlantic. Wood-frame construction used to be extremely popular, and there are many notable examples – such as Anne Hathaway's cottage – which date back to Tudor times.

Quick, efficient and easy to learn

There are many advantages to the wood-frame method of building in the UK. For one thing it is fast and efficient. The wall, floor and roof components are manufactured in factories to strictly controlled quality standards. Site assembly usually takes between two and four days, including the fixing of the roof trusses. Starting from scratch a crew of three carpenters, using only basic tools, can frame and sheath a house in just two weeks or less.

It is also a form of construction which is easy to learn. It therefore appeals to DIY housebuilders, who collectively accounted for nearly 14 000 new homes in the UK last year. In addition, it cuts down on labour time, and yet offers better standards of accuracy and finish than does masonry or concrete construction.

Wood-frame houses are also remarkably energy-efficient. Insulation placed in the walls and roof adds to the wood's natural thermal qualities, giving all-round protection from varying climate conditions.

British houses of this construction are reckoned to achieve a standard at least 33 per cent better than the building regulations specify for outer walls. They provide a warm and comfortable living environment, and at the same time keep heating costs low.

Another advantage of wood construction is that the structural frame is extremely rigid. This means that wood-frame houses are well placed to withstand hurricanes and even earthquakes. Moreover, the frame will remain intact in the event of a fire.

Architects enthusiastic about wood-frame construction

Architects involved in house design are as enthusiastic as builders about wood-frame construction. They find that wood is a flexible medium which offers tremendous creative scope.

The design possibilities are endless. And good

A traditional wood-frame house typical of those dating from the twenties and thirties. The decorative wooden 'gingerbread' is a familiar feature, and often quite elaborate.



Photo: Interhabs Ltd



Photo: Interhabs Ltd

design is by no means confined to large and expensive, custom-built houses. Several low-budget projects have received awards for residential design from the Canadian Housing Design Council.

'The beauty of wood frame construction,' says a prominent Toronto architect, 'is that you can do almost anything with it'.

It is, for example, much easier to change plans during the course of construction than it is if you are building in stone or concrete. You can add or subtract different elements in order to get different effects.

Also, architects who are called upon to renovate or extend older houses usually find that the original timbers are still sound after 75 years or more and can be re-used.

Renewed interest in wood-frame housing in UK

In the UK, interest has revived in this method of house construction. Both Wimpey and Laing are increasing their output of wood-frame housing, often using timber imported from Canada; and suppliers such as Prestoplan in Preston are claiming an upsurge in demand for their products.

One reason for this renewed interest is a shortage of bricklayers and plasterers in the UK. To cope with an increased demand for new housing, builders are turning again to wood frame. Its all-dry construction, speed of building, proven durability and technical integrity offer significant advantages over other methods of construction.

Research findings suggest that house-buyers are also getting a good deal. The UK government's Building Research Establishment, for example, reports that in terms of fire safety, thermal and sound insulation, this type of construction consistently performs to a very high standard.

An apartment block in wood-frame construction.



Photo: Interhabs Ltd

Saskatchewan salutes



'Give me a good canoe, a pair of Jibway snow-shoes, my beaver, my family and 10000 square miles of wilderness and I am happy.'

This summer, as the Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan celebrates its diamond jubilee, attention will focus on the writer of these words – the enigmatic and now-legendary Grey Owl, who once lived on the shores of the Park's Ajawaan Lake.

This famous Canadian naturalist, who died 50 years ago this year, sprang to prominence in the 1930s with a number of books – *Men of the Last Frontier*, *Tales of an Empty Cabin*, *Pilgrims of the Wild* and *Sajo and the Beaver People*. The popularity of his writings led to a series of lecture tours in Canada, Britain and the US – during which audiences listened spellbound to the tales of this 'Modern Hiawatha', as he was sometimes described.

Grey Owl dressed as an Indian, and claimed he was the son of an Apache woman and a Scottish immigrant who had served as a scout in the US Cavalry. In fact, he was an Englishman – one Archibald Stansfield Belaney, born on September 18, 1888, at Hastings in Sussex.

Boyhood interest became a reality

The young Archibald was brought up by his

grandmother and two maiden aunts. As a boy he was fascinated by wild animals and woodlands, and his favourite reading involved stories of Indians and the Wild West. These stories fired his imagination, and in 1906 – at the age of 18 – he went off to Canada in pursuit of his ideal.

He teamed up with a settler who taught him the art of wilderness trapping. Then he became acquainted with a band of Indians who instructed him in their skills and traditions and techniques for survival. He quickly adopted Indian ways and married an Indian girl, whom he later deserted.

Belaney went through a succession of jobs, working as a fire ranger, forester and trapper, before enlisting in the British army to fight in the First World War. In Northern France he was wounded in the foot, and he lived with this deformity for the rest of his life.

After the war, he married his childhood sweetheart in Hastings, but the marriage ended abruptly in divorce. The lure of the wilderness proved too strong for him, and he returned to Canada.

However, he soon realised that there was no future in trapping. Overhunting meant that the animal population had declined; in addition, fur prices were falling. Yet he still had to make a living, and trapping was one of the few skills he had.

He decided to try his hand at writing, concentrating on his experiences in the wild. One of his articles was published in *Country Life* and

a great conservationist



was extremely well received. The magazine's editor asked for more.

At around this time, Belaney became interested in beavers, which were becoming a threatened species. He and his new Indian wife, Anahareo, had found two beaver kittens whose mother had been killed in a trap, and they decided to found a beaver colony. Eventually, the two kittens – named McGinnis and McGinty – left them, but Belaney soon found replacements, one of whom – Jelly Roll – became a celebrity through Grey Owl's books and films.

Grey Owl took Jelly Roll with him to Métis-sur-Mer where he lectured to rich Canadian and American holiday-makers on Indian life and the animals of the woods and forests. The venture proved profitable, and the following winter he retired to Elephant Mountain Lake to complete his first book.

Grey Owl comes to Prince Albert National Park

In 1931, the Ministry of the Interior offered him a position as a naturalist at Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba with a brief to start a new beaver colony. Riding Mountain, however, proved unsuitable for this purpose, but Grey Owl found the ideal site on Lake Ajawaan at Prince Albert National Park in neighbouring Saskatchewan.

He named his new home Beaver Lodge, and he spent much of his time there writing. His books became popular, he found himself in great demand as a lecturer, and for once in his life he tasted wealth and success. But this experience was shortlived. Grey Owl died in April, 1938, aged 49.

Beaver Lodge still stands on the shore of Lake Ajawaan – 'far enough away to gain seclusion, yet within reach of those whose genuine interest prompts them to make a trip' (to quote Grey Owl). The one-room log cabin looks much the same as it

did when the naturalist lived there, having been restored in the 1970s. The upper cabin built for Anahareo also survives intact, and the site attracts canoeists and hikers who can stay overnight in one of the campgrounds in the area.

Wilderness left largely untouched

This area of Prince Albert National Park is well maintained and easily accessible to visitors, but most of the huge park has been deliberately left untouched as a natural wilderness. One excellent way to appreciate it is to follow the Grey Owl Wilderness Canoe Route mapped out by the park authorities – a week-long trip through some of the smaller lakes and waterways of the region.

Among the wildlife visitors are likely to see are moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, elk and red fox. On the lakes and rivers you can find beaver, otter, ducks and pelicans from the protected pelican colony on Lavallee Lake. If you are lucky, you may even see coyotes, wolverine, wolves and badgers – but such sightings are rare.

This summer, the Park is likely to attract a record number of visitors, particularly during the Heritage Week (August 8–14). At Waskesiu Town, there will be theatrical events, talks, exhibitions, tours, a banquet and other events which trace the development of the Park and celebrate the life of its most famous inhabitant.

Today, there is a strong conservationist lobby in Canada, with the result that species – such as the beaver – which were once heading for extinction are now increasing in numbers. Archibald Stansfield Belaney, trapper turned conservationist, would doubtless rejoice that his conservationist message has taken firm root.

'We need an enrichment other than material prosperity,' he used to say, 'and to gain it we have only to look around. Remember, you belong to nature, not it to you.'

'Remember, you belong to nature, not it to you.'



Canada protects its natural heritage for future generations



*Waterton Lakes
National Park*

Canada is unique among western industrialised nations in having such vast areas of unspoiled wilderness. Its huge forests, unending prairies and countless lakes are a priceless asset which gives pleasure to millions. The establishment a century ago of the nation's first national park set an example which ensures that this asset will remain part of Canada's national heritage.

The 4000-square-kilometre Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan is by no means unique. There are national parks in every province and territory from Terra Nova in Newfoundland to Pacific Rim in British Columbia, and from Point Pelee on Lake Erie in southern Ontario to Auyuittuq on Baffin Island inside the Arctic Circle. Together, they constitute the largest national parks system in the world.

The parks cover a total area of more than 130,000 square kilometres – about the size of England – and vary considerably in size. St Lawrence Islands National Park measures a mere 4.1 square kilometres, while Wood Buffalo in Alberta and the Northwest Territories is nearly 45,000 square kilometres in extent.

National Parks: a century of progress

Wood Buffalo is one of those Canadian parks that have been designated World Heritage Sites by UNESCO in view of their exceptional natural value. Others which fall into this category are the Kluane National Park in the Yukon, home of Mount Logan, Canada's highest peak; Nahanni National Park in the Northwest Territories with its hot springs, canyons and waterfalls; and the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks World Heritage Site comprising Banff, Jasper, Yoho and Kootenay Parks.

Banff has the distinction of being Canada's first national park. In 1883, railroad construction workers in the Rockies came across two natural hot springs at Sulphur Mountain, and two years later the Canadian government decided to set aside a 26 square-kilometre area around the springs for the benefit of the Canadian people. In 1887, the area was extended to encompass an area of 673 square-kilometres; since then, the park has grown tenfold.

By 1900, Canada could boast three more national parks: Yoho and Glacier – both in British

Columbia – and Waterton Lakes in southern Alberta. Many more have been added this century, in every province and territory. For instance, in addition to the Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan can boast Grasslands – the only mixed grass prairie park in North America and home to the pronghorn antelope, the sage grouse and the prairie falcon.

Historical sites also preserved

Other areas of Saskatchewan have been set aside as parks because of their historical significance. Fort Walsh, set in the Cypress Hills, was an important post of the Northwest Mounted Police; so was Fort Battleford, former capital of the Northwest Territories, which was besieged by Cree Indians in 1885.

The Motherwell Homestead National Historic Park, commemorates less turbulent times. William Richard Motherwell was an eminent politician who played a crucial role in the settlement of Saskatchewan and in the agrarian movement. Parks Canada is currently restoring the homestead's farmhouse, outbuildings and landscape to recapture its Edwardian appearance.

However, for most people Canada's national parks represent an opportunity to escape from the stress and bustle of city life to a world of quiet and solitude. They are ideal spots for camping, photography, hiking and picnicking, while for the more energetic, they offer excellent opportunities for rock climbing, fishing, backpacking, canoeing and horseback riding.

Canada implements measures to reduce acid rain

In recent years, much concern has been expressed in Britain about acid rain and its effects on the environment. This is, of course, not purely a European phenomenon. Canada, too, has experienced much harm to its forests and pollution of its lakes, even though it has taken tough action to reduce the emissions which create the damage.

Acid rain is caused by emissions of sulphur dioxide (largely from coal-fired power stations and smelters) and of nitrogen oxide, (produced by vehicles and fuel combustions). Once released into the atmosphere, these substances can be carried long distances by prevailing winds before returning to earth in acidic forms of rain, snow, fog or dust. In cases where the environment cannot neutralise the acid being deposited, damage occurs.

Acid changes the chemistry of ecosystems. Streams, lakes and soils become acidified, and this process starts to kill off plant and animal life. This is a particular problem in the seven eastern provinces of Canada – an area sensitive to acid-rain precipitation.

Federal and provincial governments launch initiatives

Scientific observation of acid-sensitive waters suggest that there is no increase in acidity provided acid deposition is kept below 20 kg per hectare (18 lb per acre) per year. To reach this target, sulphur-dioxide deposition must be reduced by some 50 per cent east of the Saskatchewan-Manitoba border.

This is no pipe-dream. The federal government's acid-rain control programme – costing about £250 million per year – is already getting good results. Over the past decade and a half, sulphur dioxide emissions have declined in

the east, and parts of Canada's Atlantic provinces have managed to reduce acid deposition below the targets set. As a consequence, affected lakes and rivers in these localities are starting to show signs of recovery.

The provincial governments of Quebec and Ontario have also taken strong action. Quebec aims to cut overall sulphur dioxide emissions to 55 per cent of the 1980 figure by 1990. Ontario is planning to reduce emissions by 60 per cent by 1994.

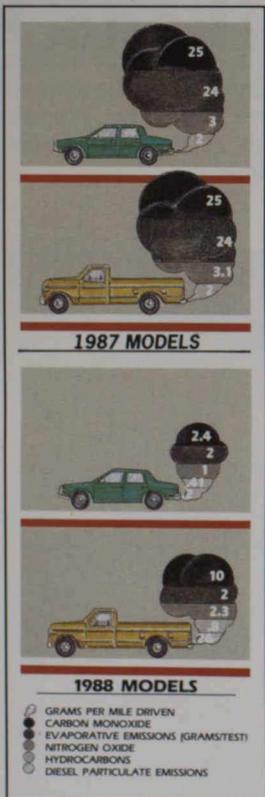
As part of Ontario's clean-up programme, the four major sulphur-dioxide-producing companies in the province now have to report twice yearly on their progress towards the emission reduction targets they have agreed to; and new boiler regulations ensure that the sulphur content of emissions is reduced to one per cent.

Cross-border co-operation with the United States

Other federal initiatives have been the imposition of stringent exhaust-emission standards on motor vehicles, the provision of financial assistance for smelter modernisation and pollution abatement measures, as well as investment in the development of innovative and viable technologies for the cleaner, more efficient use of coal.

Pollution, alas, respects no national boundaries, and the federal government is therefore working towards an agreement with the United States to assess and solve the international problems associated with trans-border air pollution. The impetus for this co-operation came at the 'Shamrock Summit' of 1985 when Canada's Premier Brian Mulroney met US President Ronald Reagan.

Canada has made considerable progress in its bid to clean up the environment and will continue its strenuous efforts until the environment is exorcised of this pollutant.



Canadian vehicle emission standards

Canada exports comedy and drama to Edinburgh Festival



B Movie – the Play

Two Canadian drama successes will be featured at this summer's Edinburgh International Festival. Both B Movie, the Play and The Rez Sisters have won many awards and roused interest wherever they have played in Canada.

Fast moving spoof for movie buffs

B Movie, the Play is a zany comedy by Edmonton-born Tom Wood, in which the playwright also plays a leading role. It takes a satirical look at the world of low-budget film-making where reality and fantasy become one.

The plot centres on a small-time movie director, Art Findell, who decides to make an updated version of *Oedipus Rex* – to be retitled *Joanne and Eddie*. He persuades a gorgeous American soap opera actress to play the lead, and in order to clinch the deal he engages a handsome male stripper to be her co-star.

Director Art Findell – a distraught Woody Allen type figure – is described by Wood as 'a total film

The Rez Sisters

freak who was lonely in childhood and grew up watching films'. He is supported in his shoe-string venture by a weird brother and sister team: Stan Purdum is his side-kick with a flair for imitation; while downtrodden sister Lottie, who idolises Art, is typist, costumier, caterer and financier for the venture.

The play, directed by Bob Baker, is characterised by split-second timing and superb sound and lighting effects. It is a fast-moving piece which changes rapidly from fantasy to slapstick, mystery to melodrama. Movie buffs will be impressed by the attention to detail, which includes virtually every movie cliché in the book.

For the five actors involved, it is a tour de force. 'It's the most physical show I've ever done,' says Wood. 'I feel as if I have been hit by a truck when I get up in the morning.'

Wood has been an actor for 15 years, appearing all over Canada in both modern drama and the classics. He therefore has a strong appreciation of what makes good theatre, and this certainly comes over in *B Movie, the Play*, which is only the second work Wood has written.

It has played to packed houses across Canada, and its success has encouraged him to embark on other writing projects, including a thriller and a screen play of *B Movie*.

Whether he succeeds in his stated aim of making people 'think about how much the movies have warped our collective brains' may be open to question. What is clear, however, is that Wood's spoof will have Edinburgh Festival audiences rolling in the aisles this summer.



Photo courtesy of Edinburgh Festival Society

Indian drama with bingo leitmotif

The Rez Sisters – which could hardly be more different from *B Movie, the Play* – is a drama about seven women on an Indian reserve with a passion for bingo. When they hear that the biggest bingo game in the world is coming to Toronto, they head for the city in the hope of winning the jackpot.

However, the bingo game is more than just a chance to win a big prize. It represents all the ambitions which the women will never see realised – such as paved roads on their reservation or a gleaming new white toilet.

The play's author is Tomson Highway, himself a Cree Indian. Once a budding pianist, he turned his back on the concert platform to become a social worker among Indian communities in Ontario.

'I would have been one miserable concert pianist,' he says. 'I would have been completely removed from Indian people and my whole heritage.'

He resumed his artistic career in 1980 when, to create greater awareness of Indian culture, he began writing plays on Indian themes. More recently, he has become artistic director of Native Earth Performing Arts – one of the few professional native theatre companies in North America. It is this company which will be performing *The Rez Sisters* in Edinburgh.

The play has little plot to speak of, and the interest lies in the interactions between the seven women, whose characters are sharply and sensitively delineated. The dialogue contains plenty of wit and earthy humour, but the grimness of the women's situation and their inner resilience are never far from the surface.

Until recently, very few Canadian plays have managed to bridge the gulf between native and white cultures. Highway's drama is the exception, and is seen to mark a turning point in the native arts movement. To quote the *Ottawa Citizen*: '*The Rez Sisters* is a moving tribute to passion, dreams and survival – inspiring as well as entertaining.' ♣

Canadian sculptors to exhibit in London

The works of two leading Canadian sculptors – on show at this year's Venice Biennale – will soon be on display at the Canada House Gallery, Trafalgar Square.

The two sculptors, Michel Goulet and Roland Brener, come from different cultural and geographical backgrounds – Goulet is from Quebec, while Brener comes from British Columbia – but they have certain points in common. In particular, both have attracted considerable interest over the past decade from both critics and the public at large.

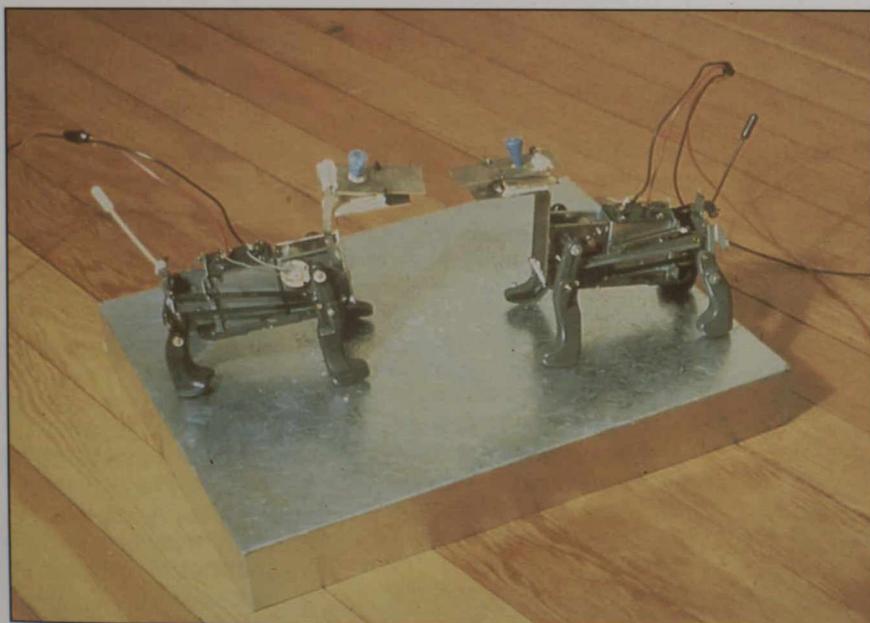
In their work, they present a moving dialogue

between a mechanised, industrial world on the one hand, and a gentler, artistic world on the other hand.

In the late 1970s Goulet began working in oxidised steel and contrasted it with constructions that gave a quite different impression: sometimes fragile, sometimes precarious. Brener's recent work has taken the form of electromechanical constructions recreating scenes in which a theatre of repetition is played out. He borrows different elements from the everyday environment and mass production. He also uses sound. ♣

Below:
Roland Brener
Heart of a dog,
1984 (detail)

Below, right:
Michel Goulet
Assemblée
1987



Business

Olympia & York buys stake in Stanhope

Olympia & York, the Canadian property developer, has extended its influence over some of London's biggest development projects by buying a one-third stake in Stanhope Properties for a price of £137 million.

Olympia & York, based in Toronto, is the biggest developer group in the world. In Canada, it owns office blocks in most major cities. In New York, it controls about 24 million square feet. And in London, it controls the £3-billion Canary Wharf Scheme in the Docklands.

Its agreement with Stanhope will give it part ownership of some of London's other major projects, including Broadgate at Liverpool Street station, the redevelopment of Holborn Viaduct station and a £750 million project at the Royal Albert Docks.

New Brunswick opens first European office

The province of New Brunswick has opened its first office in Europe and has appointed Dr Claudia Bruns as its representative covering



Dr Claudia Bruns has been appointed to head the new office of the Government of New Brunswick in Europe.

the United Kingdom, West Germany and the Netherlands.

The main purpose of the new office is to promote New Brunswick as a site for manufacturing investment and a destination for business immigrants.

The new office – in Hamburg – will give potential investors and immigrants quick access to information on the opportunities New Brunswick has to offer.

Dr Bruns has represented New Brunswick at a number of trade fairs and other promotional events in West Germany. She is an economics graduate of the University of Hamburg, where she wrote her doctoral thesis on the impact of foreign investment and business immigration in Canada.

Their address is:
*Government of New Brunswick
Heilwigstrasse 88
D-2000 Hamburg 20
West Germany
Tel (010) 49 40 460 4025*

Politics

Manitoba's voters spring election surprise

April's Provincial elections in Manitoba resulted in an upset for the ruling New Democratic Party. The Liberal Party came in from the cold to push the ruling NDP into third place in the provincial assembly, but it was the Conservatives who won most seats.

The Liberals, who had only one seat before the election, gained 19, while the NDP lost 18 of their 30 seats. The Conservatives stayed almost where they were – they dropped one seat – with the result that they are now the largest party in the assembly, although without an overall majority.

When all the votes were in, the final result was:

Conservatives, 25 seats;
Liberals, 20 seats;
NDP, 12 seats.

Technology

Teleports open in Montreal and Toronto

Montreal and Toronto are the first cities in Canada to have their own teleports. Unlike shipping ports and airports, these new ports are not involved in transporting people or goods. Instead, they transmit information around the world.

So far, there are 70 such ports in operation or in the planning and construction stage around the world. Montreal's teleport has been established as a result of the city's prominence as a broadcasting and video production centre.

The Toronto facility is Canada's first satellite teleport, and was built at a cost of £2.2 million by Telesat – a company in which the federal government has a 50% interest.

Investment

Maple Leaf Gold coin still the market leader

The Gold Maple Leaf continues to be the favourite on the gold bullion coin investment market despite strong competition from the US, UK and Australia. The latter three countries have all launched their own gold bullion coins over the past two years, but Canada's 45 per cent market share has been largely unaffected.

The Maple Leaf was launched in 1979, and by the end of 1987 total sales amounted to nearly 11 million troy ounces. According to Jack Julien, vice president of marketing at the Royal Canadian Mint, more than 15 million such coins have been sold to investors round the world.

The total sales volume for 1987 alone was more than 1.4 million ounces. A major reason for its strong performance was the stock market collapse in October. After the sharp drop in share values, sales of the coin rose 400 per

cent compared with the same period the previous year.

The renewed popularity of gold augurs well for Maple Leaf sales in 1988. 'More and more investors are again considering the purchase of gold to help balance their portfolios,' observes Julien. 'The Gold Maple Leaf combines the attraction of pure physical gold, ease of purchase in many sizes and the ease of tradeability of any gold product on the market today.'

Travel

Canada attracts near-record number of British holidaymakers

Canada, with its wide open spaces, breathtaking scenery and vibrant cosmopolitan cities, is proving to be a hit with tourists from the UK. Last year, more than half a million Britons visited Canada – an increase of 15 per cent over the 1986 figures.

This upsurge in interest is partly the consequence of competitive trans-Atlantic airfares combined with a favourable exchange rate; they have made Canada much more accessible to British holidaymakers. Another reason is an increase in the number of firms offering package holidays.

Encouraged by the upswing, Tourism Canada's UK Office, in conjunction with Air Canada, has invested some £341,000 in an advertising campaign designed to promote Canada as a tourist destination.

Events

Calgary winter Olympics show healthy surplus

Calgarians have something to sing about these days, as they settle the bills for the biggest ever Winter Olympics, because the event – far from chalking up a massive deficit – has turned in a surplus of some £15 million.

The Canadian Television

Network, which provided 550 hours of sports coverage, also has cause for satisfaction. With its 22 mobile units and 300 colour cameras, the organisation attracted a global audience of more than two billion.

Equipment used included the world's longest television lens with a 60-fold magnification for the downhill ski runs, as well as tiny cameras and microphones along the walls of the speed skating oval and in the hockey goal nets. Canada's top TV crews were involved and were described by Roone Arledge, group president of American Broadcasting Corporation News and Sports, as 'the finest I've ever worked with.'

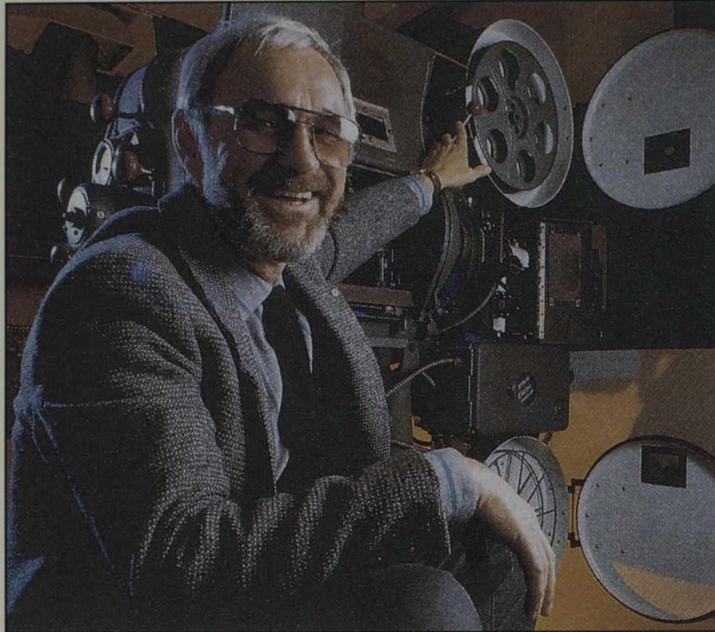
Meanwhile, other Canadian cities have set their sights on hosting international sports contests. Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is bidding for the 1994 Commonwealth Games, and Toronto is hoping to be the venue for the 1996 summer Olympics.

Thanks to Canada's first-class track record in organising meetings of this kind, both cities are regarded as strong contenders for these prestigious events.

Canadian becomes world amateur chess champion
Brett Campbell from Toronto is the new world amateur chess champion. He gained the title after outpointing 160 other players in the amateur section of the World Chess Festival held earlier this year.

Out of a maximum of 12 points, Campbell gained 10.5 – one point ahead of joint runners-up, Billy Peckford of Canada and Petar Matovic of Yugoslavia. In third place were Raid Lovric, also from Yugoslavia, and two Americans – William Kelleher and Luis Hoyos-Millan.

Campbell's victory was certainly no walk-over. The 29-year-old laboratory technologist won the championship after 12 gruelling games played over four days.



Norman Jewison

Film

Norman Jewison founds Canadian film school

The Canadian cinema has taken a leap forward with the establishment of a Centre for Advanced Film Studies in Toronto. The Centre has international film-producer Norman Jewison as its founder and co-chairman, assisted by other Canadians such as Donald Sutherland, Christopher Plummer and Geneviève Bujold. It is funded by the film industry, the private sector and government.

Emphasis will be put on writing, directing and production, and students will be put through a two-year residential programme on the Windfields estate, once the home of Canadian philanthropist E P Taylor.

'It is not enough for Canada to be a service industry for Hollywood,' insists Jewison. 'It is time that we made movies in Canada that speak for themselves and speak for ourselves.'

By fostering home-grown talent in this way, the Centre hopes to make the Canadian industry into a force to be reckoned with in international terms.

Stamps

Canada Day — science and technology issue

Canadian innovations in energy, food, research and medicine are commemorated in a special stamp issue, designed by Roger Hill of Toronto.

Canadian scientists have helped to banish the darkness, to feed people better, to view the smallest objects, and to cure once fatal diseases.

1. Kerosene

To satisfy demands for a better lighting source, Abraham Gesner (1797–1864) produced kerosene by distilling petroleum.



Kerosene was not the first lighting oil he devised but was, by far, the best. Patented in 1854, it at once became the standard lighting fuel, and is used today to fuel jet aircraft.

2. Marquis Wheat

In 1903 Charles Saunders began working on a cross between two wheat varieties, *Red Fife* and *Hard Red Calcutta*. The resulting strain, named *Marquis Wheat*, matured faster than other wheats. It was also disease resistant and increased yields considerably, which greatly facilitated agriculture on the Prairies, an area with a short frost-free growing season.

3. Electron microscope

The electron microscope generates a picture by using a beam of electrons – rather than light – to illuminate an object. In 1938, under the supervision of Dr Eli Burton at the University of Toronto, James Hillier and Albert Prebus developed the first practical model. Electron microscopes can magnify images up to a million times their true size.

4. Cobalt cancer therapy

Scientists have treated cancer with radiation since 1896. Radium provided the necessary radiation until, with Cobalt 60, scientists discovered a source 300 times more powerful and 6000 times less expensive. The forerunners of today's Cobalt 60 therapy units were developed by Dr Harold Johns in Saskatoon, and by Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.

Lord Mayor of London meets the Mounties



Photo: UPPA Ltd

The Mounties parading in front of Guardian Royal Exchange, City of London.

The traffic in Central London came to a halt on May 11 to make way for a procession of horsemen clad in stetsons and scarlet tunics. The Mounties were back in town marking the start of a ten-day visit to Britain, which was to include appearances at the Royal Windsor Horse Show and the Devon County Show in Exeter.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are no strangers to London crowds. A RCMP contingent has taken part in every Coronation procession this century (the last time they were in Britain was for Queen Elizabeth II's jubilee parade).

On this occasion, they were to be received at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor of London, the Rt Hon Sir Greville Spratt. Canadian High Commissioner, Mr Roy McMurtry, accompanied the 36-strong troop, riding in an open landau. An escort was provided by mounted officers of the Metropolitan and City of London police forces.

After a review by the Lord Mayor and High Commissioner, the procession continued to the new Royal Bank of Canada Centre in Queen Victoria Street, and then to Saddlers' Hall for a reception.

A modern force that is proud of its traditions

The image of the Mounties may be traditional, but the modern-day reality is quite different. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police is one of the world's most dynamic and advanced crime-fighting organisations. When the modern Mountie sets out to get his man, he will be in a fast patrol car or helicopter, not on a coal-black charger.

However, the force is proud of its traditions, which go back more than a century. The RCMP Musical Ride, in particular, is a popular spectacle throughout Canada, and in addition to making regular appearances in every province, has undertaken several overseas tours. This year's tour takes in Ireland, Holland, Germany, France, Belgium and Switzerland as well as the UK.

The forerunner of the RCMP was the North West Mounted Police, a force which came into

being on August 30, 1873 with an establishment of 300 men. It started out as a semi-military body with the immediate task of stopping liquor traffic among the Indians, gaining their respect and confidence, halting tribal warfare and attacks on white settlers, and collecting customs dues.

Their task was not an easy one considering the vastness of the area they were expected to patrol. It was further complicated by the arrival of the rebellious American Sioux following the Custer massacres. Later, the influx of white settlers and the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway brought increased responsibilities from the provision of a mail-delivery service to acting as welfare officials and land agents.

In 1904, King Edward VII granted the Force the prefix 'Royal' in recognition of its service to the Crown. Then, in 1920, the Royal North West Mounted Police absorbed the Dominion Police and became the RCMP, responsible for the enforcement of federal laws from the Pacific to the Atlantic shores.

Nowadays, the RCMP has exclusive police jurisdiction in the Northwest Territories, and in eight of Canada's ten provinces the force is contracted to enforce criminal and provincial laws. The Mounties also provide policing services to over 150 municipalities throughout Canada.

More than a century of colourful pageantry

The origins of the Musical Ride are obscure, but it is believed to derive from a form of diversionary cavalry drill developed by British troops in India. It may well have been performed in Canada as long ago as 1876, but the first recorded performance was in Regina, Saskatchewan, in 1887. The first public performance was in 1904 and it proved an instant hit with audiences.

The Ride is performed by a troop of 32 riders and horses. To the accompaniment of appropriate music they execute a variety of intricate figures and movements which demand careful control, timing and co-ordination. The climax of each performance is the 'charge', when the riders lower their crimson-topped lances and move forward at a gallop.

The riders are policemen and policewomen with at least two years of active police work who volunteer for the Ride and stay with it for two years before returning to normal police duties. They are put through a two-month basic equitation course; then the 18 most successful ones proceed to a second course of six months' duration.

The horses are specially bred by the Force. The first breeding ranch was Fort Walsh in the Cypress Hills of Saskatchewan, but now the breeding centre is in Pakenham, Ontario. The horses begin their training at the age of three and continue until they are five and a half. They stay with the Musical Ride for up to 18 years.

The Mounties have come a long way in their century or so of existence. From a small force set up to control Canada's western frontier they have developed into ambassadors of goodwill whose skill and pageantry have won them admirers around the world.

The High Commissioner for Canada and the Lord Mayor of London exchange gifts outside Mansion House.



Photo: UPPA Ltd

