

# Canada Weekly

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## Canada's peacekeepers: guardians in the world's trouble spots



Canadian Forces

It was in 1956, at the height of the Suez crisis, that Canada's External Affairs Minister Lester Pearson stood before the United Nations and introduced a resolution calling for the creation of a United Nations Emergency Force. The resolution was adopted and a 1 000-member force designed "to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities" was despatched to Egypt. Mr. Pearson was subsequently awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his contributions.

Since that first group sprung into action, Canadian peacekeepers have answered the call that has taken them to a dozen countries to mediate in as many disputes. They have participated in five more UN missions to the Middle East. They have also served in Cyprus, India and Pakistan, the Congo, West New Guinea, Yemen and on the Golan Heights. The most recent Canadian contingent went to Lebanon in 1978 to provide communications support to the UN force there.

Today, 755 Canadians are taking

part in the UN-sponsored peacekeeping operations in the Middle East and Cyprus. One man, Lieutenant-Colonel John Bishop, also represents Canada on the demarcation line between North and South Korea.

### The UN in Cyprus

It is in Cyprus that the Canadian UN force has been making one of its most significant contributions to current UN peacekeeping operations. The mandate of the UN mission in Cyprus is to prevent, as best it can, a recurrence of fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of law and order and a return to normal conditions. The Canadian responsibility includes the largest city on the island, Nicosia, where belligerents are separated by solitary UN observation posts.

Canada was also involved in the establishment of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon after the invasion of the southern part of that country by Israel



External Affairs  
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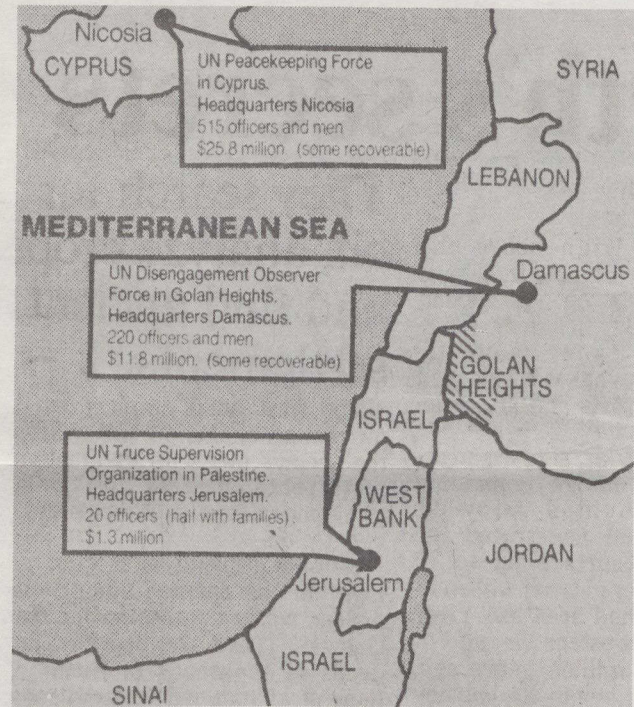
**Canada's peacekeepers — where are they?**

In Jerusalem, 20 Canadian officers monitor the ceasefire between Israel and Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. They are part of the 298-strong UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), which is supported by 17 nations. This force dates back to 1948, the year of the war between the Arab states and Israel, when the Jewish state declared its nationhood.

In Damascus, 220 Canadian troops provide logistics, communications and technical support for an international force numbering 1 265 that includes troops from Austria, Finland and Poland. Called the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), it monitors the 1973 ceasefire between Israel and Syria on the Golan Heights following the 1973 Yom Kippur war.

In Cyprus, 515 Canadians are part of the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), 2 287 strong. The other nations involved are Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Britain, all of which contribute more than 300 troops. A small contingent from Finland and Sweden also provides a few UN civilian police officers.

The costs to Canada for all United Nations peacekeeping operations throughout the world in fiscal year 1983-84 will be close to \$34 million. The force in Cyprus alone costs \$25.8 million.



in March 1978. The Canadian government agreed to supply a communications unit of about 177 men for six months only, since Canadian logistic capabilities were already stretched to the limit by continued peacekeeping involvement in the Sinai and on the Golan Heights.

The Canadian hesitancy to make a long-term commitment of men and materiel in Lebanon was largely due to the excessive burden of participation elsewhere. But it was also due to an increasing concern among Canadians that peacekeeping alone does little more than maintain a *status quo* until another explosive situation develops.

**Peacemaking equally important**

Canada believes therefore that the task of peacemaking is equally important to that of peacekeeping. In Egypt during the Suez crisis, Lester Pearson said: "We must now press on with the greater and perhaps even more difficult task of a political settlement which will be honourable and just, and provide hope for security and progress for millions in this part of the world who have not known them in these troublous and distracting years... Until we have succeeded in this task of a political settlement, our work today and the ceasefire of yesterday remain uncompleted."

With over 20 years of experience as a peacekeeper, Canada has been an active proponent of reform in the ways of



*Two members of Canada's peacekeeping force in the Middle East at work anchoring an antenna. Today, there are 755 Canadians taking part in peacekeeping operations in the Middle East and Cyprus.*

peacekeeping and peacemaking. It has periodically submitted detailed proposals to the UN Committee of 33 concerning the practical aspects of peacekeeping. Furthermore, Canada may well be asked to contribute to a UN transition assistance group that would be established when a negotiated Namibian settlement is achieved.

"Canadians have participated in 15 UN peacekeeping forces and observation teams. Peacekeeping can be an important part of promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes. The presence of the UN Force in Cyprus, for example, has prevented a recurrence of intercommunal fighting and has helped to maintain law and order. There is still, however, no solution to the fundamental problems of the island. The Secretary-General and his representative have recently provided useful ideas on how a settlement can be reached. But until the parties themselves are prepared to make a serious commitment to negotiations, no just and lasting settlement can be found. Peacemaking must be seen to go hand-in-hand with peacekeeping."

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs  
Allan J. MacEachen  
UN General Assembly  
September 17, 1983

Canadian Forces

## Canada urges global action to combat environmental hazards

International environment problems are too serious to be left to narrowly defined self-interest, stated federal Environment minister Charles Caccia at a conference in Toronto recently.

Indicating that world action may be the only solution, Mr. Caccia suggested that the United Nations may have to take on the role of protecting the planet from environmental dangers as varied as acid rain and desertification (the impact of droughts and floods on the environment).

"Perhaps it is time for the nations of the world to realize that the very existence of human beings on the planet is becoming precarious," Mr. Caccia said in an address to the sixth annual Applied Geography Conference at Ryerson Polytechnical In-



Charles Caccia

Studio von dulong

stitute in Toronto on October 14.

"Perhaps only a global organization such as the UN, if it can be made to work effectively, can truly oversee our common biosphere," Mr. Caccia said.

Mr. Caccia said the commitment between Canada and the US to clean up the Great Lakes can and should be expanded until it is global in scale. Yet all too often, global problems, because they are the responsibility of everyone, end up being the responsibility of no one, he said.

### Grave problems

DDT banned in Canada and the United States for more than 20 years is still found in the Great Lakes, borne in the atmosphere from countries thousands of miles away.

Acid rain and toxic chemicals are well known global environmental problems. "Others may seem remote to us here in North America ... but are no less grave."

The increase of carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere, from car and truck

exhaust fumes and factory smokestacks might extend Canada's growing season.

"But there is also the possibility that it could turn our prairie provinces into a Thirties style dustbowl," said Mr. Caccia.

Among environmental hazards Mr. Caccia cited as threatening the planet are:

- the destruction of tropical rain forests, which if unchecked will shrink the planet's genetic pool by depriving the earth of one million of its five to ten million species of organisms by the turn of the century;
- desertification, the transformation of jungle and arable land into desert as hungry populations and drought render the land arid;
- the impact of droughts and floods on the environment;
- loss of agricultural land;
- population growth and urbanization;
- problems in meeting energy needs.

On domestic matters, Mr. Caccia told his audience that although controlling acid rain and cleaning up toxic chemicals in the Great Lakes are not going to be cheap, "we really have no choice".

## SSEA reaffirms NATO support

External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen said after his recent meetings with US Secretary of State George Shultz that Canada has reaffirmed its support for a strong western military policy.

At a press conference ending their fourth quarterly session on international and Canada-US relations, both Mr. MacEachen and Mr. Shultz expressed mutual determination to maintain a strong military posture toward the Soviet Union unless there is progress in international disarmament talks in Geneva.

"We have demonstrated our solidarity with the (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) allies and our association with the United States in our decision to test the cruise missile," Mr. MacEachen said.

"Those decisions are still a very important part of Canadian foreign policy and that constituted a very important common cornerstone of our discussion."

Mr. Shultz expressed appreciation for the Canadian government's promise to staunchly support NATO's commitment to deploy more missiles in Western Europe while "maintaining our posture of being ready for strong discussions and reasonable positions of give-and-take in the various fora where we are meeting with the Soviets".

## Canada-United States sign phosphate agreement



Canadian Minister of External Affairs Allan MacEachen and the US Secretary of State George Schultz recently signed an amendment to a 1978 agreement to lower the phosphate level in the Great Lakes. The new agreement calls for a reduction in the amount of phosphorus draining into the Great Lakes from non-sewage sources. It was signed during a meeting of the two foreign ministers held in Halifax, October 16-17. Pictured above following the signing are: George Schultz (seated left), Allan MacEachen (seated right), administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency William Ruckelshaus (standing left) and Canadian ambassador to Washington Allan Gotlieb (standing right).

Canapress

## Multi-person rescue net plucks people from depths and heights

A new type of rescue apparatus which could save lives in air or sea disasters has been developed by a British Columbia engineering firm. The device, called Emergency Multiple Person Rescue Apparatus (EMPRA for short) is the creation of four men who have experience in air and sea rescue operations.

One of the four, Jim Bradley, says the idea grew out of the crash of an Air Florida jet in January 1982, in which 78 people lost their lives. He was struck by the fact that most of the people who died had been stranded in the icy waters of the Potomac River for a long period of time. Mr. Bradley noted that the rescue helicopters could pick up only one person at a time, and he felt if a dozen or more could have been retrieved at once, most of them could have been saved.

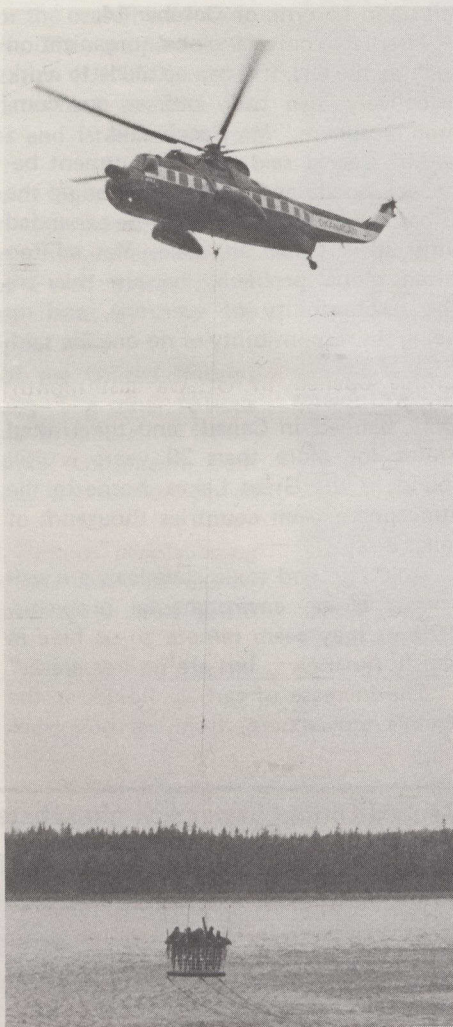
### Collapsible net

EMPRA is a collapsible, open-top ring net that can be slung under a helicopter or hitched to a ship's crane which can pick up as many as 20 people in one load. It is a circular device, and when it is lowered into water, or to the top of a burning high-rise building, the sides collapse to allow easy access and exit. On water, a flotation ring on top floats on the water surface so survivors can roll into the net no matter how tired or injured they may be.

Mr. Bradley says that this device could have saved the lives of many



*A collapsible, open-top ring net can pick up as many as 20 people in one load when lowered into water. The sides drop to allow easy access and exit.*



*Newly-developed rescue device could become standard equipment for off-shore industries. Sales have already been made to Esso, Petro-Canada and Dome Petroleum.*

people who drowned on the Ocean Ranger, the oil rig which sank off the coast of Newfoundland in 1982, carrying 84 people to their deaths.

### Sales and enquiries

Dart Aero Systems of Richmond, British Columbia has already sold the rescue apparatus to Esso, Petro-Canada and Dome Petroleum, and has had enquiries from Shell, British Petroleum and Mobil. Enquiries have also come from companies operating in the North Sea and off the coasts of Chile and New Zealand.

It is expected that EMPRA will eventually become standard equipment for people working or travelling under hazardous conditions.

*(From Canadian Scene.)*

## Bush plane breathes again

The durable old Noorduyn *Norseman* aircraft will be kept flying thanks to a federal grant. About 100 of the craft, the first Canadian-designed bush plane and a legend in helping to open Canada's North, are still flying world-wide, a half-century after the aircraft's initial flight.

Norco Associate of Petawawa, Ontario has received a grant of \$77 550 from the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Regional Economic Expansion toward the \$553 000 estimated cost of establishing a plant in Petawawa to rebuild damaged *Norseman* and other light aircraft and to manufacture parts.

## Auto supermarket: browse and buy

Nine car dealers in Richmond, British Columbia have committed themselves to spending at least \$15 million on a multi-dealer auto supermarket on a nine-hectare site.

Customers will be able to browse around Volkswagens, Chevrolets, Fords, Chryslers and others, catch a meal at a restaurant and take out a loan at a financial institution to pay for their purchase.

Gary Cowell of Cowell Motors Ltd. says the dealers were inspired by Carlsbad Car Country, a 21-hectare, ten-year-old car lot in California.

Ron Dixon, a Ford-Isuzu dealer at Carlsbad, said: "It's been beyond our best expectations. We were hoping to increase business 10 to 15 per cent in our first year. In fact we increased our business 50 per cent."

Included so far in the British Columbia venture are nine dealerships representing all the big carmakers, domestic and foreign. Two more manufacturers are negotiating to join.

Mr. Cowell said each dealership will have an individual lot and buildings. Also planned are a restaurant, a park, a financial institution, an insurance office and, perhaps, an auto-rental office.

Buyers should be able to make better deals because dealerships will save on expenses for advertising and security.

"Probably the most difficult part was to get the dealers together initially," said Mr. Cowell. "This park is a little different than others. It was dealer-instigated. It's all local businessmen in Richmond getting together, optioning the property, getting the re-zoning and starting development."

## Olympic contract for Toronto firm

The Toronto-based firm of interior architects, Wood Wilkings Ltd., has been awarded a \$1.4-million (US) contract to design and supervise construction of restaurants and fast-food booths at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The construction itself will be an Olympian task, with only ten days allowed for assembly before the Olympics and four days for dismantling the booths and restaurants after the games close.

Wood Wilkings, a five-year-old company specializing in interior design of hotels and restaurants, was awarded the contract because it could design "an exciting visual set-up for a temporary facility — as opposed to the usual drab things we see at athletic functions", said Michael Wilkings, a founding partner of the company.

Design work has already started. There will be 17 different food service areas, ranging from fast-food booths to a private club, which will be "very elegant, tropical, 'Gatsbyesque'", said Mr. Wilkings. Club membership will cost \$1 000 for the duration of the games.

Wood Wilkings will rely heavily on Canadian-made prefabricated materials and on Canadian labour for the supervision of construction and dismantling.

## Glass coating could be heat saver

A team at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia is working on an electrostatic method of coating window glass so that it will keep heat inside the house in winter, according to *The Globe and Mail*.

The aim is to create a "super greenhouse effect", said project leader Roy Morrison. The idea has special application to Canada, because the sun's rays, coming in at a low angle in the winter, do have a heating effect.

The coating blocks the radiant heat from the walls going back out of the window. If that heat can be retained, a lot of energy will be saved, in the view of the National Research Council, which is sponsoring the project.

The coating being tested is tin oxide, mixed with an impurity such as fluorine or antimony to increase reflectance.

The film's thickness is critical. It has to be at least one micrometre to do the job, but if it is much thicker it blocks too much of the visible-wavelength radiation.

There is a slight greying of light passing through the glass. There is also a range of infra red that ordinary window glass does not block — wavelengths between two microns and nine-and-a-half microns.

Historically, the main production problem for thin coating has been achieving uniformity over large sheets, because glass is a well-known non-conductor.

The problem of conductivity is over-

come by coating the glass when it is hot — about 450 degrees Celsius will do — and sodium ions are free to carry a charge.

In spraying on the film, according to Mr. Morrison, "you establish a corona" by putting a high voltage along a very fine wire close to the discharge point of the particles. Electrons from the corona jump to the particles, giving them a charge.

## High-technology cardiac centre opened in Ottawa

One of North America's leading cardiac centres opened in Ottawa last month and showed that it is truly a hospital of the future.

The \$13.5-million University of Ottawa Heart Institute is stocked with the latest, most highly-specialized equipment, providing a full range of service from preventative medicine to electronic hook-ups with other hospitals.

Previously known as the Civic Hospital's cardiac wing, the 118-bed Heart Institute is a much-expanded version of its earlier cousin.

The 9 754.4-square-metres brick building features a unique cardiac prevention and rehabilitation centre.

### Help for high-risk patients

A group of specialists will work to lessen the threat of heart attack for high-risk patients through exercise and nutrition counselling programs.

Those who have suffered heart attacks will also have access to the centre's four-lane track and gymnasium to help them regain their health and the mental attitudes needed to live a normal life.

The addition of 29 extra beds and eight day-beds will go a long way to easing the cardiac units overcrowding. The number of emergency beds has also been increased from two to four.

A public education centre will hold lectures on a wide variety of health topics related to cardiac care, such as hypertension and weight reduction.

### Electronic link

The institute will be electronically linked with specially-equipped ambulances and emergency hospital rooms in Ottawa-Carleton and the Ottawa Valley to provide the centre with on-the-spot cardiac analysis.

Expanded facilities will allow for more research into heart transplants and artificial implants.

All departments will be equipped with the latest technology, including nuclear scanning and sound-recording diagnosis.

The institute is unique because although it is still part of the hospital complex, it is totally self-contained, offering all its own services from admitting to X-ray departments.



Opening ceremonies of the new University of Ottawa Heart Institute. The \$13.5-million building has been hailed as one of North America's leading cardiac centres.

## Lubrication device wins friends — and customers

Tony Orlitzky, a maintenance man by trade and electrician by training, has come up with a device that works so well his customers are selling it for him.

Mr. Orlitzky's gadget lubricates automatically. It costs \$18 in Canada, the highest price at which he allows distributors in this country to sell it. It took ten years to develop the device plus \$750 000, including \$100 000 from the Science Council of British Columbia and the federal government.

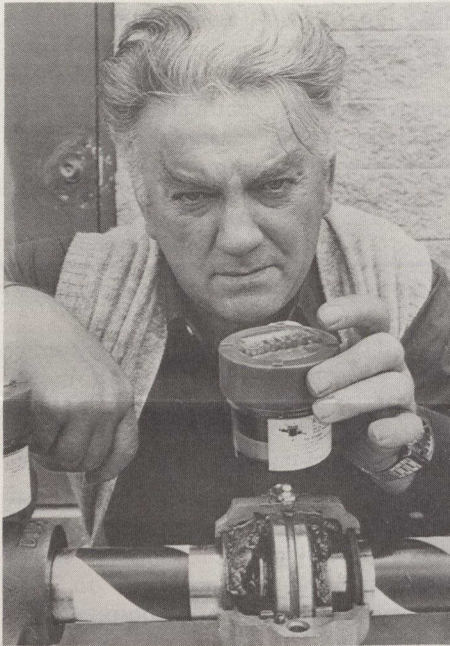
Today, the orders for what he calls his "stupid idea" are coming in by the thousands.

The device invented by Mr. Orlitzky, 54, is about the size of an apple. It is made of plastic with a transparent case. It is screwed into a threaded nipple on a piece of machinery and over the following weeks, months or years, it injects a steady flow of grease or oil, eliminating the costly manual maintenance.

Martin Vine, director of maintenance at an amusement park in Vancouver, British Columbia installed one of Mr. Orlitzky's devices on the main bearing of the Tilt-A-Whirl ride. "It is saving us a phenomenal amount of labour because previously to lubricate the main bearing, we used to have to remove pieces of the ride to get at it," he said.

Mr. Vine is so impressed he has spoken about the device with Tilt-A-Whirl's manufacturer and said the company is thinking about making it standard equipment.

Inside Mr. Orlitzky's device is a black



*This device took Tony Orlitzky ten years to develop but the work is paying off. Orders are flooding in for the ingenious gadget which lubricates automatically.*

plastic plunger which pushes the grease out. The plunger is powered by expanding nitrogen gas, generated in a chemical cell. Mr. Orlitzky's company, A.T.S. Elector-Lube Ltd., has sold 10 000 of the devices in the past year and has orders for 28 000 more. His selling price is \$12 to distributors; his cost of production, \$7. He now has distributors across North America and is looking for more.

## School suits most needs

Winnipeg high school principal Irvin Sera has a cartoon of a street-wise youngster that carries the caption: "I know I'm somebody, 'cause God don't make no junk".

Better than anything, it reflects Mr. Sera's philosophy about education that many say has turned Grant Park High School into something unusual in Canada.

"If, in fact, the school system is a public service, then we have an obligation not to discriminate against any individual who wants an education," said Mr. Sera.

"Schools have to change. We are faced with a different set of students than we had a generation ago because society has changed."

### Special classes

At Grant Park, the system has been altered to suit almost every need. Physically handicapped students attend the same classes as the others. There are special classes for re-entry students, those who dropped out for anywhere from two months to two years.

Other programs are designed to teach budding young athletes who must train long hours and cannot always get to regular classes. About 100 senior citizens take classes in subjects ranging from current events to typing, conversational French and cooking.

Mr. Sera, who took over as principal in 1975, has 30 years as a teacher and administrator behind him. The students give high praise to the school.

"Mr. Sera is a good part of the reason for all this," said student Asha Periera. "He's not afraid to experiment. And he hardly ever says no if you go to him with an idea."

Beth Margolis came to Grant Park six years ago because "I heard it was better than anything else around, especially their sports programs".

An accomplished athlete, she soon discovered the school offered more than sports. "It's got so much — enriched programs in all kinds of subjects," she said. It is the enriched programs that draw such students as Linda Rossen.

"People at the universities recognize that our enriched classes have really high standards," she said. "The chemistry goes into much more depth than the regular chemistry. And the topics and statistics are perfect if you're thinking about computer sciences, commerce, advanced math or engineering."

## Stamp marks Nova Scotia Law School anniversary

Nova Scotia's Dalhousie Law School, the oldest continually operating Common Law School in the country, is celebrating its one-hundredth anniversary this year and a new 32-cent stamp introduced October 28 marked the occasion.



Many prime ministers, provincial premiers, cabinet ministers, Supreme Court judges, university presidents and civic leaders once sat on the benches of the old school.

The stamp design, by Denise Saulnier of Halifax, characterizes both the persevering spirit and the rich tradition of Dalhousie Law School by featuring the school coat of arms (the phoenix over the traditional symbols of justice) against a

deep blue background. The school's first dean, Dr. Richard Weldon, introduced the system whereby students attend classes for three years and, following graduation, must serve a one-year apprenticeship period before being admitted to the Bar and allowed to practice law. This system has been adopted by all law schools across the country.

## Film captures opera stars' visit to China

Contralto Maureen Forrester, bass-baritone Claude Corbeil and piano accompanist Claude Savard are featured in a new one-hour production *Singing: A Joy In Any Language*, telecast recently on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) television network.

The film, directed by Malca Gillson and Tony Ianzelo, records a 1982 visit to China by these three top Canadian performers. During their two-week tour of the Peking, Shenyang and Harbin music conservatories, they gave public concerts and held master classes in singing for Chinese students.

While the students were given a chance to learn European opera, the three visitors were introduced to the unique 800-year-old traditional Peking Opera. Despite linguistic and cultural differences, the Canadians and Chinese both experienced the mutual pleasure of learning about each other's culture and songs.

The visitors, like orchestra conductors, use graphic gestures, facial expressions, and humour to coach the students in voice control, breathing techniques and stage presence. They do their best to explain the subtleties of Western culture —



Maureen Forrester (centre) pauses with Claude Corbeil (right) and Claude Savard during their recent tour of China. The three Canadian performers are featured in a new one-hour television production.



Canadian contralto Maureen Forrester holding a master class in singing for Chinese students.

no easy task as Mr. Corbeil discovered when he tried to teach a shy tenor how to interpret the part of an Italian lover.

In *Singing: A Joy In Any Language* viewers see some of the famous sights of China, observe the exceptional calibre of young Chinese singers and enjoy the Canadian performers' concert rendition of Mr. Rossini's *The Cat Duet*.

The film was produced by the National Film Board of Canada, in association with the CBC and the Department of External Affairs.

## Elizabeth Smart papers acquired by National Library

The National Library of Canada has added to its Literary Manuscripts Collection some early materials written by the Canadian writer Elizabeth Smart. The collection includes 30 notebooks written between 1929 and 1941, plus worksheets, manuscripts and correspondence with the British poet George Barker.

Born in Ottawa in 1913, Elizabeth Smart lived in England for more than four decades. Her first work, *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*, caused a sensation when it appeared in 1945. Though it was highly regarded by writers of the Fifties, it was not printed in Canada until 1981. An early manuscript version of this work is included

with the material acquired.

Elizabeth Smart's most recent publications are *A Bonus* (1977) and *The Assumption of the Rogues and Rascals* (1978). She returned to Canada in 1982 as writer-in-residence at the University of Alberta, Edmonton and now resides in Toronto.

## Moore resigns as Council head

Canada Council chairman Mavor Moore has announced his resignation after four years in the position.

Mr. Moore, 64, a playwright, actor, producer, critic and professor praised as an unrelenting advocate for the Canadian arts, stepped down at the end of September.

Mr. Moore served as chairman of the Council during a stormy time, while it faced government cuts. This year, the arts-funding body will hand out \$63.3 million.

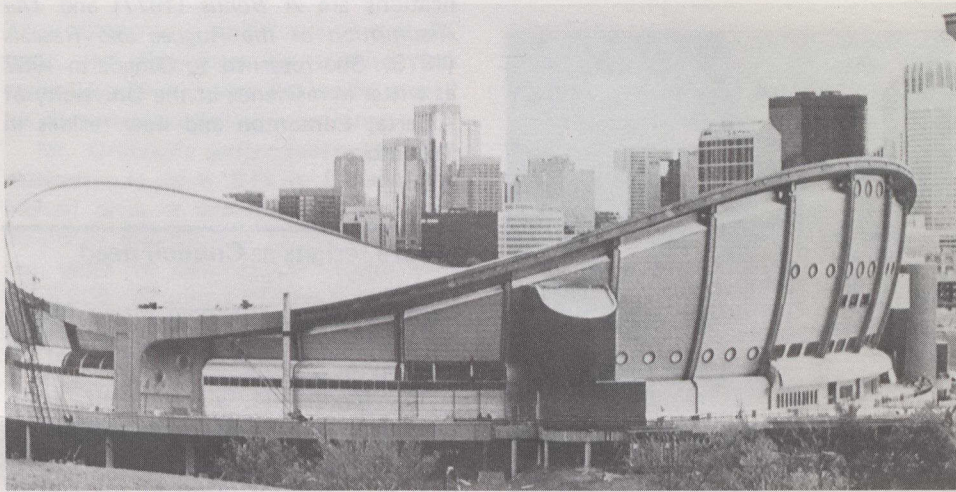
Winner of three Peabody radio awards, involved in dozens of plays and producer-director of the acclaimed *Spring Thaw* revue, Mr. Moore has devoted his life to the Canadian arts in a way many said was unparalleled.

In a prepared statement read on his retirement, Mr. Moore said, "My most profound hope as outgoing chairman of the Canada Council is that we shall continue to grow in awareness that there is more to a society's strength than economic sufficiency or military prowess, and that in the long run our most rewarding investment will be in our human resources."



Mavor Moore

### Spectacular Saddledome set for Calgary Olympics



Canapress

Calgary's \$100-million Saddledome officially opened October 15 with a National Hockey League game pitting the Calgary Flames against their northern rivals, the Edmonton Oilers. The structure has been built to accommodate activities during the 1988 winter Olympic Games scheduled to take place in the Calgary region.

#### News briefs

**Robert Bourassa**, the man Quebecers voted out of office in 1976, scored a stunning victory at the Liberal leadership convention October 15 winning 75 per cent of the votes on the first ballot. Mr. Bourassa, 50, therefore becomes the Quebec Liberal leader for the second time. He was last elected leader in 1970.

**Ontario's Urban Transit Development Corp. (UTDC)** has signed a contract worth about \$45 million (US) to provide 50 articulated street cars for a new transit service in San Jose, California. The sale is the first outside Canada for vehicle technology developed by UTDC in the 1970s for replacement of Toronto's street-car fleet.

**Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC)** has awarded a contract valued at \$1 766 077 (US) to de Havilland Aircraft of Canada, Downsview, for the supply of a *Twin Otter* aircraft to the US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. The *Twin Otter* will be used primarily for smoke jumping exercises in support of wild fire suppression.

**New Democrat Stanley Knowles**, at 77 the longest-serving member of Parliament, has confirmed he will not run in the next general election for health reasons. Stanley Knowles was first elected to the House of Commons in 1942 in the riding of Winnipeg North Centre. He was defeated only once — when John Diefenbaker led the Conservatives to their winning sweep in

1958. Though he suffered a massive stroke two years ago, he returned to the House last spring where he was greeted by a standing ovation.

**Retail sales** of all new motor vehicles in August were 24.2 per cent higher than they were during the same month a year ago, Statistics Canada has reported. It was the sixth consecutive monthly increase in total automobile sales from corresponding periods of 1982. The number of units sold in August was 89 636 compared to slightly more than 72 000 units sold in August 1982.

**An Ontario couple** is expecting Canada's first test-tube twins next May after two embryos grown in glass dishes at a Toronto hospital were safely implanted in the mother. The Toronto East General and Orthopedic Hospital confirmed that the woman is six weeks' pregnant and "doing fine". The pregnancy is the second ever achieved in hospital laboratories in Canada. The first was announced by the University of British Columbia last summer, and the baby is expected early in the new year.

**Significant progress** has been made in Geneva to expand the coverage of the GATT Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft, Minister of State (International Trade) Gerald Regan has announced. The aircraft agreement, which was negotiated in the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, eliminates import duties charged by its signatories on civil aircraft and aircraft parts. The agreement has

resulted in improved access for Canadian exporters of these products to world markets. Signatories to the agreement include Canada, the United States, Japan, the member states of the European Economic Community, among others.

**Toronto Sun Publishing Corp.** of Toronto has bought the *Houston Post* for \$100 million (US), a spokesman for one of the company's three daily newspapers says. Peter O'Sullivan, managing editor of the *Toronto Sun*, said an agreement in principle for purchase of the morning broadsheet — the seventeenth largest in the United States — has been completed in Houston.

**Saskatchewan Premier Grant Devine** has ended a ten-day visit to China with a stopover in Hong Kong, where he met with local businessmen. Mr. Devine was in China principally to renegotiate a three-year potash agreement that expires in December and under which the province will export 700 000 tonnes of the fertilizer this year. During his stay in Hong Kong — which follows visits by Ontario Premier William Davis and Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed — Mr. Devine has been focusing his efforts on promoting the province's fibre-optics technology, coal and grain-fed beef.

**Frank Hatashita**, 64, of Toronto joined an elite group of men in the world of judo recently when he received the solid-red sash of an eighth-degree black belt. The sash is also worn by the holder of the ninth-degree black belt, the highest awarded rating, and Mr. Hatashita says he believes he is the first North American-born person to receive the honour. The Japanese-Canadian who was born in Vancouver was introduced to the art of judo at the age of six and has been teaching self-defence since 1947.

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*Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.*