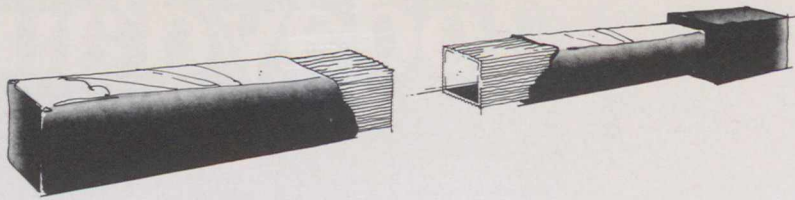


Canadian Products

Canada and the United States exchange football and hockey players, high winds and low pressure fronts, and occasionally a few sharp words.

Mostly they exchange goods, some \$110 billion (U.S.) this year.

Piped Light from British Columbia



The Light Pipe

Lorne Whitehead's Light Pipe carries light around corners in the dark. Sunlight goes in one end and comes out almost undiminished at the other. The pipe is a square acrylic tube with inner walls of mirrors that reflect 100 per cent of the light. The mirrors are smooth on the inside with rows of 45-degree, sawtooth ridges – precisely moulded prisms – on the back. The principle – Total Internal Reflection – is the same as in fibre optics, but the pipe costs only a fraction as much.

Mr. Whitehead, who began as a graduate student in physics at the University of British Columbia, took five years to find a way to get the kinks out of the ridges.

The light source can be clear metal halide, high-pressure sodium, compact source iodide (CSI), incandescent lamps or sunlight.

Since the light in the pipe comes from a single source, it is an ideal way to illuminate difficult places – swimming pools, atriums, gymnasiums. The light is spread evenly and reflectors send it

around 90-degree corners. With an opaque sleeve it is a conduit; without one it is a long, glowing luminaire. Since it produces only a fifth as much heat as conventional lighting, it can be used efficiently in refrigerated or air-conditioned areas, and since it has no electrical current or glowing wires it can be used without fear where explosives or highly combustible materials are stored and in recording studios where electrical interference can distort sound.

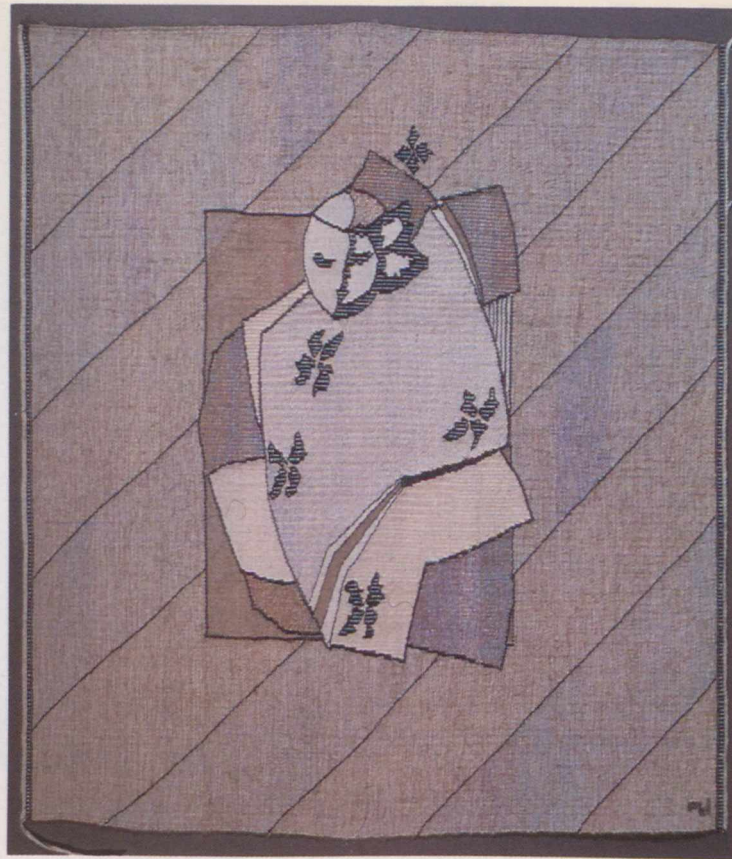
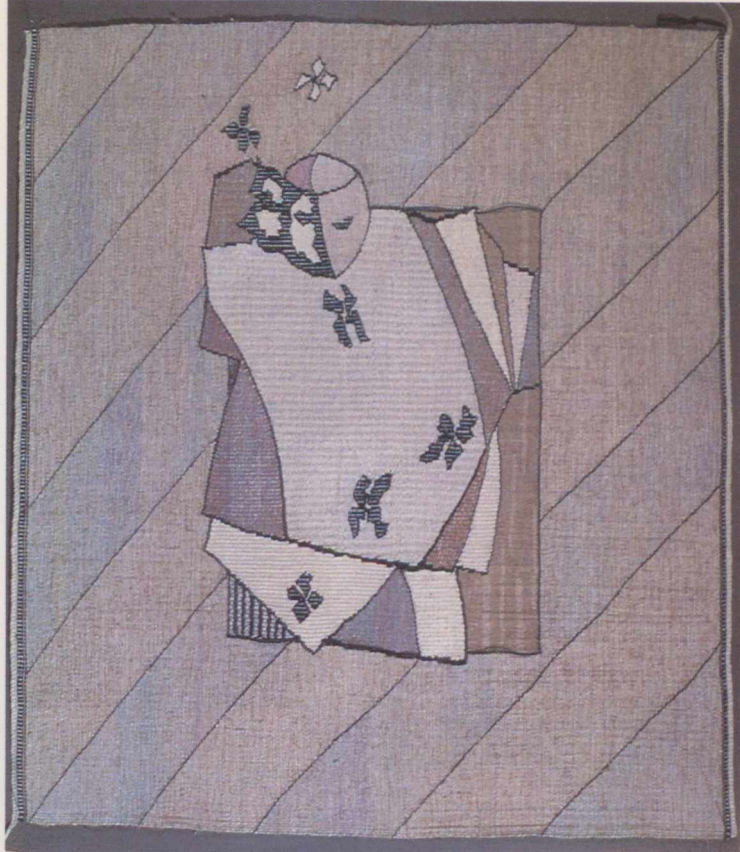
It costs \$50 a foot before installation, which is more than the cost of conventional lighting, but since the pipe reduces energy, bulb replacement and the cost of installation and cleaning, it pays for itself. (Mr. Whitehead's company, TIR, and Canada's National Research Council are installing a pilot heliostat on top of a Vancouver building, which will distribute sunlight throughout the building.)

Those interested should get in touch with S. Newton Hockey, Marketing Director, TIR Systems, Ltd., 2227 Quebec Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5T 3A1, (604) 873-1683.

MOMA's Boy

Thomas Lamb designs folding chairs. Some are for dining, some for lounging, some are black, some natural, some laquered. All are elegant, comfortable and moulded in nine-ply, long-grain maple veneer. He also makes chaises longues, pedestal tables, trestle tables and ottomen. The full array, called the Steamer Collection, won a Gold International Business Designers award and is in the Museum of Modern Art. They are not cheap (this lounge chair costs \$340 wholesale, about double retail) but they are sturdy, long-lived and classically handsome. Write or call Michelle Gilgan, Ambient Systems Ltd., 76 Richmond Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1P1, (416) 863-0863; or Nancy Doud, Ambient Systems Inc., Merchandise Mart, Suite 861, Chicago, Illinois 60654, (312) 644-2111.

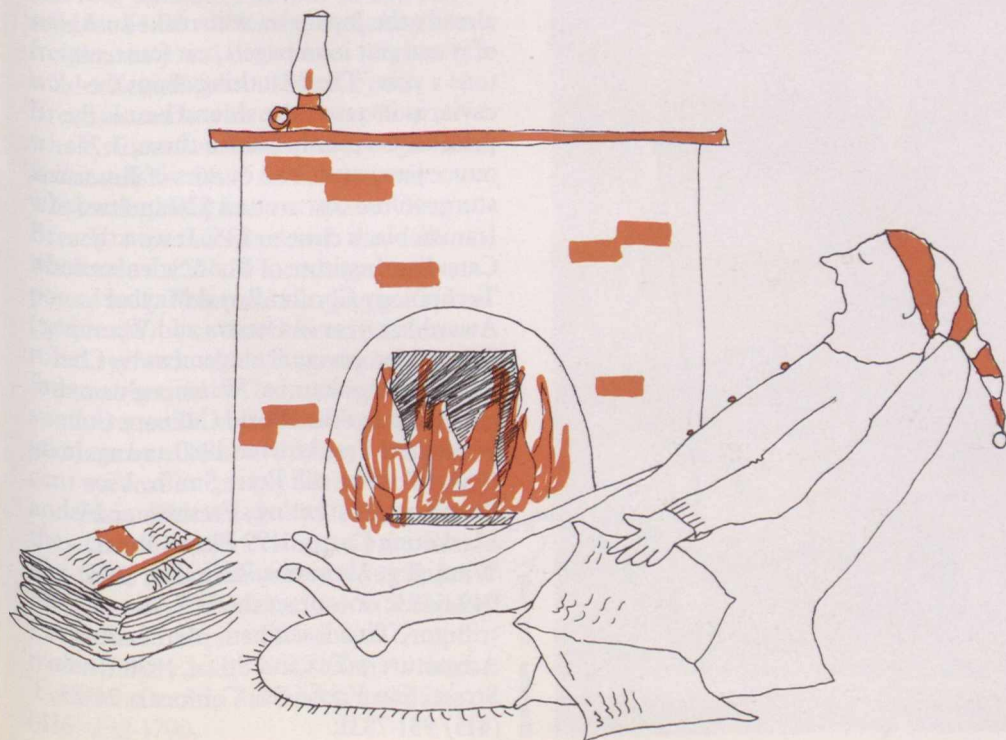




Swannie

Suzanne Swannie's tapestries are small masterpieces. "I have chosen to work on a small scale as tapestry making is painstakingly slow," she says. Ms. Swannie, who was born in Copenhagen, was trained in Denmark, Sweden, Maine and Nova Scotia. She has won many awards and her works have been exhibited in Toronto, New York and Philadelphia.

The works speak eloquently for themselves. They are made of silk, linen, wool or cotton, with, in some cases, gold thread. "Dreamers," shown here, is a complementary pair of fine linen, silk and cotton, each 24" x 20½" and each costing about \$800. Those interested may write or call Ms. Swannie, 6221 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1Z8, (902) 425-3346.



Great Balls of Fire

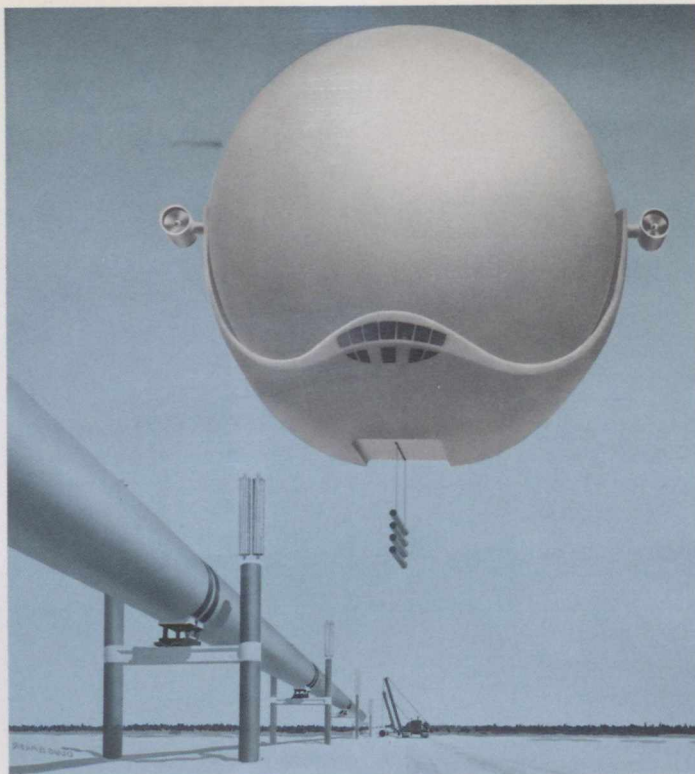
Noel A. Lawrence has an effective way to cut your fuel bills with a toasty, friendly fire in your fireplace. His patented Lawrence Fire-Place Burner is a steel stand, bent to form a simple, chair-like form. The 13" x 14" x 14½" Burner sits at a 20-degree angle, and newspaper sections (the thicker the better) are stacked on it. All the sections are placed sideways (so the headlines run vertically) with the smooth edge uppermost. The sections are stacked alternately so the rough open edge of one is followed by the closed edge of another. The paper burns sheet by sheet, with no buildup of ash or creosote in the fireplace and chimney. The Burner comes in two sizes, one for a fireplace, one for a wood stove. A rack full of papers will burn for three hours. The cost is about \$32 and it will soon be available in the U.S. Interested retailers can write or call Noel A. Lawrence, Boadacea Metal & Energy Corporation, 3016 De Miniac, Ville St. Laurent, Quebec H4S 1N5, (514) 334-1555.

Illustration: Katy Kelly

The Great White LTA

Have you ever felt the need to pick up a truck? The unique LTA-20-1 is a rotund, lighter-than-air craft that looks remarkably like Moby Dick. It is as manoeuvrable as a helicopter and it can lift oil rig parts, transmission tower sections, logs, trucks and practically anything weighing less than sixteen tons.

It has an internal air ballasting system which reduces lift by compressing helium, and increases it by rotating around its horizontal axis. It was designed by Frederick D. Ferguson and refined by Professor James De Laurier, of the University of Toronto. The basic sixteen-ton-lift model will be in production in 1986, with an estimated cost of \$10-15 million. Larger models are being planned. Interested parties may write Van Dusen Commercial Development (Canada) Ltd., P.O. Box 599, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5P7, or call, (613) 236-4798.



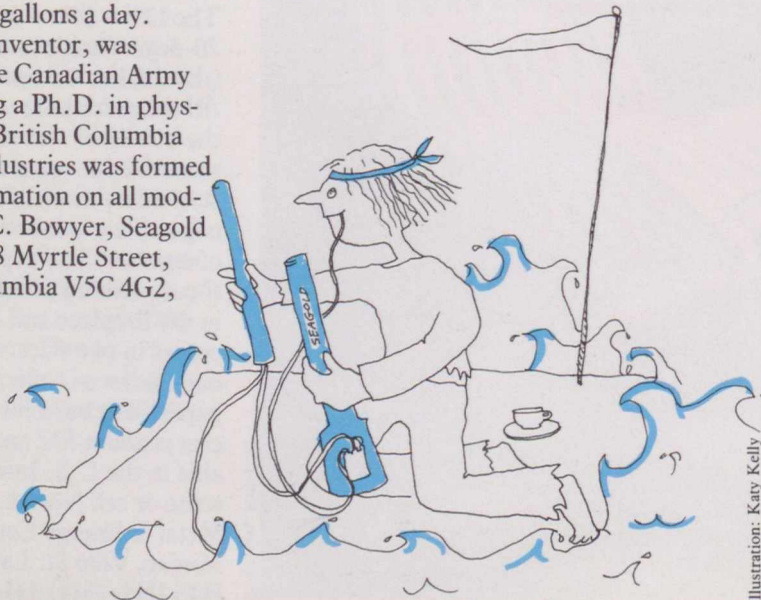
Castaways' Delight

If you should ever find yourself adrift on a tropical sea, we hope you have a Seagold Model WL-SB Manual Desalinator at your side.

It can desalinate seawater at the rate of a cup in less than three minutes, a quart in ten. Even a thirsty child can operate it. It uses reverse osmosis to do the job - the seawater is hand-pumped under pressure across a semipermeable membrane. Only a small part gets through but that part is fresh as spring water.

It costs \$1,825 delivered in the United States. The firm also makes a sea-going, battery-operated model that produces 1.75 gallons a day and shore models that produce 130 to 10,000 gallons a day.

Bowie Keefer, the inventor, was inspired while with the Canadian Army in Egypt. After getting a Ph.D. in physics he did research at British Columbia Research. Seagold Industries was formed in 1978. For full information on all models write or call John C. Bowyer, Seagold Industries Corp., 4008 Myrtle Street, Burnaby, British Columbia V5C 4G2, (604) 437-4445.



Don't Say No, Say Maybe

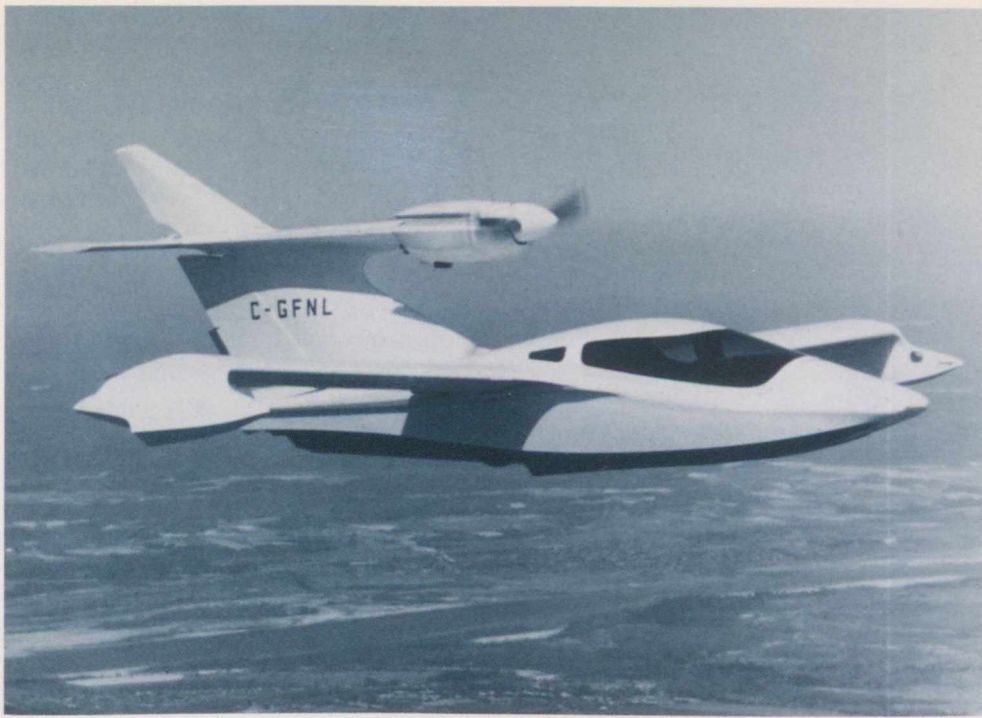
Traditional caviar lovers put their money on the black or red, but the smart set in Japan is betting on Canadian Lake Whitefish Golden Caviar. It is delicious, mild, lightly salted (4.3 per cent salt content compared to 7.6 per cent for most other brands) and inexpensive.

The freshwater roe has been available commercially for only five years but



already the Japanese, who make sushi out of it and put it on bagels, eat fourteen tons a year. The best thing about the caviar is its taste, the second best is the price. It costs only \$10 for three, 3.75-ounce jars, while two ounces of Russian sturgeon roe cost around \$20 and two of Iranian black close to \$35. It won the Canadian Institute of Food Sciences and Technology Gordon Royal Maybee Award last year in Ottawa and Winnipeg. The golden caviar arrangement by Chef Takashi Murakami of Winnipeg won the gold medal at the World Culinary Competition in Frankfurt in 1980 and again in 1984. Write or call Peter Smith, Vice President, Marketing, Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp., 1199 Plessis Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2C 3L4, (204) 949-6483; or contact the U.S. distributor, Tina Issenman, Merchant Adventurers Tea and Spice, 1850 Union Street, San Francisco, California 94123, (415) 931-7831.

Illustration: Katy Kelly



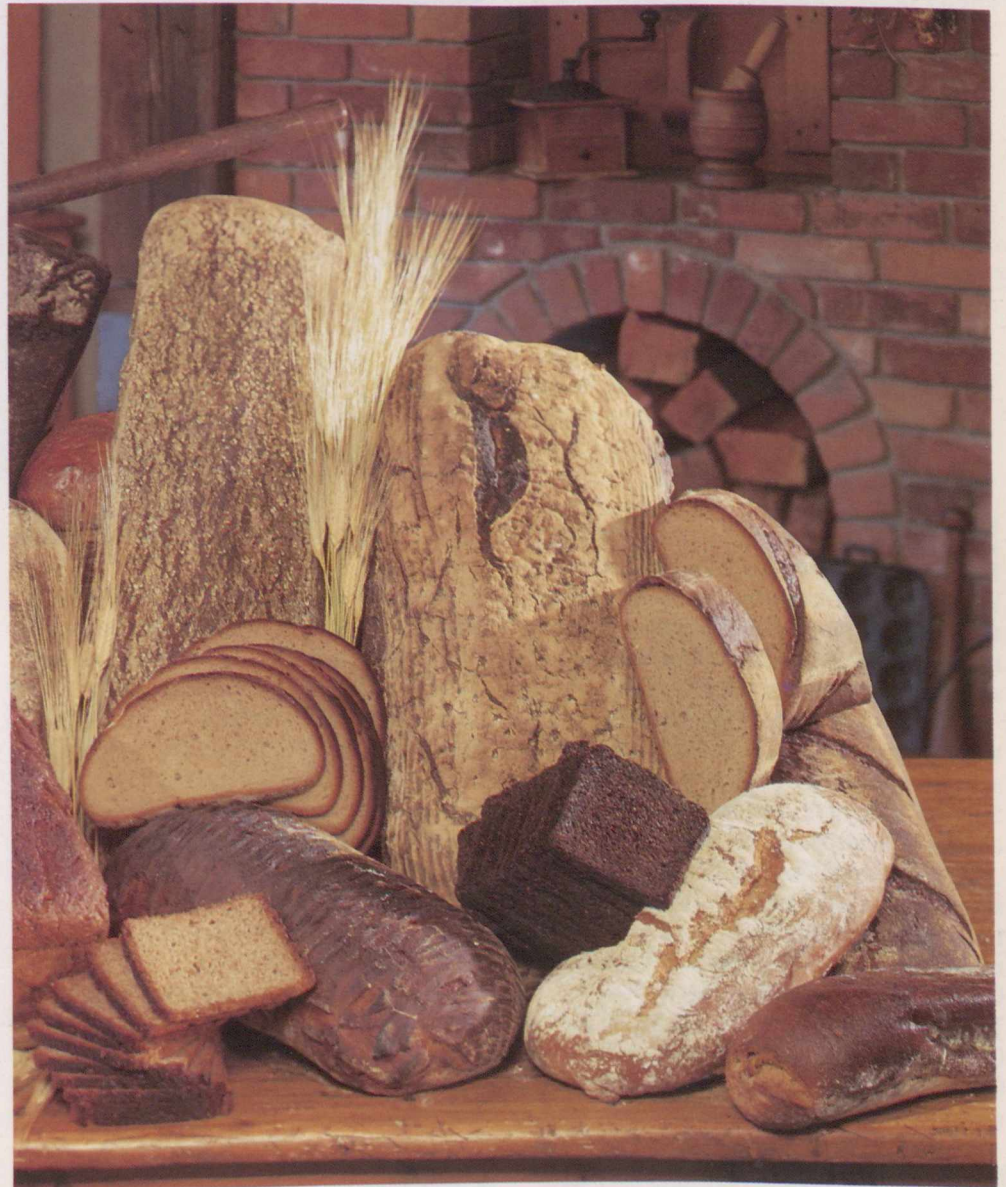
Seawind

You can now own a seaplane with four roomy seats for less than the cost of some automobiles (a Rolls Royce Silver Cloud, for example) and a quarter of the cost of a commercial four-place amphibian. The price is just \$15,000 for the fibreglass frame and \$10,000 for the engine. The drawback – if it is one – is that you have to put it all together yourself. It should take about 1,000 hours and give you a sense of accomplishment. The prototype cruises at 170 mph at 75 per cent power, has a range of 650 miles and can take off and land on water. It is safe and the test pilot said its performance was “nothing short of remarkable.” Production is now underway.

Call or write Len R. Creelman, the designer, Seawind International, Box 878, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0, (705) 457-1438, and be the first person in your neighbourhood to make his own plane.

Bring Dimpflmeiers to Your Cheeks

Alfons Dimpflmeier, a Bake Master with a diploma from the Handelskammer in Munich, came to Canada in 1957. Imagine his surprise when he could find no Klosterbrot, or Schwarzwälder Schinkenbrot or even Holzofenbrot. Well, he did something about that. Today bread lovers at home and abroad can find all of the above for sale, in the better delis, in one- to ten-pound loaves. Klosterbrot (Monastery Bread), a textured rye, comes in loaves of one, two and four pounds. The four-pound loaf sells for \$4.00 wholesale, including freight, duty and brokerage. Swartzwälder Schinkenbrot (Black Forest Bread) is made with coarse rye flour, whole wheat flour and whole rye grain and it sells for \$6.15 for five pounds wholesale. Holzofenbrot (Stone Oven Bread), a special sourdough rye, sells wholesale for \$11.20 for a huge, ten-pound loaf. There are also Jagdschnitten (whole rye), Leinsamenbrot (fine textured rye with whole linseed grain) and Sonnenblumenbrot (sourdough rye with sunflower seeds and wheat flour), and a good many others, including a 100-per cent rye loaf for people allergic to wheat and yeast. The breads look as good as they taste. Retailers can get a price list and other information by writing R. J. MacDonald, President, Rondo Specialty Foods Ltd., Export Division of Dimpflmeier Bakery Ltd., 307 Bering Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M8Z 3A5, or calling (416) 232-1700.



Why Is Hercule Poirot Fuming?

Successful criminals are careful not to leave incriminating fingerprints at the scenes of their crimes.

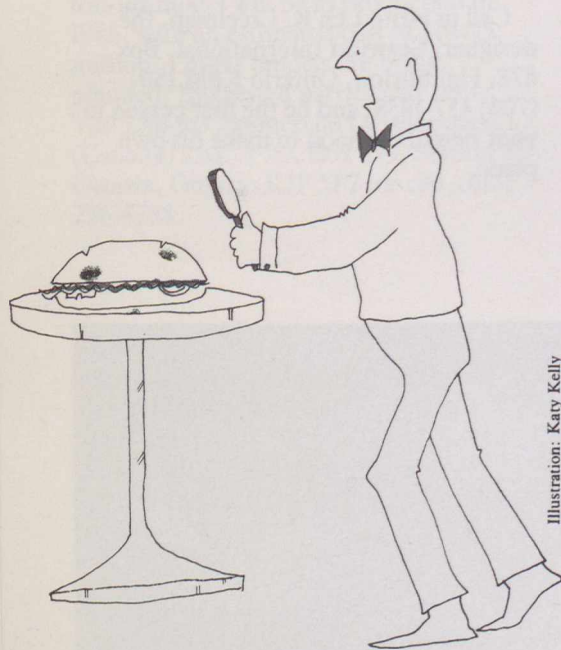
Traditionally, they wipe off doorknobs and cocktail glasses on the way out. Times, however, are getting tougher. Constable Paul Bourdon of the North Bay Police Identification Bureau in Toronto has developed a process that lifts prints from what have been difficult or impossible surfaces – plastic bags, firearms, cardboard, ornate silverware,



stainless steel, wood, paper and, in some cases, the human neck.

The process "fumes" the surface with a special chemical vapour and it took Constable Bourdon five years to find the right formula. It was worth the efforts. Now the prints on a fumed surface become visible and permanent. The process is used by the Metropolitan Toronto Police and the Ontario Provincial Police and an increasing number of police departments across the western world. The Visuprint Kit, powered by electricity, costs \$1,500 and can be used with batteries at the scene of the crime. For information write Sidney Platel, Vice President, Payton Scientific Ltd., 120 Milner Avenue, Unit 10, Scarborough, Ontario M1S 3R2, or call (416) 298-9600.

Illustration: Katy Kelly



The Bullet-Proof Policeman

RMI-3 sounds a little like a Canadian postal code, but it is the name of a mechanical policeman which recently successfully confronted a hostage-holding sniper in Quebec City's National Assembly.

Similar robots are hard at work in New York and many other American and Canadian cities.

The Remote Mobile Investigation Unit has a two-way radio, two arms, a hand that can pick up an egg or a bomb, a TV monitor and a spotlight.

It weighs 230 pounds but is only eighteen inches tall and able to go where other policemen cannot fit. It has six, twelve-inch wheels and two battery-driven torque DC motors and can be fitted with x-ray equipment, fire-fighting foam and a stethoscope. Its main job is bomb disposal but it can adapt. In Quebec it was sent into the building where it televised the sniper while he and the policemen conversed through its two-way radio.

The basic robot sells for \$20,000.

Write or call Bob Pederson, Pedsco (Canada) Ltd., 12 Principal Road, Unit 2, Scarborough, Ontario M1R 4Z3, (416) 755-3852.

Sorels Stand Alone

Sorels are boots with bonded leather uppers and rubber soles, lined with felt, and they are the rage at Explorers Club meetings, northern construction sites and southwestern ski resorts.

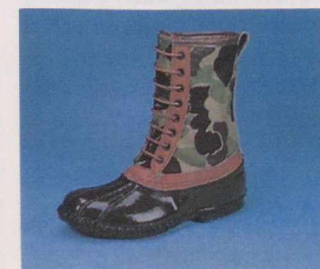
When the Plaisted Expedition returned from the North Pole, its leader said a few unrehearsed words about Sorels. "They are," he said, "quite comfortable at minus 63 degrees."

The *National Outdoor Outfitters News* surveyed the sales of après-ski boots and found that Sorels outsold the expensive models in Flagstaff, Arizona; Wilton, Connecticut; Middlebury, Vermont; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Squaw Valley, California; Buffalo, Minnesota; Salt Lake City, Utah; and every other place surveyed except Berkeley, California.

Unlike most fashion rages Sorels are inexpensive, averaging about \$55 a pair.

They are made of pure natural rubber, which is milled six times (instead of the usual three) to make the soles supple and durable. The uppers are made of full-grain leather (for the heavier, more expensive models) or split leather (for the lighter ones). The removable liners are 75 per cent wool and 25 per cent acetate. The wool provides warmth, the acetate long wear. There are two thicknesses, 3/8 inch and 1/4 inch. Sorels come in an almost bewildering variety of styles for men, women and children.

The company is represented by sales groups across the U.S. and in London, England. For more information contact Tony Dowling, Advertising Manager, Kaufman Footwear, 410 King Street West, Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4J8, (519) 576-1500.



Pilgrim's Progress

Judy Pilgrim Stewart makes about fifty-five dolls a year. Each is individual, with its own face and history and its own authentic Victorian wardrobe. A few are portraits of clients' relatives or historical or literary figures, some are fashion dolls and the rest are Jennies named after Ms. Stewart's oldest daughter. They are ordered individually, and prices vary but start at about \$100. A computer-produced doll is to a Jenny doll as a cabbage is to a rose. As of this fall Ms. Stewart had made 1,509 dolls and is making more as fast as she can. Those who would like a doll and are willing to wait should write Judy Pilgrim Stewart, 56 Riverside Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 0G2.



Strap Hangers

James LeMaistre was a New Brunswick university student hauling garbage on the side when he picked up two pieces of scrap leather from the city dump. He cut them into straps and designed a simple shoulder carrier to hold his seven-month-old daughter, Anna-Maria. Anna-Maria loved it. So did her mother, Sandra. He started manufacturing the carriers, which he called Superkodlers, and soon lots of people loved them – Diana, the Princess of Wales (who was given one free), Eaton's Department stores, Zeller's and Simpson Sears. The sling is made of five pieces of soft leather, strong enough to tow an automobile. It is, as he says, "safe, yet simple." It can carry up to forty-five pounds and can be used to tote handicapped children as well as infants. The Superkodlers, which sell for about \$30, will soon be for sale in the United States.

Interested retailers can write or call the U.S. distributor, Alvin Comisso, Como Trading Inc., P.O. Box 186, Hudson Heights, Quebec J0P 1J0, (514) 458-7668.

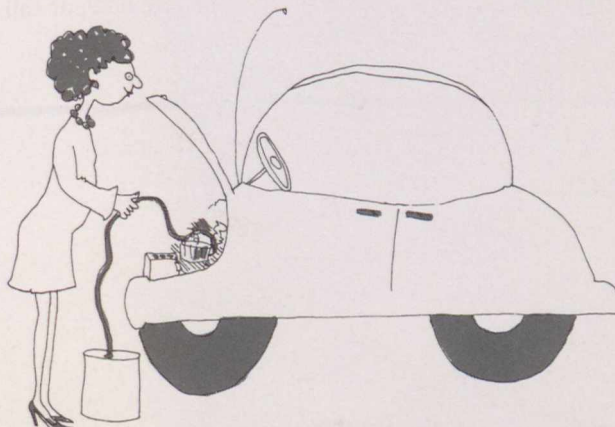
No-Mess Oil Change

Changing your own oil is economical but, traditionally, messy. First you crawl under the car and open the drain and then you slide out on the oil you've spilled.

With the Vacupump you can drain oil from above. Attach your pump to the five-litre canister and the appropriate hose or hoses to the pump. Remove the dipstick and push the hose down the tube until it hits the bottom. Draw out the oil, right into the canister. No mess. You can also use the pump to drain aquariums, plugged sinks and other awkward places.

The suggested retail price is \$25. Write or call John Ferguson, Scepter Manufacturing, 11 Bermondsey Road, Toronto, Ontario M4B 1Z3, (416) 751-3820.

Illustration: Katy Kelly





Old Wine and New Glasses

When the Governor General of Canada rises to toast the Queen she holds a Skookum goblet in her hand.

Robert Held of Calgary (Mr. Skookum himself) was asked to sit on a panel to pick a designer for the crystal to be used in the intimate dining room at Rideau Hall. He declined since he intended to enter the competition himself.

He won, triumphing over scores of other glassblowers, and was surprised, according to his wife Martha Henry, a glassblower too, though she was not.

"He has been working on goblets for some time. He has them perfected."

Held's winning white wine goblets are tall and fluted and "grow out of the stem." The red wine goblets have a stouter "belly shape."

Each piece is hand-crafted, using techniques that go back to the Egyptians. The glass is melted in large furnaces at

about 1,825°F, then "gathered" at the end of a long blowpipe. "Bits" of molten coloured glass are heated and added to the surface. Additional gathers may be made over the original layer to add depth. The piece is then blown and shaped into its final form and placed into an annealing area which cools the glass slowly and evenly. After cooling, the glass is inspected, polished, signed and dated.

Mr. Held's work is represented in the Roland Michener Collection, the Massey Foundation, the Indusmin Collection and the Museum of Montreal, and is available at galleries and stores in Canada and the United States.

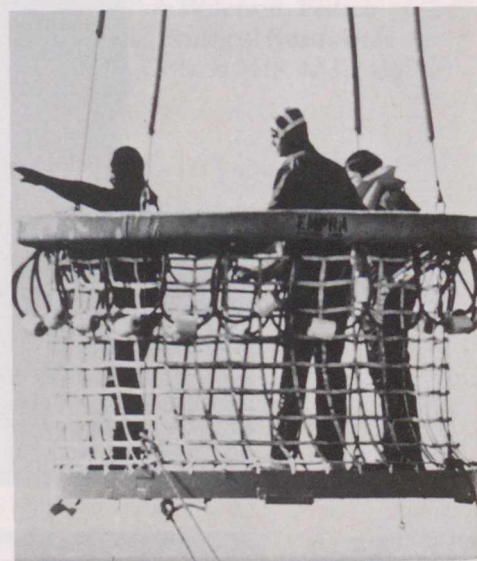
The goblets at Rideau Hall cost around \$38.00 each. For further information on wholesale prices of varieties of free-form blown glass, write Robert D. Held, Skookum Art Glass, 2916F - 19th Street N.E., Calgary, Alberta T2E 6Y9, or call (403) 250-1353.

Rescue Raft

Seventy-eight people died when a commercial jet crashed into the icy Potomac in Washington, D.C., in 1982, and the tragedy started Jim Bradley thinking. Conventional helicopters use a single winch or net to rescue people one at a time. Bradley designed a single, sturdy, collapsible raft which can lift as many as twenty. The device, EMPRA (for Emergency Multiple Person Rescue Apparatus), is an open ring net that can be slung from a helicopter or a ship's crane. When lowered, the top flotation ring settles down almost flush with the water and weakened survivors can roll or be rolled aboard.

The raft comes in three models capable of lifting six, twelve or twenty people. They cost \$6,900, \$8,900 and \$10,200, and have already been bought by ten major oil companies and the Canadian Department of National Defence. Write or call Jim Bradley, Jr., Dart Aero Systems, Inc., 5811-B Cedarbridge Way, Richmond, British Columbia V6X 2A8, (604) 270-2313.

Photo: Trina Reinhardt



Canada Today/d'aujourd'hui

Available free upon request in the U.S. only. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Canadian Government. If you wish to change your address, please include the number on the top of your mailing label. Written by Tom Kelly; edited by Judith Webster; researched by Felicity Garrard; designed by Eiko Emori, Ottawa, Canada; printed by K.G. Campbell Corporation, Ottawa, Canada.

Canada Today/d'aujourd'hui

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