

Canada Weekly

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Change in nuclear export policy to safeguard spread of nuclear weapons

In an address to the House of Commons on December 22, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Donald C. Jamieson, announced that the Federal Government had tightened its policy on the export of nuclear reactors and uranium by requiring future buyers to accept controls on their entire nuclear program.

The minister pointed out that the existing policy did not cover nuclear equipment which a country received from other suppliers or that it developed itself. "The new policy," he said, "will close the gap." Mr. Jamieson's statement follows:

* * * *

In this Christmas season our thoughts naturally turn to peace and the brotherhood of man. It is easy to pay tribute to these fundamental goals with words. It is more important that we do so with our actions. It is a challenge to the Government of Canada to respond to the demand of Canadian public opinion that this country exercise its influence toward the betterment of the global society in which we and our descendants must live. In the area of nuclear policy there is no simple answer or it would have long since been adopted. It is rather the need to balance energy requirements, the advance of technology which regardless of what we do will make nuclear capability within the reach of a wider and wider group of countries, and the need to establish a sound international framework which will curb the spread of nuclear weapons and yet take into account the legitimate economic aspirations of sovereign states. I wish to make quite clear, however, that the first priority, indeed the overriding priority, is to prevent the spread of instruments of destruction.

In this context I am pleased to announce that the Canadian Government has decided upon a further strengthening of the safeguards requirements which apply to the export of Canadian reactors and uranium. Shipments to non-nuclear weapon states under future contracts will be restricted to those which ratify the Non-Proliferation Treaty or otherwise accept international safeguards on their entire nuclear program. It follows from this policy that Canada will terminate nuclear shipments to any non-nuclear weapon state which explodes a nuclear device.

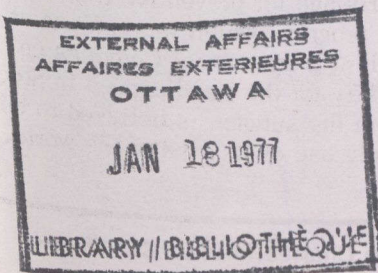
Unequivocal commitment

This requirement is in addition to those outlined in December 1974. The purpose of the Canadian safeguards policy is simple and straightforward. We wish to avoid contributing to the proliferation of nuclear weapons while at the same time satisfying the legitimate requirements for uranium and technology of countries which demonstrate the intention of restricting Canadian assistance only to peaceful non-explosive uses. Nuclear export policy already requires binding assurances that what Canada provides will not be used for explosive purposes. Existing policy, however, does not cover what a country receives from other suppliers or what it might do on its own. The new policy will close this gap. We will have, therefore, assurance by treaty that Canada's nuclear customers will have been selected from those countries which have made

Pakistan affected by new policy

At a press conference following the announcement of Canada's changed nuclear export policy on December 22, Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson announced that nuclear exports and technical aid to Pakistan would be terminated immediately.

Canada has wanted tighter controls, on a bilateral basis, with a further right to suspend all nuclear aid if Pakistan developed and exploded a nuclear device. Pakistan refused and, with the failure of negotiations, that country must now meet the requirements of Canada's new policy.



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a clear and unequivocal commitment to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The development of the CANDU reactor has been one of Canada's great technological achievements. This technology is needed to reduce the world's dependence on oil. Moreover, our industrialized trading partners look to Canada as a source of uranium to fuel the nuclear reactor programs which they, like ourselves, have undertaken to meet a growing share of energy needs. In the absence of alternative technologies, developing countries will also look to nuclear power once they have exploited other conventional energy resources and have built up the national power grids necessary for large present reactors. While research into conservation and renewable energy technologies should be intensified, energy planning in Canada and elsewhere must look to energy resources presently available.

Possible sales drop accepted

While the Canadian Government recognizes the legitimate energy requirements of its trading partners, it is determined to do everything within its power to avoid contributing to nuclear-weapons proliferation. It is for this reason that the Government of Canada

has unilaterally decided to strengthen further Canada's safeguards requirements. As in the past we are prepared to accept the commercial consequences of being clearly ahead of other suppliers. This is the price we are prepared to pay to curb the threat to mankind of nuclear proliferation.

We recognize that for this policy to be fully effective we must persuade other nuclear suppliers to adopt similar export policies. In discussions amongst suppliers we have urged that a collective decision be taken to restrict their nuclear exports to non-nuclear weapon states to those which have ratified the Non-Proliferation Treaty or otherwise accept full scope safeguards. We regret that to date it has not been possible to reach a collective decision to this effect. Canada, however, is determined to assume responsibility where it has the power to act, that is, with regard to Canada's own exports of nuclear equipment, technology and uranium. We are charting a course which we hope will serve as a compelling example for other nuclear suppliers.

With this announcement I am calling on other nuclear exporters to review their own export policies, not in the light of commercial gain but in the interests of maintaining a safe and secure world.

clude a reception area, education area, a surgery with three dental chairs, an X-ray laboratory, and ramps for wheelchair patients, at an estimated cost of \$55,000.

The unit will be staffed full-time by an experienced, senior member of the faculty, in conjunction with teams of three or four undergraduate and graduate students, who now receive practical training in care of the handicapped at the dental clinic of Mount Sinai Hospital. Dr. Norman Levine, assistant professor at the faculty of dentistry, supervises the program.

"There has been a lack of undergraduate training in this particular field," says Levine, who has 16 years of experience in care for the handicapped, and is also chairman of a provincial task force to investigate delivery of dental care to the handicapped in Ontario.

"The important aspect is to expose the students to a variety of handicapping conditions and actually let them render treatment to adults and children who range from severely retarded to the subnormal."

Dental care for the handicapped has not had a high priority in Ontario. The problem is particularly acute for many children, in institutions and at home, says Hargreaves, who came from the University of Edinburgh to U of T in 1971.

"By the time these children are in their teens, you may have little choice other than tooth extraction," he says. "We can transport this facility anywhere it's needed, and catch the children at an early age for preventive treatment."

The program, which was praised at the Third International Congress on Dentistry for the Handicapped in Stockholm in the autumn, is believed to be the only one of its kind in the world.

New holiday proposal

A bill that would establish a new national holiday to be called National Heritage Day on the second Monday in February each year was introduced by Secretary of State John Roberts and given first reading in the House of Commons on December 20.

The proposed legislation, which would involve an amendment to the Canada Labour Code, would not be binding on the provinces but five provincial governments and the two territorial governments have already proclaimed National Heritage Day, though not as a holiday, pending federal action.

The bill also provides for the name of Canada's birthday, celebrated July 1, to be changed from Dominion Day to Canada Day and for the name of the Victoria Day holiday, which takes place in May, to be changed to the Queen's (King's) Birthday.

Dentistry on wheels

Going to the dentist could become a lot easier for handicapped persons in the province of Ontario. The dentist's office may go to them — on wheels.

The faculty of dentistry of the University of Toronto, already among the first dental schools in the world to have expanded its training program to include care of the mentally or physically handicapped, plans to operate a mobile dental clinic for the handicapped in areas where they have no access to a dentist.

According to Dr. Tony Hargreaves, professor and chairman of the faculty's department of paedodontics, the mobile clinic will not only provide a sorely needed community service, but will also expand training of dental students in care for the handicapped.

Plans, drawn up without charge by a class of interior design students of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, in-

Prince Charles to visit Canada

Prince Charles will visit Alberta from July 5 to July 8, to take part in celebrations marking the centennial of the signing of Treaty Number 7, during he will be made a Kanai Chief. The Prince will also open the Calgary Stampede.

Owing to commitments occasioned by the Queen's silver jubilee, Prince Charles will not be able to accept other engagements during his visit.

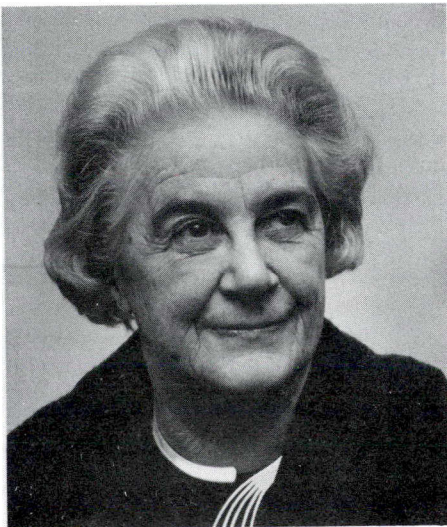
Canadian women in 1976

During the past year, the Anglican Church of Canada ordained six women to the priesthood. Another, 29-year-old Pamela Jo McGee, was ordained Canada's first female Lutheran pastor. Mitzi Dobrin, vice-president and general manager of Steinberg's and



Dr. Julie Loranger became co-ordinator of the Status of Women.

Miracle Mart stores, became the first woman to sit on the Royal Bank of Canada's board of directors shortly after the Bank's announcement that it could not find a qualified woman, despite an extensive search. Subsequently, the Bank of Nova Scotia named two women, Marie Wilson and Helen A.



Beryl Plumtre, former vice-chairman of the Anti-Inflation Board, was elected to the board of directors of The Canada Life Assurance Company.



Aileen V. Manion was elected the first female vice-president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada.

Parker, to its board of directors.

Some of the achievements for and by women during 1976 also included:

The unveiling of a statue in Winnipeg, Manitoba, dedicated to the contribution of women in Commonwealth armed forces in both world wars.

Saskatchewan's Law Reform Commission proposed legislation that would



Dr. Hsio-Yen Shih, formerly curator of the Royal Ontario Museum's Far Eastern department, succeeded Jean Sutherland Boggs as director of the National Gallery of Canada.

give both marriage partners equal management, control and occupational rights in their home.

The Alberta Supreme Court, in a precedent-setting judgment, ruled that divorced women could claim financial

support from their husbands any time after divorce.

The Montreal Junior League, in changing its "tea-party" image, began a new career-development program to provide volunteers with special training.

Employers in Ontario paid \$600,000 to female employees who were paid less than men doing the same jobs



Iona Campagnolo was appointed Minister of State (Fitness and Sport).

during the past three years.

Volume II of the supplement of *The Oxford English Dictionary* carried, for the first time, the term "Ms", defined as "a compromise between Miss and Mrs."

Barbara Clasz of Edmonton, Alberta became the first female to be named



Irene Johnson, former commissioner, Public Service Commission, now director-general, Manpower Training Branch, Manpower and Immigration.



June Menzies was appointed vice-chairman of the federal Anti-Inflation Board.



Former Parliamentary Secretary for External Affairs Monique Bégin became federal Minister of National Revenue.



Yvette Rousseau was appointed chairman of the federal Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Queen's Venturer, the highest award attainable in the Boy Scout program.

Margaret Littlewood, also of Edmonton, Canada's only woman fighter-pilot trainer during the Second World War, was awarded the Amelia Earhart medalion for her pioneering contributions.

Justice Gabrielle Vallée was appointed senior associate chief justice of the Quebec Superior Court.

Joanne Veit, a 34-year-old Edmonton lawyer, was named chairman of the Alberta Securities Commission. Her appointment is believed to be the first of its type for a woman anywhere in the world.

Lise Payette, a former television personality, who was elected as a member of the Quebec provincial government, was appointed to Quebec's Cabinet as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Financial Questions. Three other females,



Nicole Morel of Canada became the only woman on the board of directors of the International Society of Postmasters (headquarters in Geneva).

Thérèse-Lavoie-Roux (Liberal) and Denise Leblanc and Louise Sauvé-Cuerrier (both Parti québécois) were elected to Quebec's legislature in the province's recent elections.

Luce Patenaude was named "Ombudsman" for the province of Quebec.

Dr. Katie Cooke, former chairman of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, was appointed to the Indian and Eskimo Affairs program as director of research in the Policy, Research and Evaluation Branch of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

Huguette Noel was named both a director of the Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada and official representative of all Canadian life assurance companies — the first woman to occupy these positions.

(There are many others — but space is limited — and there will be many more. Ed.)

Daily reassurance call for the elderly

Elderly and disabled persons living alone in Winnipeg, Manitoba, receive a daily reassurance telephone call from volunteers of the "Daily Hello" program, run by the Department of Health and Social Development. It provides free a safety check and contact for elderly and disabled city residents. However, says project co-ordinator Rachele Hamelin, more volunteers are needed with the onset of winter, when many elderly and disabled persons may find it difficult or impossible to

leave their own homes.

The program, started in 1972 as a summer employment project, is maintained by about 65 volunteers, mainly housewives and persons in nursing homes. Volunteers call at pre-arranged times and thus are able to notify relatives, neighbours and health workers if something is wrong. Some subscribers, who have been called for several years by the same volunteer have developed close friendships with them.

In many instances, subscribers living alone have fallen or become ill and

without the daily calls might have remained injured or helpless for days before being discovered.

More male volunteers and persons who can speak Ukrainian are particularly needed. Some volunteers speak languages other than English, such as French, German and Ukrainian, and this makes it easier for those subscribers who understand one of these languages better than English.

Volunteers are recruited through the Care Services branch of the department, through the media or by referral from nursing homes.

Canada makes important gains at international fisheries meeting

Canada achieved all its major objectives at the special meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) that ended in Tenerife, Spain on December 9, Fisheries and Environment Minister Roméo LeBlanc announced last month.

The meeting adopted by a large majority amendments to the ICNAF Convention proposed by Canada. These amendments have the effect of recognizing that Canada has the right to manage the fisheries within its 200-mile zone, established on January 1. The Commission will no longer have any management functions within this zone, although it will be able to provide any scientific advice requested by Canada. As to fisheries beyond the 200-mile zone, the Commission will retain its former management functions, in which Canada will continue to take an active part.

The amendments adopted by the Commission are subject to approval by member governments.

The meeting also approved a Canadian-sponsored resolution that recom-

mends action as soon as possible this year to develop a new framework for multilateral fisheries co-operation in the northwest Atlantic fisheries in line with the new jurisdictional realities. It is expected that an international conference will soon be called for this purpose. Canada intends to be in the forefront of these developments.

Regulations

The fisheries regulations adopted by ICNAF at this special meeting also satisfied Canada's concerns, among which was the establishment of national allocations and other regulations for a number of stocks on the Scotian shelf.

Canada reserved for itself the entire total allowable catch (TAC) for Nova Scotia herring, mackerel, and flounder, except for small allocations for by-catches and for the U.S.A. and France (flounder only) as neighbouring coastal states. Agreement was also reached on regulations for silver-hake fishing off Nova Scotia, which limits bottom trawling with small-mesh nets to an

area outside a line at the outer edge of the Scotian shelf in order to minimize by-catches of small cod, haddock and flatfish.

The agreement includes provision for experimental fishing operations closer inshore involving U.S.S.R., Cuban and Canadian vessels, but only as part of a research program with Canada being able to place observers aboard. Canada indicated willingness to alter the offshore line during the 1977 season if the experiment revealed areas inside the line where silver hake could be taken without incurring undesirable by-catches. Canadian scientists believe that by-catches in the bottom trawl fisheries have been a major reason for the decline of cod stocks off Nova Scotia in recent years. Implementation of the regulations will go far towards resolving this problem.

Canada was also successful in having the total allowable catch for silver hake reduced from 100,000 tons in 1976 to 70,000 tons in 1977 and, for the first time, reserved a substantial share for itself (14,850 metric tons or 21 per cent of the total allowable catch).

Petrified prehistoric plants

Two stromatolite algae blocks dated at about 1.5 billion years were recently found on the property of the Great Lakes Paper Company next to a logging road near Disraeli Lake about 70 miles northeast of Thunder Bay, Ontario.

The fossils, known as "Conophyton", occur in the Precambrian Sibley Group, and will go on permanent display in the invertebrate palaeontology gallery of Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum when renovations to the gallery are finished.

The collection of the two specimens (the largest weighs over a ton) and transportation of them to the ROM were made possible through the assistance of the Great Lakes Paper Company. Employees of the Company collected and transported the two blocks without any damage whatsoever to the rocks.

Dr. Desmond Collins, curator of the Department of Invertebrate Palaeontology, said that Precambrian life would be a focal point in the renovated gallery, where the stromatolites would be a major display.



Stromatolite algae blocks dated at about 1.5 billion years, found recently,

will be a permanent exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

Radio astronomy breakthrough for Canadian/U.S. scientists

A team of Canadian and United States radio astronomers has successfully used a geostationary satellite to effect a major improvement in techniques for precision measurement of cosmic radio sources.

Canada's Communications Technology Satellite (CTS) was used in November to transmit data from the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in West Virginia, U.S., to the Algonquin Radio Observatory in Ontario.

At Algonquin the signals were combined to provide the resolving power of a single telescope over 500 miles in diameter. With this amount of resolving power the size and shape of distant galaxies and quasars can be measured to a precision better than a thousandth of an arcsecond.

Although, the use of two or more smaller telescopes to synthesize a much larger instrument is an old technique in radio astronomy, it was not until 1967 that Canadian and U.S. scientists developed methods for using telescopes separated by continental or intercontinental distances to simulate a telescope nearly as large as the earth.

This "very-long-baseline interferometer" method requires that the signals from each telescope be recorded on a tape recorder, together with time signals accurate to a millionth of a second. Later, the tapes from each telescope are taken to a special computing facility where they are processed together to yield the desired astronomical information.

The CTS, a Canadian satellite launched by the National Aeronautical and Space Administration in the U.S. late in 1975, eliminates the tape recorders and provides immediate indication that the rather complex electronic equipment involved in an experiment is functioning correctly. Furthermore, the high capacity of the satellite results in a significant increase in sensitivity, permitting the study of very faint cosmic objects.

Past experience using the tape recorder method, has shown that several telescopes at various locations on the earth's surface are necessary to obtain a reasonably complete picture of a radio source.

The new experiment has demonstrated

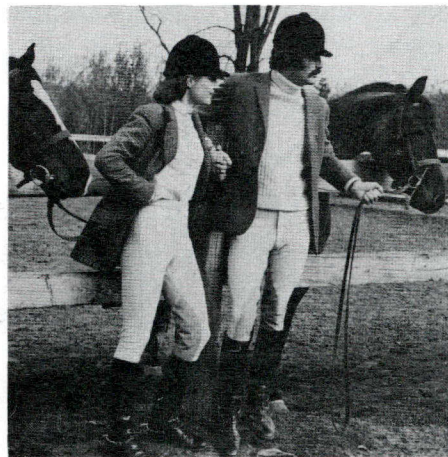
a way of using a satellite to link several telescopes in real time, thereby eliminating much of the post-experiment processing and the logistical problems associated with the shipment of large quantities of magnetic tape.

Federal-provincial conference

Canada's ten provincial premiers expressed general disappointment at the close of a federal-provincial conference last month over a new arrangement for sharing taxation and revenue.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, however, said the conference was "a major step forward in achieving greater decentralization in our fiscal arrangements."

Mr. Trudeau added up new cash payments for health and social care programs, together with additional income tax points, to a figure of \$680 million more annually for the provinces, than they had before the conference began.



A new Canadian fabric that is attracting increasing interest from international manufacturers of riding breeches has been developed by United Elastic Limited of Bridgetown, Nova Scotia. The material, described as "two-way stretch, non-run", made from nylon and lycra, also lends itself to ski pants, football pants, gymnast pants "where comfort, hard wear and flexibility are prime requisites." The company also produces narrow woven and wide knitted elastic fabrics for outer wear, swim wear, etc., and exports to such countries as Australia, Mexico, Belgium and the United States. The firm has agents in Oslo, Stockholm, Hong Kong and Australia.

A town called Flin Flon

Canada's rich heritage of place-names has a multitude of sources, says Marcus Van Steen in another article on this subject in a recent issue of *Canadian Scene*. Many names of rivers, lakes and towns come from original Indian names. Others were imported from the British Isles, France and the other homelands of the white settlers. Some come from animals, or from an early postmaster or surveyor. The town of Flin Flon in northwestern Manitoba, even took the name of a fictional character in a novel.

In autumn 1914, when central Manitoba was mainly an empty wilderness, five prospectors working their way north of Lake Winnipegosis found a deserted camp and decided it was a good place to wait for spring. The camp was 300 miles from the nearest railway station with no settlement of any kind nearby. One of the prospectors found a tattered book among the rubbish left by their predecessors at the campsite. The book, a cheap adventure story called *The Sunless City*, held out the promise of something to do during the long winter evenings and as it turned out, many an hour was passed with one of the men reading the story to the others.

The main character was Professor Flintabbaty Flonatin, a considerable mouthful which the reader understandably shortened to Flin Flon. The five men grew to rather like this Flin Flon who was helping to brighten their bleak winter evenings, so when they found gold in the spring they called their claim Flin Flon. And the town that grew up alongside took the name of the mine.

In 1931 when the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company was operating the Flin Flon mine, it started to wonder about the mysterious Professor Flin Flon. The company found that *The Sunless City* was published in 1905 and was long out of print. After an extensive search, four copies of the book were found. One is in the British Museum. Another is owned by a descendant of one of the original prospectors. The other two were bought by Hudson Bay Mining and are preserved in the company's archives.

The mystery that remains is that no one knows who left the book at the campsite in the first place.

News of the arts

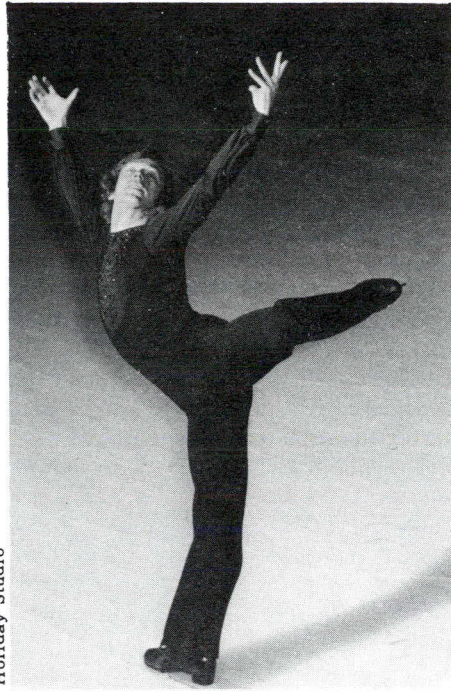
Toller Cranston on Broadway

The professional New York *début* of Canadian champion skater Toller Cranston will take place on January 24, when "Toller Cranston and the Ice Show" opens on Broadway at the Uris Theatre. Eight performances a week will be given until February 27. Cranston, who heads a 13-member company of international ice-skating champions, created the production.

At 27 years old, Cranston's talent has earned him the appellation "skater of the century" and laurels that include six consecutive championships in Canada, three world free-skating championships and an Olympic bronze medal at Innsbruck in 1975. He left competitive skating recently to devise the show, which has performed to packed arenas and standing ovations from Victoria, British Columbia to Halifax, Nova Scotia, since its *première* in Toronto last September 23.

Cranston, considered as the pioneer of "artistic" skating, has a unique style and technical ability that many have called remarkable.

The show contains no "chorus lines, production numbers and novelty acts that have become the trademarks for conventional ice extravaganzas", say Hurok Concerts Inc., the company which will present it on Broadway. "Rather, the production spotlights



Holiday Studio

Cranston, "skater of the century."

the drama, purity and excitement of steller solo and pair performance on ice."

The company includes Jim Millns, Colleen O'Connor, Gordon McKellan Jr., Barbara Berezowski, David Porter, Candace Jones, Don Fraser, Kath Malmberg, Bob Rubens, Emily Benenson, Jack Courtney and Elizabeth Freeman.

Poet honoured in France

During the past summer Canadian poet and writer Pierre Morency, often called "the love poet", won the Claude Sermet prize, which is given in France to a French-speaking poet from another country. The award, won by Mr. Morency for his work as a whole, was presented at a ceremony at Rodez in the south of France.

Pierre Morency was born in 1942 in Lauzon, a small town almost directly facing Quebec City on the south shore of the St. Lawrence. For several years he was a cultural organizer on several fronts, promoting the formation of groups of poets and finding places and times that were propitious to poets' free expression of their art. Initially he wrote a number of children's plays. In 1968, when he was teaching literature, he won a prize worth \$1,000 from Imperial Tobacco Limited and in 1971

he was awarded a Canada Council grant. In May of the same year he published his first play for adults, *La Jarnigoine*. According to the author, it was the first play ever written with this title, and also the first to take place entirely in a waiting room — which obviously symbolized Quebec. Mr. Morency was pleased that people found his play amusing; there were few amusing plays in modern Quebec literature, and he did not wish to bore the public, he said, any more than he himself wished to be bored when he went to the theatre.

The love poet

Morency's three collections of poems, published from 1967 to 1970, are surprisingly cohesive. He recognizes the fact that they reflect a kind of personal development. The first collection, entitled *Poèmes de la froide merveille de vivre* (Poems of the icy wonder of

life), contain love poems by a young man who is enraptured by the wonder of love, of a love as clear as water and as clear as the air, but who is also aware of the realities of life. For him, love is constantly threatened by the myriad forces of death, and day-to-day existence suppresses even the most powerful outbursts of the soul.

The second collection, entitled *Les poèmes de la vie déliée* (Poems of an unfettered life), concludes with an admission of failure, while in the third collection, *Au nord, constamment de l'amour* (In the North, constantly loving), the poet, having lost his illusions, looks at the world that nourishes him. Love is still there, he feels, because he now knows that he will never be anything but a love poet.

Pierre Morency sings constantly of love; he calls to it incessantly. For him our civilization is in the throes of death. His proof? It lies in the disrespect accorded to life. When asked for his views on woman, he replies that man has almost completely destroyed her and that it is therefore fitting that she should now feel contempt for him. Only artists and certain great lovers have really loved her, and she has always infused new blood and life into them. He adds that the world is a reflection of man's view of woman and that we shall have to take a fresh look at her if we want tomorrow's world to be a livable one.

TV king reins supreme

The empire of the *King of Kensington*, a weekly television series of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, was widened considerably when it was sold recently to nine of the largest cities in the United States.

The series is the first one to be sold to U.S. stations while still in production and has the potential for a long run. The CBC is optimistic about the show's popularity in other countries and expects sales to be made to overseas broadcasters.

National Film Board's *Los Canadienses*, directed by Albert Kish, has been named the best television film at the Mannheim International Film Festival in Germany.

Atlantic provinces endorse home warranty plan

A press release issued in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on November 10, during a meeting of ministers responsible for housing in the Atlantic provinces, stated that provincial ministers and officials responsible for consumer affairs and housing in the Atlantic provinces (P.E.I., Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland) met in Charlottetown with the executive of the new home certification program of the Atlantic provinces to review progress of the new home warranty plan, which was implemented recently.

The new home certification program is administered by a non-profit corporation formed by the housing industry of the Atlantic region.

The governments of the Atlantic provinces endorse this program, which provides consumer protection for new home buyers, by ensuring the builders registered under the plan build homes to the national building code standard. Under the program, the new home buyer receives a one-year warranty against any defects in workmanship or materials, plus four years insurance coverage against any major structural defects.

Buyers are also protected against the loss of their deposit through bankruptcy or fraud to a maximum of \$20,000.

The program now has offices in four Atlantic provinces and warranties are being issued to purchasers of new homes covered by the plan.

The chairman of the meeting, Bennett Campbell of P.E.I., expressed satisfaction with the progress made to date and encourages new home purchasers to consider the protection offered under this plan.

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

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

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

News briefs

- Olive Diefenbaker, wife of former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, died in Ottawa on December 22. She was 74 years old. Mrs. Diefenbaker, who had been released from hospital to spend Christmas at home, had been suffering for the past three months from a heart ailment. Mr. and Mrs. Diefenbaker celebrated their twenty-third wedding anniversary on December 8. They had both been married previously.
- Effective December 22, the bank rate was decreased to 8½ per cent, the second reduction in a month. A drop in the bank rate is generally followed by a decrease in interest rates on consumer loans, mortgages and financial institutions.
- The consumer price index rose at an annual rate of 5.6 per cent in November, the smallest annual increase in the cost of living in nearly four years.
- Kitimat Pipe Line Ltd. of Calgary, Alberta, has made an application to the National Energy Board to build a 753-mile oil pipeline at a cost of \$494 million to carry oil from Alaska to refineries in the northern United States. If Government approval were given by July, start-up is expected in April 1979, when 300,000 barrels of crude oil a day would be delivered to Kitimat by tanker then moved to refineries in Minnesota, Wisconsin, the Dakotas and Montana. A maximum of 500,000 barrels a day is estimated by 1985.
- Researchers at Montreal's Clinical Research Institute have discovered that the human pituitary gland produces a pain-killing substance similar to morphine. Dr. Michel Chrétien, head of the research team, said the findings, which were presented to a special session of the New York Academy of Sciences recently, could explain why some people seem to suffer pain more than others.
- A \$125-million Manitoba Hydro debenture issue, guaranteed by the province of Manitoba was sold to the United States last month. The 30-year issue, dated December 1, carried an interest coupon of 8 5/8 per cent, and was sold at 99.25 to yield the investor 8.70 per cent. It is callable, at the option of Manitoba Hydro, after 18 years.
- The Law Reform Commission of Canada is to begin a broad investigation into the fundamental questions of

life and death. An official said the study, which would begin with the issue of euthanasia, may also include abortion. One of the objects is to propose to Parliament a legal definition of where life begins and ends.

- Canada sent a gift of 500 pure bred Holstein-Friesian calves to India last month, from 100 farms in Ontario and Quebec. A \$500,000-contract from the Canadian International Development Agency paid for the project.
- November trade figures continued a four-month decline and slipped into a deficit of \$104 million owing to reduced exports and higher imports. November exports declined for the third consecutive month, totalling \$2,985 million or 4.5 percent less than October's figure and 13 percent below that of August. Imports rose by 5 percent to \$3,089 million.
- On behalf of its members, the Public Service Alliance donated, for the seventh consecutive year, the money usually spent on Christmas cards to the Canadian Save the Children Fund to help support four needy children. This year's recipients were in Sierra Leone; Rome; Istanbul; and Busan, Republic of Korea.
- For the first time, the United States Department of the Interior presented its highest civilian award to a Canadian. John I. Nicol, Director General Parks Canada, received the Conservation Service Award at the 44th Annual Honours Convocation in Washington, December 7. The citation reads "In recognition of his accomplishments and dynamic leadership in stimulating close relationships between Canada and the United States in the field of national park management."
- A John Deutsch Memorial for the Study of Economic Policy has been established for scholarships and to put on work shops and conferences, to perpetuate the memory of John James Deutsch, fourteen principal of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, who died in March.
- A total of 37,000 young Manitobans completed bicycle safety courses last summer bringing the total to about 84,000 trained during the past four years. The course, which lasts a week, provides young cyclists with theory and practical instruction, presentation of films on safety, bike check and a "bike rodeo".