

Canada Weekly

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Canadian furniture-makers meet high standards of New York buyers

On-site sales of about \$175 000, orders for \$4 million and some "extremely valuable" contacts were made by eight Canadian furniture manufacturers who displayed their top lines at the New York Furniture and Accessory Market this summer.

Canada's first participation at the New York show, from July 16 to 18, was rated as very successful, meeting the discriminating demands of buyers from the New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut areas, who attended.

Most of the Canadian furniture presented was distinguished by the use of natural wood, and many products were bench-made. There were also ingenious "entertainment centres" hidden in furniture pieces of exceptional beauty.

Furniture-making industry

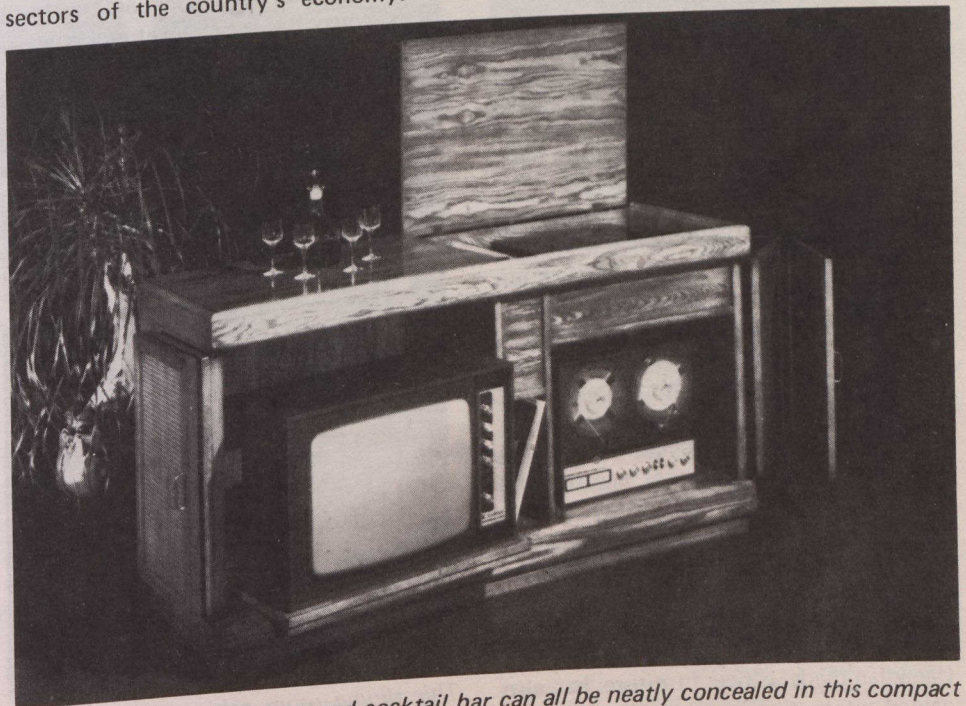
The Canadian furniture-making industry, established early in the nineteenth century, has become one of the principal sectors of the country's economy. In-

spired by the work of English and French craftsmen, today's furniture-makers incorporate the same pride, concern for detail and standards of quality in their work which, in days gone by, led to the creation of beautiful and durable furniture.

The industry comprises some 1 500 companies whose production in 1982 reached an estimated value of \$2 200 million. They provide work for about 43 000 people and are 80 per cent Canadian-owned.

Although the furniture industry is established in all provinces, Ontario and Quebec account for 55 per cent and 35 per cent respectively of all Canadian shipments. The economies of many small communities in southeastern Quebec and southwestern Ontario rely almost entirely on the industry. The combined production of the small communities almost equals that of urban areas with populations of over 100 000.

While today's furniture industry is



Music centre, television set and cocktail bar can all be neatly concealed in this compact oak cabinet.



External Affairs Affaires extérieures
Canada Canada

composed primarily of small- and medium-sized operations (90 per cent of all companies employ fewer than 100 persons), a concentration of larger firms through acquisitions or mergers is a strong possibility in the near future. There is a strong trend in this direction in the office furniture sector in which many firms employ twice the number of workers as those firms making household furniture.

The commercial and industrial sector

The construction of multi-purpose building complexes (hotels, office buildings, apartment blocks, shopping centres and convention centres) has given a sizable boost to the Canadian furniture industry. A rise in the number of tourists, creating an increased demand for lodging and recreational facilities, has also produced a market for specially-designed furniture.



Cultured marble looks much like quarried marble but is five times stronger and completely maintenance-free.

In the industrial sector, furniture must be designed to be both pleasing to senior management and suitable to the needs of all the employees. Work space must promote efficiency, but make a positive impression on visitors.

Designers must also create dining-room furniture for restaurants and bedroom furniture for hotels and motels; they must design special furniture for laboratories, classrooms and meeting areas such as auditoriums; for sports centres and airport waiting rooms. Canadian manufacturers have so far managed to meet the demands of both domestic and foreign buyers.

Office furniture

Canadian-made office furniture has also gained international renown for the prac-

Visitors to the Woodworking, Machinery and Furniture Supply Fair being held in Los Angeles from September 22 to 25, will have an opportunity to view wood-working machinery and furniture components from various Canadian manufacturers. Further information may be obtained from the Commercial Division, Canadian Consulate General, 510 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90014.

tical design and efficiency of its products. Office furniture is flexible and allows users to adjust rapidly to changes, such as the expansion or reduction of a department. Alterations to the furniture may be made at a minimum cost and without affecting the normal operations of an office.

Furniture for the home

Household furniture manufactured in Canada compares favourably with that of other countries and is much in demand on domestic and foreign markets.

Several factors affect the Canadian household furniture market: incomes, new home sales and household moves. Similar factors affect exports to the United States and abroad.

In Canada, people between the ages of 20 and 39 are the principal buyers of household furniture, representing about 30 per cent of the furniture sales market. The situation will probably continue until 1985, when the age bracket will change.



This dining room cabinet is finished in golden ash.

In Canada, as throughout the world, the furniture industry uses primarily traditional methods. Although automation and new techniques have been incorporated as much as possible, many operations, such as sanding, painting, gluing and assembling, must be done by hand.

Wood and plywood substitutes — particle board and plastic coatings (vinyl and melamine) — are used increasingly, since they are easily handled and lend themselves to automation. Moreover, the recent discovery of water-based coatings for finishing reduces or eliminates



This modern, fully upholstered loveseat is enhanced by oak trim.

environmental problems. Computers are used more and more in the production process, and conditions today necessitate the purchase of automated equipment in manufacturing firms.

Exports

Canadian furniture sells well on foreign markets. In 1982, the value of exports reached almost \$300 million, approximately 13 per cent of Canada's total production. Since 1978, the value of exports has more than doubled — from \$120 million that year to \$300 million in 1982. Export values for office furniture have increased from \$88 million in 1979 to \$119 million in 1980, \$147 million in 1981 and \$165 million in 1982.

In view of favourable forecasts for the American market, the expected value of the Canadian dollar and a reduction in American customs tariffs, exports should continue to increase by 10 per cent annually.

Canada agrees to test air-launched cruise missile

The Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen and the former Minister of National Defence J. Gilles Lamontagne announced July 15 "that Cabinet had agreed to the operational testing and evaluation of the unarmed AGM-86B air-launched cruise missile in Canada, following careful study of all considerations at issue".

Following are excerpts from an official statement:

The government has undertaken an exhaustive technical assessment of the proposal received on June 13. There are no safety, security or environmental difficulties or dangers in the proposed test program. There is little or no danger to Canadian life or property. The missile will be unarmed and will be under control at all times. No nuclear, biological or chemical warfare materials will be involved in the tests. The test project conforms to all stipulations of the Canada-USA Test and Evaluation Program concluded earlier this year.

This arrangement will remain in force for the initial five years of the program, which can be terminated on one year's notice. The government also has the right to cancel or suspend any specific project. Canadian legislation and regulations fully govern any activities under the program....

The missile flight path, over parts of the Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, will follow a route over largely uninhabited territory. Population centres will be avoided. Accompanying aircraft will take control should the missile stray from the established test corridor. Provincial and territorial authorities have been kept fully informed, and their safety concerns taken into account.

In concluding that the test project should proceed, ministers gave particular attention to collective security requirements and current prospects for arms control. Ministers reviewed the full range of negotiations on strategic, intermediate and conventional arms, considered Canada's national interests and commitments, and assessed the possible deployment of Western weapons as a

factor in promoting the resolution of outstanding arms control problems.

Two principles were agreed to be essential:

— Canada's national security — the security of our democratic values and our open society — is indivisible from the security of others. We must now, as in the past, be in a position to exert our own distinctive influence on Western councils and commitments; and

— Canada will never abandon the pursuit of global security at greatly reduced levels of armament. We reaffirm the commitment made with our partners at the Williamsburg Summit to "devote our full political resources to reducing the threat of war". Canada remains determined to make its own contribution to arms control and disarmament negotiations.

This Canadian approach is grounded in several elements: our founding membership in NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), our dedication to



Allan MacEachen (left) and Gilles Lamontagne prior to announcement that Cabinet has agreed to testing and evaluation of cruise missile.

the global dimension of peace and stability, our active pursuit of verifiable arms control and disarmament agreements, and our longstanding decision not to develop our own national nuclear force....

NATO membership is a vital element in Canada's foreign and defence policy, which includes firm adherence to NATO's strategy of nuclear deterrence. Canada has therefore long provided facilities for the operational training of both nuclear-capable and conventional forces of our NATO allies. Current examples include

operational training exercises carried out by B-52 bombers of the USA Strategic Air Command, and the use by British and German Air Forces of Goose Bay airfield and associated low-level flight training areas. As with the proposed cruise missile tests, all these aircrafts are unarmed — no nuclear weapons have been or will be tested in Canada. The essential purpose is also the same — the maintenance of strong and reliable NATO deterrent forces.

In announcing the government's decision to test the cruise missile, ministers emphasized that this in no way changed Canada's own renunciation of nuclear weapons for our national forces. Canada has foregone the production and development of nuclear weapons. The Canadian Forces concentrate exclusively on conventional roles in collective defence arrangements. All nuclear capability was removed from the Canadian Forces in Europe in the early 1970s. In the coming months, as the new CF-18 aircraft are deployed the last nuclear weapons capability now held in Canada will also be removed.

This national non-nuclear role imposes obligations, such as the test and evaluation programs agreed with our allies. It also provides a unique opportunity for international influence on arms control and disarmament questions. Canada thus maintains a clear and credible voice in the United Nations and in other councils dedicated to the search for peace and security.

Dedication to arms control

Ministers believe that Canadians can be proud of our record of contribution to the critical breakthroughs in nuclear arms control, such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968. Ministers also believe that they express the hopes and expectations of many Canadians by declaring that this country's dedication to arms control remains among our highest priorities.

Canada's support for a comprehensive multilateral nuclear test ban treaty continues to be vigorous and unrelenting. Our work for a more effective non-proliferation regime, enhanced by Canada's expertise in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, will not slacken. We continue to press for reductions and limitations of conventional forces, and for a ban on the development, testing and deployment of all weapons for use in outer space. We are in the forefront of efforts to abolish chemical weapons....

International program prepares students for overseas careers

This fall, Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, launches a new International Program designed to prepare foreign and Canadian students for careers involving work and travel abroad and, the administration hopes, to produce a group of internationalists who will "become a force for understanding between nations".

The program is the brainchild of its part-time director, Jack Matthews, a Peterborough native who recently ended a ten-year stint as director of Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific in Victoria, British Columbia.

At first glance, the Program does not seem to contain much that is new. The 75 foreign and 25 Canadian students who will be admitted in the first year will choose, like other Trent students, from among the university's 425 courses in 23 fields of study, and will graduate with the same bachelor's or master's degrees.

Only one special course is being developed in connection with the Program and it is open to other students as well: a four-week summer English-language and cultural-immersion program offered in association with Sir Sandford Fleming College. It will cost \$700 and is limited to 30 students.

World affairs colloquium

What sets the International Program apart is a twice-weekly world affairs colloquium organized and run by the students, and its emphasis on volunteer work in the community. As well, students who are not proficient in a second language must study French, Spanish or German to an upper-course level, and all students will be encouraged to take the third year of the four-year honours program at another university.

Aim of Program

In a recent interview, Jack Matthews explained his motives in establishing the International Program:

"I guess it was my experience as director of Pearson College, living in what was really an international village, with 200 students and 50 faculty and wives from about 55 different countries. I realized what an education it was, bringing people together from so many countries for a couple of years.

"When I left I wanted to try to transfer the experience there to the university. I wanted to attract people from around the



Program creator Jack Matthews.

world who, if they wished to major in chemistry, could do so, or if they wanted to major in comparative development or in languages, could do so. The International Program is trying to bring all of these people together. And up to 15 or 20 per cent of the students at Trent over the next three or four years will be from outside Canada. At least that's our aim."

Jack Matthews goes on to discuss the world affairs colloquium. "The idea is to involve students from different areas in special themes. Let's say we wish to study for a four-week period the influence of Islam on world politics over the next ten years. Well, we will have Muslim students here from Muslim countries, and the main thrust of the program would come from them — trying to make the rest of the university aware of what the religion is, how it is politically oriented, or if it is politically oriented. Then visiting specialists would give us the view on into the next ten years. The idea of the international colloquium is that it is run by the students of the International Program, but will be open to the whole university involved in it."

Jack Matthews has declared his keen interest in increasing the numbers of foreign students at Trent University.

"Two years ago, Don Theall (President of Trent University) and I met, and I said, 'Don, I've got this dream of working in a small university where there is a college system, and introducing a good number of international students, giving some breadth to the education people are getting,' Don said he'd been thinking the

same thing... So that's the reason we're doing it. It's basically a drive to make Trent a recognized place for international education."

For a copy of the prospectus or for further information on the International Program, contact: The Director, The International Program, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7B8 Canada.

Grant helps India produce edible oils

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen announced recently that Canada will assist the government of India to improve human nutrition through a project designed to increase edible oil production.

Canada, through funding of the Canadian International Development Agency will provide \$66.7 million in canola oil and technical assistance to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) of India over a four-year period. The NDDDB will sell the oil at market prices and use the revenue thus generated to promote the formation of oilseed-grower co-operatives and to provide them with agricultural inputs (seed, fertilizer, etc.) and technical services. The executing agency for Canada will be the Co-operative Union of Canada (CUC).

Edible oils are an important part of the Indian diet constituting the second greatest source of calories after food grains. India imports more than a million tonnes of oilseeds annually. The producer's return on investment is so low that there is little incentive to increase or improve quality of crops. Because of the low return to producers, oilseeds are often grown on marginal land using outdated technology, a situation which merits restructuring. The Indian government has undertaken to remedy the situation based on a model developed by the NDDDB which successfully increased milk production throughout the country.

Funds generated by the sale of the Canadian canola oil will allow the NDDDB to organize local growers into village-level co-operatives in three of India's principal oilseed-producing states. Crops to be promoted include groundnut, soybean, rapeseed, mustardseed, cottonseed and coconut. By 1990, the project is expected to procure sufficient oilseeds from member growers so that the project will become self-sufficient with enough influence on the market to stabilize prices.

Gibson's Studio

Fuming for fingerprints: a new method catches crooks — and sales

A revolutionary process for locating and exposing latent fingerprints is winning world-wide recognition — and sales — for a Canadian company.

Visuprint "fumes" the object or area being examined with a special chemical vapour. After about ten minutes, any prints present become visible and permanent.

The portable unit is produced and marketed by a high-tech company, Payton Scientific Inc. in Scarborough, Ontario.

Visuprint will develop latent fingerprints on more surfaces in a single process than any other conventional method. Hitherto difficult and often impossible surfaces, such as plastic bags, plastics, aluminum, firearms, stainless steel, chrome, silverware, wood, cardboard, paper and many others, all become excellent possibilities with this simple new piece of equipment and process. There is also a strong possibility that this method will develop prints on human skin.

The inventor is Constable Paul Bourdon of the North Bay Police Identification Bureau. It took him five years, with assistance from the National Research Council of Canada, to perfect the "fuming" process.

Two-year-old Payton Scientific — part of the Payton group set up in 1967 to handle forensic science equipment — last

year obtained manufacturing rights and has already sold Visuprint to a number of law enforcement agencies in Canada and abroad.

Sales abroad

Payton's president Robert W. Baker, who has an engineering background, said his firm is running a large-scale, direct mail program in the United States and Canada. He recently spent three weeks demonstrating the equipment in France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Britain "and the response was excellent".

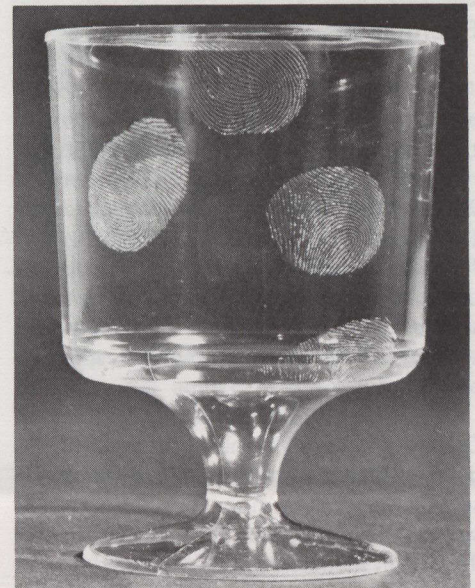
The Payton group has a regular schedule of marketing missions and exhibits at international trade shows. Vice-president Sydney J. Platel, also an engineer, was on a US selling tour in the spring.

The 10.4-kilogram Visuprint kit costs \$1 500 (US) and is already used by Metro Toronto Police and the Ontario Provincial Police. Identification officers at both headquarters said the invention was a big asset in crime detection. It works quickly and is easy to use.

Sizable orders

Mr. Baker anticipates "sizable" orders. "If we sell only to half the 42 000 identification officers in the US, that would mean a lot of export dollars."

Mr. Bourdon says the common method in developing prints — dusting with pow-



The "fuming" process brings out fingerprints and preserves them.

ders — had problems. "Too heavy a hand and the gentle brush becomes a broom, sweeping away the delicate evidence," he said.

Using vapour as the detecting material avoids this danger. In his research Mr. Bourdon evaporated solvents, paints, glue and other chemicals in closed containers with samples of plastic film bearing his own fingerprints.

Operated by either main supply or battery, the unit can be used in the lab or at the scene of a crime. It can also "fume" the interior of an entire room or automobile.

The system has already scored many successes:

- during a break-in at a service station, a criminal was disturbed while stealing the cashbox. He escaped, throwing the box into a pool of oil on the garage floor. Visuprint revealed fingerprints leading to the arrest and conviction of the criminal;
- an empty whisky bottle was found floating in the bilgewater of a stolen motorboat. After being carefully dried, the bottle was fumed — revealing a print again leading to a conviction;
- a handgun was found at the scene of the crime. Using traditional methods, no prints could be found. The gun was put on a shelf. After four years, a detective decided to try Visuprint on it and found a perfect print which led to a conviction.

The entire system, including the chemicals and use of the process is now fully protected by patents in Canada, the United States, and are presently pending in Europe where application for a German distributorship has been received.



Latent fingerprints soon become visible after Robert Baker, president of Payton Scientific, places a plastic wineglass into the compact Visuprint container which will accomplish its task in ten minutes.

Ministry of Industry & Tourism photos

Energy conservation film telecast

A half-hour National Film Board documentary which explores alternative solutions to the world's energy problems was recently telecast on the CBC network. *Tomorrow's Energy Today*, produced by the NFB for The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), is an optimistic record of a number of recent, successful experiments with renewable energy sources in the United States, Israel and Sweden.

The film visits a solar energy project in Crosbyton, Texas in the early stages of its development, another more established solar energy system in Tel Aviv and a solar pond on the shores of the Dead Sea. The film-makers travel to Sweden to look at the simple yet sophisticated conservation techniques which have made Vesteros one of the most energy-efficient, pollution-free cities in the world.

An Illinois farmer explains how, by converting animal waste to methane gas, he has become not only energy self-sufficient but has added a couple of lucrative new sources of income to his business. City officials in Lamar, Colorado describe their plans for a \$14 million manure-to-methane plant that they hope will significantly decrease the town's reliance on non-renewable fuels.

Tomorrow's Energy Today was written and directed by Ken McCready and produced by William Brind.

Nickel commemorative stamp

A commemorative stamp marking the hundredth anniversary of the discovery of nickel in Sudbury, Ontario, was issued August 12 at a ceremony during the city's nickel discovery centennial celebrations.

In announcing the new 32-cent stamp issue, André Ouellet, Minister responsible for Canada Post Corporation, noted that Sudbury owed its existence to the explosion of the nickel markets in the 1880s and had good reason to celebrate its past achievements as a world-renowned mining district. "But it also looks ahead to the next century with renewed optimism and tenacity," he said.

The history of mining in the Sudbury area began with the arrival of prospectors late in the nineteenth century. In 1883 Thomas Flanagan, a Canadian Pacific Railway blacksmith, gathered ore samples that turned out to be valuable copper sulphites. Tests revealed that Flanagan had not only discovered copper but also stumbled onto the world's biggest nickel deposit. Mining operations began in 1886.

In 1889, just when a method of refining nickel had been perfected, the market for nickel increased dramatically, assuring the profitability of the mines in the region. In that economic climate, Sudbury's expansion and prosperity for Ontario and Canada were guaranteed.

Research funds boosted

An additional \$31 million in energy research and development (R&D) funding, bringing the total federal commitment to \$333 million in 1983-84, has been announced by Energy Minister Jean Chrétien.

"Energy R&D provides essential technical support for Canada's energy policies, including the safe and timely development of our frontier oil and gas resources," said Mr. Chrétien. "The increased funds are also an important component in the federal government's recently announced technology development policy, a strategy aimed at enhancing the national technology base to sustain a vigorous economy in the 1990s."

The federal interdepartmental Panel on Energy R&D recommends and monitors the expenditure of additional resources to achieve the following objectives of our national energy policy: development of alternatives to gasoline; higher energy efficiency; development of new energy sources, and development of new technologies and processes to enhance oil production in the Western Basin and from new discoveries in Canada's frontiers.

The increase brings to \$154 million the annual budget co-ordinated by the Panel on Energy R&D and doubles the annual budget for federal R&D supporting the development of oil and gas from frontier regions.

Canada at Expo 84

Canada will participate in the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition (Expo 84 New Orleans). "The World of Rivers: Fresh Water as a Source of Life" is expected to attract 12 million visitors between May 12 and November 11, 1984.

Canada has been an active host and participant in expositions registered by the International Bureau of Expositions (IBE) in Paris, including Montreal's Expo 67, Expo 70 Osaka, Energy Expo 82 Knoxville, and the planned 1986 Vancouver World Exposition (Expo 86).

The theme of Expo 84 is of particular interest to Canada and is a growing issue of concern for many countries. Canada's participation will be co-ordinated by the World Exhibitions Program of the Department of External Affairs.

Aid to Palestinian refugees

Canada will provide a grant of \$2 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA). The funds will be provided by the International Humanitarian Assistance Program of the Canadian International Development Agency and will bring the total contribution to UNRWA this year to \$6.2 million.

As the principal agency responsible for assisting Palestinian refugees, the thrust of UNRWA has changed through the years since it began operations in 1950 following the first Arab-Israeli conflict. While it continues to offer basic relief and welfare to destitute Palestinians and those affected by the conflict, UNRWA concentrates mainly on health and education programs.

As need in this sector progressively declined, UNRWA decided to cut its general program of food rations and concentrate most of its budget on the health and education sectors. During fiscal year 1982-83 Canada contributed \$8.1 million to UNRWA, just over half of which was in the form of food aid. The \$2 million grant represents additional funds in lieu of food aid and will be added to the \$4.2 million CIDA has already provided this year. The grant will be directed toward priority education projects: the replacement of physically run-down schools and classrooms, the provision of new schools and the provision of basic services such as sanitation, electricity and laboratories in schools where these do not exist.



Silk Roads exhibition offers rich display of trading treasures

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto will launch the most ambitious exhibition in its 70 year history on September 10 with the opening of *Silk Roads/China Ships*, a show devoted to the trade routes from the Far East. Made possible by a grant from the American Express Foundation, the exhibit chronicles the growth of east-west trade from the first century A.D. to the days of the famous clipper ships of the nineteenth century.

Both Dr. Evelyn Nagai-Berthrong, curatorial co-ordinator of *Silk Roads/China Ships* and John E. Vollmer, associate curator of the textile department agree that the exhibition is a tribute to trade itself. "It shows the impact that trade makes, both on the East and on the West by reflecting the cross-fertilization of cultures through the ideas and goods exchanged," said Mr. Vollmer.

The exhibition includes more than 400 objects from the museum's collection, ranging from fragile fabrics to the famous tomb figures of noblemen, horses and grooms. Luxurious rugs, silks, jewellery, finely-carved furniture, tea sets, and aromatic spices create the atmosphere of an Eastern bazaar.

Silk, the cloth of kings

Of all the goods bundled on the backs of camels or packed in the hulls of ships crossing treacherous seas, the most famed was silk "the noblest of all exotic materials, the cloth of kings". It was the Chinese who discovered, more than 4 000 years ago, a process for cultivating silk by raising silk moth larva and unwinding



Earthenware warriors, green glaze with traces of pigment, from China (seventh century).

their cocoons to obtain silk thread. They made silk cloth which eventually was coveted by foreigners. Soon they began to custom-make exquisite materials for export.

The exhibition includes a fragment of silk damask of the thirteenth/fourteenth century made for the Egyptian market and a dress length of yellow painted and silvered silk taffeta of the mid-eighteenth century created for the English or French market.

Cotton also made the long trek westward. India became the major supplier of raw cotton and cotton fabrics for Asia and eventually for Europe. Textile fragments illustrate the imaginative ways this

raw material was developed into both practical and beautiful clothing. One example is a finely embroidered seventeenth century coverlet from India made for the English market.

The Chinese were masters at creating delicate, yet durable ceramics, particularly porcelains. The exhibition illustrates this art effectively with plates, tea cups, bowls, jars and vases dating to the ninth century. Also on exhibit is an Indian pearl-and-citrine necklace made for the English market; snuff bottles of coral and amber, and an Indian turban clasp made of diamonds, rubies, emeralds, gold and polychrome enamel, all to which demonstrate the opulence of the trade.

The exhibition will be on display at the ROM from September 10 to January 8, 1984, before moving on to New York's American Museum of Natural History from February 15 to May 12, 1984. It will then travel to the Cincinnati Art Museum (June 4 to August 11, 1984); the Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta (September 4 to November 10, 1984); the San Diego Museum of Art (December 3 to February 9, 1985); the Vancouver Art Gallery, British Columbia (March to May 1985); and the Baltimore Museum of Art (June 3 to August 10, 1985).

High tech invades the arts

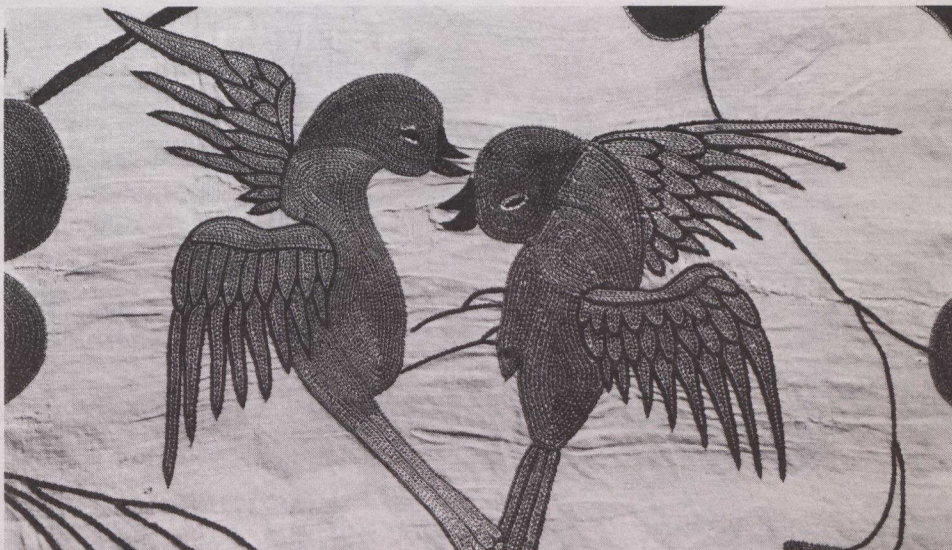
The first conference of its kind in Canada entirely devoted to the marrying of arts administration and the micro chip will take place September 9 to 11.

The Arts Management and the Computer Conference will attract arts administrators from all areas of the arts — theatre companies, galleries, publishers, orchestras, museums, dance companies — from across Canada who will spend three days looking for better ways to organize everything from subscription campaigns to art collections, tour bookings and fund-raising.

Although several arts organizations are already using computers at the management level, the use of the desk top micro, widely used in business, has not been adopted for use in the arts.

Experts in the application of computer hardware and software, plus arts administrators currently using the technology will address the delegates.

The conference is being sponsored by Arts Inter-Media, a Toronto-based non-profit arts organization.



Finely embroidered coverlet from India made for the seventeenth century English market.

Royal Ontario Museum photos

Methanol fuel put to the test

The keys to Manitoba's first controlled methanol test fleet were handed over to Harvey Tarr, fleet administrator of the Manitoba Telephone System (MTS), by Ford Canada in a ceremony held July 27. The project, which was announced last year, is being carried out as a joint effort of the federal government and the Manitoba provincial government. The total expenditure is \$385 700. The fleet of ten Ford Escort cars, specially manufactured to use 90 per cent methanol rather than the more general gas-methanol mixture, will be used to test the commercial potential of methanol fuel over the next two years. The test, the first Canadian trial of 90 per cent methanol, will look at how well the cars start in cold weather, wear and tear on the engines and fuel consumption. Representing the test partners are (from left to right): Dave Mathers, Manitoba Research Council; Vern Bowerman, Manitoba Energy and Mines; Bernie James, Energy, Mines and Resources Canada; and Harvey Tarr, Manitoba Telephone System.



News briefs

In a mid-August shuffle, Prime Minister Trudeau dropped five ministers from the Cabinet (former Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne, former Multiculturalism Minister Jim Fleming, former Sports Minister Ray Perrault, former Small Business Minister William Rompkey and former Minister of State for Finance Paul Cosgrove). Changes in the major portfolios are as follows: Jean-Luc Pepin becomes Minister of State for External Relations; André Ouellet becomes Minister of Labour; John Roberts becomes Minister of Employment and Immigration; Charles Lapointe becomes Minister of Supply and Services; Lloyd Axworthy becomes Transport Minister and Judy Erola moves to head up the Ministry of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, retaining her former responsibility for the status of women.

At the end of a recent two-day visit to Kinshasa, former Minister of State for External Relations Charles Lapointe and Zaire's Secretary of State for International Co-operation signed eight memoranda of understanding concerning development aid projects totalling nearly \$25 million. In conjunction with the World Bank, Canada will contribute \$15 million to the Ituri livestock project to improve breeding techniques in northeastern Zaire and supply veterinary medicines. A second \$5.5-million agreement deals with food aid to be provided by Canada to Zaire next year. The other agreements involve support for the Counterpart Funds Secretariat, backing for the marketing of plant fibres in the Bandundu area, the creation

of a centre for the adaptation of wood energy technology and supplementary aid to Forescom (the Zairean wood processing company) and to the slaughterhouse at Bunia, in northeastern Zaire.

American Express Co. of New York has concluded a transaction to buy the first tower of the World Trade Centre from Olympia and York Developments Ltd. of Toronto. Olympia and York will build a 51-storey tower on the site which will be sold to American Express on completion, expected by mid-1985.

After years of declining popularity, the large family is regaining its appeal, according to a recent Gallup poll. In 1945, the polling firm found that 60 per cent of Canadians defined the ideal family as one with four or more children. For several decades, however, the large family waned in popular appeal, reaching its lowest point in 1982 when only 12 per cent of Canadians favoured four or more children and 63 per cent favoured two or less. But attitudes may be changing. In a survey of more than 1 000 adults last month, Gallup found that 17 per cent of respondents viewed the ideal number of children as four or more, while 56 per cent preferred two or less.

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan recently announced the first export of British Columbia grown cherries to Japan. Although the shipment was small — 576 45-kilogram cartons — Mr. Whelan said the event represented a breaking into a new world market that held future potential, particularly for the British Columbia fruit industry.

A discussion paper entitled *Environ-*

ment Canada and the North has been released by the federal Environment Department which sets out perceptions, roles and policies concerning the North and its development. It is intended to provide a basis for the territorial governments, other federal departments, interested organizations and citizens to review and comment on Environment Canada's northern policies and program activities.

Canadian music professor Joel Wapnick of Montreal's McGill University has been named the new Scrabble champion of North America. Wapnick, 37, won the third Scrabble championship among 32 finalists in the three-day tournament held recently in Chicago. Three other Canadians finished among the first eight. Tournament spokesmen estimate about 33 million people in Canada and the United States play the popular crossword board game.

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