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Business and government in a changing world economy

"It is important that Canadians both in government and business, recognize the changing realities in the international economic environment and continue to co-operate," stated Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson in remarks to the Canadian Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, Montreal, last month.

Mr. Jamieson spoke on the role of government in promoting and protecting the interest of the Canadian business community in the changing world economic environment.

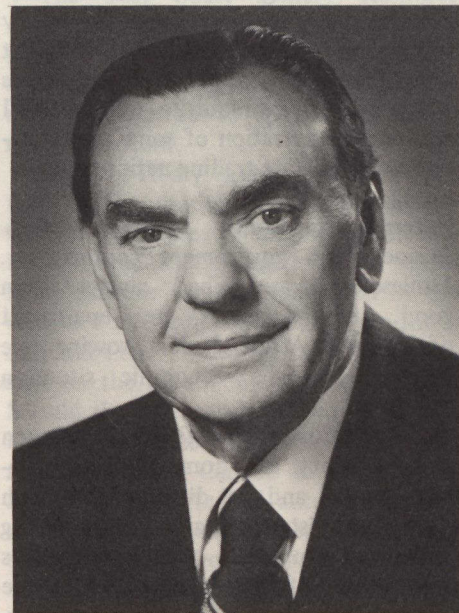
The phenomenal economic growth of the postwar period had ended, said the minister, and Canada would, no doubt, continue to have to deal with reduced economic growth, inflation, unemployment, energy and resource shortages, external pressures on payment imbalances, currency re-alignments and serious readjustment to problems in the sensitive industry sector.

The variety of countries with which Canada would have to deal — "state-trading, newly-industrialized, market-economy, oil-rich, centrally-planned, middle-income" — was changing and would present formidable challenge to both government and industry, he said.

The game is changing

The 'game' of the external economic environment, Mr. Jamieson stressed, was changing. In the 1980s it would be played "by a different and more complex set of rules". He said the most obvious new rules were those from the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) in Geneva, designed to govern international trade with the aim of establishing a "freer and fairer environment".

New regulations under the MTN include the new non-tariff codes providing government with improved means to deal with unfair trade practices, while providing the business community with assurance that trading partners would adhere to the same rules.



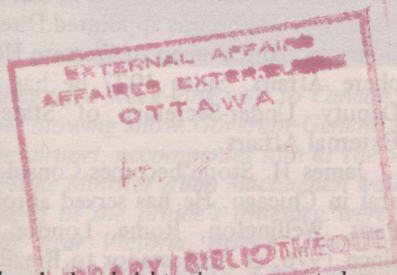
John Evans

Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Donald C. Jamieson.

In a variety of other forums, rules governing various other aspects of international economic behaviour were also being elaborated. Mr. Jamieson cited the example of the rules governing deep seabed mining and the 200-mile economic limit at the Law of the Sea Conference, as well as the codes of conduct governing the transfer of technology, shipping and restrictive business established by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Economic diplomacy

Along with international economic life and its rules, the conduct of economic diplomacy in the 1980s, both multilaterally and bilaterally, would have to change, continued Mr. Jamieson. Multilaterally, international economic institutions such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UNCTAD were playing an ever-increasing role and, he suggested, "we



One-hundred-and-eighty-six years ago today... The Upper Canada Gazette, the first newspaper in Upper Canada, was published at Niagara.

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may see a continuing series of conferences dealing with particular aspects of world trade rules”.

Less visible, but increasingly important, he said, was the fact that the management and conduct of Canada's bilateral economic relations were more complex and sophisticated. The examples ranged from Canada's relations with the United States, dominated by a complex network of corporate and other private sector ties, to the framework agreements with the European Community and Japan, to highly formalized government-to-government agreements and consultative mechanisms which were a prerequisite to successful economic penetration of some of the developing and state-trading nations.

External Affairs role

Business and government contact, Mr. Jamieson stressed, had always been good. And, he added, the Department of External Affairs had a growing role to play as the economic situation changed.

The traditional distinction between foreign policy and domestic policy implied a hard and fast dividing line which no longer existed, he said. The increasing range and complexity of economic issues which Canada faced required input by the department to the Government's policy-formulating process, which goes beyond mere co-ordination in Ottawa and the simple representation of the Government's view abroad. "It is the role of External Affairs to ensure that the range of government policy at home and abroad reflects the changing international realities."

When viewing the position of government and business, Mr. Jamieson said two principles had to be kept in mind. "The first is that politicians and bureaucrats cannot do the real business. The private sector must remain the senior partner in the development of bilateral trade and economic relations. The second is that government does have a role. The efforts of government are intended to support and facilitate; and they are not limited to circumstances where constraints on market access or broader political considerations justify a formal government role."

In the past, communication between the business sector and government had been fostered by numerous consultations. Mr. Jamieson said that the government was "trying to consult more" with the business prior to setting policies.

In conclusion, Mr. Jamieson urged the business community to produce proposals and recommendations on specific subjects to enable government to continue to take into account "the factors which determine the bottom line figure of the balance sheet.... By the same token, the business community must respond to the political realities we face...."

Law Reform Commission attempts to define brain death

In a working paper released April 10 entitled *Criteria for the Determination of Death*, the Law Reform Commission of Canada proposes legislation to the effect that:

"A person is dead when an irreversible cessation of all that person's brain functions has occurred.

"The cessation of brain functions can be determined by the prolonged absence of spontaneous cardiac and respiratory functions.

"When the determination of the absence of cardiac and respiratory functions is made impossible by the use of artificial means of support, the cessation of the brain functions may be determined by any means recognized by the ordinary standards of current medical practice."

These recommendations were the subject of extensive consultations with medical specialists who daily face the problem of determination of death. The Commission also drew on the experience of other jurisdictions such as Manitoba, certain states in the United States (Kansas and Maryland to name two) and other countries such as Australia.

Not always academic

The attempt to determine the moment of death, explained Jean-Louis Baudouin, the Commission's vice-chairman, "may appear an academic question, but, for the physician, hospital personnel, a lawyer and the parents or family of the individual in question, it is not. Modern medical technology has now made it possible to artificially sustain the respiratory functions of human beings who have lost the ability to breathe spontaneously following an accident, disease or trauma. Therefore, interruption of cardiac and respiratory function is no longer a sure sign of death".

"But, these functions can also be maintained for individuals who have irrevers-

ibly and definitively lost their brain functions and will therefore never be able to regain consciousness. So, signs of respiration when artificially maintained can no longer be taken as a sure sign of life."

The Commission's proposal attempts to adapt the legal norm to medical reality (i.e. that an individual can be considered dead when he or she has suffered irreversible loss of all brain function). It leaves to the physician, according to the facts and circumstances of each case, the choice of methods and techniques as well as the ultimate responsibility of diagnosis.

The Commission hopes its recommendations will help solve difficult problems in practice as to the determination of the cause of death and to possible criminal liability of physicians and medical personnel who make the decision to interrupt extraordinary means of support of respiratory functions in irreversibly comatose situations. The proposed text would give practical recognition to the fact that a human being placed on a respirator could be legally declared dead when it was determined that this person had suffered complete and irreversible cessation of all brain function.

As the first in a series of publications on "Protection of Life", the working paper has been presented for public discussion and comment. The Commission will consider all submissions before making a report to Parliament.

Diplomatic appointments

Albert Béchard, a Member of Parliament since 1962 who has served as Canadian delegate at international conferences, has been appointed Consul General in New Orleans. He replaces J.C. Cantin.

Jim S. Nutt becomes Consul General in New York, replacing Barry Steers, who will be returning to Ottawa.

Mr. Nutt has served the Department of External Affairs in Rio de Janeiro, Washington and as Consul General in San Francisco. In 1973 he was appointed Director-General of the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. Since 1977 he has been Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

James H. Stone becomes Consul General in Chicago. He has served abroad in Paris, Wellington, Rome, London and, since 1976, as Ambassador to Brazil. Mr. Stone replaces W.J. Collett, who is being reassigned abroad.

Japan Summit in June

The heads of state and government of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain and the United States have agreed to hold the next summit meeting in Tokyo on June 28 and 29 at the invitation of Prime Minister Ohira of Japan. The European Community will be represented by the President of the Council and the President of the Commission in sessions dealing with matters within the Community's competence.

The participants will discuss policies for the stable expansion of the world economy in the spirit of mutual co-operation that has been fostered by the previous summit meetings. Having reviewed progress made on the five specific areas covered in their declaration at the 1978 Bonn Summit, they will deal with current economic problems requiring immediate attention and will examine the basic issues that confront them in the longer term.

Vietnamese diplomat expelled

The Department of External Affairs formally requested the departure from Canada by April 1 of Ho Xuan Dich, Second Secretary at the Vietnamese Embassy. Based on information provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Security Service, the Canadian Government concluded that Mr. Ho, who had been identified as an intelligence officer, had engaged in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status, and had, therefore, been declared *persona non grata*.

The Canadian Government informed the Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam that it knew Mr. Ho had been interfering in the affairs of the Vietnamese community in Canada by attempting to influence the ideology and loyalties of landed immigrants and Vietnamese residents in Canada. Included in the pressures brought to bear by Mr. Ho was the threat to retaliate against immigrants' relatives still in Vietnam.

U.S./Canada fisheries and boundary agreements signed

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Roméo LeBlanc announced the signing on March 29 of four agreements with the United States, two relating to the Atlantic coast and two concerning the Pacific coast.

The East Coast Fishery Resource Agreement establishes a Canada/U.S.A. Fisheries Commission and provides for co-operative management, and for access and entitlements to specific stocks of mutual concern.

Both the treaty to submit the delimitation of the maritime boundary in the Gulf of Maine area to binding dispute settlement and the annexed special agreement provide for the submission of the case to a five-judge chamber of the International Court of Justice for a final decision on the placement of the boundary. Should the International Court of Justice be unable to function under the formula agreed upon by Canada and the United States, the dispute will automatically be referred to a special five-member independent international court of arbitration.

The two Pacific Coast agreements include a protocol to the International Pacific Halibut Convention that will permit continued Canadian access to halibut off the coast of Alaska for the next two years, and an exchange of notes giving the United States access to groundfish off British Columbia for a similar period.

Snowy welcome greets Prince Charles in Ottawa



Winding up a week-long visit to Canada, Prince Charles arrived in the capital on April 6 in wet blowing snow. Governor-General Edward Schreyer (left), who met Prince Charles at the airport, accompanies him at the welcoming ceremonies. Mrs. Schreyer and Deputy Prime Minister Allan MacEachen walk behind.

Included in the prince's itinerary were a visit to the Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific near Victoria, British Columbia, the official opening of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, a new museum of native artifacts in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and visits to the Winnipeg Rifles in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the Royal Regiment of Canada, of which he is Colonel-in-Chief.

Canada rich in uranium

Canada has the fourth largest assured reserves and second largest estimated additional reserves of uranium in the non-Communist world, according to a survey carried out jointly by the Paris-based Nuclear Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna.

The United States claims 523,000 tons of assured uranium resources, followed by South Africa with 306,000, Australia with 289,000, Canada with 167,000 and Niger with 160,000.

Canada, with 392,000 tons of estimated additional resources, comes second to the United States (838,000). Considerably behind are Niger (53,000), Algeria, Australia, South Africa and India.

Expedition to North Pole

Canadian scientists are preparing for what promises to be the largest known expedition to the North Pole, costing about \$1.2 million, to study the Lomonosov Ridge, a mountain range on the floor of the Arctic Ocean.

Scientists believe the 3,000-metre-high range will help them uncover past mysteries and perhaps some of the future as well. One theory suggests the ridge was once part of the European continent. Results from about 14 experiments during the two-month venture may confirm the notion.

The experiments are also expected to "produce in the long term a knowledge base to guide Arctic development intelligently", says Ken Witham, director general of the earth physics branch of the federal Department of Energy.

A full team of about 50, including several U.S. scientists, will start going to the North Pole this month. A small airborne group has been looking for a large floe on which three camps will be set up to receive about 365,000 kilograms of equipment.

Scientists are especially excited about the project, called LOREX (short for the Lomonosov Ridge Experiment), because it will offer Canadians an opportunity to demonstrate their expertise.

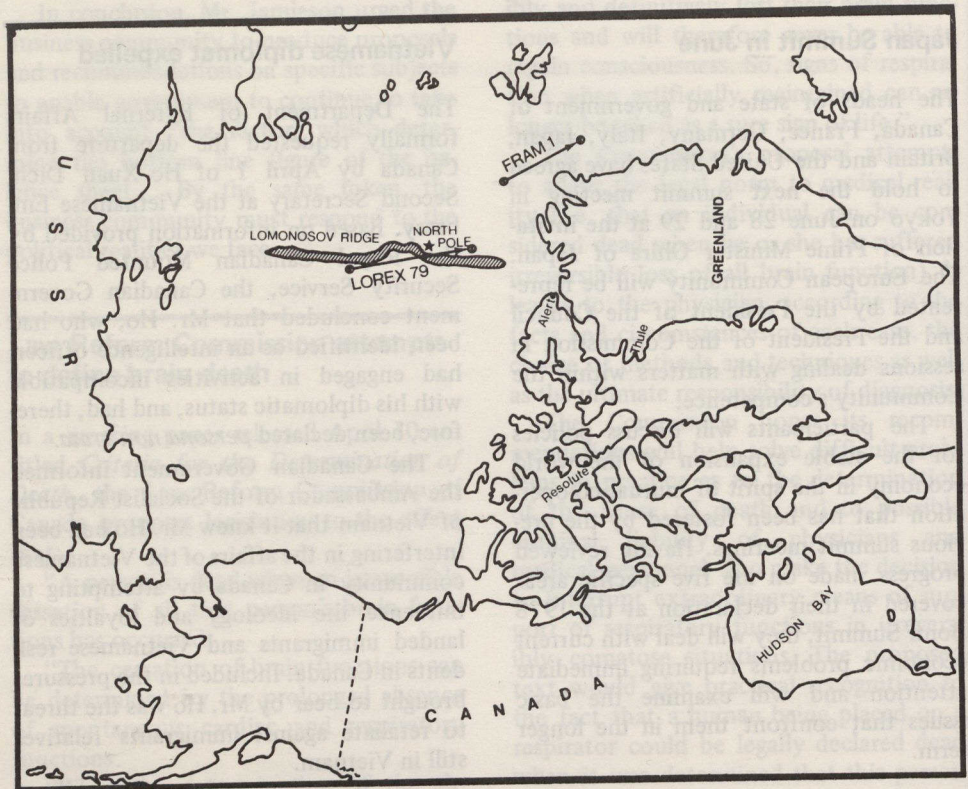
"Canadian scientists have been participating in international projects," Mr. Witham said. "But we need a major expedition in the Arctic to demonstrate Canadian planning, management and field operations."

The LOREX project is only a small part of a massive Arctic exploration program scheduled for this summer.

In February, the first of about 700 scientists and their support teams began moving into the barren lands for research on the polar continental shelf.

Ocean Camp, huddled around a lone Canadian flag raised by an expeditionary team, is surrounded by an unforgiving world of ice. There is no land, only a light covering of snow over sea ice up to 45 metres thick. Almost any life form is totally alien.

There are dangers — minus 40 degrees spring temperatures and 100 kilometre-an-hour winds which often scream across the frozen wasteland. The constantly shifting ice pack can split, creating yawning chasms, or pile up against itself to form



mountainous pressure ridges up to 30 metres high.

About 140 projects will be conducted on the islands off the continental mainland. They include a count of caribou and polar bears so that realistic hunting quotas can be set, studies in animal life and feeding habits, mineral resources,

ocean tides and climate.

The United States will establish a drifting ice station, called FRAM I, in the Eurasian Basin off the northeast coast of Greenland. FRAM's geophysical oceanographic programs will be similar to those carried out at LOREX, but on a smaller scale.

Journal on Third World published in Toronto

A new journal of writings relating to the Third World is being published three times a year by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in Toronto.

Two Thirds, subtitled "a journal of underdevelopment studies", intends to present interpretations of social reality from the perspective of the peoples of the developing world.

Its articles cross all disciplines, avoiding a preoccupation with only economic, political or cultural concerns. Authors submit material in their own languages. Translation into English for the journal is contributed on a voluntary basis by graduate students and professors from various parts of the world who study or teach at Toronto universities.

Articles relating to the debate over modes of production and dependency in Latin America — a debate to which English readers have had little access — ap-

peared in the first issue of the journal. The second issue presented economic analyses of resource accumulation and exploitation in the Third World and the third issue was devoted to the position of women in developing countries.

A feature of each issue is an interview with a major spokesman of the developing world. René Zabaleta Mercado, the Bolivian sociologist who is director of the Mexican Centre of the Latin American Faculty of Social Science, was the subject in the first issue. Translations of contemporary folk songs, stories and poetry from the popular cultures also appear.

Two Thirds offers annual subscriptions at \$7 in Canada and \$8 outside Canada. Persons wishing to subscribe should write to *Two Thirds*, Department of Sociology, O.I.S.E., 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Canada M5S 1V6. (From *Development Directions*, January/February 1979 issue.)

News of the arts

Atomic Energy of Canada unearths nuclear-waste glass blocks

Two old pieces of glass, pitted and discoloured, that were buried in the ground at Atomic Energy of Canada's Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories for about 20 years, were recently unearthed and are causing much interest.

There are two distinct glass-block experimental areas at CRNL; the first lot of 25 blocks was laid down in August 1958, the second in May 1960. The objective of the Chemical Engineering Branch which carried out the experiment then is fresh and relevant today: to find "a safe and permanent method" of disposing of "the highly radioactive wastes that would arise from a nuclear power program".

Several countries were interested in the use of glass for waste disposal at the time; only Canada, it seems, had the foresight to test the actual performance of blocks incorporating radioactive substances. Consequently, CRNL's retrieval and Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment's examination of the blocks have drawn interest from many countries.

The first set of blocks was buried in 1959 at depths from 2.7 to 3.4 metres (nine to 11 feet) below the surface in a regular pattern spaced at 0.3-metre intervals, deliberately placed so that they were in the path of the groundwater.

The trouble was that the glass was too good — no traces of radioactivity that could definitely be attributed to leaching from the blocks could be found downstream from the burial site.

In a second test at another burial site in 1960 the concentration of fission products in the glass was increased by about a factor of three. A glass with a much higher leaching rate than the glass in the first batch was used deliberately, so the escape rate of fission products was expected to be higher.

Fishing expedition

The retrieval operation itself was something of a fishing expedition. The fishing was carried out "blind", using a remote-control three-fingered grapple working through a bottom loading retrieval flask seated on a concrete shielding pad and down a casing which had been excavated over the block. The retrieval flask was built and tested at CRNL. Both the grapple and the flask are reusable.

A wide-ranging series of tests on the first block has been carried out at WNRE.

Electron microscopy determined the composition of the weathered and internal surfaces and made depth profiles; X-ray diffraction was used to detect if there were crystal line phases in surface and bulk; the bulk chemical composition was analyzed to determine major glass elements and waste elements; the block was subjected to thermal analysis to determine radiation-induced stored energy, and leach tests are under way to determine the rate of release of radionuclides under standard leaching conditions.

To date, interest in the glass blocks retrieved from CRNL soil has been expressed by the United States, France and Germany.

(Article from *CRNL Chalk Talk*, Vol. 1, No. 1.)

Three special stamps this month

Two more stamps in the endangered wildlife series, issued on April 10, depict the bowhead whale of the eastern and western Arctic Oceans and the eastern spiny soft-shell turtle of the lake districts of south central Ontario by Canadian artists Robert Bateman and Gary Low. The 17-cent turtle stamp is for first class domestic mail and mail to the United States; the whale stamp, worth 35 cents, is for first class letters going overseas.

**Kluane National Park stamp**

Another issue available this month — on April 27 — illustrates the wild terrain of Kluane National Park in the Yukon. The \$2-definitive is a copy of a painting, *Across the Tundra*, by Alan C. Collier.

Rock and ice dominate Kluane National Park. Moist air from the Pacific maintains the ice field, which originated during the last ice age and which has created several huge glaciers. These flow down nearby valleys, sometimes

Priceless records burned at maritime oceanography institute

Property damage has been estimated at \$150,000 in a recent fire at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, but a spokesman said the loss in records and research information was incalculable. The fire swept through a complex of 26 trailers at the institute site, severely damaging 14 of them. The units provided laboratory and office space near the main institute building.

Two complete research units specializing in marine ecology and fisheries management were destroyed.

The facilities hit hardest by the fire were the major ones on the East Coast involved in providing scientific data in such areas as toxicity of chemicals in the marine environment, pollution and fisheries management.

covering as much as seven miles in four months.

So forbidding is the landscape, that Mount Logan, the tallest in Canada, remained undiscovered until 1890.



At lower altitudes, plant and animal life thrive. Endangered species, such as the golden eagle, the bald eagle and the peregrine falcon, inhabit the area. There are substantial populations of Dall sheep and grizzly bear. Most notable of the local fish is the kokanee, a dwarfed, landlocked variety of the sockeye salmon. The advance of a glacier cut off the creature's access to the sea.



Women's rights, opportunities for employment examined

The Government recently tabled in the House of Commons a five-year plan to improve laws affecting women, including those governing maternity benefits, sexual crimes, divorce, pensions and child care.

Called *Towards Equality for Women*, the paper promises an increase in trades training for women, an examination of ways to end sexual harassment in the work place, aid to immigrant women and accountability by management for equal opportunities in the Public Service.

Justice Minister Marc Lalonde, who introduced the plan, also pledged to conduct studies of women in the economy, the impact of social security programs on elderly women and violence against women.

He said that more research would be directed towards occupational and environmental health hazards faced by women, as well as alcohol and drug addiction, nutrition and the safety of contraceptives.

Mr. Lalonde's announcement followed a statement made in February by Minister of Employment and Immigration Bud Cullen, which answered criticisms directed against the Government's position on the employment of women.

Mr. Cullen's statement, which expressed regret over "misunderstanding" of government policies on the matter, included background information on the Government's efforts to improve opportunities for women.

Outreach

A program known as Outreach was created in 1972 as a supplementary tool to improve the employability and access to employment of people with special difficulties who were also unable to benefit from regular manpower services. Women *per se* were not included in the program. However, Outreach does respond to the needs of women who are: experiencing serious difficulty entering or re-entering the labour force; living in isolated or remote communities; native people; chronically unemployed; mentally and physically handicapped; and inmates and ex-inmates.

Because many of the women's Outreach projects were started in 1975 during International Women's Year and the normal duration for funding is three-and-a-half years, many of the projects are

coming to the end of their funding period. All Outreach projects will be reviewed, however, before a final decision is made.

Training allowances

A reduction of the basic training allowance from \$45 to \$10, part of the Government's program of fiscal restraint, applies only to trainees who are living with a fully employed spouse or parent and who are not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. However, training allowances for certain categories have increased. The allowance is now higher for people with three or more dependants, which benefits many single mothers. If the Employment and Immigration Commission finds that the reduction in allowances is preventing women from taking the training courses they need, appropriate action to remedy the situation will be taken.

Secondary wage earners

In recognition of the changing nature of the family and women's economic role, the Commission no longer uses the term, "secondary wage earners", to describe working women, and is attempting to discourage its use elsewhere.

Some of the recommendations made in a report by the Advisory Council on the Status of Women are under consideration by the Commission, which is examining administrative means of resolving problems of immigrant women employed as domestics. The Federal Government has no power in the areas of labour standards and minimum wages, which fall under provincial jurisdiction.

Unemployment insurance changes

Recent amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act may mean a 20.1 percent reduction in the total number of dollars in benefits paid to women. The Government has calculated a 19.8 percent reduction for male claimants — a difference of 0.3 per cent.

The reductions result from the more stringent eligibility requirements for people who have claimed UI benefits in the past year; new entrance requirements for entrants and re-entrants to the labour force; the establishment of a new minimum UI insurability provision; the benefit repayment for high income individuals; and the reduction of the benefit

rate from 66.66 per cent of the weekly income to 60 per cent.

There will be 11.5 percent fewer males able to establish a claim, compared to 13 percent fewer females, the Government estimates.

Employment strategy

The employment strategy is directed towards both men and women. In some programs, such as language training, women represent 55 per cent of the participants, compared to a 39 percent representation in the labour force. Women make up 44 per cent of the participants in the Canada Summer Youth Employment Program.

Other courses, such as the Canada Manpower Industrial Training Program, have a female participation rate of 28 per cent. Apprenticeship training (a provincial responsibility) is a major concern; at present, the female participation rate is 2.8 per cent.

"Women earn lower wages than men, face greater job insecurity and are employed in jobs traditionally defined as women's work. However, we are actively working on changing these situations and I am sure that in the long-term we will be successful," Mr. Cullen stated.

New aluminum alloy discovered

Two researchers from Kingston, Ontario have discovered a new aluminum alloy that has the lightness, strength and corrosive resistance to make it useful in everything from lighting fixtures to parts for small cars, an official of Alcan Canada Products Ltd. said recently.

The alloy is called "superplastic" because, when heated, it can be formed like plastic into complex shapes. Yet it has about the same strength as steel in an auto body frame, Michael Wheeler, program manager said.

The alloy was discovered three years ago by David Moore and Larry Morris, researchers for the Alcan Research Centre, when they added zinc to an aluminum-calcium alloy.

The product, which was developed in secret, has captured the interest of three or four companies in the U.S.

Alcan is considering expanding its production of the alloy beyond Kingston to its plant in Oswego, New York and to Europe.

News of the arts

Alabama salutes Canada

Alabama's official state arts festival — the Birmingham Festival of Arts — saluted Canada at its twenty-ninth annual event March 29 through April 8. Every year, the city features the arts and culture of another country.

Birmingham, a blossoming cultural centre, hosted a ten-day celebration of Canada's dual culture with music, exhibits, seminars, lectures, films, sports events and a "Maple-Leaf Fair". Canadian guest artists in Birmingham for the cultural celebration were The Canadian Brass...harpist Kenneth Gilbert...basso Don McManus...the Edmonton Youth Orchestra...Canadian writers and lecturers...the Orford Quartet...and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

There was also a "book and author luncheon"; a Canadian cooking school; an art of communication symposium; Canadian visual arts and a Canadian film bank.

Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Peter Towe, Mrs. Towe and officials from the Washington Embassy, as well as from the Canadian Consulates in Atlanta and New Orleans, were guests for

the four-day closing weekend. Mr. Towe, who has been Ambassador in Washington almost two years, addressed the Committee on Foreign Relations — an organization of Birmingham business people and civic leaders — and attended many of the events including a special dinner "Canadian-style" given for over 500 guests.

Ambassador and Mrs. Towe joined festival president Molton Williams with Mrs. Williams, festival chairman Jane Head with Mr. Head and other festival officials for the Birmingham Civic Opera performance of *The Return of Ulysses* at the Birmingham Civic Center Theatre on April 7. Heading the cast was Canada's Don McManus in the role of Neptune.

Two area churches saluted Canada with special programs of music by Canadian composers the following day.

The 1979 Birmingham Festival of Arts closed with a formal ceremony at Highlands United Methodist Church. Flag bearers carrying U.S. and Canadian flags led the choir processional into the sanctuary. Singing of the two national anthems preceded a varied program, including works by Canadian composer Healey Willan. A final address by festival president Williams marked a successful ten-day salute to Canada.

History of blacks in Canada screened at Milan festival

Preselected for screening at the International Public Television Festival (INPUT), held in Milan from April 1 to 7, was *Fields of Endless Day*, a co-production of the National Film Board of Canada's Ontario Regional Studios and the Ontario Education Communications Association.

The one-hour film traces the history of Canada's black community from its inception in the early seventeenth century to the beginnings of the large West Indian immigration in the mid-twentieth century. Through the use of documentary material, interviews and dramatic re-enactments, director/producer Terry McCartney-Filgate explores the history of slavery in French and English Canada until its end in 1834.

In spite of difficulties created by racist immigration policies, many members of free black communities in Nova Scotia, Ontario and western Canada made great contributions to Canadian society — William Hall won the Victoria Cross at the Relief of Lucknow; Mary Ann Shadd became the first woman newspaper editor in North America; John Ware pioneered longhorn cattle ranching in Alberta; and William Hubbard was alderman and acting mayor of Toronto in the early 1900s.

Literary prize for former diplomat

Charles Ritchie of Ottawa, former Canadian diplomat and retired special adviser to the Privy Council, has won first prize in the memoir category of the CBC Literary Competition.

Mr. Ritchie, former Ambassador to Germany and the United States, permanent Canadian representative at the United Nations and Canadian representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, won the award for *My Cousin Gerald*.

He also is the author of *The Siren Years* and *An Appetite for Life*, based on diaries of his years as Canadian High Commissioner in London.

Franz Kramer, director of music for Toronto Arts Productions since 1971, has accepted the position of music officer with the Canada Council in Ottawa.



MusicCanada

One of the highlights of the 1979 Birmingham Festival of Arts was the appearance of The Canadian Brass, a quintet of trumpets, trombone, French horn and tuba. The quintet possesses a unique comedic talent along with its brilliant virtuosity. Its special style and performance excellence have resulted in concerts throughout Canada, in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, in Paris, London, Venice, Bonn, in the Soviet Union, and in the People's Republic of China. (From left to right): Graeme Page, Ronald Romm, Charles Daellenbach, Frederick Mills and Eugene Watt pose on the Great Wall of China during a recent tour.

News briefs

Petro-Canada will take up a 5 per cent interest in a consortium exploring for oil in a 125,000-acre block in the Norwegian area of the North Sea. The offer must be ratified by the Norwegian Government. Exploratory drilling would probably begin later this year, once the final approvals are granted. Other members of the proposed consortium would be Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, 50 per cent; Union Oil Co. of California, 30 per cent; Norsk Hydro, Norway's electric utility, 10 per cent; and Deminex, a West German oil company, 5 per cent.

Travellers will continue to enjoy a suspension of Ontario's accommodation tax despite the October 8 return to 7 per cent sales tax for other items and services. Under the suspension, accommodation and meals offered on the American Plan are not subject to the current 7 per cent provincial sales tax. Continuing until December 31, 1979, the tax break, coupled with Canada's devalued dollar, will provide both domestic and foreign tourists with an attractive incentive to visit Ontario.

A group of investors headed by Marcel Dionne of the Los Angeles Kings hockey team is planning to invest about \$25 million in commercial and industrial ventures in Niagara Falls and Welland, Ontario.

Canada and Australia have agreed to refrain from trying to increase their shares of the international wheat market by undercutting each other's prices. Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board Otto Lang also said he had assured U.S. Agriculture Secretary Robert Bergland that Canada would not undermine any U.S. actions to bolster domestic wheat prices. The United States accounts for about 43 per cent of the international wheat trade, Canada 21 per cent, Australia 14 per cent and Argentina 9 per cent.

Latin American political prisoners, Moslem refugees from Burma and Bolivian flood victims will be the beneficiaries of a \$191,968-federal grant to the Red Cross, the Canadian International Development Agency announced recently.

A special U.S./Canada meeting was held in Ottawa in February on the subject of consensus in metric conversion. Highlighted were legislation, co-operation between customer and supplier sectors such as the railways, rationalized hard metric sizes for prepackaged products, consumer groups, construction industries, manufacturers and suppliers of motor vehicles, management and labour, standards and steering committee meetings.

The Alberta government predicted in its quarterly financial summary a surplus of more than \$4.5 billion by the end of the 1979 fiscal year March 31. Resource revenue contributed just more than \$2 billion to provincial coffers in the 1977-78 fiscal year.

France, in co-operation with Manitoba, is once again offering a four-week summer course for 21 Manitoba teachers of French. The program is part of the France/Canada Cultural Agreement. The courses will be held in Quimper, France, from July 2 to 28. France offers a bursary of 2000 FF (\$572) to each of the chosen candidates to cover tuition fees and allowances in France. The provincial government will assume travel expenses.

The provincial government of Alberta has approved an expansion of the Great Canadian Oil Sands Ltd. plant in the Athabasca oil sands which is estimated at \$185 million.

Funds totalling \$304,760 will be available to independent unions not affiliated to a central labour organization and to individuals under the federal Department of Labour's education program for 1979-80. The continuing program is designed primarily to enable present and potential union officers, and members of labour organizations, to learn about the labour movement and its relation to Canada's economic, political and social framework.

New postal rates became effective April 2. The new rate for a first class letter increased from 14 cents to 17 cents and from 30 cents to 35 cents for first class air mail letters overseas, excluding the U.S.

Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada plans to make a tender offer for Continental American Life Insurance Co.

of New York of \$33 a share. The offer is conditional on Imperial's receiving at least 50.1 per cent of the total shares outstanding at a minimum cost of about \$13.2 million.

Canada will lend Pakistan up to \$10 million interest free to finance half of Pakistan's cost of buying 30 locomotives and parts to be built by the diesel division of GMAC Limited of Oshawa, Ontario.

The National Museums corporation has awarded \$475,000 to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic to help with renovations of historic buildings on the waterfront in Halifax and Lunenburg.

Sales of North American-built cars in Canada in February were a record 66,523 units, up 6.1 per cent from 58,930 in February 1978, according to figures released by the auto makers.

The Federal Government will spend \$9 million in a four-year program to support the development of Telidon, a two-way TV system, a spokesman for the Department of Communications announced recently.

A loan by Canada's Export Development Corporation to Contransimex, Bucharest, Romania, will support the \$1,018,735-sale of mechanized mail-sorting equipment, related spare parts and services to the Romanian state enterprise. The sale should generate 40 man-years of employment at Canapost and one other Ontario supplier.

Job creation in Canada will grow substantially in the next three months, mostly in the mining and construction industry, according to a survey of 940 companies conducted by Manpower Temporary Services in Toronto. The survey discovered that 30.5 per cent of companies contacted expected to increase their staff between April and June, while only 4.7 per cent expected layoffs.

CAE Electronics Ltd. of Montreal has been awarded a contract valued at about \$32 million to supply five flight simulators for the *Tornado* multi-role combat aircraft for West Germany.

Gilles Villeneuve of Berthierville, Quebec, led from start to finish to win the U.S. Grand Prix (West) auto race recently in his Ferrari 312T4. The race covers 80 laps of the 3.4-kilometre (2.02 mile) course through the streets of Long Beach, California, the fourth Formula One race in this year's world championship series. The track has 12 turns including two hairpin bends.

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