

# Canada Weekly

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## Managing the forests: The Canadian experience

Canada's forests provide 14 per cent of the total value of shipments by Canadian manufacturing industries, 20 per cent of Canada's exports by value, and jobs for 11 per cent of the labour force.

In the next two decades, these forests will be the source of energy and chemicals as well as traditional lumber, pulp and paper products. To ensure adequate timber stands for future needs, forestry research concentrates on: management, regeneration and cultivation; protection from diseases, pests and fires; product research; and direct and biomass conversion to energy.

Canada's forests are about 80 per cent softwood. The federal and provincial governments own 94 per cent of the 3.4 million square kilometres of forested area. Of this, 1.4 million square kilometres are either unsuitable for industrial wood production or are in "single-purpose" reserves such as parks. The provinces own 90 per cent of productive forest lands. However, because of their location in areas with the most favourable climates and soils, Canada's 250,000 private woodlot owners supply 16 per cent of the wood harvested

each year. Although the federal government owns little forest land, its monetary, regional development, industrial efficiency, research and development, tariff and trade, and transportation programs affect forest management.

Co-ordinating research and planning among two levels of government and the private sector is a major challenge. In June 1979 the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers (from the federal and provincial governments) recommended a set of general principles for a national forest policy. The principles recognize the sole responsibility of the provinces for managing provincial lands and promote common goals and compatible policies. The interprovincial group hopes eventually to develop concrete measures that the various governments will adopt.

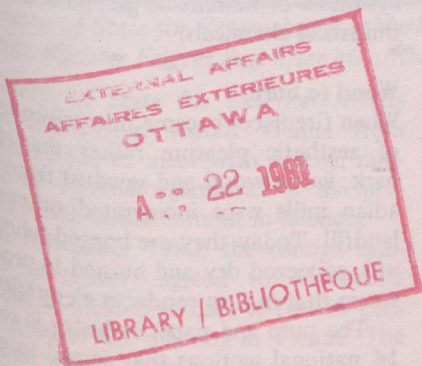
## Management, regeneration and cultivation

In the early 1800s, when Canada began harvesting its wood to provide squared timbers and tall masts for the British navy, the forests were regarded as a self-replenishing resource. But by the end of that century, Canadians had realized that they would have to cut carefully and replant the forest. While seed trees have been left after cutting and the size of cuts has been limited throughout most of this century, the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers estimates that 12 per cent of Canada's productive forest land is inadequately stocked and that 100,000 hectares are being added to this backlog each year. Whenever a new forest area is harvested, 10 to 15 per cent of its land becomes unavailable for regeneration because of road construction.

While the productive forest area declines, the world demand for industrial wood in 1990 is expected to be 900 million cubic metres more than that of 1970 (540 million cubic metres for pulp and paper and 360 million cubic metres for wood products).



A British Columbia logger fells a tree.



One-hundred-and-thirty years ago this week... Britain transferred control of Canadian post offices to Canada, April 6, 1851. At the same time a uniform rate of postage was introduced across Canada.

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Canada's research to expand its forest output includes introducing more productive non-native species, such as the Norway spruce, the Japanese larch and the European larch, and genetic breeding, such as the development of a white spruce that grows 15 to 20 per cent higher than normal. One of the most promising current projects is the development of a hybrid poplar tree by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

#### Protection from diseases, pests and fires

In Canada, where the total annual forest harvest averages 128.4 million cubic metres, insect losses are estimated at 14.3 million cubic metres and fires destroy about 10.5 million cubic metres annually. Together they account for losses equivalent to nearly 20 per cent of the harvest.

A wide range of forestry protection research programs are conducted by the Canadian Forestry Service at six regional forestry research centres, by two national institutes, provincial forestry agencies, the forest industry and universities.

A few insect species, whose larvae eat tree foliage, stems and cones, are the major source of lost fibre and timber production in Canada. They may destroy trees or merely reduce growth.

In 1977, Canada and the United States agreed to develop a six-year joint research program aimed at accelerating technology to control the destructive spruce budworm. Expenditures in this program will be \$7 to \$8 million annually.

Since 1952, spraying with chemical insecticides has been the main method used to control the spruce budworm.

However, when trees are saved with insecticides, the budworm infestations are prolonged since the budworms do not starve as they ordinarily would. There are also public doubts about the long-term hidden effects of spraying. As a result, some provinces have elected not to spray and now more research is directed toward finding alternative methods of control, including biological ones.

Each year about 8,000 fires sweep across more than 2 million hectares of Canadian forest land. Losses are estimated at \$65 million a year.

The Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index is a fire-danger rating system that predicts fire occurrence and behaviour in the Canadian forest. Based on temperature, relative humidity, wind-speed and 24-hour rainfall, it has been adopted by all fire control agencies in Canada.

A computerized system has also been developed which assists in daily detection and fire control decision-making. It draws on information related to such matters as forest fuels, thunderstorm paths and historical fire data to aid aerial detection.

Specially designed lightning detectors have been developed as an inexpensive and reliable means of thunderstorm tracking. These sensors, each with a range of about 32 kilometres form a network extending over the major Canadian forested regions. A strong relationship exists between the sensor counts, fuel moisture and the occurrence of fires caused by lightning. With a formula that relates counts and index value to fire starts, it is possible to use the sensors to obtain a reliable estimate of possible

lightning fires over an area.

Pacific Forest Research Centre researchers are using aerial thermal infrared scanning technology to detect fires before visible signs such as flames or smoke occur. The British Columbia Ministry of Forests now operates six thermal scanners. They are usually flown by helicopter and are capable of pinpointing a burning cigarette from an altitude of 300 metres.

#### Product research

Canada's federal forest products laboratories are managed by Forintek, a new non-profit, private corporation. Their efforts cover all aspects of product development, from the forest to the production of durable, economical finished goods. Among recent projects is a steam process for producing particleboard that requires a shorter processing time and makes thicker panels economical; a weather-resistant fire retardant, Exterior-Fire-X, that inhibits flames in shingles, plywood and lumber and reduces smoke, poisonous gases and heat; a heavy-duty wood preservative that prevents decay of wood buried underground and can be used on such difficult-to-treat species as native spruce; and a ribbed tree shear blade, a single blade for cutting down trees, which causes 30 per cent less fracture damage than a conventional double blade. All four inventions are (or soon will be) produced commercially.

In recent energy-conscious years, wood has been making a comeback as a home-heating fuel. In Canada, it is also being used to create heat and steam to produce electricity in the pulp and paper industry. Canadian scientists are working on methods of using it as biomass in the synthesis of flammable gas, methanol and industrial chemicals.

#### Wood to burn

When fireplaces became primarily a source of aesthetic pleasure rather than heat, bark, waste wood and sawdust from Canadian mills were incinerated or used in landfill. Today they are hogged (chopped up), squeezed dry and burned to produce steam that in turn produces electricity.

The pulp and paper industry is one of 14 national sections that agreed to participate in the federal government's voluntary energy conservation program. The target was to reduce the use of purchased fossil fuels and electricity per unit of



A worker floats logs down a river in Kitimat, British Columbia.



## Federal agricultural export company planned

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan has announced that the federal Cabinet has approved the setting up of a federal agricultural export corporation to be called Canagrex.

"Canagrex's job will be to increase the volume and variety of sales of Canadian agricultural products," said Mr. Whelan.

The minister said he will soon submit legislation to Parliament to establish Canagrex. The new Crown corporation would have a budget of \$12.3 million for its first three years of operation. This would include funds for its grants, loans and investment program.

Canagrex will provide support such as export financing to would-be exporters. It may also engage in direct selling or

enter into contracts with existing firms or agencies.

Farmers, commodity groups, marketing boards, food processors, provincial governments and others will work with Canagrex in export marketing, promotion and related activities.

"It will identify new market opportunities and generally act as a comprehensive facilitator and marketer. As much as possible, the new corporation will make use of the institutions and mechanisms already in place to expand Canadian exports," said Mr. Whelan.

The new corporation will report directly to the Minister of Agriculture. A board of directors and a policy advisory committee are proposed.

The administration of the corporation would be carried out by a president, vice-president and general manager.

"Many foreign governments wish to deal on a government to government basis; Canagrex will make this possible," said Mr. Whelan.

Agricultural exports are vital to the prosperity of the Canadian food and agriculture sector. Traditionally, agricultural exports have made up 40 to 45 per cent of farm cash receipts. In 1980, Canada exported about \$8-billion worth of food and agricultural products and imported \$5 billion of supplementary products.

## Beaufort output predicted

Dome Petroleum Limited of Calgary predicts oil production from the Beaufort Sea should reach 750,000 barrels a day by 1990 and 1.5 million barrels a day by 1995, reports the *Canadian Press*.

In a submission to the National Energy Board, Dome said the Beaufort Sea "has the potential to make Canada self-sufficient in oil production within this decade". Such development will stimulate enormous economic and employment activity, the company said.

Dome, which has been active in the area since 1976, said results from 33 exploratory wells in the Beaufort Sea during the past decade provide substantial evidence that giant oil and natural gas fields exist.

## Exploratory drilling program

The exploratory drilling program now set for the area is expected to result in the discovery of five billion barrels of oil by 1985 and eight billion barrels by 1990.

The company said it bases its prediction on the oil discovery rate so far in the Beaufort and a correlation developed from North Sea experience relating to the number of exploratory wells drilled and the resulting oil reserves.

Taking into account exploratory drilling by all operators in the Beaufort, the company predicted that 70 exploratory wells will have been completed in the area by 1985 and 120 by 1990.

The company said that if its forecast production rates are to be met, major capital investments must be made during the next 12 months to create the necessary levels and to test production installations. Direct investments during the decade will be about \$40 billion, it said.

## Secretary of State for External Affairs visits Austria and Hungary



CP Laserphoto

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan (left) is welcomed by Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja after his arrival at the Budapest Airport in Hungary.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan visited Vienna from March 12-15, to meet with foreign ministers of 11 "co-organizers" of the proposed North-South summit in Mexico.

In November 1980, the foreign ministers tentatively agreed to convene a summit in Mexico subject to further consideration at the meeting in Vienna. The summit would provide a forum for discussing issues involved in the dialogue between developed and developing countries and to consider ways of intensifying international economic co-operation.

Following his visit to Vienna, Dr. Mac-

Guigan visited Hungary, March 16-18, at the invitation of that government.

Canada's bilateral relations with Hungary have progressed rapidly since diplomatic relations were established in 1964, notably in the consular and economic fields. The visit provided the opportunity for review of Canada-Hungary relations and for exploring ways of expanding this relationship. The two sides also exchanged views on international issues of interest.

During his visit, the minister also opened the *Forrestall* art exhibit in Budapest, the first major cultural event sponsored by Canada in Hungary.



## Canada-Algeria commission discusses bilateral co-operation



*Pictured at the meeting are: (left to right) Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism Charles Lapointe; Algerian Ambassador to Canada Missoum Sbih; Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce Herb Gray and Algerian Minister of Commerce Abdelaziz Khelef.*

The first meeting of the Canada-Algeria Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation was held in Ottawa, March 3-4.

The meeting was co-chaired by Canada's Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism Charles Lapointe and Algerian Minister of Commerce Abdelaziz Khelef. Canada's Ambassador to Algeria Louis Delvoie and Algeria's Ambassador to Canada Missoum Sbih also took part.

While in Ottawa, Mr. Khelef held talks with Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan, Minister of Finance Allan MacEachen, Secretary of State and Minister of Communications Francis Fox, Minister of Agriculture Eugene Whelan and Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce Herb Gray.

During the Commission's meeting, the two delegations said they were pleased with the strengthening of bilateral co-operation. Both delegations said they were satisfied with the increase in exchanges between the two countries and with efforts to determine areas of possible economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

Algeria is Canada's largest African trade partner with an export market esti-

mated to have reached \$400 million in 1980. Agricultural products constitute the bulk of Canadian sales; asbestos, industrial machinery, lumber, miscellaneous equipment and prefabricated structures are also exported. Algeria has a \$1.2-billion line of credit granted by the Canadian Export Development Corporation.

The Commission also discussed Algeria's 1980-84 five-year plan which provides for about \$122 billion in Canadian investments. The Algerian delegation outlined the plan indicating that the country's industrialization program would focus on agriculture, water resources and infrastructure.

The two delegations also examined training and technical co-operation with the Canadian government indicating that it was prepared to provide assistance in this area at the request of the Algerian government.

At the end of his stay in Canada, Mr. Khelef extended an invitation to the Canadian government to hold the next session of the Commission in Algeria next year. Bilateral issues are also expected to be discussed in an upcoming visit to Algiers by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

## Native women's jobs examined

The federal government and the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) have announced the formation of a joint working group to develop plans for meeting the employment needs of native women.

The group will be made up of four persons chosen by NWAC and four representatives from the federal Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC). It will be jointly chaired by the President of NWAC Marlene Pierre-Aggamaway and a chairperson appointed by Employment Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

The creation of the working group is the follow-up to a proposal made last September to a conference of Native CEIC personnel and native spokespersons, where Ms. Pierre-Aggamaway called for increased co-operation between government and native women.

The working group will examine existing employment programs and will develop employment strategies as a complement to the native employment policy. Mr. Axworthy also announced that the CEIC would provide resources to NWAC so they may employ a staff person whose function would be to act as a liaison with native women across Canada. In addition, 10 per cent of CEIC native training allocations in each region will be set aside for the training of native women.

## New show broadcast in U.S.

A Canadian television company is providing Canadian news to 11 million homes in the United States by way of cable TV.

*Dateline Canada*, is a weekly half-hour roundup of Canadian news, business and sports produced since November 1979 by Global TV.

Executive producer Ken Mallett says the potential audience will grow as cable-TV expands in the United States. Unlike Canada, where about 75 per cent of urban homes have cable, the service now only reaches about a quarter of American homes.

The show, produced on Sundays and fed *via* satellite to cable services, may be stepped up to twice-weekly productions soon. The cable services schedule the program whenever they wish but often run it two or three times a week, said Mallett.



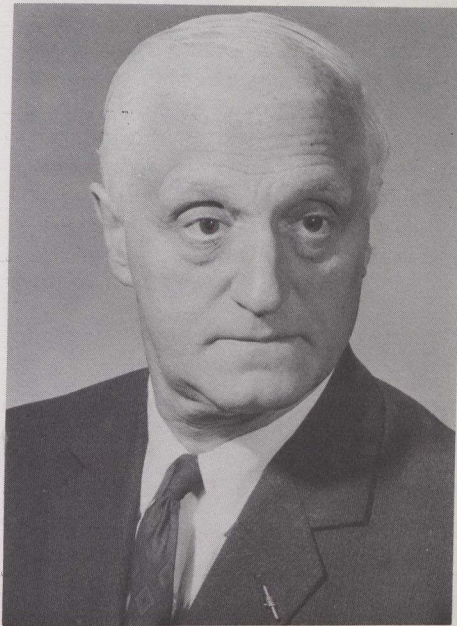
### Death of a diplomat

Marcel Cadieux, former Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, died while vacationing in Florida, March 19. Mr. Cadieux was 65.

Born in Montreal, Mr. Cadieux studied at André Grasset College, McGill University and the University of Montreal. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1941 and for the first 23 years served abroad in London, Brussels, Paris and as Senior Advisor to the International Supervisory Commission in Indochina.

### Ambassador to U.S.

From 1964 to 1979, Marcel Cadieux served as Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. In 1970, he was appointed Ambassador to the United States and subsequently served as Canada's first Ambassador to the European Communities in Brussels. In 1977, Mr. Cadieux was appointed Special Negotiator for Maritime Boundaries (Canada-U.S.) and in 1978 concurrently assumed responsibilities as adviser to the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.



Marcel Cadieux

In 1969, Mr. Cadieux was invested with the Vanier Medal, received the Public Service Commission's Outstanding Achievement Award, and was made a Companion of the Order of Canada.

### Energy research given boost

Treasury Board has approved \$2,259,000 in supplementary expenditures for federal energy research and development activities, Energy Minister Marc Lalonde has announced.

"The additional funds will strengthen some existing projects, as well as initiate new projects during the balance of the 1980-81 fiscal year," Mr. Lalonde said. "This is the first step in accelerating the federal government's energy research and development program, as called for in the National Energy Program."

Under the National Energy Program, \$260 million will be spent on energy research and development by the federal government over the four-year period 1980-83.

The funds will go towards a wide range of research and development activities, including studies on pipeline materials testing, geothermal electricity, coal conversion and liquefaction, oil-sands technology, sea-bottom engineering, and the use of compressed natural gas as a motor-vehicle fuel.

### Health research gets increase

The Medical Research Council (MRC) will receive \$100.2 million during 1981-82, an increase of 22.3 per cent over the 1980-81 budget, Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin has announced.

Miss Bégin explained that \$98.4 million of the MRC budget will support the council's biomedical research programs in Canadian universities and associated hospitals.

The new budget will also support research in areas such as perinatology, reproductive physiology and gerontology.

Dr. René Simard, outgoing president of the council, and the new incumbent, Dr. Pierre Bois, were enthusiastic in their approval of the government's action.

"The scientific community was very concerned at the budget put forward for MRC in the main estimates," said Dr. Simard. "This new assurance will make it possible to offset the increased costs of on-going research programs and to initiate some new projects highly recommended by the council's expert review committees. It will also provide more training positions for young Canadians, and permit us to replace some of the worn-out research equipment in our health science centres."

### Canada and United States ministers of defence meet



Minister of National Defence Gilles Lamontagne (left) meets with U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger in Washington, D.C. The two ministers discussed operations of the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) and delivery of the F-18 fighter jet. Mr. Lamontagne also travelled to St. Louis, Missouri, to visit the McDonnell-Douglas plant where the F-18 is built.



## Solar company shows profits

A Canadian company is proving that solar energy can be not only viable but downright profitable, writes Allan Swift of the *Canadian Press*.

The company Petro-Sun Incorporated of Toronto was founded in 1976 by Jacques Sicotte.

The company's name reflects its broad range of activities — Petro for gas and oil exploration in Alberta and Texas, and Sun, or the Thermo Solar Division, for solar collectors built in Montreal and shipped around the world.

Sicotte, trained as a nuclear engineer, designed the collectors himself and holds patents on part of their technology.

## Solar heated homes

He and his father began by building a half-dozen solar-heated homes in an area north of Montreal. After building about 25 such dwellings, Sicotte began looking for a more booming business than housing.

Seeking an infusion of capital, he sold half of his fledgling company to Magnetics International Limited of Montreal.

In 1979, Thermo Solar amalgamated with Quebec Manitou Mines Limited of Toronto and Petro-Sun was established, with head office in Toronto.

At the Montreal plant, some 30 employees build high-temperature collectors while four engineers brainstorm on new energy-related devices. Sicotte, his brother Michel and Raymond Bourgeois, both vice-presidents, prepare bids for solar heating systems.

A warehouse and a plant, employing ten people has just opened in Toronto.

## Sales doubled

Sicotte said sales have roughly doubled each year since Thermo Solar was incorporated in 1976.

The federal government boosted the industry last year by making available \$125 million over five years to subsidize solar equipment to heat water in federally-owned buildings. The program is called PUSH — Purchase and Use of Solar Equipment — and the company keeps a list of 96 projects on which it is actively bidding.

So far the company has won contracts to supply equipment for six post offices, two penitentiaries, several fish hatcheries and other federal buildings as well.

There are about ten major builders of

solar equipment in Canada, "and competition is fierce".

Thermo Solar has sold water-heating units to private companies in Canada, and won contracts with the Egyptian Electricity Authority, a Mexican irrigation project and a grain dryer near Winnipeg. Units have been sold in Greece and the group is looking for contracts in Saudi Arabia and the Third World.

## Peanut processing plant opened

Canada's first peanut-processing plant was officially opened recently in southwestern Ontario.

Located in Windham Centre, Ontario, it is the first cleaning, shelling and grading plant to be built by Canadians. The plant is owned and operated by a grower, Jim Picard, and has a capacity of 5,000 tons. The plant can shell, fry or roast peanut production for 4,000 acres annually.

Last year, peanuts were harvested from 180 acres on six farms, yielding an average of between 2,000 and 2,200 pounds an acre.

## Promising crop

Peanuts represent a promising new crop, particularly in Ontario where peanut



*Peanuts are becoming a new commercial crop in southwestern Ontario thanks to recent research and development efforts by government, universities and industry. A new peanut-processing plant recently opened in Windham Centre, Ontario, will process Ontario-grown peanuts.*

plants can thrive in the sandy lands of Norfolk, Elgin and Oxford Counties. Canada annually imports 74,000 tons of peanut products valued at nearly \$60 million.

Agriculture Canada has invested more than \$500,000 since 1974 in peanut research. This represents more than 60 per cent of total financial investment for research and development of peanuts in Ontario.

Field trials carried out at Agriculture Canada's research station in Delhi, Ontario concentrated on identifying a vigorous-growing plant that was tolerant to cold, early flowering and maturing and high yielding. Effective weed control programs were also investigated.

In five years of research, some 3,600 peanut varieties were studied at the Delhi Research Station. The Valencia peanut proved to be the best variety for Ontario growing conditions. At the same time, it is the most flavourful of all peanut varieties.

Domestic peanut manufacturers are also pleased with the advancement of Canada's own peanut industry. Traditionally, they have had to rely on imports of shelled peanuts from the United States.

American growers this year had a bad crop and will not be exporting the quantities of peanuts required by Canadian manufacturers. These manufacturers will now be able to supplement their production requirements by purchasing Ontario-grown peanuts, as a result of the new processing plant.

## Canadian wins Europa Cup

Canadian skier Diana Haight of Fruitvale, British Columbia recently became the first Canadian to win a combined Europa Cup championship.

The win also gave Canada its first victory in an international skiing competition since 1968.

The 16-year-old did not win a race this year on the Europa circuit but emerged with the women's combined title as a result of her consistent skiing performance. Haight's victory was figured from her placings this season in the downhill, slalom and giant slalom. The Europa Cup competition is composed of skiers just below world level. Haight finished with 168 points followed by Brigitte Oertli of Switzerland with 157.



# News of the arts

## Quebec film sweeps Genies

*Les Bons Débarras* (*Good Riddance*), a French-Canadian film dealing with the relationship between a mother and her possessive daughter, swept the recent Academy of Canadian Cinema awards held in Toronto.

The movie won eight Genies, including best picture, best actress (Marie Tifo), best supporting actor (Germain Houde) and best director (Francis Mankiewicz).

Other major awards went to Thomas Peacocke, named best actor for his portrayal of Père Athol Murray in *The Hounds of Notre Dame*, and to Kate Reid (best supporting actress) for her characterization of a bed-ridden hypochondriac in *Atlantic City, U.S.A.* *Les Bons Débarras* was followed in the final tally by *The Lucky Star*, with three awards, and *Atlantic City, U.S.A.*, also with three.

Jack Lemmon was honoured as best foreign actor for his efforts in *Tribute* while Susan Sarandon received the best foreign actress citation for *Atlantic City, U.S.A.*, a co-production.

### Additional awards

Other awards presented were: Art direction: Anne Pritchard, *Atlantic City, U.S.A.*; costume design, Anne Pritchard, *Fantastica*; cinematography, Michel Brault *Les Bons Débarras*; editing, André Corri-



Mario Tifo (left) and Charlotte Laurier in a scene from *Les Bons Débarras*.

veau, *Les Bons Débarras*; sound editing, Jean-Guy Montpetit, *The Lucky Star*; music score, Art Phillips, *The Lucky Star*; original screenplay, Réjean Ducharme, *Les Bons Débarras*; adapted screenplay, Max Fischer, Jack Rosenthal, *The Lucky Star*; over-all sound, Henri Blondeau, Michel Descombes, *Les Bons Débarras*.

Best short subject: *The Strongest Man in the World*, directed by Halya Kuchmij.

Documentary: *Plusieurs Tombent en*

*Amour* directed by Guy Simoneau.

Special awards were made to actress and director Micheline Lanctot (For individuals who have demonstrated distinguished achievements in the art of filmmaking in Canada) and to filmmakers Robert and Violet Crone (Whose generosity and innovation over the past 30 years have earned them the respect, recognition and deep appreciation from the members of the Canadian film industry).

## Stratford plans music festival this summer

A major new festival of music will be presented at Stratford this summer.

Operating independently of the Stratford Shakespearean Festival, Stratford Summer Music is the idea of pianist Elyakim Taussig.

During June, July and August, 40 different programs will be presented, featuring 50 soloists and two orchestras.

The program begins June 13 — two days before the Shakespearean Festival opens — with a gala opening which will feature the National Arts Centre Orchestra conducted by Mario Bernardi, baritone Louis Quilico, cellist Leonard Rose, the Canadian Brass, Taussig, pianist Kathryn Root, the Stratford Boy Choir singing a new work by Louis Applebaum, and a new mixed choir made up of the people of Stratford.

On the Avon River a torch-light pageant will present Boris Brott and his

Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, dressed in eighteenth century costume, floating on a barge and playing Handel's *Water Music* and *Royal Fireworks Music*.

From June 15-August 30, all concerts will be scheduled around, not during, theatre performances. Most of them will be held in the newly-renovated 300-seat theatre of Stratford's City Hall.

Some of the artists scheduled to appear at these concerts are Liona Boyd, who will appear with actor Nicholas Pennell; the Orford Quartet; the Cleveland Quartet; Camerata; and Moe Koffman and Doug Riley in a program called *Jazz and Bach*.

A Canadian-American Jazz Series (June 16-21) and the Canadian Folk Festival Series (June 23-28) will be recorded by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio.

Taussig was musical director at the Shaw Festival for three seasons. He is

scheduled soon to give the world *première* of his own new work, *A Moment in Time*, based on Granados' piano suite *Goyescas*. He was born in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia in 1944, and emigrated to Israel with his family at the age of five, moving to Canada in the 1960s to study piano with Anton Kuerti.

The advisory board of Stratford Summer Music includes Maureen Forrester, Andrew Davis, Mario Bernardi, Louis Applebaum and Murray Schafer.

The Yorkton film festival will be open to videotape entries for the first time when the annual event is held next November. The festival's board has also decided to rename the event the Yorkton International Short Film and Video Festival. The board has approved a budget of \$156,030 for the 1981 festival, about twice as much as was spent last year.



## The forests (Continued from P. 2)

output by 12 per cent between the base year, 1972, and 1980. By the end of 1978 it had already achieved an 11.9 per cent reduction. In Ontario the amount of hog fuel burned increased by 129 per cent from 1976 to 1978, and oil consumption dropped 423,000 barrels (28 per cent) to 1 million barrels. The five MacMillan Bloedel mills in Port Alberni, British Columbia, some of many using waste wood as fuel, supply 65 per cent of their energy needs with 325,000 tons of hog fuel each year.

To encourage mills to burn hog fuel, sawdust or waste wood, the federal Forest Industry Renewable Energy (FIRE) program provides shared-cost financial assistance in the form of taxable payments of up to 20 per cent of approved capital costs. From April 1, 1979 to March 31, 1984, it expects to make \$150 million available through the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

### Biomass conversion

Hog fuel is already a viable energy source. Biomass conversion is still a resource of the future. In terms of the forest, biomass includes branches, tops, crooked boles, foliage and "unmerchantable" species left in the forest, as well as the mill wastes that go into hog fuel. It could also include cultivated short-rotation tree stands cut before they are mature enough for traditional uses.

Canadian forest biomass is being converted to gas and methanol on an experimental basis. Saskatchewan Forest Products, for example, is converting wood to flammable gas in Hudson Bay. And Lamb-Cargate Limited of Vancouver, with federal help, is building a pilot system to produce gas from waste wood to fuel a lumber-drying kiln.

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

## News briefs

**The Progressive Conservative Party** of Ontario was returned to power with a majority in the provincial election held March 20. The Conservatives, under the leadership of Premier Bill Davis, had formed a minority government for the last six years. The Conservatives won 70 seats followed by the Liberals with 34 and the New Democrats with 21. It was Mr. Davis's fourth election campaign as premier.

**Employment and Immigration Minister** Lloyd Axworthy recently announced approval of a \$100,000 contribution to the Canadian Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled (CRCDD). The money covers part of the cost of designing and developing a national publicity campaign to improve public attitudes towards handicapped persons. Total cost of the national awareness campaign is \$218,500.

**A new Winnipeg-based consortium**, Canadian Methanol Canadien, has announced long-range plans to build 20 plants across Canada to produce methanol as an automobile fuel. The six holding companies involved in the joint venture include individual investors and principals of Inter Group Consulting Economists. The consortium's mid-summer target is ten cars running on pure methanol and another 200 using gasohol made with methanol.

**The board of directors** of the Export Development Corporation (EDC) has approved loans of \$92.8 million (Cdn.) and export credits insurance of \$261.6 million to 26 countries: Algeria, Australia, Brazil, Britain, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, the German Federal Republic, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the United States and Venezuela.

**With easy winter rail haul conditions** this year, grain exports through the Port of Vancouver are heading for a record year, according to W.G. Hopkins, West Coast grain co-ordinator for the federal Department of Transport. The Port of Vancouver unloaded 64,566 grain cars as of February 15, for an increase of 6.6 per cent in the crop year started August 1. Mr. Hopkins said 13 or 14 grain ships are scheduled to come in to pick up grain at

the port. The possibilities extend to a record calendar-year total as well, surpassing last year's 7.9 million tons.

**Canada's population** on January 1, 1981 totalled an estimated 24,088,700 with figures for the provinces as follows: Newfoundland, 583,600; Prince Edward Island, 124,100; Nova Scotia, 856,100; New Brunswick, 709,100; Quebec, 6,325,200; Ontario, 8,600,500; Manitoba, 1,027,000; Saskatchewan, 957,700; Alberta, 2,135,900; British Columbia, 2,687,000; Yukon, 21,500; and Northwest Territories, 42,800.

**Dow Chemical of Canada Limited**, Sarnia, Ontario, plans an expansion of its petrochemical plant in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, which it says could add \$4.3 billion to the economy directly and indirectly over 20 years. Dow said it has applied to Alberta's Energy Resources Conservation Board for permission to expand production of four products. The total cost is estimated at \$135 million plus site preparation and infrastructure expense.

**Health and Welfare Canada** and the Canadian Pension Conference (a non-profit association concerned with income security and benefits programs) have begun a co-ordinated effort to help pension plan administrators locate former employees of companies and businesses across the country. The employees, aged 65 and over, are eligible for company pension benefits for which they have not yet applied.

**Northern Telecom Canada Limited**, a subsidiary of Northern Telecom Limited of Montreal, has announced a contract for the sale of \$60-million worth of telecommunications equipment to South Korea. The contract is for the provision of digital transmission equipment for the improvement and expansion of South Korea's telephone network.

**The Royal Victoria Hospital** in Montreal recently marked the ninety-first anniversary of the birth of Dr. Norman Bethune by dedicating a plaque in his honour in the hospital lobby. Dr. Bethune was a former staff member of the hospital. A painting by him, which was recently presented to the hospital, was also dedicated. Quebec Social Affairs Minister Dr. Denis Lazure and Lui Min, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China took part in the ceremony.