

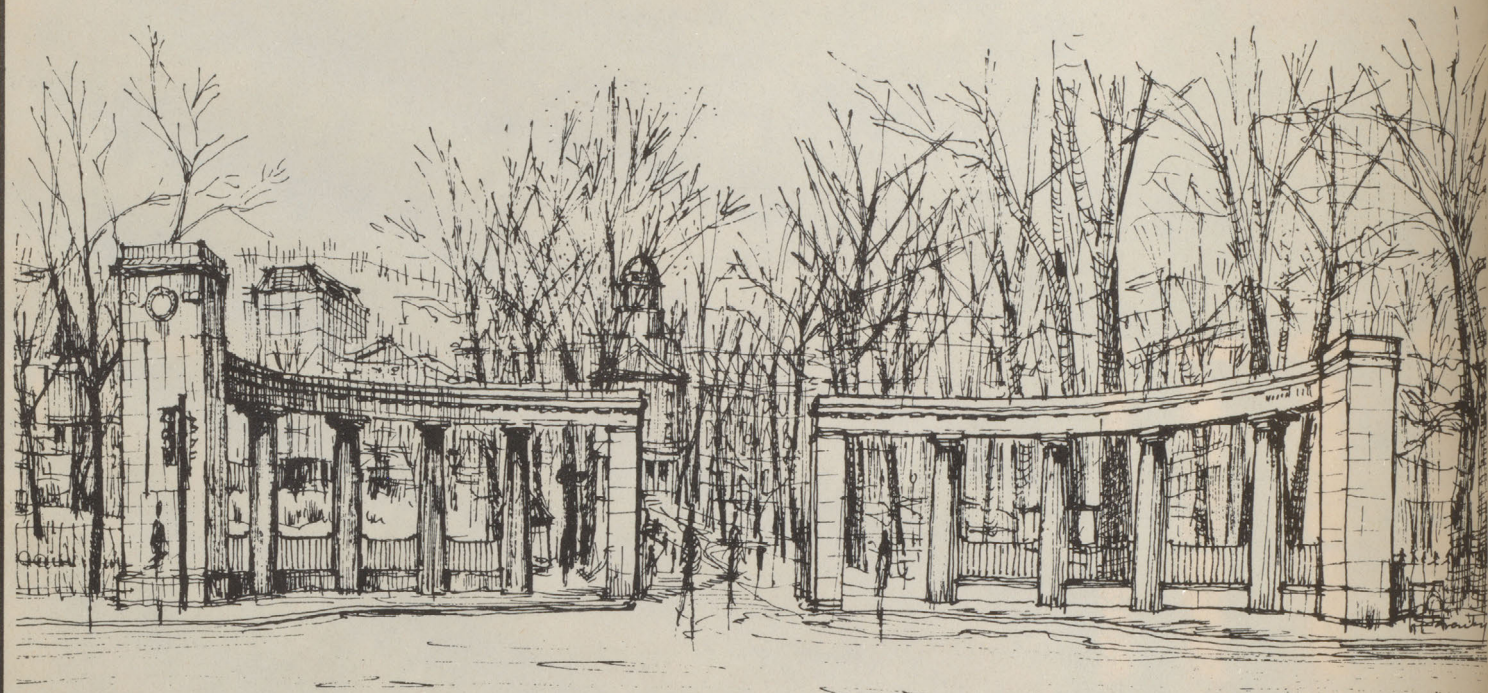
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# McGill News

Spring 1979

Principal-elect David Johnston



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## Feature Articles

7 A Judicious Choice  
by Carol Stairs and Victoria Lees

11 Planning for the Future

13 Silverberg  
by Carol Stairs

16 Alcan's David Culver: In Defence  
of Big Business  
by Don Worrall

19 Teaching, Research, and Practice:  
The McGill Cancer Centre  
by Heather Kirkwood

20 Aid for Injured Athletes  
by Christine Farr

28 Perspective  
by Andrew Cohen

## Departments

2 What the Martlet Hears

6 Letters

21 Where They Are and  
What They're Doing  
by Carol Stairs

23 Society Activities

**Credits:** Cover, 1, Olive Palmer; 3, José Bérubé and Marie Valois; 4, 5, 7, Harold Rosenberg; 9, Paul Chefurka; 10, courtesy of the *McGill Daily*; 11, courtesy of McGill's Minimum Cost Housing Group; 12, Harold Rosenberg; 13, John A.P. Stairs; 14, 15, Gabor Szilasi, courtesy of Elca London Studio, Town of Mount Royal; 17, 18, courtesy of Alcan; 20, Harold Rosenberg; 23, John de Visser; 26, Harold Rosenberg; 28, François Huot.

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# Notebook

Introducing principal-elect David Johnston to the Senate in January, Chancellor Conrad Harrington noted that the Johnstons have five daughters – "which proves that the nominating committee was not chauvinistic." When Montreal freelancer Olive Palmer travelled to London, Ontario, to photograph Western's Dean of Law for our cover, it seemed imperative that we get a shot of those five testimonials to McGill's open-mindedness.

Easier said than done! When Palmer arrived at the Johnston home, pre-birthday-party chaos reigned. "I'd look through the viewfinder and everything would seem fine until I realized there were only four children there," Palmer recounts. "We'd find the lost one, only to



discover that another had disappeared. On top of that, children kept arriving for the party and, from time to time, I would have a neighbour's child in the picture, too!"

Everyone in the photo above, however, is a bona-fide Johnston. Shown with their parents are, left to right, Catherine, 3, Jenifer, 5, Alexandra, 8, Sharon, 6, and Deborah, 11. Johnston is quite accustomed to good-natured ribbing about his five daughters and takes it all in stride. "Every now and then the hockey coach at Harvard writes me and says, 'I'm very disappointed you haven't managed to raise a son for the Harvard hockey team.'" The principal-elect's reply? "You've got ten years to make that team coeducational!"

Some articles are a joy to write, a delight to edit. Such an article, "Silverberg," appears in this issue. Impressed with an exhibition of David Silverberg's coloured engravings, assistant editor Carol Stairs wrote the artist at Mount Allison University requesting an interview during his next visit to Montreal. After an exchange of letters, artist, assistant editor, and editor arranged to meet for lunch at McGill's Faculty Club. "You can recognize me as I'll be wearing a beard and some fifty pounds of excess," Silverberg wrote.

Recognizing him proved to be no problem. Among the dark-suited academics seated in the lounge, Silverberg shone like a bird of paradise. Short and rotund, he wore a flowing white smock, a Peruvian poncho, and a wide-brimmed black felt hat from which cascaded a yard of embroidered ribbon.

An excellent conversationalist, Silverberg recounted anecdotes from his travels, spoke about his work, and shared his eclectic philosophy of life and art. "In Japan," he explained, "they have a special word for an artist who lives by his work. It means he's allowed to look poor and be poor, but he earns an honest respect."

To gather more material for the profile, Stairs visited Silverberg in his Sackville studio during her summer vacation. The author then finished her article as she had started it – by mail. Final details were checked by writing to Silverberg in Rome, where he is presently on sabbatical – studying, sketching, thinking, and earning an honest respect.

Readers may have noticed a new by-line in the last few issues of the *News*. Heather Kirkwood, BMus'69, DipEd'70, who prepared the article on the renaissance of McGill's track and field program for this issue, is an avid jogger. It was only after her copy came in, however, that we learned just how appropriate she was for the assignment – Kirkwood holds the Canadian Master's record in the 50, 100, 200, and 400 metre sprint and will be running with the Canadian team at the World Masters' Track and Field Championship in Hannover, West Germany, this summer. *Victoria Lees*



# What the Martlet hears



## **Do Not Bend, Fold, or Mutilate**

The McConnell Engineering Building is home to a zealous breed of student known as the "computer bum." "They're like 'ski bums' except that they live for the computer," explains Dr. Martin Levine, professor of electrical engineering and chairman of the undergraduate program. "The computer laboratories operate virtually twenty-four hours a day."

To relieve the pressure on its two-dozen computers, the department of electrical engineering recently opened two new facilities — an Undergraduate Computer Laboratory and a Computer Vision and Graphics Laboratory for graduate students — boasting four new computers. Funding for the project, more than a third of a million dollars, came from the university budget and a grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada, aided by a donation from Digital Equipment of Canada Limited.

The new machines are all members of the PDP 11 family. While the PDP 11/04, 11/10, and 11/40 are general-purpose computers, the new VAX 11/780 is being programmed to process images — read fingerprints, photographs, or X-rays — as well as perform more general functions. Only the second of its kind in the country, McGill's VAX 11 has already been put to work tracking the movement of blood cells in vitro. "The practice of medicine involves the evaluation of pictorial data to such a great extent that it appears to be an excellent application," Levine states. "But there are greater implications than just in the biomedical area. For example, we are looking at coloured slides of the outdoors — a building, a suburban house, a tree — and we are trying to get the computer to delineate what it sees and actually say what it sees. If one were going to design a machine or robot that would move around in the environment, it would have to do this kind of interpretation. This is a more futuristic application."

Early last year, urged on by the Quebec CEGEPs and the electronics industry, the Faculty of Engineering instituted Canada's

first undergraduate computer engineering program. (The Faculty is already recognized for its strong graduate program in the field.) "People in management tend to stress the data bases and information systems — how to store and manipulate data in the computer with the objective of using it in a management role," Levine explains. "In engineering we are concerned that people know both how computers are built and how to use them. Our students get a balanced program of design and usage — in other words, hardware and software."

Hardware in the two new labs is now providing engineering students with invaluable "hands on" experience — a prospect as exciting to the computer bum as a fresh snowfall would be to his skiing counterpart.  
*Victoria Lees*

## **Ready, Set... Go**

"You think you know what's going to happen because you've read several books on the subject and you've had friends with one. But once you live with your own, it's really quite different — it requires a huge adjustment." Jeff Derevensky, MA '73, PhD '76, is speaking about babies — normal babies born to loving parents — and the problems that often accompany the arrival of the stork. To help new parents cope, the thirty-one-year-old associate professor of education has established "Ready, Set... Go," a year-long course that teaches the rudiments of behaviour management and infant development.

Every Monday morning ten parents and their infants (aged two months to two years) assemble at the Education Building for one and a half hours of child observation. This is followed by a discussion period with Derevensky and other experts — a psychiatrist, a speech therapist, an occupational therapist, and a child-care worker. "Many of the parents have gone through prenatal training," Derevensky explains. "They've learned how to have the baby and picked up a few basic survival skills for afterwards, like diapering and feeding. But that's where it ends. Yet, actually having the baby is the easiest thing about parenting!" "Ready, Set... Go" picks

up where the prenatal classes left off. "There is no other program in the city," says Derevensky, "that can provide parents with the information they need on developmental skills."

That information has proved most welcome to new parents, especially career women who find themselves at home for the first time, alone with a child. "We get out of the 'stuck-at-home' syndrome while receiving a lot of support from each other," reports one mother enrolled in the program. Others praise "Ready, Set... Go" as the only intellectual stimulation they receive in the first year of parenthood. "We're concerned with the mother's problems as well as the child's," says Derevensky. Women today are not likely to have a mother or mother-in-law nearby to turn to for advice on child rearing, he explains; in addition, particularly during the first year of motherhood, women find themselves cut off from the world and physically and psychologically drained.

Derevensky would like to see the program expand: "Our program to date really deals with normal children and normal parents, but we'd like to start a group for high-risk parents — single teenaged mothers and retarded or psychologically distressed parents; and for high-risk infants — those who for physical or psychological reasons might one day have learning problems. The greatest problems with high-risk parents appear to revolve around poor mother-child interaction. We want to try to strengthen that interaction so that parents can understand what's going on in development and get lots of positive feedback for their behaviour." Derevensky would also like to make the program accessible to low-income families.

Although "Ready, Set... Go" is extremely popular — Derevensky cannot accept all the parents who apply — the program is running into financial difficulties. The \$100 tuition fee, he notes wryly, just about covers the cost of coffee. Yet, raising it would eliminate from the program the parents he is most anxious to reach. Meanwhile, donations of equipment and money trickle in, and only one staff member receives pay.

Derevensky's reward is the personal satisfaction he derives from working with the children and their parents, and the boost the experience gives him when it comes to preparing lectures – "It gives me funny stories to tell," he says. More than that, "Ready, Set... Go" is a learning experience, for him as well as for the parents: "No matter how much I think I know about infants and children in general," he explains, "there's always a lot more to learn." □

### The Best is Yet To Be

Life begins at sixty, they say. But for many elderly men and women the statement rings false. They must adjust not only to physical frustrations – failing eyesight and temperamental knees – but also to considerable mental stress. All too often the "golden years" are marked by a dreary sense of loss – loss of position as the family head, loss of a job and the self-esteem that comes with working, loss of family and friends.

The McGill Graduate Faculty Committee on Studies on Aging would like to see old age studied just as carefully as youth. Until recently, the problems and needs of the elderly were not even recognized, much less subjected to the scrutiny of researchers. "At the turn of the century life expectancy was about forty-five years, so growing old gracefully wasn't exactly a problem," says Blossom Wigdor, BA'45, PhD'52, associate professor of psychology and head of the multi-disciplinary group. "And until fairly recently there wasn't any specialization in the problems of aging. But now there is a generally recognized need for geriatrics and gerontology. With the changing life expectancy and the changing demographic composition of Canada, we've become much more conscious that we're going to have an older population. When I started in the early fifties," she recalls, "there was almost no research being done – but the literature has just mushroomed."

For the past two and a half years Wigdor and several colleagues have been investigating the special needs of the elderly. "We began informally, just through interest," she explains, "but then we all felt that if we wanted to accomplish anything we'd have to become an official McGill committee. We applied and last February were recognized by the Graduate Faculty Council." The Committee on Studies on Aging, composed of ten faculty members from psychology, medicine, nursing, social work, law, and architecture, was given a mandate to foster awareness of aging and the needs of the aged, to make recommendations to the Graduate Faculty for possible programs on aging that might stimulate research in the field, and to coordinate and disseminate knowledge already acquired.

This winter, to sensitize the university community to their work, the committee

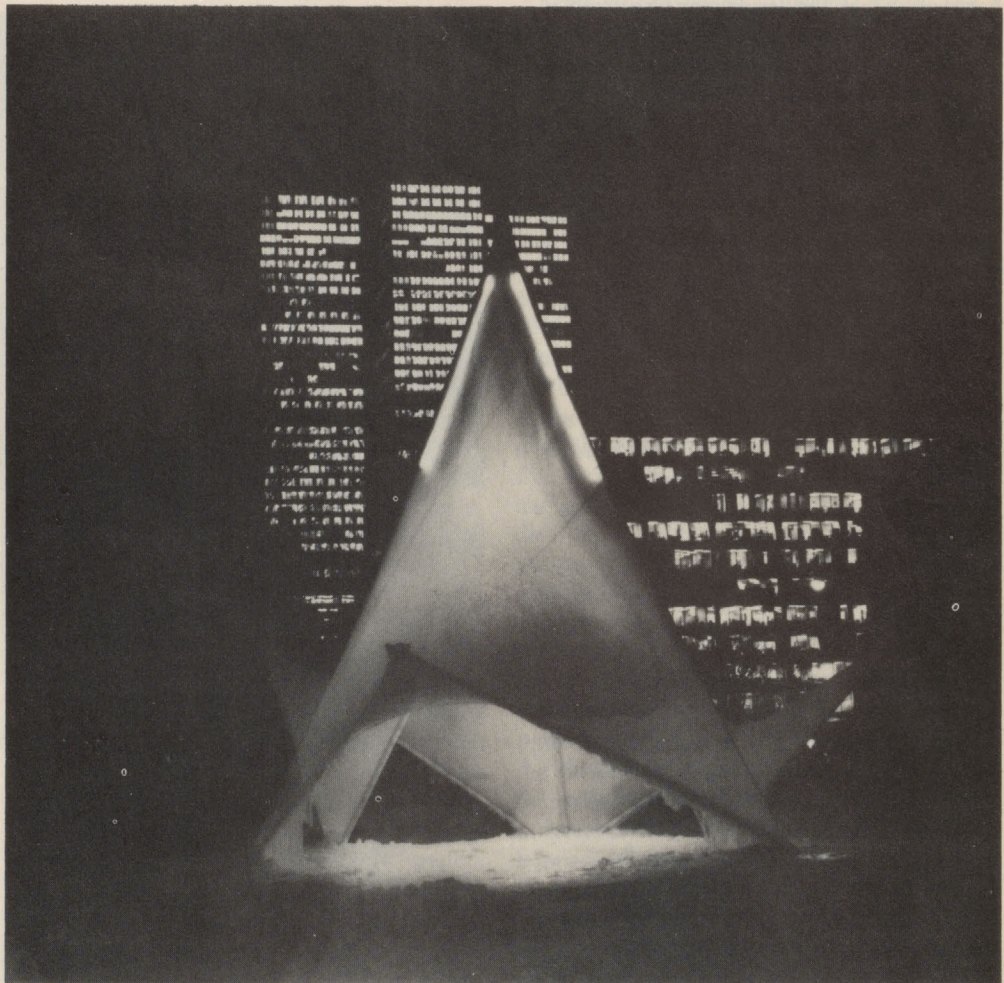
sponsored a public lecture series titled "Perspectives on Human Aging." Two-hundred and fifty people turned out to hear Dr. John Brocklehurst, a leading British geriatrician, speak on mental states in the aged. In February Dr. Leroy Stone, professor of sociology at the University of Western Ontario, gave a lecture on "Population Changes and Social Planning in Canada;" and in March Dr. Ethel Shanas, a socio-gerontologist from the University of Illinois, discussed family life and the aged.

The lecture series is just the beginning, Wigdor hopes. "McGill is interested in

scope in Canada, although indications are that there will be. The demand for trained people is growing faster than the supply. Canada just doesn't have enough expertise in this area." If Wigdor and her colleagues have their way, McGill-trained gerontologists may one day be able to restore some of the sparkle to the golden years. *Heather Kirkwood*

### New Peak on Campus

Manning a garden hose on a February day might seem an unusual campus activity. For twenty-two architecture students, however, it was serious business: they were creating a



Architecture students created a new look for this year's winter carnival ice palace.

instituting some sort of program of studies in the field of aging," she says. "We hope that by the end of this academic year our committee will be able to make recommendations as to how the university should proceed."

Wigdor regrets that she cannot devote more time to the work of the committee. "If we really want to get something going we'll need a full-time person and facilities – in other words, a centre run by a director or coordinator, with a mandate to develop a program of studies," she explains. "We feel there is a real need for such a program – there are no established gerontology programs of any

"new look" for the university's traditional winter carnival ice palace.

The ice palace started out as a classroom project. "Usually students make small clay models for design courses," explains Pieter Sijpkes, assistant professor of architecture. "This year I asked the Students' Society if we could put up the ice structure."

Given the go-ahead, everyone in Sijpkes' second-year design and construction class built an original model. Edward Hercun's design was unanimously selected and the whole class "worked like mad" to translate his concept into reality. They managed to

finish the thirty-foot-high palace both ahead of schedule and within their \$500 budget.

The construct marks a breakthrough in ice building. Instead of piling ice blocks on top of one another, the students stretched nylon mesh over a steel-pipe frame. The material was then sprayed with water. "Our biggest problem was that the ice was sublimating [evaporating into the air]," says Sijpkens. "We had to hose it once in a while. But ice is an ideal teaching material – mistakes melt away in spring and there's no disposal problem!"

No mistake about the McGill ice palace, however; in fact, the design may be offered to Quebec City for next year's winter carnival. "We're on a tangent that could lead to something more serious than building ice palaces," Sijpkens continues. "Two places in Europe are experimenting with the use of ice as an alternative to concrete. They've asked us to share our knowledge with them. And up north the army is doing quite a bit of work with ice as a building material."

Sijpkens believes his students have learned more from their project than simply how to construct an ice palace. "Before we began several people, including engineers, told us the design wouldn't work," he recalls. "We went ahead anyway. It's good for students to learn to trust their own judgement. And working outdoors on campus from morning until night made us all realize what a fantastic place McGill is. With the mountain and the old buildings, it's magnificent. We're lucky to be here." *Heather Kirkwood*

### Off and Running

"I'm satisfied only with perfection – so keep at it," track and field coach Russ Kidger chides a tired distance runner. It's 8 o'clock on a wintry morning but it looks and feels like dawn. Outside the snow is building into a blizzard; even under artificial lights the McGill gyms are cold and dark. Despite uninspiring conditions, however, thirty men and women train today and every day.

After an absence of six years – during which students competed only in cross-country races – the track and field program at McGill sprang back to life in November 1977 through the efforts of Kidger and ardent runner Dr. Vince Saull, professor of geological science. At Saull's suggestion, the foundering McGill program merged with Uni, a private Montreal track club of which Saull was an executive member. The alliance McGill-Uni offered mutual advantages. "With this arrangement," explains Saull, "McGill athletes can have access to Uni's coaches and sports clinics, while Uni members can use McGill's facilities and research resources. The main shortcoming of any university club is that it has a transient membership. But continuity can be achieved by grafting a community club on to the university."

Twenty-five students turned out to McGill's first track and field practice held under the new aegis; fifteen committed competitors survived the rigorous early morning sessions in the Sir Arthur Currie gyms. Their hard work paid off. Although athletes exposed to track for the first time at the university level work under a tremendous handicap – most senior club members have many years of training behind them – McGill proved modestly successful during local meets held that first summer. Two team members selected to compete in the Senior Provincial Championships brought laurels home to their alma mater – one



*Members of McGill's track and field team set a brisk pace on a morning practice run. After an absence of six years, track has returned to McGill.*

placed first in the 100-metre hurdles, the other came fourth in the 5,000 metres.

But it takes time to build a strong team. Kidger estimates it will be spring before the club is operating to his complete satisfaction. As well as organizing the group and setting up individual training programs, a coach must transmit his ideas and discipline to the athletes. "I'd like to build McGill into a showpiece of university track and field," he says. Nevertheless, the twenty-nine-year-old coach believes his primary responsibility is pedagogical. "I don't just tell athletes how to train," he says. "I explain why. By doing that I fulfill a service; I become an educator as well as a coach. This makes the program continue, because I train people who will in turn become coaches."

Kidger's work is bearing fruit. This year the track and field team doubled in size and McGill dominated the fall cross-country season. At the Canadian University Championships held in Toronto, McGill placed sixth in a field of fourteen. In a demanding twelve-kilometre race on Mount Royal, the entire thirty-member team placed in the top third of a field of 370 competitors. McGill won not only the university championship but the overall meet. Kidger and his athletes have high hopes for the spring. *Heather Kirkwood*

### Breakthrough in Pain Control

Achieving the delicate balance between pain control and drug addiction has perplexed the medical profession for centuries. But a research team at Bristol Laboratories of Canada, working in close collaboration with Dr. Bernard Belleau, professor of chemistry at McGill, has developed a new drug that could provide the answer.

Marketed by Bristol-Myers Laboratories under the brand name Stadol, butorphanol tartrate has been available in injection form in the United States since November 1978 and should be available in Canada shortly. "Stadol

will relieve any pain that can be alleviated by narcotic analgesics [drugs such as morphine and demerol]," says Belleau. The new compound is totally synthetic and is five to eight times more effective than morphine as an analgesic. Both animal and clinical tests indicate, however, that Stadol, even in large doses, does not lead to "drug-seeking behaviour." Belleau hopes that the new drug will free the medical profession from its reliance on fields of opium poppies in other parts of the world. Since Stadol is synthesized from coal-tar chemicals, its availability is ensured.

More than eight years ago, Belleau and Dr. Irwin Pachter of Bristol Labs theorized that it should be possible to produce a drug that was both an analgesic and a "clean" antagonist to narcotics (that is, a drug which blocks and reverses the effects of narcotics). Supported in part by grants from the National Research Council, Belleau and Dr. Yvo Markovic began chemical research with the specific aim of developing a safe and effective painkiller. Butorphanol, one of the initial target compounds, was extensively tested in animals by teams of pharmacologists. Once it was proved to be non-toxic and non-addictive, Stadol was tested as a painkiller. Clinical trials were carried out on 2,500

people in Canada and the United States. "It is impossible for any one man to be given or to take complete credit for a drug like this," says the fifty-three-year-old chemist. "Going from a theory to a practical medical application involves a great many steps and a lot of people."

For Belleau, the Stadol breakthrough marks a high point in a lifetime of research interest in the chemistry of opiates. After receiving his doctorate from McGill in 1950, he went to the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York City and then to the Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland. Returning to Canada in 1955, he worked first at Laval University and later at the University of Ottawa. In 1962 Bristol-Myers tried to coax him into their laboratories but, he recalls, "I didn't want to leave the university." Belleau believes strongly in "bridging the gap between industry and academic life." He accepted only a consulting position with the laboratories, first in Ottawa and later in Montreal.

Belleau joined McGill's department of chemistry in 1971 and five years later became the first Canadian to win the American Chemical Society Award in Medicinal Chemistry for original work in the pharmaceutical field. Last year he received the I.W. Killam Memorial Scholarship for studies in the chemistry of drug receptors and enzymes; he was also awarded the Marie-Victorin Prize for science by Quebec's Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Belleau is presently carrying out research in a variety of fields, including enkephalins (morphine-like substances produced by the body), antitumor agents, and adrenaline inhibitors.

To date, butorphanol has been used to control the pain caused by terminal cancer as well as pre- and post-operative pain. It has also been found effective in allaying dental and back pain. Belleau speculates that Stadol might eventually play a variety of roles. It could replace codeine as an ingredient in cough suppressants; other closely related drugs under study might be used to block or inhibit certain hormonal activities or to affect selectively the central nervous system.

Concludes Belleau, "It will be up to the drug company to provide the financial and human resources to develop this field." By Zoe Bieler, a medical reporter for the Montreal Star.

### Bookshelf

Capsule summaries of books by McGill faculty members and alumni:

Leonard Cohen – *Death of a Lady's Man*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1978. In this, his first book in six years, Leonard Cohen, BA'55, uses both poetry and prose to describe strained relations between the sexes.

Lawrence Freiman – *Don't Fall Off the Rocking Horse*. Toronto: McClelland and

Stewart, 1978. In his autobiography, Ottawa businessman, philanthropist, and humanitarian Lawrence Freiman, BA'30, describes his formative years and his involvement in education, the arts, Zionism, and the family retailing business.

Douglas H. Fullerton – *The Dangerous Delusion: Quebec's Independence Obsession*.

Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1978. Douglas Fullerton, BCom'30, MCom'40, former advisor to René Lévesque and four other Quebec premiers, examines the province's recent history and attacks the separatist aims and activities of the Parti Québécois.



Chemistry Professor Dr. Bernard Belleau, developer of the non-addictive analgesic Stadol: "It is impossible for any one man to be given or to take complete credit for a drug like this."

Irving Layton – *The Tightrope Dancer*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1978. "For me, poetry has meant packing maximum meaning and intensity into every line; if possible, into every word," writes Irving Layton, BSc(Agr)'39, MA'46, in the foreword of his new poetry collection. "A poem should resonate in the mind and heart long after it has been heard by the ear."

Patrick MacFadden, Rae Murphy, and

Robert Chodos – *Your Place or Mine?* Ottawa: Deneau and Greenberg, 1978. Carleton University journalism professor and broadcaster Patrick MacFadden, BA'66, and writer Robert Chodos, BSc'67, collaborated with journalist Rae Murphy to produce this humorous political satire set in the Canada of 1985.

Hugh MacLennan – *The Colour of Canada*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1978. In this revised edition, English Professor Dr. Hugh MacLennan's descriptive text is complemented by dramatic colour photographs depicting the changing moods and seasons of Canada.

Seymour Mayne, ed. – *Irving Layton: The Poet and His Critics*. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1978. Since Irving Layton published his first volume of poetry in 1946, he has garnered both critical acclaim and abuse. Dr. Seymour Mayne, BA'65, an English professor at the University of Ottawa, has compiled reviews and articles about the controversial poet that date from 1945 to 1975.

Don Murray and Vera Murray – *De Bourassa à Lévesque*. Montreal: Les Editions Quinze, 1978. Husband-and-wife team Don and Vera Murray, MA'75, describe the rise and fall of Quebec's most recent premiers.

Neal Olshan and Julie Wang – *Phobia Free and Flying High*. New York: Condor Publishing Co., Inc., 1978. Julie (Dreyer) Wang, BA'67, has coauthored a guide to phobias that describes not only how to identify fears but also how to overcome them by a combination of body control techniques.

Gordon Pape and Tony Aspler – *Chain Reaction*. New York: Viking Press, 1978. In this thriller set in the Canada of the early 1980s, publisher Gordon Pape and radio producer Tony Aspler, BA'59, postulate that the Parti Québécois is still in power and that the separation referendum has been won. When the premier of Quebec is assassinated, however, an international power struggle for the province ensues.

Brenda Rabkin – *Growing Up Dead*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1978. In the last twenty years the suicide rate for North Americans aged 15 to 24 has almost tripled – 10,000 Canadian adolescents attempt suicide each year. Freelance journalist Brenda (Yablon) Rabkin, BA'66, presents interviews with young people who have attempted suicide and probes for the reasons behind their despair.

Homer Scoggan – *The Flora of Canada*. Ottawa: National Museum of Natural Sciences, vol. 1-3, 1978; vol. 4, 1979. Homer Scoggan, BSc'34, MSc'35, PhD'42, formerly a botanist at the National Herbarium of Canada, has produced a detailed study of Canadian ferns, conifers, and flowering plants, accompanied by comprehensive keys for the identification of over 4,000 indigenous and nonindigenous botanical species. □

# Letters

## **A History of Women at McGill ... Defended**

I read with interest the letter from Dr. Margaret Gillett in the Summer 1978 issue. Her idea of documenting the history of women at McGill seemed a good one; consequently, I was more than a little surprised at Dr. Leo Yaffe's reply in the Fall issue.

It would appear that Professor Yaffe fails to see the purpose of a history, does not understand the women's movement, or both. A history of women at McGill is logically just as valid as a history of Quebec in Canada – each permits a minority to offer its unique perspective. Furthermore, the women's movement itself is a major force in the university of the 1970s, as affirmative action programs clearly demonstrate. Thus I see no support for Yaffe's claim of "reverse sexism" on the part of Gillett.

I do agree with Yaffe that material relating to the history of women at McGill should also be sent to Dr. Stanley Frost [director of the History of McGill Project] for his book. However, the idea that this information could "more profitably be sent to him" is, in my opinion, sexist. I suggest that we let the two historians decide for themselves the relevance of the received material by sending all of it to both of them. I look forward to the publication of *both* books.

Colin M. MacLeod, BA'71  
Toronto, Ont.

## **... Welcomed**

The letter of my colleague and friend Dr. Leo Yaffe in the Fall 1978 issue asks an interesting question: "Why is Margaret Gillett writing a history of women at McGill if Stanley Frost is writing a general history of McGill?" One way to respond is to ask why, if there are general histories of Canada, should there be an economic history of Canada?

Moses was once asked to rebuke two unauthorized individuals who had presumed to prophesy, and he replied, "Would to God all the people were prophets!" I very much wish that all McGill people were historians. I could then take the special-interest histories and

wisely combine them so as to balance out any biases and produce the perfect history of McGill. Unfortunately, not all McGill interests have historians and I suspect I might lack the omniscience and possibly even at times the impartiality required. As it is, I have been greatly helped by a number of special-interest studies, and have already profited from some of Margaret Gillett's research. Readers will be able to compare her specialized study with my general account when the *History of Women at McGill* appears next spring – about the same time, we hope, as the first volume of my *History of McGill*.

Stanley B. Frost, Director  
History of McGill Project

## **And for Dessert, a Magazine?**

Although the Winter 1978 issue, in the newspaper format, was every bit as interesting, informative, and well written as the magazine, I missed the sparkle of the colourful magazine covers, which had become so imaginative, and the gloss of the photos.

If we are now restricted, because of budget cuts, to a meat-and-potatoes diet, I hope we may still look forward to the occasional dessert.

Bea Kemp, Secretary  
Graduate Studies in English

## **"A Forsey to be Reckoned With"**

Congratulations on a first-rate interview with Senator Eugene Forsey (Winter 1978).

David J. Gibson, BCL'66  
Ottawa, Ont.

## **Bouquets**

The Winter 1978 issue of the *McGill News* was excellent. I read and enjoyed all the articles. Thanks for making it such an interesting paper.

Kathryn B. Tierney, BSc'39, BLS'47  
North Hollywood, Calif.

## **...and Brickbats**

Ignorance of the historical seems endemic these days... and now we have Lois Mackenzie's "Perspective" on old Ontario houses (Fall 1978) bringing Alsatians to Canada in 1837 to escape Napoleon's conscription. Even if Mackenzie has managed to avoid European history this long, don't your staff have some obligations?

Gerald McCaughey, BA'51  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton

*Editor's Note: The Alsatians escaped Napoleon's conscription long before 1837 – the "Little Corporal" died in 1821. It was the house that was built in 1837. We regret that this error crept into the article during the editing process.*

## **Faculty Donations**

We have received a copy of *McGill Today* in which Chancellor Conrad Harrington, referring to the standing of the McGill Development Program, states that he is "not only gratified by the result, but full of admiration for the support received."

My wife and I are not. It is disturbing to note that faculty and staff, the direct and indirect benefactors of this massive campaign, contributed slightly more than 1 per cent. Over the five-year span, the average return from salaries is an interesting example of marginal values.

We will have to reassess our donation. It is difficult to have faith in the future of McGill when the present faculty and staff obviously do not.

Charles N. McPherson, BEng'47, and  
Elizabeth (Atkinson) McPherson, BA'47,  
BSW'48, MSW'53  
Kamloops, B.C.

## **The McGill Development Program replies:**

Professors are not only "benefactors" of the university; they are also employees. These days some employees do not readily see themselves as having this kind of responsibility.

Personally, I do not agree, at least as regards universities – and, in fact, many staff members do not. That's why 1,200 members of our faculty and non-academic staff gave as much as they did: more than those at the University of Toronto (with all the difference in size in that university's favour), although less than those at Queen's. Smaller and more homogeneous places, where people know each other a little better, can do better in such situations.

There are other factors. Some important gifts made to the MDP by professors who are also graduates were attributed not to "staff" but rather to "graduates." Had they been counted as staff, the staff total would have doubled.

Faith in the future of McGill is amply demonstrated by many exciting developments. Research, for which our professors raise some \$22 million every year, is demonstrably more diversified than ever before.... New teaching programs and improvements are being implemented. These, coupled with the terrific response to the campaign at all levels of the community, are ample evidence of faith in Old McGill. I honestly think that if the McPhersons continue their support, they will have in McGill a good and worthy cause.

Walter F. Hirschfeld, PhD'50  
Vice-Principal (Research) and Dean of  
Graduate Studies  
MDP Faculty Liaison Chairman



# A judicious choice

by Carol Stairs

On the first of September David Lloyd Johnston, dean of Law at the University of Western Ontario, will become principal of McGill.

After ten months of searching and deliberating, McGill announced in early January the appointment of its fourteenth principal and tenth vice-chancellor. David Lloyd Johnston, thirty-seven-year-old dean of Law at the University of Western Ontario, was the unanimous choice of both the Senate-appointed Statutory Committee to Nominate a Principal and the Board of Governors. "The enormously stimulating challenge of being a part of McGill attracted me to the position," the principal-elect stated at a press conference. "When it was offered to me by the Board of Governors, I accepted without a moment's hesitation."

McGill's gain, however, is Western's loss. Johnston's colleagues in London are already lamenting his departure. Says Dean of Dentistry Dr. Wesley Dunn, "The day his appointment was announced, I must admit I had very ambivalent views. On the one hand, I couldn't imagine anybody more suited to the principalship of a university than David Johnston. But I was almost disconsolate to realize that he would be leaving Western." Dr. Louise Forsyth, a French professor who has worked with Johnston on several committees, says simply, "He cares *terribly* about people. We shall miss him."

President of Western Dr. George Connell feels that Johnston has the qualities that will make him a first-rate principal. "He is a very sound academic person and that is important in any position of academic leadership — you have to be good at the basic job, which is teaching and doing research. Then, too, he is a good administrator. He has been an excellent dean for the Faculty of Law."

When he begins his five-year term on the first of September, Johnston will be the youngest university head in Canada. (Surprisingly, perhaps, he is the *fifth*-youngest principal in the 158-year history of McGill.) Born in Sudbury, Ontario, and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Johnston won a scholarship to Harvard University in 1959. Named every year to the Dean's Honour List, he graduated in 1963 with a bachelor of arts,



A pride of principals: Dr. Robert Bell, right, and his successor David Johnston.

# Looking for leadership

by Victoria Lees

The ideal McGill principal was once described as a combination of Jesus Christ and Genghis Khan. An exaggeration perhaps – but only a slight one. Not only does the principal and vice-chancellor guide a university of almost 27,000 souls – 19,600 students, 4,000 academics, and 3,300 staff members – but, in addition, he is often called upon to act as a spokesman for Quebec's English-speaking population.

When Dr. Robert Bell, principal throughout the seventies, announced his resignation over a year ago, he set into motion the Senate-designed machinery for choosing his successor. The Statutory Committee to Nominate a Principal was convened last March, with Chancellor Conrad Harrington as chairman and two representatives each from the Board of Governors, the Senate, the Students' Society, the Graduates' Society, the McGill Association of University Teachers, and the McGill University Non-Academic Staff Association. The committee held twenty-eight meetings and innumerable informal get-togethers. In addition, individual members held confidential talks with people mentioned during proceedings as either possible candidates or referees. Points of order were hammered out, letters of reference examined, long-distance calls made across the continent. The paperwork was vast and the meetings both exhaustive and exhausting.

Nevertheless, the Thursday afternoons given over to choosing a new principal are remembered fondly by those who participated. "To me, it was one of the greatest experiences I have had at McGill," recalls Donald McRobie, a representative from the Board of Governors. "I have been around here practically since Noah's Ark and I've done a lot of things. But nothing was nearly as interesting as this. The twelve on the committee represented different segments of the university community, but it became apparent after a few meetings that everybody was dedicated to getting the *best* person for McGill.

We all saw eye to eye on that. It was an amazing exercise. There were no differences of opinion, there wasn't a word spoken in anger or criticism throughout the whole ten months."

Harrington drew up a list of criteria. "The key function of the principal," he wrote, "is to be able to present a good, alive, interesting profile to the university and to all milieu in which the university is properly concerned." To this end, the principal should be physically and mentally strong, bold, innovative, patient, persuasive, and warm. Finally, wrote the chancellor, he should "be capable of great fairness and decision – and sometimes of righteous indignation."

The criteria were intended as informal guidelines only. "We didn't have an accepted model," explains McRobie, "but each of us had his own conception of what the attributes of the best person would be. They started off with the obvious one of leadership. I think the person to lead a university or any big enterprise must have a presence." The committee, he adds, was also looking for an academic. "There are no rules laid down on the matter, but I personally don't believe that anybody but an academic could lead a university."

One-hundred and nine applications and nominations poured in – there was, Harrington notes, *l'embarras du choix*. Eventually, the committee narrowed the field to nine, and each finalist was interviewed – intensively. At 11 o'clock the candidate would meet with four committee members for coffee, at 12:30 with four others for lunch, and at 4 with the entire committee. They faced a barrage of questions. "McGill's place in Quebec and in Canada was a frequent question," recalls third-year Law student Neil Wiener, a Students' Society representative. "There were many questions on the budget and McGill's financial future. The non-academic staff asked about unionization; representatives of the Graduates' Society asked about the relationship of the graduates to McGill. Specific things that I

was interested in were a willingness to speak up on issues, given the present situation in Quebec, and also some realization that curriculum and academic standards at McGill are not all they should be at the undergraduate level."

David Johnston, Western's young dean of Law, passed his orals with flying colours and emerged the favourite of the committee. Before coming to a final decision, however, the nominating committee wanted an even closer look at its prime candidate and six members flew to London for a day. They returned to Montreal impressed; the committee decided on December 14 to present Johnston to the Board of Governors as its sole candidate.

"We were all taken with his maturity and his presence," notes Harrington. "He had more dignity, more poise and balance from the beginning than many of us achieve in our whole lives." Wiener concurs: "It wasn't any particular position he adopted, or any particular skill that he possessed. It was the general impression he created that I found so admirable." McRobie says simply that Johnston stood head and shoulders above the other candidates. "He has the intrinsic, basic integrity that you look for in a leader."

On January 9 the Board of Governors, like the nominating committee, voted unanimously to name David Johnston McGill's fourteenth principal and tenth vice-chancellor. The following day he was introduced to the public at large through a press conference and gracefully fielded questions from media representatives in both English and French. "It's very good discipline for a lawyer to be cross-examined," he allowed. Asked if he planned to continue teaching Law while serving in his new post Johnston quipped, "I'll have to ask the dean! Deans of Law have very particular concerns about who teaches in their Faculty!"

In any capacity in which he serves at McGill, the principal-elect's interest in students will stand him in good stead. Wiener has already experienced it. After the new principal had been presented to the Board of Governors and the celebratory sherry had been poured, he stepped over to speak with the Law student who had devoted so many hours to the selection committee. "He asked me about my courses, about my exams, about what I planned to do after Law School," Wiener recalls. "At what must have been the high point in his academic career, he paused to talk to me like that. And he really cared."

The ultimate accolade. □

*magna cum laude*. Johnston then entered law studies at Cambridge University on a Trinity Hall Scholarship, emerging two years later with an honours bachelor of laws degree. In 1966, he added a second LLB to his credentials when he completed his studies at Queen's University. After teaching there for two years, Johnston joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto and became a full professor in 1972. Two years later, at the age of thirty-three, he assumed the deanship of Western's Law School.

Not everyone has been overawed by his brilliant career, however! With typical self-deprecatory humour, Johnston recounts a family anecdote: "I have a great-uncle who is now in his eighties and he's lived on the same farm for most of his life. He's a man who believes in roots. A few years ago he said to me, 'Let me see, you're in London now, aren't you?' Yes, that's right, Uncle Frank. 'Well now, just a couple of years ago you were in Toronto, weren't you?' Yes, Uncle Frank. 'And before that you were in Kingston?' Yes, that's right. 'And didn't you spend some time over in England and down in the States?' Yes, that's right, Uncle Frank. Then he stopped for a long, dramatic pause and he said, 'Sounds to me, young fella, like you can't hold a job!'" While Johnston admits that he, too, is "very conscious of roots," he nonetheless seizes each new challenge that is presented to him.

A specialist in securities regulation and in corporation and labour law, Johnston has published dozens of articles, coauthored several casebooks, and written a text entitled *Canadian Securities Regulation* (1977). Since 1972 he has been an active member of the Ontario Securities Commission which, he explains, "is responsible for regulating and supervising the trading of stocks and bonds in the province of Ontario, and which, specifically, has jurisdiction over the activities of the Toronto Stock Exchange." His work as a commissioner is "one of the outside activities... that reinforces my interest in economic regulation and corporate law." It is a post, nevertheless, that he must leave behind upon moving to Quebec.

Johnston has also been active in other aspects of provincial legal affairs. He has not only drafted provincial securities legislation and chaired arbitration hearings for several teachers' strikes, but also headed committees as diverse as the Ontario Hospital Inquiry Commission and the Canadian Law Deans Committee.

It goes without saying that Johnston has been a sought-after committee member within the ivy-covered walls of Western. "I've watched him take difficult stands," notes Forsyth, who was a faculty representative on the President's Commission on Salaries and

Benefits which Johnston chaired. "But he has never compromised the stand he takes [for fear that] it might do him personal harm. He is willing to get involved and take his knocks."

The openness and enthusiasm of "Dean Dave" have also won him the respect of students. Says Students' Council president and recent Law graduate Alan Patton: "He has always had a sincere concern for students, whether it is academic or social. And he's gung ho about everything he does – it's terrible to be dragging into the Law School at 8:30 on a Monday morning and see him bounding down the hall to a class or a meeting!"

fourteen years, and their five daughters, Deborah, Alexandra, Sharon, Jenifer, and Catherine. Distance running, downhill skiing, horseback riding, ice skating – the Johnstons enjoy them all. A defenceman on the All-American Hockey Team (and a roommate of author Erich Segal) while at Harvard, Johnston has always been a believer in physical fitness. Last fall he completed the rigorous twenty-six-mile Toronto Marathon, though he admits that "most of it seemed uphill to me!" The principal-elect enjoys running "because it's relaxation and it's a time to think. If I have any good ideas, I think they tend to come when



*Principal-elect David Johnston, left, has retired his Western track suit. Jogging partners Dean of Dentistry Dr. Wesley Dunn, centre, and Dean of Physical Education Dr. Bill L'Heureux admire his new uniform, a gift from McGill's department of athletics.*

A statement Johnston once made to Patton's first-year Law class left a lasting impression. "He quoted Thomas Aquinas, saying that the lawyer should be the complete man," Patton recalls. "Dean Johnston said he had always agreed that there should be more to your life than just the law. I think that is something he really lives up to – in his work with the community, his students, and his family."

Busy as he is, Johnston makes time to be with his family – Sharon, his wife of

I let my mind roam free. To go and have a run is my way of handling tension and pressure." The sport has become a family affair. "Our eight-year-old daughter ran in the Springbank race here – four and a half miles – and my wife is now a jogger too," says Johnston.

In addition to running regularly and raising five children, Mrs. Johnston is a student – she is in the final term of her BSc in physiotherapy at Western. She hopes to be able to complete her summer internship at



a francophone hospital in Montreal, with a view to improving her professional French. The Johnstons are happy about their move to Montreal and McGill. "I perceive the situation as being a very positive one for all of us," states Mrs. Johnston. "There are so many opportunities for us to enrich ourselves that I think we're lucky to be able to go." The girls will attend a French private school in Montreal.

So enthusiastic was eight-year-old Alexandra after a recent two-day visit to her new school and new city that she decided to make Montreal the subject of a class presentation upon her return to London. "Montreal has many universities," she wrote. "Several are of world stature. My favorite one is McGill University. And that's because my dad will be principal of it."

Alexandra and her sisters are happily unaware of the problems that their father has inherited with the principal's mantle. McGill, like all North American universities, faces a nexus of demographic issues — a potentially dwindling student population and an aging faculty. And McGill, like all Quebec universities, must do more with less as government grants shrink inexorably. As he guides the university into a new decade, David Johnston will doubtless be called upon to use the originality and energy for which he is known and respected.

The *News* recently spoke with the principal-elect in his office at Western and invited him to comment on issues of concern:

● **Declining Enrolment:** "We in the Canadian university community have to begin to live with the notion of smaller, but more beautiful. Through the sixties, we expanded very quickly; it is always difficult to scale those kinds of efforts back. But there have been many other periods in the history of higher education in this country and in other countries when we have had to learn to live with diminished resources and we have done so successfully."

● **Staff Shrinkage:** "It is important to try to cause the shrinkage to occur by natural attrition. It is also important to have the shrinkage occur at a gradual pace so that you are bringing in fresh ideas on a regular basis. These must perforce come from people whose experiences are those of other institutions and sometimes those of other countries, and who have the freshness and the new perspective that younger people can bring to a university. I don't think there are any marvellous solutions."

● **Undergraduate Curriculum:** "My own interests in terms of undergraduate education are to ensure that a broadly based liberal arts education remains one of the very important centres of the university and a

*The principal's first press conference, as seen through the eyes of McGill Daily cartoonist Stuart Logie.*

foundation for the work of a more specialized kind that is done in so many disciplines. My own education at Harvard involved a four-year, broadly based liberal arts degree with an avoidance of any narrow concentration. Only after I had completed that did I go on to pursue professional studies in the Law.

"I think I am a better professional because of that foundation. It is awfully important in professional education that young men and women are educated for a lifetime in their practice. During that lifetime the content of the discipline is going to change quite dramatically and the best people will be those who have the capacity to adjust to the change in content and the change in skills."

● **Admission Standards:** "My contribution to discussions at Western has been that we should *not* lower admission standards but that we should be prepared to have a gradual decline in the number of students entering our undergraduate programs. It is important that this decline be gradual so that one can adjust to the consequences."

● **The Role of Alumni:** "I can't tell you how impressed I am with what the Graduates' Society at McGill has done. I look forward to my association with the society and to direct contact with the graduates. We talked about declining enrolment and the task of attracting high-quality students to McGill. I think graduates have an important role to play in these respects. My alumni work with the Harvard Club in Toronto has been partly in that connection. It started out as a desire to put a little bit of water back into the well from which I have drawn so much. But I find that I continue to take more water out of the well than I put back."

● **The Move to Quebec:** "I'm a Canadian and McGill is an exceedingly important Canadian university. That is what attracted me to the position. We look forward to living in Quebec very much; it is the most culturally stimulating of Canada's regions. Quebec is now involved in a series of changes that present challenges which I think are quite exciting."

"As to my background in French, I have a basic knowledge and feel that I am making good progress. I feel reasonably confident that by the first of September I'll certainly have competence in speaking French and will be able to carry on discussions with people in the Quebec government and elsewhere. In a reasonably short time my northern-Ontario accent should diminish a little bit!"

● **Personal Priorities for September 1:** "I think my priorities are to be sure that I get out from my office and around the university, so that I come to understand it in a direct way. There's a tendency sometimes to become a victim of the paper that crosses your desk. I want to see the university as it really is and come to know the people who make it a first-quality operation." □

# Planning for the future

Two imaginative master's programs at McGill train students to build a better environment for both the haves and the have-nots.

## Cheaper Homes

While many architects devote their talents to designing elegant homes for the wealthy, the Minimum Cost Housing Group (MCHG) in McGill's School of Architecture is endeavouring to develop cheap and efficient housing for the world's homeless.

Part of a graduate program in housing design, the eight-year-old MCHG has begun looking at a virtually cost-free – and ubiquitous – construction material, consumer garbage. Waste products can be recycled in a number of ways, the group has discovered – baby-food jars can be glued together into panels, tin cans wired into blocks. The architects are also experimenting with modifications to commercial packaging design. Cardboard boxes, soft drink bottles, bleach containers – with a few simple adaptations all could be reusable as building materials. It is estimated that a small supermarket generates enough packaging to build twenty houses a week, and that the world's ten largest soft-drink and brewery corporations produce enough bottles to build one-hundred million homes a year.

Those homes are already desperately needed in the Third World, and the situation can only deteriorate – by the year 2000 the world's population is expected to reach six billion. Witold Ryczynski, associate professor of architecture and head of MCHG, says bluntly, "Mexico City grows by a thousand people a day. There are no miracle solutions." His group, nevertheless, continues to search for alternatives.

The cornerstone of MCHG technology is the sulphur building block. Cheap, abundant, and often produced as an industrial waste, sulphur can be melted down and poured into moulds. A strong, waterproof building block can be hand-produced in twenty minutes. Because the blocks interlock like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, no mortar is required during construction. To date the MCHG has erected three sulphur-block buildings in Canada – a small dwelling on the Macdonald College campus, a pavilion for the Cree Indians at Saddle Lake, Alberta, and an orphanage near Sorel, Quebec.

Alternative sanitation systems are also high on the researchers' list of priorities. Water-

based sewage systems are not only expensive to install but also use an inordinate amount of water. (The average North American family uses 334,000 litres of water a year, 40 per cent of which is used for toilet flushing. Such liquid luxury, impossible in the arid regions of the world, is wasteful even in temperate zones.) Consequently, the MCHG has been engaged in developing low-cost dry toilets.

A few years ago the group also invented a device to reduce the amount of water required for bathing. The six-minute atomized shower, featuring a mist sprayer, vinyl tubing, and a bicycle pump, uses only two litres of water as opposed to the 42 litres used in a normal shower and the 125 in a bath. Since run-off



*The glass brick: Imaginative packaging results in useful garbage.*

from the atomized shower is minimal, no elaborate drainage system is necessary; rather, the two litres are easily collected for disposal or recycling.

The original atomized shower had one drawback – it was chilly. "It's nice to take a warm shower," confesses auxiliary professor Vikram Bhatt, "so one of our students worked this year on developing a cheap water heater." His low-cost solution to the problem? A black plastic garbage bag filled with water and left to warm in the sun. "But how do you seal it? We tried the most expensive glue on the market

and worked backwards," Bhatt explains. "Finally, the student found a method – he folded the edges of the bag over and used a cigarette to heat-seal the plastic. It gives a tremendous bond."

The MCHG disseminates its innovative ideas not only through publications but also through representatives who travel to developing countries to teach its technology. As well, foreign students returning home carry the MCHG message with them. Master's student V.S. ("Chotu") Nataraj, who plans to return to India this spring, is critical of his country's slum-clearance programs. "They build four-storey concrete buildings for slum dwellers, but people just rent them out to others who earn a little more; with four months' rent, they can build another slum house," he explains. "You can't take people away from where they live – they don't like it. Especially fisher folk – there is no point taking them away from their shores. It is better to go there and help them build a better community with very cheap material." One inexpensive material Nataraj envisions using is stabilized earth. "They have very good clay in many parts of India," he notes.

Although the varied work of the MCHG is not likely to have much impact on urban areas, it has enormous potential for rural regions and for the Third World. "In the western world," Bhatt explains, "housing is not supplied in adequate numbers because the market doesn't want it supplied that way. While a house is a necessity, it is also regarded as an investment and the supply must be limited to keep prices high. If you own a house today, one day you will be rich. In ten years' time the value will double. You will sell it, buy another of greater value, and finally you will make a hundred-thousand dollars profit and buy a condominium in Florida."

Unfortunately, that formula doesn't work for everyone – the free-market concept of housing as an investment is totally foreign to slum dwellers. What they need is basic shelter. For many citizens of the world, a home built of beer cans or a shower in two litres of water – cold or warm – would be considered a luxury. *Victoria Lees*

## Better Cities

Most McGill students do fairly routine things while earning their graduate degree – chemists experiment in their labs, historians live in the library. Some, however, use the city as both lab and library. They spend two and a half years researching it – not only measuring noise levels, tracing property ownerships, and estimating traffic flow, but also investigating the accidents on its streets, the suitability of its industries, and the happiness of its inhabitants. They are master's students in the School of Urban Planning, one of twelve such facilities in Canada.

What, in fact, do urban planners do? "In a city like Montreal, planners are likely to be specialists," explains Harvard-trained Professor David Farley, BArch'59, director of the school. "They might specialize in housing or urban economics. They might specialize in municipal finance and work on the economic problems of the city – how to increase the tax base, how to run the city in an effective way. Then there are urban designers – they study the form of cities, projecting them into the future. They will be involved in design questions, such as where roads should go and what kind of land-use regulations should exist. Other planners work at the level of citizen involvement, making up conceptual schemes, for example, for redevelopment of the waterfront.

"Small communities need planners who can do everything," Farley continues. "–apply for federal and provincial aid to fix things up, work with the city manager on transportation problems, advise the mayor on all sorts of issues. The planner reports to the city council and works with the city manager on things like building approvals. He probably also works with the chamber of commerce. In this kind of practice you have to know a bit about everything. On the whole, you can't solve *any* urban planning problem without getting into a number of different areas. Planning does not lend itself to a single perspective. It predetermines an approach that places one in the difficult position of not being an expert!"

Those who choose this profession come from a variety of educational backgrounds. Urban designers usually have architectural training, while transportation specialists are generally engineers. Also accepted into McGill's urban planning program are graduates in geography, social work, law, economics, political science, and sociology. The three full-time staff members are also multidisciplinary: Farley is trained as an architect and planner whereas associate professor Jeanne Wolfe, MA'61, and assistant professor David Brown are both geographers as well as planners.

Of the ninety students who apply annually to the School of Urban Planning, only fifteen are accepted. This year, nine of those students are francophone. "We don't aim at a particular mix," explains Wolfe. "That is just the way it

came out. In fact, it is really rather funny because at the end of term the francophones were moaning, 'Speak English – I'm here to learn English.' But the English-speaking students are very anxious to learn French – they have to, in order to get into their professional corporation. So you hear them having fierce discussions – the English students speak French and the French students speak English. They're all determined to practise!" The program covers a core of compulsory basics (the theory of planning, general principles and practices) and a choice of electives (including site usage, urban



*An urban planning student presents his plan for the development of Nuns' Island.*

transportation, housing policy, planning in Quebec). Two studios (or planning projects) and a supervised research paper complete the academic requirements. "We expect the students to learn the basics of planning and to specialize," explains Farley. "Someone concerned with social issues might well do more work in political science; another interested in transportation would probably concentrate on math, civil engineering, and perhaps economics."

Work carried out by the students often proves useful to the city under study. This year, various problems in the City of Verdun were assigned as

studio work. "The students divided themselves into groups and each studied a specific question," Wolfe explains. "One of them did the proposed bridge between Nuns' Island and Verdun – a cost benefit study on whether it should be built or not – and came out against it. One of them did a study of merchandising on Wellington Street – a series of planning proposals on how to cheer up the main street – which was fantastically well received. The merchants are paying to have this student exercise published and distributed. Another group studied the use of the back lanes and what could be done to improve them. A local citizens' committee got hold of their report and is reprinting it."

"The second-year studio is again terrific," Wolfe adds. "The students have just done a huge project, in conjunction with the two school boards, on school closures in the inner city and what they are going to do about them. They operated at three levels. One was a macrolevel, a demographic study saying, 'This is the composition of the population and this is the way things are changing. Globally, these are the numbers of schools you are going to have to close.' A second group went into meso-scale; they took one district of the city and made a specific plan of which schools should be closed and which kept open. A third group took three specific buildings and invented uses for them within the community context."

A planner may plan, but the government decides. How do planners deal with political problems? "Any way they can," says Farley. "My feeling is that most planners, for good or ill, have taken the position that they have an obligation to do a first-rate technical job, to make clear what the options are. Then they must accept that the decision will not be theirs. They can strongly recommend, they can resign if they lose. In a public administration you either have to quit at a certain point or accept the political decision."

Job opportunities for students holding a master's degree in urban planning (MUP) are, says Farley, "a function of the economy. We have been affected the way the development industry and architects have been affected. With the slowdown in economic activity over the past two years we don't have as many consultants phoning us to say they've got to have planners." Wolfe estimates that for the student "who doesn't have a clue about getting a job," it takes about two months to find work.

Certainly the long-term prospects for urban planners are bright. Three-quarters of Canada's population is already concentrated on less than one per cent of the land. By 2001, demographers predict that 90 to 95 per cent of all Canadians will live in cities. Urbanization will inevitably force citizens to think carefully about their environment. City size, modes of transportation, housing, land use, congestion, ecological strain – these complex issues must be faced. The urban planner will be consulted on them all. □

# Silverberg

by Carol Stairs

"If my nails are dirty I know I'm okay," muses artist-engraver David Silverberg, BA '57. "It's just the ink – and a little bit of joy!"

In all his coloured engravings, Silverberg celebrates life. Lovers and animals, women and birds, dancers and butterflies – these recurring images are natural extensions of his optimistic spirit. "The world is not just made up of what you see," says the forty-three-year-old artist. "You reorganize it in your mind and in your heart and in the light of experiences you have had. One of the most exciting things about being an artist is that you can hold on to images and ideas; they become part of your existence."

As a child Silverberg studied under Dr. Arthur Lismer at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and went on to specialize in fine art at McGill. In 1963, the young high-school art teacher moved to Sackville, New Brunswick, to join the Mount Allison University staff as a lecturer in graphic arts; he has been an associate professor since 1971.

Silverberg has travelled extensively, studying etching and engraving in France, lithography in England, wood-block carving and batik in Japan, and ceramics and terra cotta in Peru. By combining elements of these centuries-old arts, he has evolved a method of engraving that is as unique as his fingerprints.

"I use an instrument from the 1400s called

a graver, or burin, and carve lines in a steel or zinc plate by pushing the tool forward and moving the plate with the other hand," he explains. "It is a very slow, delicate process and has serious disadvantages for the modern spirit." Before the burin ever comes in contact with the metal plate, however, Silverberg makes numerous detailed drawings in a sketchbook. "I use pen and ink almost exclusively," he notes. "They closely resemble the dangerous element in printmaking – you can't make a mistake."

*Printmaker David Silverberg at his intaglio press: "There's a lot of physical work and a lot of sweat, but I like the contact."*



Once the design is complete, Silverberg draws directly on the plate with ink and then begins to engrave. "It's much like working with the melody before adding the orchestration," he says. "It's being put down, but with the knowledge that it will go much further."

To create three-dimensional images, Silverberg employs a method reminiscent of the art of batik. After waxing over certain features of the engraving, he dips the plate into a vat of diluted acid and uses large feathers to spread the solution evenly. He then removes the etched plate, washes it carefully, and resumes work with the burin. As a result, the finished plate is rough to the touch — to achieve the realistic depth of pine boughs in *Mourning Dove* (see page 15), he submerged the plate in acid sixteen times.

During the printing process, Silverberg explains, "What is low in the plate becomes high in the print and vice versa. There is a great deal of embossing in my work. In some ways it's a pity that the prints are framed. They should be handled and touched."

It takes a month, and sometimes longer, for the artist to complete a large engraving — and as much as an hour to produce a single finished print. "I don't think I have great patience in other things," he remarks, "but here I must have. It is an illness, a temperament. I want the plate to have enough integrity to be able to take sixty or a hundred prints. Integrity is a word not used too easily nowadays, but it is the name of the game." Using his fingers, Silverberg deftly rubs a rainbow of oil-based inks into the grooves of the engraving. Those sections that have been polished with a burnisher totally reject the ink; the grooved and etched portions retain it in varying degrees. This inking process must be repeated for every print pulled from the plate.

While most of the tools of his trade are portable, the massive intaglio printing press that Silverberg designed and had built in Japan twelve years ago is a permanent fixture in his campus studio. Its rollers exert a pressure of 20,000 pounds per square inch. "There's a lot of physical work and a lot of sweat, but I like the contact," says the diminutive but muscular artist as he manhandles the spoked wheel of the press. "The students have much better equipment than I do," he adds with a laugh. "We have presses that the girls can use without turning into Charles Atlases!"

Silverberg usually prints about ten "artist's proofs" to experiment with the blending of colours and subtlety of detail. "I think they are more valuable than the

*Woman of Chichicastenango (12" x 19½") is an engraving based on sketches Silverberg made while visiting Guatemala. Says the artist, "My exposure to far-flung places and cultures influences my imagery."*





numbered prints," he notes — no two proofs are quite the same. "I try to make all the prints in the edition as closely alike as I can." The artist admits, however, that he is not commercially oriented. "I have no idea what happens in the art market," he confides. "Some of my prints are so popular they are sold out within a week; others, which I thought were as good or perhaps better, sit and gather dust."

Although he does sell his work privately, Silverberg jealously guards his hours in the studio and prefers to distribute his work through art galleries. Since graduating from McGill, he has given over ninety one-man exhibitions — not only in Canada and the United States, but also in France, England, West Germany, Austria, Japan, Peru, New Zealand, and most recently, Sweden. His engravings are represented in numerous private collections and art museums around the world. "A printmaker wants his work to be available at a reasonable price to many people," says Silverberg.

"Printmaking involves an enormous amount of work. It may not be worth it in monetary terms, but that is the way I do it."

Silverberg restricts the number of prints taken from each engraving. "It is a business consideration, not an artistic one," he points out. But he regards the finished metal plates as works of art in themselves. Given the hours of patient work they represent, he is understandably loath to part with them. All completed engravings are carefully stored in his studio — all, that is, except the series of fifteen he created for *The Song of Songs*, a 100-copy, limited-edition book published when he was twenty-five years old. He is still bitter about having to destroy the plates. "It was particularly brutal and I'll never do it again," he asserts. "You are cutting them up so each customer has a little corner and knows they can never be reproduced. It has nothing to do with art."

The associate professor willingly shares with his students the techniques and skills it has taken him decades to learn — he teaches all printmaking methods, not just his own. "I want to make sure that young people have what I didn't have — I had to leave the country to learn this," he notes. "The students have got twenty years of what I know and if they want it, I'm available." He has little patience with those who attend university merely "to have a good time learning about being arty." He also deplores the waste of materials that he sees. "I can keep myself equipped from what the students throw out," he despairs.

These are but symptoms of a greater problem, maintains Silverberg. "The whole question of whether creative art should be taught at university has to be rethought. Otherwise, we are spending a lot of money and we are not helping the climate of art or the creation of new materials. All we are doing



Mourning Dove (9½" diameter). "The pomp and splendour of the male bird intrigues me," explains Silverberg. "It is beautiful, it is free to move, it is flighty. A bird that can fly away can also fly back — this liberty appeals to me. It is part of the way I think of the world. I have total control of the print, but I have no control of the world."

is creating a lot of jobs for art teachers. The better the student, the more I feel constrained to say, 'Take two years, learn your basics, and then get out — get away from the professors, get out of the comfort of the school.'"

In universities generally, he says, "The word is primary, the book is secondary, and the image is tertiary. But we have to realize that some people see *better* in images. The tragedy is that most people in Canada grow up thinking that it is not one of the important things in life to be conversant in music or art. It's 'Now we've got a dishwasher; next year we'll get a painting.' It could be different."

As he selects another classical record from his vast collection — he always works to music — Silverberg muses about the frustrations he faces as a professional artist. "There are times right at the beginning of a plate that I know it is not going to be as good as I want it to be," he says. "But I will persist because it is a challenge and because it is me."

"The second I take the print, I have a moment of elation — and then the whole world falls apart. What am I going to do next? If it is a terrific print, I say, 'I'll never make

one like that again.' If it is a lousy print, it's 'You mean I've been working all these years and I can't do anything better?' Anybody who asks for that kind of tension must be a little cuckoo!"

"I think anguish and uncertainty are very much the lifeblood of the artist. You are never as good as you want to be. You want to do beautiful things, but they're never quite as beautiful as they should be. You want to make really powerful statements, but they're never as powerful as they might be. You want to choose the right colour, but it is never as good as you had hoped. You want everybody to love it ... but there aren't enough everybods."

"Perhaps the thing that bothers people most about my work is that it's optimistic," he continues. "A critic at my last show in Toronto was terribly upset that I was doing happy things, that I was a happy person. He just muttered, 'God, how awful!' and marched out. It's not that I don't see the black side of life. But when I look at the world, I almost invariably choose to find the part that elates me. I look at my work to find out where I've been and what I am." □

# Alcan's David Culver: In defence

by Don Worrall

"We must stop equating incentive with rip-off, investment with gains to the few," says the president of a powerful multinational corporation.

It was startling to find the head of the world's second-largest aluminum company tending three-billion-dollar assets from behind a wooden kitchen table. But no, I thought, as Alcan's David Culver ushered me to the very ordinary couch and chair in the opposite corner of his austere office in Montreal's Place Ville Marie. Such a spartan "desk" befits this tall, athletic fifty-five-year-old who is so passionately committed to the competitive spirit.

What Canada needs "is more people who revel at the sight of their competitors' blood running down the street," Culver told an Ontario economic seminar shortly after his promotion to the presidency of Alcan Aluminium Limited in September 1977. The metaphor gives an accurate picture of the depth of Culver's conviction. Canada enjoys one of the world's highest standards of living and that standard can be extended, he believes, to more of its citizens. To do so, however, Canada must compete. "At times it seems we are more interested in neutralizing the inequalities which result from success than we are in unleashing our potential," he told a Vancouver audience a year ago. "If we are to succeed in achieving the economic growth which will support the standard of living most Canadians seem to desire, we must stop equating incentive with rip-off, investment with gains to the few. The world beyond our borders owes us nothing but that which we earn."

Winnipeg-born Culver entered McGill in 1941 at the age of sixteen. "I learned a lot about booze, bridge, and staying up late that first year," he recalls. "We were all waiting around to be old enough to join the forces — it was considered fun in those days." Half way through second year, Culver joined the army; he served as lieutenant and then returned to McGill, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in 1947. Two years later he received an MBA from Harvard.

Culver immediately joined Alcan and that same year married Mary Powell, daughter of the president of the company's Canadian subsidiary. Culver served on the staff of the Alcan-founded Centre d'Etudes Industrielles

in Geneva for two years and then joined Alcan's New York City sales office, rising steadily through the company ranks to become president of Alcan Aluminium Limited and chairman of its Canadian subsidiary, Aluminum Company of Canada. (The *Financial Post* recently reported that the stage has been set for Culver to assume the chairmanship of Alcan Aluminium two years from now.)

Culver's blood-in-the-streets remark was quoted from the autobiography of Charles Revson, creator of the Revlon cosmetic empire. "I was interpreted by many as looking to grind my heel on the poor man in the street, to make him bleed to death or something," he says, admitting that he is in the habit of speaking off-the-cuff. "What I had been talking about was a state of mind. Government can set a framework which helps the country's cost [structure] and investment possibilities, but when you come right down to it, some people have the competitive spirit and some don't. You can't legislate it, and my wish for Canada is that we use our God-given assets with a competitive frame of mind. There's no reason why we can't compete around the world with anyone."

But how free should free enterprise be? A major rubber company recently admitted that it had lied to the public for three years about the safety of its tires. An automobile company continued to manufacture dangerously short tailpipes after calculating that to lengthen them would cost more than court settlements with accident victims. What about that kind of corporate freedom?

"I think our system of checks and balances is such that if a company does produce a lousy product they suffer for it," Culver replies. "Watch their profits drop. In the end, changes are made. I honestly don't think we can find a better system than the one we've got."

But what if there are several deaths in the meantime? "The safer people are, the more they find ways of committing suicide slowly," says Culver. "It's a basic tenet of the human being. Look at the deaths from drugs. Or the guy who's got economic security, is healthy, and hasn't a care in the world — he'll probably take up motor-car racing or something."

Perhaps, but he has a choice whereas unwitting victims of product defects don't, I counter. "Look, there are thousands of corporate decisions taken every day and, okay, some of them go wrong. The companies suffer and some of the customers suffer. But I don't think government regulation is the answer. You can't remove all risk from life."

Might we not have people trained in corporate affairs appointed to the boards of large companies to safeguard public interests? Culver does not find this a good idea. "The Norwegians have that system," he notes. There is, in fact, a Norwegian representative on Alcan Aluminium's board, "but I can't say they are any better or worse off than any other board."

Alcan employs more than 61,000 people worldwide, and Culver respects his workers. "I believe labour should understand a lot more about business. We must realize that in this day and age the guy in the plant can understand anything we can and, in the odd case where he can't, he's probably got a brother with a PhD who can. I feel industry should do a much better job of describing all the factors leading to company direction of investments. Guys should be encouraged to participate in decisions affecting their own work."

The place for this to happen, however, is not on the company board, Culver maintains. "Lower levels of management should be instructed to discuss things more. I believe we have to work from the plant floor up."

In recent years, several European countries have come to recognize a worker's "property" right to his job. By law, companies must justify layoffs, not only in terms of company efficiency but also in terms of their effect on the community and the national economy. In Canada, however, companies can close plants and lay off workers simply by giving minimal notice and severance pay.

Should Alcan be allowed to close down one plant solely because it is not quite as profitable as another? "Basically, yes," Culver replies. "We don't make every decision on the basis of a fraction of a per-cent return, partly because you can't always believe the figures. But when you get right down to it, people have

# of big business



to be prepared to move where there is work. If they don't want to move, that is their choice. But they shouldn't feel the world owes them a living in the place where they live."

Culver is not insensitive to the hardship plant closures cause, particularly in one-company towns. When Alcan shut down its fluorspar mine in St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, Culver cast about for ways to help the unemployed miners. A decade of costly health and safety problems followed by a strike in 1976 had rendered the mining operation uneconomical. When striking workers cut off Alcan's fluorspar supply, the company was flooded with offers from around the world to supply the essential material more cheaply than Alcan could mine it. "Obviously, there was a great attraction to closing the mine," says Culver.

Concerned about the social effects of the decision, Culver approached the federal and provincial governments with a scheme common in Britain. He would pay the workers, tax free, for loss of permanent employment in their home community so that they would "at least be able to buy a fishing boat or set up a discothèque in St. John's or something." But the officials balked. "They said our laws wouldn't permit it," he recalls, "and one politician told me the workers would just fritter the money away and be back in three or four months looking for handouts. I said to him, 'Your view of human nature is worse than mine. Maybe 15 per cent would do that, but 85 per cent wouldn't.'" Government officials suggested that Alcan operate the mine for another three months. "That's money that should go to the guys and not be wasted," I said, but they just answered, 'No way.'" In the end, Alcan provided land to help the community set up a fish-processing plant.

*Alcan President David Culver: "It's illogical to talk one minute about what we are going to do about the less fortunate countries and the next minute complain about exporting jobs.... They're God's children too and I'm fed up with those who say that any capital raised here must be spent here."*

Problems like this are inevitable in a far-flung industrial empire like Alcan's. Subsidiaries and related companies mine bauxite in eight countries, smelt primary aluminum in nine, make aluminum products in thirty-four, and have sales offices in over a hundred. In its 1978 statement of company policy, Alcan declared its intention to respect both human rights and the laws of the countries in which it operates. In places like South Africa, such a policy seems doomed to failure.

"There are a lot of things I don't like about South Africa," says Culver. "But then, there are a lot of things I don't like about every country in the world. If we had a firm policy not to invest in any country that did not give equal rights to women, where would we go? There's discrimination everywhere. It is to be regretted and has to be worked against."

In relation to the size of its holdings in other countries, Alcan's interests in South Africa are minor and, to that extent, its influence is minor too, says Culver. Nonetheless, it has made some headway against apartheid — more than some other Canadian companies operating there, according to the Task Force on Churches and Corporate Responsibility which recently saluted Alcan for its \$4,000 donation to race-relations groups outlawed by the South African government. The contributions were not large, a church spokesman pointed out, but their symbolic effect was important.

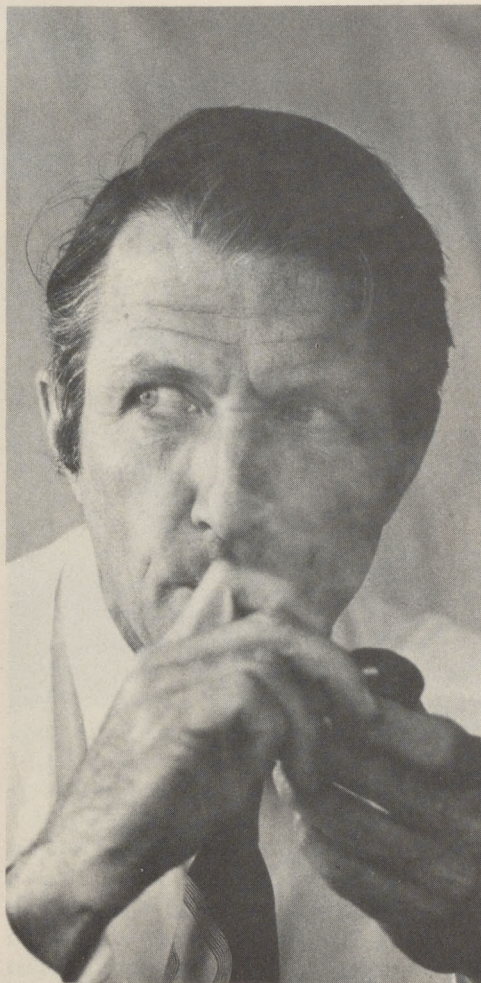
But could Alcan not do more? Could it not, for example, have refused to participate in the construction of the Cabora Bassa Dam on the Zambesi River in Mozambique? A hydroelectric and irrigation project which, upon completion in 1981, will be even more vast than Egypt's Aswan Dam, the Cabora Bassa will be a major source of electrical power for South Africa. Because the dam was seen as further entrenchment of minority white rule in Mozambique, many African leaders urged western countries not to support the dam. Sweden held back its investment firms from involvement in the project; the Italian government withdrew financial guarantees to a prospective Italian participant. Alcan, however, became involved and was loudly criticized.

"We were employing people in Arvida to make rods and selling the rods to a guy in Spain who was making cable for the dam," Culver points out. "What's wrong with that? Those people [in Mozambique] are far better off to have electricity and, consequently, modern industry, than not to have it."

But so is the South African government, which is buying the power. "Why not go after the Newfoundland fisherman who sold fish to the people in Spain who made the cable for the dam," Culver retorts. "You can carry these things to extremes. I don't support apartheid but the answer is not for us to pull

up stakes and take away black-African jobs. The answer is gradualism." Culver cites the recent Rhodesian black-rule vote as proof of the effectiveness of this policy.

Could progress not be accelerated if multinationals were to team up to pressure the South African government? "That's the attitude of Andrew Young [American ambassador to the United Nations]," remarks Culver. "He says equal opportunity for blacks didn't come to Alabama until thirty or forty companies got together and instituted it. And he feels the same thing could happen in South Africa. I don't know if he's right. I think all



we can do is be satisfied that we're doing all we can."

But isn't Young's suggestion worth a try? Alcan, Culver replies, won't take the lead in such a move because the company's South African holdings are too small. "That's not a cop-out, that's a fact," he asserts. "When we picked that company [the Alcan subsidiary in South Africa], we think we picked liberal people. And there are plenty of tribal chiefs down there who would agree."

Multinational corporations are frequently criticized for using Third World resources to produce luxury items like automobiles and appliances when what less developed countries (LDCs) need are food and clothing. Culver

agrees that the multinationals who improve agriculture in Third World countries are doing the most good.

Culver is particularly proud of his own company's record in Jamaica. Alcan has not only replaced the earth ripped open in the search for bauxite, but has entered into an agricultural project in cooperation with the Jamaican government. "We've got around 5,000 tenant farmers, producing two million quarts of milk a year. The farms are extremely well run; they're models for farming in that part of the world."

It is through such self-help projects that Third World countries can improve their lot, Culver insists. "The one thing LDCs should avoid like the plague is feeling the world owes them a living," he says.

What these countries need from us are "extra favourable" trade terms — and no tariffs. "Every time an LDC produces an item that somebody in the world can use, it's very much in the interest of the rest of the world to buy that item and not to protect its own workers. If the Third World produces saleable goods we should buy them without impediments."

Culver admits, however, that if he were running a Canadian textile firm facing stiff competition from Asian countries, he would feel obliged to denounce just that sort of free trade. But as president of Alcan he takes a broader view: "It's illogical to talk one minute about what we are going to do about the less fortunate countries and the next minute complain about exporting jobs. Why the hell don't they have a right to investment funds if they're in a position to produce something more cheaply than we can? They're God's children too and I'm fed up with those who say that any capital raised here must be spent here."

To help Third World countries without eliminating jobs at home, Canada should specialize in capital-intensive rather than labour-intensive industries, Culver believes. "That's what Japan is doing and we'll have to do that too. Our only salvation is to employ our people in sophisticated, technical, and highly capitalized industries and let the workshops of the world, with their teeming millions, have some work." The result will not be an overnight redistribution of the world's riches, Culver notes, but at least the gap between the haves and the have-nots will begin to close.

As the president leads me back across the carpet towards his office door, I ask him what his favourite school subject was. "Math," he replies firmly. "You either got the right answer or you didn't." Balancing Alcan's profitability curve with corporate citizenship may well prove the most difficult problem Culver has ever faced. Again, he is looking for the right answer. □

# Teaching, research, and practice: The McGill Cancer Centre

by Heather Kirkwood

Cancer is the second-greatest killer in North America today – the disease strikes one in every four people. Since the end of World War II, however, the cure rate has doubled – today, almost half of all cancer patients will be restored to health. Concerned physicians argue that the cure rate could be increased to at least 60 per cent if all present knowledge were applied to patient care. Research findings, they say, are not being disseminated fast enough.

In an attempt to translate research results into clinical practice, the university opened the McGill Cancer Centre in the spring of 1978. The multi-disciplinary facility is staffed by thirty physician-investigators, post-doctoral fellows, students, and technicians; a further one-hundred people are clinically affiliated with the group. Although the centre is headquartered in the McIntyre Medical Building, most of the cancer treatment and some research, as well as medical student and resident training, is carried out at McGill's teaching hospitals.

The new centre coordinates the work of university and hospital investigators with the bedside care given by clinicians. Both groups benefit – doctors learn of the latest laboratory advances more quickly than was possible in the past, while researchers have ready access to case histories and tissue samples. The centre evolved because of a feeling within the medical community that there was need for some centralization of cancer functions," explains director Phil Gold, BSc'57, MSc'61, MD'61, PhD'65. An internationally respected immunologist, Gold is a professor of medicine and physiology, senior physician and director of clinical immunology and allergy at the Montreal General Hospital, and senior investigator at that hospital's Research Institute.

"What distinguishes the centre from its predecessor, the McGill Cancer Unit, is that it is not only a research centre, although research is a very important aspect of our work," notes the director. "Here, the patient is our major concern." Gold hopes that the new facility will shorten the waiting period cancer patients now face before they

receive diagnosis or treatment. "A patient with a lump in her breast should have it out yesterday," he emphasizes. "In most cases it is benign, but the psychological trauma to that person is incredible. The few weeks of waiting – first for a surgeon's appointment and then for a bed – are disastrous."

The centre also offers patients the latest advances in medicine. "Every cancer patient deserves to be treated in a cancer centre," Gold insists. "We don't want to take the patient away from his own physician – you're more comfortable with somebody you know. But our ultimate objective is to make sure that the physician has access to all the expertise available, at his own hospital and at every hospital affiliated with the centre."

To ensure the best possible cancer care, a director of oncology services has been appointed at each of the four affiliated hospitals – the Montreal General, the Royal Victoria, the Jewish General, and the Montreal Children's. "These directors will coordinate the interaction of the medical, surgical, and radiation oncologists," Gold explains. "They will make sure the chemotherapist or the radiotherapist is aware of the patient's case before the surgeon operates."

The arrival of new researchers at the centre – immunologists, molecular biologists, a physical carcinogenist, a chemical carcinogenist, and their support teams – has given new impetus to cancer research at McGill. "Our own proven research area is cancer immunology [the use of antibody molecules in the study of cancer]," says Gold. (Working with Samuel Freedman, BSc'49, MD'53, GDipMed'58, now dean of Medicine, Gold discovered in 1965 a carcino-embryonic antigen [CEA]. CEA, produced when cancer cells grow in the digestive system, seeps into the blood and can thus signal the presence of a cancer.)

Epidemiology – the study of cancer as an epidemic disease – is a focus of attention at the centre. "We're losing tremendous amounts of information concerning cancer – its natural history, its course, its possible causes – because we don't have a system-

atized method of gathering data on the disease and the patients," explains Gold.

Clinical trials are also being carried out at the centre. "Patients are not guinea pigs," Gold stresses. "In a clinical trial, every patient is given the best treatment we have with the addition of a drug whose ultimate therapeutic effectiveness is uncertain. We do know it is not going to harm patients; what we don't know is if it will do them any good. We can only find out by trying. Over the years this is how the major advances have been made in the management of the leukemias, breast cancer, Hodgkin's disease, and tumours which can now be considered curable under appropriate circumstances."

The establishment of the centre has had a beneficial side effect on the medical curriculum at McGill. "The teaching of cancer medicine was previously neglected here," explains Freedman. "Individual professors within the different departments gave lectures, but these were not coordinated. Now, for the first time, an integrated block of teaching has been set aside for cancer medicine."

Funded mainly through endowments (the first and largest being a \$1.2 million bequest from the estate of Sir Mortimer Davis, founder of the Imperial Tobacco Company), the centre budgets its resources carefully. It pays no medical salaries. "Centre members who are on the staff of McGill or one of the hospitals continue to receive their regular salaries," Gold explains. "Researchers who work only here are funded by grants or scholarships. No centre money is used to support research. If someone is not good enough to obtain research funding by peer review, then he's not good enough to be here."

Gold is modest about past accomplishments and optimistic about the centre's future. "We've been lucky," he remarks. "I'd like to say that everything we've accomplished here has been due to our phenomenal insight and brilliance, but I know that's not quite the way it has all happened. McGill is a first-rate institution; we have a lot to offer the world and with a little luck and a lot of hard work we're going to do it." □

# Aid for Injured Athletes

by Christine Farr

At her sports physiotherapy clinic, Karin Austin treats both "little old ladies" and "big, tough Montreal Alouettes."

The weights, exercise equipment, and rehabilitation machinery make it look, at first glance, like a gymnasium. But surgical scars on muscular limbs reveal that this is no normal gym; it is, rather, a sports physiotherapy clinic. Skiers with dislocated elbows, hockey players with smashed kneecaps, tennis buffs with strained muscles — all find their way to *Physiothérapie Internationale*.

The Montreal clinic, which specializes in the treatment and rehabilitation of sports injuries, is the creation of Karin Austin, BPTH'67, BSc(PTh)'77. "Patients who use hospital physiotherapy facilities often just get back to functioning level," Austin explains. "This is all that's really possible considering the long waiting lists at hospital clinics. Here we are freer to do a thorough job and we understand the athlete's problems."

The thirty-three-year-old physiotherapist is a sportswoman herself. Granddaughter of the renowned cross-country skier "Jack-rabbit" Johannsen and daughter of 1937 Canadian ski champion Peggy Austin, she has been on skis since the age of two. It was as a physiotherapist, however, that she became a member of the Canadian Olympic delegations to Sapporo, Munich, Innsbruck, and Montreal, and travelled around the world with the Canadian ski team from 1971 to 1974. "My experiences, particularly in Switzerland, were very influential," she explains. "I was extremely impressed with the benefits that resulted when an injury received the right kind of treatment right away. If the injury isn't treated properly and at once, it can take up to three times as long to heal."

Austin learned on the job — at that time no formal training in sports physiotherapy was available in Canada. "There I was with the team," she recalls, "having to apply all the tricks I had been taught by trainers and at courses and sports symposia, and relying on my own experience as a skier and ski instructor to devise treatment techniques. The challenge was to adapt my physiotherapy training to the skiing world."

When she returned to Montreal in 1974 intent on putting her hard-earned knowledge to work, Austin knew that no facilities were



Karin Austin, left, assists a patient.

available for the treatment of sports injuries. Armed with the moral support of her friends and the financial support of her bank she established her own clinic a year later. After a slow start, word of the new facility began to spread: two-hundred patients a week now receive treatment at the hands of Austin and three other physiotherapists. Although 70 per cent of the cases are athletes suffering from sports-related injuries, the clinic handles regular physiotherapy patients as well. "We have little old ladies as well as big, tough Montreal Alouettes," Austin smiles.

After medical assessment of the extent and

nature of a new patient's injury a program of treatment is developed. "We work very closely with the doctors in designing a treatment program for the patient as well as for the injury," Austin explains. Taken into consideration are the patient's level of activity and physical condition prior to the injury, his general health at the time of treatment, and his lifestyle. "Swimming is often an adjunct to treatment but," says Austin, "we wouldn't prescribe ten laps of the pool for someone who hates to swim." Patients are encouraged to supplement clinic workouts with home exercise. "I tell my patients that if *they* do the exercise, *they* get better, if *I* do the exercise, then *I* get better," Austin laughs.

Rehabilitation is often impeded by ignorance on the part of the patient or coach, the physiotherapist believes. "Most people either do too much and push through pain when they shouldn't, or they do too little, become impatient with the healing process, and return to their previous level of activity before the injury has had a chance to heal properly."

Many of the injuries treated at *Physiothérapie Internationale* might have been avoided by proper training. Research shows that the typical bounce-and-stretch calisthenics, the muscle-strengthening exercises, the deep knee bends advocated for athletic development can sometimes be harmful. "What results are muscles that are strong but not flexible," says Austin. When flexibility or speed is required these muscles often succumb to injuries that a different type of training would have prevented. "A slow, steady stretch or a contract-relax type of exercise is best for developing flexibility."

Austin has already carved a place for herself in the field of sports physiotherapy. As well as giving in-service training to her staff, she set up a half course in sports physiotherapy at McGill in preparation for the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. It has become a popular elective. Austin is convinced that having more specially trained physiotherapists on the sidelines will result in fewer athletes on crutches. □

# Where they are and what they're doing

by Carol Stairs

**WENDELL B. BREWER, BCom'23**, recently became the oldest graduate of Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ont., when he received a bachelor of arts degree in social sciences. The seventy-nine-year-old now plans to study for his master's degree.

**ROBERT SHAW, BEng'33**, a former McGill vice-principal, has been appointed chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton.

**HENRY FINKEL, Arch'34**, is president of the Association of Canadian Industrial Designers.

**WILLIAM MAYCOCK, MD'35**, has been awarded a knighthood by Queen Elizabeth II. **NORMAN H. WADGE, BEng'35, MEng'36**, has been made an honorary doctor of laws by Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ont., in recognition of his contribution to the founding of the university and to the establishment of a degree program in mining and mineral process engineering.

**EDMOND-A. LEMIEUX, BCom'39**, has become vice-president, finance, of Hydro-Québec.

**PHILIP F. VINEBERG, BA'35, MA'36, BCL'39**, is the first Canadian to be elected to the Board of Trustees of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University, New York City.

**ORLANDO A. BATTISTA, BSc'40**, director of the Center for Microcrystal Polymer Science at the University of Texas, Arlington, has applied for a patent for soft contact lenses that may be worn continuously for several months and then discarded.

**DOUGLAS G. CAMERON, MD'40**, McGill professor and president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, has been named member of the Order of Canada.

**JAMES R. WRIGHT, BSc(Agr)'40**, has retired as director of the Kentville Agricultural Research Station, Nova Scotia.

**ELIE ABEL, BA'41**, has been appointed the Harry and Norman Chandler Professor of Communication at Stanford University, California.

**JUSTICE ALBERT MALOUF, BA'38, BCL'41**, is heading a commission to examine overspending during the construction of the 1976 Montreal Olympic site.

**CLARENCE SCHNEIDERMAN, BSc'39, MD'41**, a past president of the Canadian Urological Association, is senior urologist at Montreal's Jewish General Hospital.

**E. LEE CAMERON, BEng'42, MEng'54**, has retired as vice-president, development, of Georgian College in Barrie, Ont.

**HERBERT BERCOVITZ, BA'45**, who teaches hospital organization and management at McGill, is director of hospital services at the Montreal General Hospital. **NORMAN EPSTEIN, BEng'45, MEng'46**, a professor of chemical engineering at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, has become vice-president of the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering.

**CATHERINE EKERS, BA'47**, has become head of the public relations department and a vice-president of Ogilvy's, Montreal. **THOMAS INGRAHAM, PhD'47**, has been appointed director, programs, of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, Ottawa, Ont.

**EDWARD FRANKLIN, BEng'48**, has been named assistant to the director of purchases at Corning Glass Works, Corning, N.Y. **GERALD HENDERSON, BSc'48, MSc'50**, has been appointed senior vice-president and director of Chevron Standard Ltd.

**MARGARET (COPPING) PATTERSON, BSc'48**, has been re-elected a city councillor for Pointe Claire, Que.

**GEORGE SAHOVALER, BA'48**, is general manager of Georges Valere and Co., a Toronto-based distributor of European tableware.

**LEONARD R.N. ASHLEY, BA'49, MA'50**, a professor of English at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, has been elected president of the American Name Society, an organization of onomasticians.

**ANGUS M. MacFARLANE, BA'49**, is parliamentary secretary to the Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations, Ottawa, Ont.

**GUY K. MANTHA, BEng'49**, has been elected vice-president of l'Union régionale de Montréal des Caisses populaires Desjardins.

**JOHN R. SADLER, BEng'49**, has been made senior vice-president, Canadian metals division, of Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd., Toronto.

**T.G. HANSON, BA'50**, has been named general manager of Eaton's Contract Sales. **ROBERT E. LANDRY, BEng'50**, has been appointed vice-president and manager of the external affairs department of Imperial Oil Ltd.

**ANDRE MICHAUD, BEng'50**, has been named manager of loss prevention for the Iron Ore Co. of Canada. **BRÓDIE J. SNYDER, BA'50**, has become a senior consultant with Public and Industrial Relations Ltd., Montreal.

**ATHANASIOS ASIMAKOPULOS, BA'51, MA'53**, a McGill economics professor, has won a Canada Council Leave Fellowship and will spend the next academic year in France and England writing a text on macroeconomics. **R. VANCE WARD, BSc'51**, manager of the industrial chemicals division of Canadian Industries Ltd., has become a director of the Chlorine Institute, New York City.

# McGill Society of Montreal Travel Program for 1979-80

Membership in the Travel Program is available to graduates, parents, and associates making contributions to McGill, or by paying a \$10.00 fee to the McGill Society of Montreal.

## Tour of the Greek Islands

13 May - 2 June 1979

Price: \$2,200.00

Includes flight, transfers, course, and first-class accommodation. Tour leader will be Professor George Snider, chairman of McGill's classics department.

## Galapagos Islands, Peru, and Ecuador

24 May - 8 June 1979

Price: \$2,000.00

Includes flights, transfers, course, and first-class accommodation. An unusual opportunity to see the animal life, land forms, and vegetation that inspired Charles Darwin. David Lank, naturalist, author, and expert tour leader, will guide this special group tour.

## Norway

17 June - 8 July 1979

Price: \$2,150.00

Includes flight, transfers, and first-class accommodation. Tour leader will be Dr. Alice Johannsen, director of McGill's Mont St. Hilaire Nature Conservation Centre.

## Tour of the People's Republic of China

1 August - 21 August 1979

Price: \$3,460.00 (from Montreal)

Includes flight, transfers, tours, accommodation, and all in-China expenses. This tour will be part of the CP Air China Tours for 1979. Cities to be visited: Changchun, Peking, Shenyang, Kwangchow, Shumchun.

## Plans for 1980 include:

**Central America:** Guatemala, Mexico, Yucatan (February)

**U.S. Skiing:** Ski Utah (February-March)

**South America:** The Amazing Amazon River Route (March)

**South America:** Galapagos Islands and Peru (May)

**Britain, Ireland, Norway:** Cruise in Comfort (May)

**Greece:** Tour Greece and the Greek Islands (May-June)

**China:** Tentative Dates Only (October)

Details of the 1979 special tours have been finalized. For an itinerary and application form please contact:

Jost Travel  
100 Alexis-Nihon Blvd.  
St. Laurent, Quebec H4M 2N7  
Tel.: (514) 747-0613



'52

MARGARET A. DAVIDSON, BCom'52, is president of Montreal Investment Management Inc.

MOSES LAUFER, BSW'52, a psychoanalyst, is director of the Brent Consultation Centre in London, England, a walk-in centre for psychologically distressed young people.

DONALD S. ROTHWELL, BEng'52, MBA'67, PhD'73, has been appointed president and general manager of Great Lakes Waterways Development Association, Ottawa, Ont.

'53

GRAHAM TUCKER, BD'53, is the minister of the King-Bay Chaplaincy located in the Toronto-Dominion Centre, Toronto, Ont. His work involves helping downtown workers face emotional, family, and business problems.

'54

BRIAN MacDONALD, BA'54, former artistic director of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, is a Montreal freelance choreographer.

ZENON B. WOWK, BEng'54, has been elected chairman of the board of the Shoe Manufacturers' Association of Canada.

'55

PETER BENJAMIN, BSc'51, MD'55, has been appointed chief of adolescent services at Texas Children's Hospital and clinical assistant professor at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston.

BRUCE M. BENTON, BSc'55, is a warden at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Toronto, Ont.

PATRICK R. JUDGE, BD'55, has been made director of marketing for Sunshine Village Ski Resort in Banff National Park, Alberta. He also conducts outdoor worship services for skiers.

DAVID J. McLEOD, BEng'55, has been appointed vice-president, research and development, of Haworth, Inc., a manufacturer of open office interior systems in Holland, Mich.

IAN McPHERSON, LLM'55, general counsel for Air Canada, has been named a Queen's Counsel.

SEYMOUR A. SIEGAL, MD'55, has been named associate director of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at South Nassau Communities Hospital, Oceanside, N.Y.

'56

JOHN G. FERRABEE, BCom'56, has been appointed vice-president, real estate, of the New Providence Development Co. Ltd.

MARGARET (HOLMAN) ROSSO, BN'56, has become a nursing consultant with the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association.

HUGH J. SUTHERLAND, BEng'56, has been appointed executive vice-president, construction, of the Beaver Group of Companies.



# Society activities

The principal and the Graduates' Society work on two fronts to enhance the image of the university and forestall a predicted decline in enrolment.

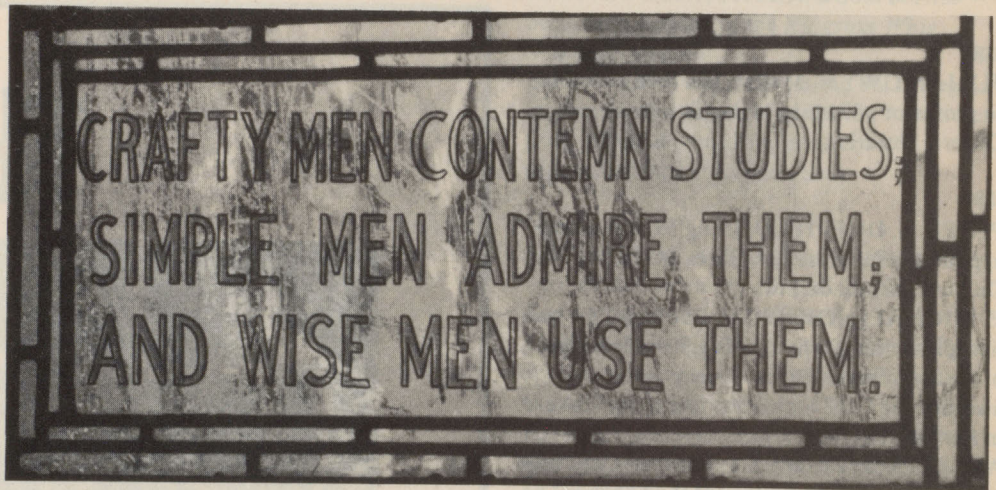
Like every university on the continent, McGill is facing the prospect of a dwindling student population. Fewer students will mean cutbacks in government grants. Less money will result in poorer facilities and an older faculty — young professors will not be hired to replace those who leave or retire.

To study and, it is hoped, forestall declining enrolment at McGill, the Graduates' Society has set up a Committee on Admissions and Recruitment chaired by society vice-president Edward Ballon. Its mandate: to support the work of university recruitment officers and coordinate graduate input in this area. The committee's recommendations will be forwarded both to the society's Board of Directors and to the university administration.

Dr. Robert Bell, meanwhile, has been fighting the battle on a broader front. In a speech to the Canadian Club of Toronto in February, the principal defended universities in general against the slings and arrows of their detractors — social critics, public servants, media commentators, and graduates themselves. Conceding that his title — “The War Against the Universities” — was meant as “a grabber,” Bell nonetheless pointed out that “actions today originating from many different sources constitute in effect attacks upon the universities.”

Social critics, Bell said, assume that universities should somehow instigate changes to cure the ills of society. To this he replied that the university is not, and cannot be, a social or political agency. Rather, it is hoped that graduates will be “agents of change with a wisdom that comes in some part from their university experience.” To ask for more is, in Bell's opinion, “unrealistic.”

The principal also had an answer for politicians and public servants who demand full value for the money spent on the universities. It is extraordinarily difficult, he noted, to measure the output of institutions of higher learning. “Simply counting the number of diplomas awarded will hardly do; after all, in that competition the schools advertised in the back pages of *Popular Mechanics* magazine would win hands down.



Words of wisdom set in glass — a frosty window in Redpath Hall.

In the revolting expression ‘more scholar per dollar’... it is relatively easy to count the dollars but very difficult to evaluate the worth of the scholars.”

All agree, Bell said, that universities should make the best possible use of their resources. “What university people dislike, though, is being evaluated in terms of crude indices like number of diplomas per dollar, or number of net square feet per student graduated, or whatever. It is as if one were to evaluate the worth of a legislative assembly in terms of the number of bills passed per B. t. u.”

Media commentators, the principal continued, often attack the universities on the grounds that post-secondary studies are too vague, and that university research is overly theoretical and of no economic benefit. “Somehow our commentators have become sold on the idea that the secret of economic progress is education and research — provided the commentator in each case specifies what the research is to consist of.” To this criticism Bell retorted: “Most such arguments depend on the assumption that you can specify in advance what it is that the proposed research is going to reveal. If this were known, of course, the activity in which you are engaging might be a worthwhile one,

but it would not be research.”

But the most widespread attack, the principal maintains, emanates from graduates frustrated by the depressed employment scene. Bell conceded that the universities themselves are, to some extent, responsible — in the past some academics “allowed the assumption to grow that university graduation was practically a guarantee of a superior job right after graduation.” This is even less true today. “In a society with widespread unemployment...,” Bell countered, “no program of education can possibly guarantee an immediate superior job to every graduate. It remains true that the unemployment rate is lowest among university graduates, and is highest among those whose education terminated the farthest from university.”

Bell argued that critics focus too closely on the first few months after graduation. “During this period, the advantages of the professional or vocational university degrees are at their maximum, and the students of arts and science are at a disadvantage.... We ought to be speculating on the value of a university education over the forty-odd years of working life and the years of retirement that follow.” Over the broader span, the principal concluded, the advantages of a university education are absolutely manifest. □

'57

JAMES deBEAUJEU DOMVILLE, BA'54, BCL'57, has been named film commissioner and chairman of the National Film Board of Canada, Ottawa, Ont.

ALBERT W. EASTON, BEng'57, has been appointed manager of metal sales for Cominco Ltd., Toronto, Ont.

ARNOLD A. LAWLESS, BEng'57, has become general sales manager of Flygt Canada, Pointe Claire, Que.

JOHN H. VAN de LEUV, MD'57, is now medical director of the emergency department of Good Samaritan Hospital and Health Center, Dayton, Ohio.

'58

JULIAN GWYN, MA'58, has been promoted to professor of history at the University of Ottawa, Ontario.

'59

PETER R. DUFFIELD, BEng'59, has been appointed vice-president, fibres group, of Du Pont of Canada Ltd.

E. MICHAEL JOHNSON, BSc (Agr)'59, now living in Somalia where he is general manager of the Juba Sugar Project, was recently awarded the OBE for his services to agriculture in Kenya.

ARNOLD SHYKOFSKY, BArch'59, has been appointed resident manager of the London, Ont., office of Richardson Securities of Canada.

'60

JOHN J. CORSO, BCom'60, has been named partner in charge, Ontario, for Rourke, Bourbonnais and Associates, Toronto, Ont. SANDRA (FREEDMAN) WITELSON, BSc'60, MSc'62, PhD'66, professor of psychiatry at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont., has been awarded the 1978 Clarke Institute of Psychiatry Research Fund Prize.

'61

LEON R. KENTRIDGE, MArch'61, has been named vice-president, planning, of Marshall Macklin Monaghan Ltd.

SYLVIA OSTERBIND, BLS'61, has received an MA in the history of art from the University of Toronto, Ontario.

JACK UTSAL, BEng'61, has been appointed market development manager, extrusion, for the plastics division of Du Pont Canada Ltd.

'62

ROBERT E. AMY, BEng'62, has been appointed plant manager of the Beauharnois, Que., chlorine and caustic soda plant of STANCHEM, a division of PPG Industries Canada Ltd.

JOHN O. BAATZ, BEng'62, has been named president of Smithsons Holdings Ltd., a subsidiary of Canadian Pacific Transport Co.

RICHARD BEACH, BED'62, is director of the Canadian Studies program at the State University of New York, Plattsburgh.

CYNTHIA (MARVIN) FISCHER, MSc(A)'62, has been named vice-president of Vermont Federal Savings and Loan Association, Burlington.

M. DAVID GUTTMAN, BSc(Agr)'62, has been appointed vice-president, marketing, of Pedlar Storage Products.

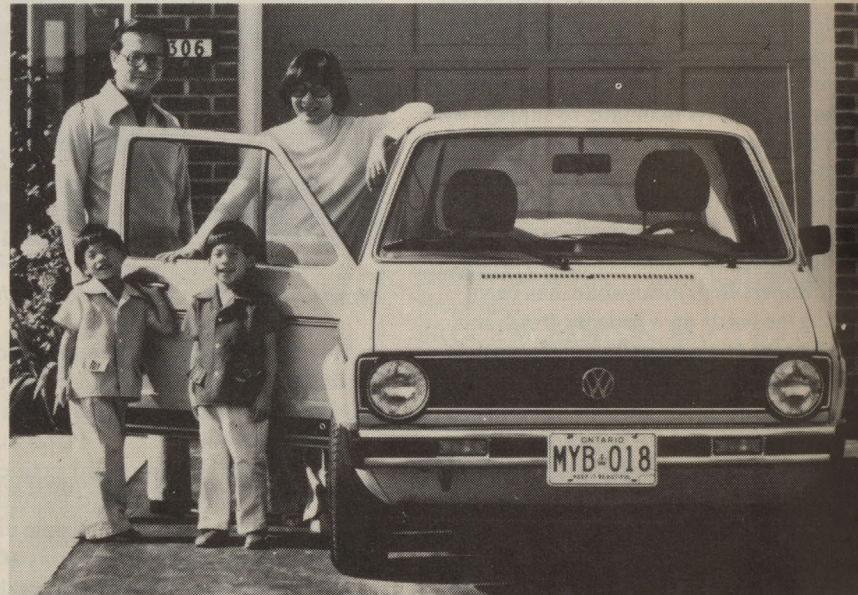
DAVID NORMAN, BA'62, has been named managing director of the London, England, office of Russell Reynolds Associates, Inc., an international executive recruiting firm.

PAUL C. RAMBAUT, BSc'62, MSc'64, is chief of the medical research branch of the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Tex. JOHN WEARING, BEng'62, has been named manager, styrenic product line, for Monsanto Canada Inc., Mississauga, Ont.

'63

ANITA LANDS, BA'63, has become director of the east-coast office of the National Association of Bank Women, Inc., New York City. LARRY LUTCHMANSINGH, BA'63, has been named chairman of the art department at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me.

# The wisdom



Mr. Leslie T. Cho-Chu and family of Agincourt, Ontario.

In January 1978, Car and Driver Magazine called the Volkswagen Rabbit "the brightest kid in the class."

More than just flattery, this was a statement based on many facts. So, let's talk about the facts of why you should buy a Rabbit and do so by listening to someone who's sold on it. Enter Mr. Leslie Cho-Chu, accountant, family man, and Rabbit owner since March, 1978.

VW: Just why did you buy a Volkswagen Rabbit, Mr. Cho-Chu?  
Cho-Chu: I bought the Rabbit after I found out everything I could about all other cars.

Shopping and comparing is always a wise thing to do.

VW: Mr. Cho-Chu, what about the economics of the VW Rabbit?  
Cho-Chu: A car can't be good unless the economics are equally as good. The Rabbit is most economical to drive and uses regular gas.



When the rear seat folds down, cargo space goes up.

Facts support the wisdom of Mr. Cho-Chu's statement. Transport Canada's compara-

tive fuel consumption rating for the Rabbit is 8.0 litres/100 kilometers\*; for the Rabbit Diesel 5.4 L/100 km\*. Being an accountant, these figures add up to Mr. Cho-Chu.

VW: Does the performance of the Rabbit stand up to the economics, Mr. Cho-Chu?  
Cho-Chu: In a word, yes.

A short, but very accurate comment. Because the Rabbit's one performing automobile. There's front wheel drive, a fuel injected 1.5 litre engine, rack and pinion steering for sure handling, and a four wheel independent suspension system for smoothness of ride.

VW logo, Volkswagen and Rabbit are registered trademarks owned by: Volkswagenwerk A.G., West Germany. Registered user: Volkswagen Canada Inc., Toronto. \*Estimates based on laboratory tests using approved Transport Canada test methods and vehicles equipped with 4-speed manual transmission. Your fuel consumption will vary depending on how and where you drive, optional equipment and condition of your car.

HENRY C. WITELSON, BSc'59, MD'63, has been appointed chief of the ophthalmology department at Hamilton Civic Hospital, Ontario.

'64  
DIXI K. LAMBERT, BA'64, is director of correspondence communication with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ont.

'65  
A. DAVID McFARLANE, BSc'65, has become vice-president and actuary of the Sovereign Insurance Companies in Toronto, Ont.

'67  
MAX S. CYNADER, BSc'67, associate professor of psychology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, N.S., has been awarded an E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. He is researching the organization of the human visual system and the role of genetic and environmental factors in its development.

A. VAN FORBELL, BA'67, has been appointed vice-president, finance and administration, of Cowley and Keith Ltd., a realty company in Calgary, Alta.

COLIN A. GRAVENOR, BA'64, BCL'67, a partner in the law firm of Lette Marcotte Biron Sutto and Gravenor, has become a lecturer in international business law in McGill's Faculty of Management.

DR. JACK RUBIN, BSc'67, has been named assistant professor of medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

'68  
A. L. ("LEE") BARKER, MSc(A)'68, has been appointed chief geologist, Canada, of Lacana Mining Corp.

HARVEY SCHACHTER, BCom'68, has become city editor of the *Kingston Whig Standard*, Ontario.

EDWARD A. WILSON, BEng'68, is Regina manager and a principal of Clifton Associates Ltd., a firm of consulting geotechnical engineers based in Regina, Sask.

'69  
MICHAEL M. AVEDESIAN, BEng'69, has been elected secretary of the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering.

JAMES W. BECKERLEG, BSc'69, has been appointed vice-president, corporate credit, of Commerce Capital Corp. Ltd.

KHAIRY EL-HUSSAINY MOSTAFA, LL.M.'69, has become Egypt's representative on the council of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

'70  
JANICE (TRYLINSKI) BURNETT, BSc'70, has established a memorial fund, named for her late husband Dr. William Burnett, for the diagnosis, prevention, and cure of Ewing's Sarcoma. The fund is being administered through the Dr. W.W. Cross Cancer Institute, Edmonton, Alta.

ROBERT MAYEROVITCH, BMus'70, is assistant professor of piano at Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, and a member of the Elysian Trio (piano, violin, and cello) which recently performed at Carnegie Recital Hall, New York City.

GEOFFREY B. NANTON, BCom'70, is general manager and director of Harrison's Electrical Co. Ltd. in Barbados.

'71  
GARY D. DAVIES, MSW'71, who recently received his master of arts degree in social welfare policy from McMaster University, Hamilton, has been appointed agency relations associate of the United Way of Greater London, Ontario.

HELENE GAGNE, BCL'71, has been appointed counsel of the Insurance Bureau of Canada, Toronto, Ont.

COLIN M. MACLEOD, BA'71, is assistant professor of psychology at Scarborough College of the University of Toronto, Ontario.

# of Cho-Chu.

W: Is the Rabbit ride a comfortable ride, Mr. Cho-Chu?

Cho-Chu: It's most comfortable. Last year we drove all the way to

Florida for our holidays.

It was a long trip and a good test when you consider we had two little

Cho-Chu's in tow.

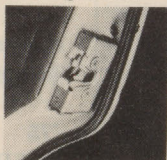
The Rabbit's seats are a good example of what Mr. Cho-Chu is saying. They're anatomically designed to comfort the back especially on long journeys.

There's ample headroom and room for four large adults and no space-stealing hump under the seat. The Rabbit's cargo space is another big asset. It's 370 litres (3.1 cubic feet). And, with the rear seat folded down, there's more cargo space than in most standard-size cars.

W: What about the safety factor, Mr. Cho-Chu?

Cho-Chu: I find the Rabbit as concerned with safety as I am.

The Rabbit's safety features include a safety cell passenger compartment, negative steering roll radius that helps bring the Rabbit to a straightline stop in skidding conditions, a gas tank that's safely positioned in front of the rear axle, rear window defogger, and steel belted radial ply tires. All standard.



Childproof locks on rear doors.

W: Mr. Cho-Chu, isn't it true you also own an Oldsmobile?

Cho-Chu: Yes, it is our second car. We couldn't get what we wanted for the Oldsmobile on a resale, so it remains with the family.

W: Does Mrs. Cho-Chu drive the Olds?

Cho-Chu: I sincerely wish she would. But, I cannot seem to get her out of the Rabbit.

W: Mr. Cho-Chu, could you summarize in one statement how you feel about the Rabbit?

Cho-Chu: It is the kind of car I would advise a very close friend to buy.

W: Thank you, Mr. Cho-Chu.



The  
Volkswagen  
Rabbit  
Don't settle for less.

## Focus



For many late-night radio aficionados, the soothing voice of a CBC announcer intoning, "Good evening, this is 'Nightcap,'" signals the perfect end to a busy day. Curled up in bed, listeners are treated to interviews with the likes of playwright Arthur Miller, sculptor Henry Moore, and composer John Cage. A reading – from *Cry, the Beloved Country* or *Emma* – might follow, the whole bound together with carefully chosen music.

"Nightcap" is produced in Montreal by twenty-eight-year-old Deborah Weinstein, BA'70. The prize-winning program gives expression to a life-long interest in the arts. Weinstein began piano lessons at the age of five and, as a teenager, she painted and wrote. "I gave up all those things because I was never going to become one of the best, or even one of the mediocre," she explains.

Accordingly, when it came time to enter university, Weinstein abandoned the arts in favour of political science. She hoped to enter the foreign service upon graduation. But the rosy dream of life in foreign climes was cut short by the high level of mathematics required to pass civil service examinations – she had dropped the subject while still in high school. Weinstein gave up political science upon graduation and settled in Israel for a year to teach high school.

Inspired by an experimental film course she had taken at McGill, Weinstein returned to Montreal to enter the English department's communications master's program. It proved unsatisfactory: "I

wanted to learn about communication, but the program was so theoretical there wasn't any room for that. Everything solidified in my mind one day when a professor said in a colloquium, 'The university is not the place for creative people. If you want to create, you have to get out.' So I left."

Weinstein began with freelance jobs at the CBC and went on to produce a number of programs, many of them for the CBC series "Ideas." "One day I'd be talking to an exterminator about cockroaches and rats, the next I'd be interviewing an Egyptologist about mummies." In the spring of 1974 she found work with Radio-Canada International in Montreal and was soon producing "The North America." "It included music and a daily magazine which I wrote, produced, directed, mixed, and sometimes even hosted – everything – and this went on for three years," she recalls. "I'd start working at 3:00 in the afternoon and it was broadcast live from 9:00 to 10:00 every night. It was awful. I had no social life – all I did was work."

When a Weinstein documentary on the handicapped won an Ohio State Award, the exhausted producer felt it was time to strike: "The first thing I did was try to find myself another job." Weinstein was appointed producer in the Radio Arts division of the CBC when "Nightcap" was still in the planning stages.

Weinstein decided to flesh out the program with interviews. She developed a network of people in Europe and North America who could be called upon to interview the artists she wished to spotlight. Eventually, she assembled a crew of talented and reliable "nightcappers."

The young producer also set stringent technical standards for the show: "Since 'Nightcap' is about art and contains reflections on art, I decided that it should have its own artistic merit." Hence, there are no telephone interviews on "Nightcap," and mixes – the final balancing of various sound elements on tapes – are done and re-done until they approach perfection. Music is selected with great care. "I have high respect for the people who contribute to the show, both the freelancers and those extraordinarily talented people who are the subject of the interviews, because they are the very best in the world. There is no way I would present them except in a highly complimentary fashion."

Because of belt-tightening at the CBC, "Nightcap" will sign off for good on April 1 and Weinstein will move into the world of television with a current affairs show. That political science degree should come in handy. *Holly Dressel*

'72

JOSEPH B. GAVIN, S.J., PhD'72, has been appointed president of Campion College, University of Regina, Saskatchewan.

J. DOUGLAS HOUSE, PhD'72, has become head of the sociology department at Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's.

DONALD EDWARD SULLIVAN, BSc'72, has been appointed assistant professor in the physics department of the University of Guelph, Ontario.

JOHN R. WOOD, PhD'72, is a research scientist at Domtar Pulp and Paper Research Centre, Senneville, Que., and a member of the Lakeshore School Board.

'73

THERESE D'AMOUR, BSc'73, MSc'77, a resident of St. Andrews, N.B., recently exhibited her watercolours and ink sketches in Fredericton.

JULIAN J. DODSON, PhD'73, is a professor of biology at Laval University, Quebec City.

EDWIN H.K. YEN, DDS'73, who recently received a diploma in orthodontics and a doctorate in oral biology from the University of Toronto, is an associate professor of orthodontics in the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Dentistry, Winnipeg.

'74

GUY M. TOMBS, BA'74, has been appointed corporate secretary and director of Guy Tombs Ltd., a Montreal travel firm.

'75

FREDERICK A. BRAMAN, BA'72, BCL'75, has become a partner in the law firm of Selinger and Lengvari, Montreal.

CATHERINE (MERCURIO) McINNIS, MLS'75, has been appointed head of technical services at Guelph Library, Ontario.

'77

CHARLOTTE REINHOLD, BED'77, teaches arts and crafts courses to children in Guelph, Ont.

'78

JAMES DERDERIAN, BA'78, has been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to continue his history and political science studies at Oxford University.

## Deaths

'07

JAMES BLAIN WOODYATT, BSc'07, at Pierrefonds, Que., on Feb. 11, 1979.

'12

ALAN B. McEWEN, BSc'12, at London, Ont., on Dec. 12, 1978.

COL. JOHN G. ROBERTSON, BSA'12,  
at New Glasgow, N.S., on Sept. 30, 1978.  
ALLEN NYE SCOTT, BSc'12, at Ste. Anne  
de Bellevue, Que., on Dec. 29, 1978.

'13  
E.B. HUGH-JONES, BSc'13, on Nov. 8,  
1978.  
C. KIRKLAND McLEOD, BSc'13, at Vic-  
toria, B.C., on March 6, 1979.  
HENRY WILLIAM MORGAN, BA'13, at  
Montreal, on Feb. 26, 1979.

'14  
LOUIS CARREAU, BSc'14, on June 12, 1978.  
RALPH CYRIL FLITTON, BSc'14, at  
Cowansville, Que., on Feb. 2, 1979.

'15  
DR. ANN (PURDY) HÖLMAN, BA'15, on  
Dec. 10, 1978.

'16  
STANLEY A. NEILSON, BSc'16, at  
Montreal, on Feb. 26, 1979.  
J.E. ("DICK") SPROULE, BSc'16, on Feb. 11,  
1979.

'17  
A. SYDNEY BRUNEAU, BA'13, BCL'17, on  
Feb. 4, 1979.

'18  
FANNY (SALOMON) SCHERZER, BA'18,  
on Jan. 11, 1979.

'20  
CYRIL H. CROWE, BSc'20, at Peterborough,  
Ont., on Jan. 16, 1979.  
A. GASTON DENEAU, BSc'20, on Jan. 7,  
1979.  
HERBERT JAMES EMERY, BSc'20, at  
Thunder Bay, Ont., on Feb. 15, 1979.  
HAROLD CARLETON LEE, BSc'20, at  
Bronxville, N.Y., on Feb. 6, 1979.

'21  
NORMA CAMPBELL (COOPER) ADAMS,  
CertSW'21, at Ottawa, Ont., on Jan. 21, 1979.

'22  
HENRY HARPER HART, BA'16, MD'22, in  
January 1979.  
DONALD GORDON KYLE, BSc'22, at  
Ottawa, Ont., on Feb. 16, 1979.  
HOPE (MacINTOSH) MURRAY, BA'22, on  
Feb. 14, 1979.

'24  
H. GORDON REID, MD'24, on Oct. 30,  
1978.

'25  
SRAEL BEINHAKER, DDS'25, on Feb. 5,  
1979.

BEVERLEY KNIGHT BOULTON, BSc'25, at  
Richmond, Va., on Feb. 23, 1979.  
THOMAS HENRY JOHNS, DDS'25, at  
Victoria, B.C., on Dec. 18, 1978.

'26  
ALICE WESTLAKE, DipPE'26, on Dec. 16,  
1978.

'27  
WILLIAM ADDLEMAN, BA'24, MD'27, on  
Feb. 9, 1979.  
GAVIN CHISHOLM, MD'27, at Victoria,  
B.C., on Dec. 25, 1978.

HECTOR McKEEN MILNE, BCom'27, on  
Jan. 12, 1979.

'29  
NORA ALICE (HOME) BRIDE, BCom'29,  
on Feb. 23, 1979.  
WILLIAM HANBURY BUDDEN, BCom'29,  
at Cowansville, Que., on Feb. 23, 1979.  
ALDETH ELSIE (ADAMS) CLARK, BA'29,  
at Victoria, B.C., on July 13, 1978.  
SAMUEL G. ELBERT, MD'29, in Delaware,  
on Dec. 16, 1978.

MARY A. (McNAUGHT) FOURNIER,  
BA'29, on Jan. 5, 1979.  
REV. FRED WILLIAM TAYLOR, BA'29, on  
Jan. 23, 1979.

'30  
REV. HARRY G. TUTTLE, BA'30, MA'31, at  
Toronto, Ont., on Feb. 8, 1979.

'31  
CARL A. DAHLGREN, MD'31, at Concord,  
N.H., on Dec. 3, 1978.  
HAROLD J. DORAN, BArch'31, at Scottsdale,  
Ariz., on Feb. 4, 1979.

'32  
FLORA (AIKIN) MARSHALL, BA'32, at  
Schomberg, Ont., on Jan. 6, 1979.  
EILEEN PARTON, BA'32, on Jan. 1, 1979.

'33  
HARRY M. ADELSTEIN, BCom'33, on  
Dec. 30, 1978.  
JOHN H. COUSSIRAT, BCom'33, on Dec. 24,  
1978.

CARL POMERLIAN, BCom'33, on Dec. 18,  
1978.  
ROBERT H. WHITE-STEVENS, BSA'33,  
MSc'36, at Trenton, N.J., on Sept. 4, 1978.

'34  
HELENE (KOHOS) FIELD, BA'34, on Jan. 23,  
1979.

'35  
WALLACE JOHN LAFAVE, BSc'34, MD'35,  
at Montreal, on Jan. 14, 1979.  
ISABEL (CURRIE) LYMAN, BCom'35, in  
June 1978.

'36  
GEORGE SCOTT MURRAY, BCom'36, at  
Ottawa, Ont., on Dec. 24, 1978.

'39  
HAROLD FASSETT STANIFORTH,  
BEng'39, at Montreal, on Jan. 24, 1979.

'40  
MURIEL ANN (SCOBIE) BIRKS, BA'40, at  
Montreal, on Feb. 19, 1979.  
DONALD D. WILSON, Com'40, at Ottawa,  
Ont., on Jan. 10, 1979.

'41  
ELSIE (LAUDER) HAMILTON, BCom'41,  
at Montreal, on Dec. 31, 1978.

'42  
ELIZABETH BRODIE, BA'42, MSW'61, at  
Montreal, on Jan. 4, 1978.

'45  
SAUL WILNER, BA'42, MD'45,  
GDipMed'50, on Feb. 28, 1979.

'47  
WILLIAM BARLOW JEFFREY, BEng'47,  
at Montreal, on Dec. 30, 1978.  
EDWARD S. MURRAY, GDipMed'47, at  
Boston, Mass., in October 1978.  
JOHN H. OULTON, BCom'47, on Nov. 5,  
1977.

'49  
JAMES McELROY, MD'49, at Hartford,  
Conn., on Jan. 17, 1979.

'51  
STANLEY R. COLPITTS, BSc(Agr)'51, at  
Fredericton, N.B., on Feb. 19, 1979.

'54  
DRAGUTIN ("DRAGO") F. PAPICH,  
BSc'50, MD'54, at Montreal, on Feb. 16,  
1979.

'67  
WILLIAM T. COWAN, MBA'67, in August  
1977.

'76  
WILLIAM DAVID CHAIKIN, BA'76, at  
Chappaqua, N.Y., in December 1978.

ERRATUM:

FRANCES (CURRIE) O'BRIEN, BA'51,  
was incorrectly listed in the "Deaths"  
column of the Winter 1978 issue of the  
*News*. She is, in fact, alive and well and  
living in Ottawa. We sincerely regret the  
error, which was a case of mistaken  
identity.

# Perspective

by Andrew Cohen



The wind surges through Red Square like a knife-wielding lunatic, slashing at everything in its path. It cuts through layers of wool and sheepskin as cleanly as a surgeon's scalpel. Water, blood, and marrow congeal; skin blanches, mustaches bristle with hoar. The temperature is minus 45 degrees. If the lone red star atop the Kremlin looks stunning at first sight, the power it represents soon becomes irrelevant in an orgy of foot-stamping, arm-slapping, and other attempts to soothe a body in revolt.

No matter. December has brought the cruellest temperatures in a century but, all things considered, there is achievement in enduring. One takes cold comfort in tasting winter, the quintessential Russian experience. Eventually, there is that gratifying reward of travel – the sense of texture.

Building stamina hadn't been my intention in coming to the Soviet Union; cold-weather training was not included on the itinerary. But, when Dr. Alexander Fodor, chairman of McGill's department of Russian and Slavic studies, invited me along on the department's annual excursion, it was an opportunity not to be missed. To the relentless traveller, the Soviet Union is one of those countries that must be seen – and felt.

Certainly the department sees it that way. Like other language departments, it encourages students to visit their area of study. Winter is the best time to go to Russia – travel is inexpensive then. For \$750, students get return air fare, two weeks' room and board at first-class hotels in Moscow and Leningrad, twice-daily tours, and tickets to cultural events. A similar package would cost double in the summer.

"The main purpose of the trip is to offer a living contact with the language," says Fodor, who attended the University of Leningrad in the fifties. "We notice that, without practice, students can become uninterested in the whole thing. If you take them to the country they realize how essential the language is. It inspires them. The second thing is to see the country and discover attitudes. Some students may be spurred to greater study;

others may not like it at all and find out it isn't for them."

Fodor has a point – the Soviet Union is an enigma to the student. While the Third World presents a reality and seeks a redeeming image, the Soviet Union throws up an image and invites you to look for the reality. In defining this country, the question mark is as necessary as the exclamation point. The students grant it both. They gape at the Hermitage, extol the Summer and Winter Palaces, empathize at the war memorials, and wax poetic over the ballet, champagne, and caviar. They marvel at the achievements of the state – displayed in inordinate number – and delight in practising their Russian in stores, restaurants, and subways.

But some are wary; it is they who ask the questions. They challenge an economist and an historian to explain discrepancies in the productivity of private and collective farms and inquire about the official status of Trotsky and Stalin. They dispute Lenin's methods with such vigour that an authority leading them through a museum flees in disgust. They politely and persistently direct questions at the well-trained guides of Intourist, the official tourist agency.

Predictably, there is a confrontation: late one afternoon, in the bowels of a museum in Leningrad, the guide abandons the history of Soviet art and rounds on the foreigners. "Too many of you come here and ask questions you already know the answers to," she fumes. "Why ask them? Your minds... have been poisoned. No, not poisoned, that's not the word." "You do mean poisoned, though, don't you?" one of the students asks. The guide turns away, perhaps a little embarrassed about arguing with visitors.

Although I refrain from throwing snowballs at Lenin's tomb (unlike the Pierre Elliott Trudeau of some years ago), I come in for a barrage of criticism as well. "You have a sarcastic and critical mind," a dishevelled guide tells me with characteristic Soviet bluntness. "But," she adds, with characteristic Soviet evasiveness, "this is neither a compliment nor a criticism."

Despite the constraints of travel in Russia, most of the forty students appear satisfied with the trip. Resolved to refine their Russian, they make an unusual degree of contact with people, and in so doing are able to scratch beneath the automaton's surface of courage, will, and strength to find the more human, less monolithic figure beneath. Under the façade lies the Ivan Ivanovich who goes along to get along but all the while barbers, bribes, and wrangles on the black market, woos foreigners, and speaks his mind when it is safe to do so.

The visitor also becomes aware of Russia's larger contradictions. Windy editorials of self-congratulation aside, this is a country of chronic shortages, erratic harvests, shoddy goods, widespread corruption, repression, and privilege. It is also a country of immaculate streets and graffiti-free walls, free education and medical care, subsidized housing and guaranteed employment. This nation of long suffering has wrenched itself, in sixty years, from backwardness to industrial might and nuclear parity.

There are idealists who are dismayed and skeptics who are delighted, and vice versa. One says the revolution is in retreat, another pronounces it triumphant. A political scientist sees the state as physically strong and ideologically weak, and mourns the reversal of yesterday's reality. Everyone has his own perspective.

The night before our departure, several of us trudge to Red Square to reflect for the last time. The lights swathe the onion-shaped domes of St. Basil's Cathedral in gold, green, and brown. The observer, bemused, sees shadows of the past – hungry peasants clamouring at the fortress walls, jackboots racing across the cobblestones during the ten days that shook the world. Silently, imperceptibly, the snow and wind and cold are reduced to insignificance.

*Andrew Cohen, BA'77, a reporter for the Ottawa Citizen, is working on a master's degree in international affairs at Carleton University.*

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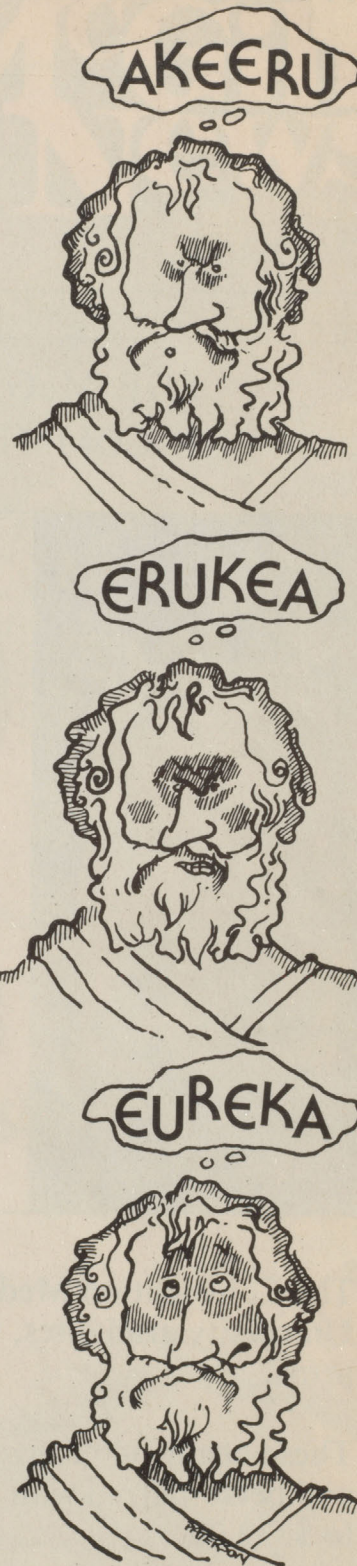
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