Canada honours American tourism group



The Canadian Government Office of Tourism presents the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) with a token of its appreciation for the society's efforts in the promotion of international meetings and conventions. The award, consisting of an Inuit sculpture, is presented by Canadian Ambassador to the United States Peter M. Towe (second from left) to Mortimer B. Doyle (second from right), CAE Chairman of the Board and Leonard H. Hoyle (far left), Junior Executive Vice President, American Society of Association Executives, during a "between-friends" ceremony in Washington, D.C. George G. Lavie (far right), Manager Washington, represented the Canadian Government Office of Tourism. The sculpture, weighing 59 pounds and standing about two feet high, was carved by Kingmeata Nung (Nungusuitok), a promising artist with the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative in Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories. This co-operative was one of the first of its kind to promote individual Inuit artists and display their works in Canada and the United States. This piece of Canadian art represents the gratitude of the Canadian Government Office of Tourism to the American Society of Association Executives. The ASAE has proved advantageous to Canadian tourism in general and the Canadian meeting industry in particular.

Pulp and paper industry reduces water pollution

Water pollution from the pulp and paper industry has decreased markedly over a two-year period, according to a report released recently by Environment Minister John Roberts.

"This decrease is particularly significant since production in the industry increased by 5 per cent during the same period," Mr. Roberts said.

The report, covering the period between 1976 and 1978, shows that the effluent discharges of total suspended solids decreased by 14 per cent and bichemical oxygen demand was reduced by about 5 per cent. The treatment of wastes toxic to fish has also been improved.

Mr. Roberts stressed that his department encourages the implementation in each plant of controls that recycle and recover waste materials, reducing the total amount discharged.

Regulations which limit the discharge of pollutants in liquid effluents from the industry were promulgated in 1971 under the Fisheries Act.

The report, entitled Status Report on Abatement of Water Pollution from the Canadian Pulp and Paper Industry (1978), is available from the Water Pollution Control Directorate, Environmental Protection Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa Ontario K1A 1C8.

Observer at Ugandan elections

Former Minister of State for Urban Affairs and former Minister of National Defence Barnett Danson is serving with the Commonwealth group formed to observe the December 10 elections in Uganda.

Mr. Danson, who was appointed to the group by Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan, travelled to London for consultations with other Commonwealth observers before departing for Uganda.

Mr. Danson is being assisted by a small Canadian staff as well as by a support group fielded by the Commonwealth Secretariat. Other Commonwealth countries providing observers for the Commonwealth group are Australia, Barbados, Botswana, Britain, Cyprus, Ghana, India and Sierra Leone.

Uganda has had an interim government since the overthrow of General Idi Amin early in 1979. The present government has invited Commonwealth countries, through the Commonwealth Secretariat, to observe the elections and thus to facilitate the return to representative government in Uganda.

Space watcher finds third comet

An amateur astronomer, who has discovered two comets in as many years, sighted a third recently from an observatory house in Almonte, outside Ottawa.

Rolf Meier, a professional engineer, contacted the Smithsonian Astrophysics Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts, which sent him a telegram acknowledging his discovery. Comet Meier 1980 Q, as the new find is known, flashed out of the constellation Hercules. While his new comet must be seen on at least three occasions to determine its orbit, Meier said it is moving quickly and is not from the sun. He intends to keep vigil for the comet this month even though the observatory house is not heated.

It took 26 hours of sky-scanning to spot this year's find. Meier spent more than 50 hours searching for this first comet in 1978 and 30 hours for last year's comet.

Comets are thought to resemble huge dirty snowballs left behind when the universe was created. They travel through space in fixed orbits until they melt.