Canadian appointed to OECD



Jim MacNeill (above), former secretary of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs in Ottawa and commissioner general of Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver in 1976, has been appointed director of the environment directorate of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. The directorate is responsible for the OECD's work in environment, urban affairs and toxic chemicals.

Mr. MacNeill, a former director-general of intergovernmental affairs for the Department of the Environment, was responsible for the department's preparations for the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm.

Smith gets a gold at World swim

Edmonton's Graham Smith, six-time gold medal swimmer at the Commonwealth Games this summer, recently captured another gold — at the World Aquatic Championships in West Berlin — setting a world record in the men's 200-metre individual medley. His time was 2:03.65.

Helen Vanderburg of Calgary, Alberta, won a gold medal in synchronized swimming (the first time for a Canadian swimmer in world competition) and picked up another one with Michelle Calkins, also of Calgary, in a synchronized swimming duet.

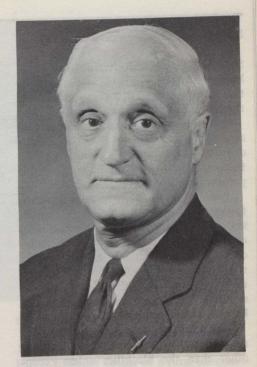
In all Canada won three gold medals, one silver and five bronze.

Mr. Cadieux to RCMP

Commissioner R.H. Simmonds of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has announced the appointment of Marcel Cadieux (right) to be a special adviser to him and to the Director General of the Security Service.

Mr. Cadieux, who was Canadian Ambassador to the European Economic Community, has had a long career in the Public Service and in a variety of positions abroad. He was Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs from 1964 to 1970 and Canadian Ambassador to the United States from 1970 to 1975. Mr. Cadieux will provide advice on security problems in both the international and the domestic areas.

The Commissioner said that Mr. Cadieux' assignment was for an indeterminate period, but would probably be for one to two years.



Reduction in language training

Public Service Commission Chairman Edgar Gallant recently announced further details on the Government's decision to reduce the level of training in a second language to Public Service employees across Canada. The Commission has been responsible for the operation of the language training schools since 1964.

According to Mr. Gallant, the decision results from the Government's policy announced last autumn, to phase out language training for public servants after 1983. It comes after a detailed and continuing review of current and projected demands for language training for public servants from now until 1983 and is consistent with efforts to restrain the growth of Government expenditures.

Mr. Gallant noted that the relative success of the Commission's language training activities over the past ten years in bringing about a more bilingual Public Service has led to a gradual decrease in demand for language training. Another factor has been the increase in number of French-speaking employees at all levels of the Public Service. The decline in demand for training, which has been most marked over the past year, has already resulted in a reduction of 205 classrooms.

By next April, the number of classrooms engaged in centralized language training will be reduced to 260, leading to an annual saving of \$12.5 million in salaries and related costs. It will mean, also, that some 600 employees of the Commission's Language Training Branch will become surplus. Every effort will be made to find alternative employment elsewhere in the Public Service for them.

Job vacancies

Preliminary estimates of the average number of jobs vacant on a daily basis during the three-months ended July 31 show an increase of 20 per cent from the previous three-month period. Vacancies for full-time, part-time and casual jobs were 46,000. Compared with the same three-months in 1977, the number of vacancies decreased by 5,800 or 11 per cent.

Vacancies for full-time jobs increased by 19 per cent to 41,000 in the latest three-month period from 34,500. Longerterm vacancies (jobs unfilled for more than four weeks) increased by 18 per cent.

For every 1,000 existing jobs in the latest three months, five were vacant, unchanged from the preceding period. The comparable rate a year ago was six. The highest vacancy rate was observed in Alberta (ten *per* 1,000). The lowest vacancy rate occurred in Newfoundland (three *per* 1,000).