

part of a 13-program series started by Via le Monde two years ago in Africa and West Asia. Each film runs for 30 minutes in 16 mm colour, with synchronized sound and a commentary.

*

The Canadian soya-bean trade mission that visited Malaysia from February 25-28 focussed on sales promotion of the white hilum soya-bean variety from the Province of Ontario. It is a specialized species used in the making of quality white hilum adaptable to beancurd and soya-milk markets.

Members of the mission included the Ontario Soya-Bean Growers Marketing Board Chairman Peter Epp, Vice Chairman Bernard Calhoun, Director Allan Ford, Secretary-Manager Otis McGregor; the manager of research and development for the H. J. Heinz Company, Mr. Murray Pennell; and Mr. Michael Loh, export specialist from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Another member of the group was Dr. Richard Buzzell, a soya-bean breeder who has developed the harosoy, harwood, and harcor varieties that are all widely used in Asian markets.

Malaysia bought about \$2 million worth of whole soya beans from Canada last year.

The trade mission also made a successful visit to Singapore, where imports of soya beans from Canada amounted to \$6.3 million in 1981.

PHILIPPINES

Canada again has come to the assistance of co-operatives in the Cagayan Valley upon the signing of a **technical assistance agreement** with the Government of the Philippines. The agreement was signed by Prime Minister Cesar E.A. Virata and Canadian Ambassador Edward Bobinski on March 10, in the presence of Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Agriculture Minister Arturo Tanco, and Deputy Minister of Agriculture Orlando Sacay.

Under the new agreement, Canada is providing \$500,000 for consultancy services and for the training of technicians engaged in the promotion of *samahang nayons* (*barrio*, i.e. village, associations) and co-operative agri-industrial projects which are at the take-off stage.

The current grant is in support of the Co-operatives Development Program earlier financed jointly by Canada and the Government of the Philippines. The earlier Canadian assistance comprised a \$6.3-million interest-free loan and a technical assistance grant of half a million dollars.



A toast to the signing of a technical assistance agreement between the governments of Canada and the Philippines by (l-r) the latter's Minister of Defence Juan Ponce Enrile and Prime Minister Cesar E.A. Virata, and Canada's Ambassador E.L. Bobinski.

The Co-operatives Development Program has so far resulted in the establishment, under the Cagayan Valley Development Co-op (CAVADECO), of a modern feedmill, a Grade A abattoir, a rice mill, and a machine shop and motor pool with a fleet of trucks and tractors serving the *samahang nayons* of the region. Additionally, a cassava plant and poultry and pig breeding stations are in the planning stages. The program has also contributed to the establishment of three co-operative rural banks and three area marketing co-operatives.

It is expected that the Co-operative Development Program will help to improve substantially the economy of the Cagayan Valley, with the farmers and their families as the main beneficiaries.

*

To follow up on the successful Canadian **oil and gas industry mission** that participated in the October ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) conference in Manila, the Province of Alberta's Minister of State for Economic Development and International Trade Horst A. Schmid returned to Manila in early February. Minister Schmid called on the Philippines' Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco to discuss possible oil and gas co-operation between Alberta and the Philippines.

*

The Canadian Embassy recently donated \$23,530 to the **Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)** of the Philippines to assist the organization in its nationwide program of self-help projects aimed at alleviating the plight of underprivileged Filipino youth and communities.

Under the YMCA's theme of "Sharing our best with the least," 14 projects were selected through a national theme-focussed project contest that drew proposals from the YMCA's 29 member associations all over the Philippines.

Canada is jointly financing the project through the Embassy's Mission Administered Fund, which provides modest financial allocations to deserving community and rural development projects.

The projects that will receive assistance are in 14 different areas and include pre-school sharing and learning centers for underprivileged children and the handicapped, vocational training for out-of-school youth and development programs for jail inmates, a fish shelter project, a pedicab assistance program and honeybee production centers. Local YMCA chapters in each area will supervise the projects.

SINGAPORE

Canada's High Commissioner to Singapore, L. Michael Berry, presented a cheque for \$11,400 to the Chairman of the **Singapore Science Centre Board**, Mr. K. C. Tan, on March 26 as contribution toward the establishment of an ecology garden within the Science Centre's grounds. The funds were provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in the interests of furthering the development of science education in developing countries.

The ecology garden, which will be opened officially in December, is expected to cost \$57,000. It will have facilities for outdoor biological studies, and ecological courses will be conducted for teachers and students. The Science Centre's plans include the introduction of fruit trees, common garden plants, a mini-vegetable farm and a mini-animal farm in the ecology garden to facilitate the study of plant and animal specimens mentioned in the school syllabus. The project will also enable teachers and students to have a greater awareness of man's impact on the environment and the urgent need for its conservation.