

fic world, and specialists from various countries will discuss this method at the international French-speaking congress on immunology to be held in Quebec City from October 11 to 15.

Dr. Michel Pagé, who will present his theory, is working in cancer detection. His research has led to the development of a new method for detecting diseases of the liver, including cancer, among workers exposed to PVC by measuring the amount of carcinoembryonic antigen, a substance produced by a cancerous growth, in the patient's bloodstream.

Angiosarcoma of the liver, the form of cancer that appears to be caused by PVC, is fairly rare. This form of cancer usually goes undetected unless an autopsy is performed. Dr. Pagé began work to prove his theory using the means at hand and without the benefit of research grants. Since that time, government authorities have become aware of his project and the study is continuing. If there is any doubt whatsoever, the analyses are repeated, so that the growth of this cancer can be diagnosed at an early stage.

Ten cases of this type of cancer have been diagnosed among workers from the Shawinigan region in Quebec. Blood samples for 200 of them who have been in contact with PVC have been supplied by Dr. Fernand Delorme, a pathologist at the St. Maurice regional hospital centre.

The results show that the workers assigned to resin production are the subjects who, in this study, have had the longest exposure to PVC.

Dr. Pagé's novel experiment in the field of immunology is a significant breakthrough for Quebec research, similar to the work of Dr. Armand Frappier of Montreal and his group, who were the first in the world to advance the theory that Quebec children vaccinated with BCG were immunized against a certain form of cancer called leukemia.

The BCG vaccine is designed to combat tuberculosis, a disease that wrought havoc in Quebec only a few decades ago.

(Excerpt from an article by Maréchal Francoeur, scientific editor for the Quebec City newspaper Le Soleil).

Canada and Israel establish joint economic committee

A memorandum of understanding establishing the Canada/Israel Joint Committee for the Development of Trade and Economic Co-operation was signed on September 27 by Donald Jamieson, Secretary of State for External Affairs and Yigal Allon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs for the Government of Israel.

Mr. Allon, who was in Canada for four days, after attending meetings of

the United Nations General Assembly in New York, later held discussions with Mr. Jamieson and Prime Minister Trudeau on bilateral issues and international affairs.

The new committee which will be made up of senior officials, may be headed by Ministers. It will meet, usually once a year, alternating between Canada and Israel.

The possibilities of trade expansion and economic and industrial co-operation between the two countries will be studied by the committee, which will also work to promote the exchange of technology, including industrial research and development. Both Canada and Israel have specialized in the development of certain high technology industries, and mutually profitable exchanges of information are expected.

The committee's mandate includes the encouragement of investment, and various proposals including the possibility of setting up joint or mixed ventures or companies will be explored.

Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Allon expressed satisfaction that agreement had been reached and stated their belief that important mutual benefits would arise from the activities of the committee. They also discussed the pursuit of more liberal trade policies and reaffirmed their unequivocal opposition to economic boycott and discrimination based on race, national origin or religion.

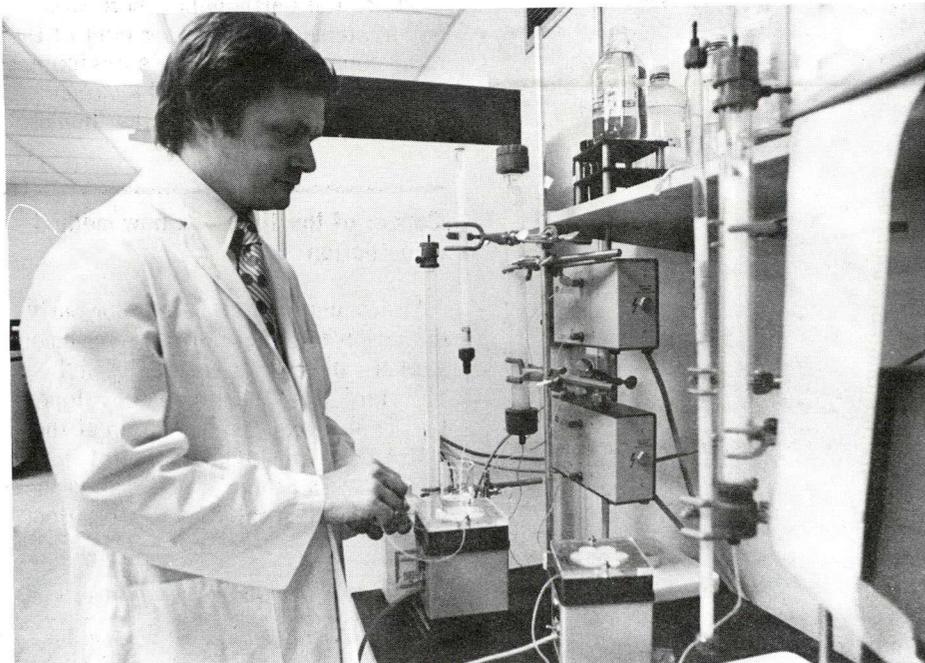
Canada/Venezuela to study co-operation in tar sands development

Canada and Venezuela are to begin consultations on the feasibility of an exchange program on tar sands exploitation, Energy Minister Alastair Gillespie said recently.

The consultations arise from the visit to Canada in June of Venezuela's Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons, Valentin Hernandez-Acosta.

Representatives from Canada's national energy corporation, Petro-Canada, will be visiting Venezuela very shortly to pursue the negotiations.

Chairman Maurice F. Strong and President Wilbert H. Hopper will be guests of Petroleos de Venezuela and will visit Orinoco tar sands region for discussions with Venezuelan petroleum officials.



Le Soleil

Dr. Michel Pagé's work is of great interest to science and humanity.