

New maximum security penitentiary for British Columbia

The first maximum security penitentiary to be constructed in British Columbia in this century was opened this month by Solicitor-General Allan Lawrence.

Kent Institution, near Mountain Medium Security Institution in Agassiz, B.C., is designed to accommodate 192 inmates, for whom the only available institution in the region to date has been the 100-year old B.C. Penitentiary in New Westminster.

The institution was constructed in keeping with a recommendation of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on the Penitentiary System in Canada, which called for "greater use of the Living Unit concept".

The Living Unit idea, which divides the inmates into eight units, each housing up to 24 residents, has already proved successful in medium security institutions. It encourages staff and inmates to work together at resolving conflicts and difficulties. The self-contained units also give inmates the opportunity to

receive more effective guidance and personal counselling by professional staff.

All round security at the new prison will be maintained through double fencing, mobile patrols and observation posts that monitor the entire complex.

Activity at Kent Institution is centred on the manufacture of wood and metal products in six industrial shops.

Programs for employment, recreation, self-development and other activities, including the opportunity to participate in full-time academic courses will be provided.

"Socialization programs, both for maintaining family and friendship ties and for self-development are as important as vocational or academic pursuits," Mr. Lawrence said.

Subject to normal security requirements, the privilege of open visiting will be available to inmates who demonstrate a sense of responsibility.

"Citizen participation is an essential

element of socialization for inmates," Mr. Lawrence added. He stated that providing inmates with encouragement and skills to become productive members of society was an exercise that depended in large part on the local community. The establishment by the Commissioner of Corrections, of a citizens advisory committee, and an active group of volunteer resource persons and agencies were, he said, major means of achieving this objective.

Crude oil exchanges approved

The National Energy Board (NEB) has approved crude oil exchanges with the United States of 4,450,000 barrels for the third quarter following improvements in Alberta's supply situation.

The NEB has received requests for swaps of more than 15 million barrels from eastern Canadian oil refiners. Applications are still being considered based on estimates of Alberta's production capacity.

In July, the NEB said it was not likely to approve further swaps until September because Alberta's production capacity was not expected to be high enough. A board spokesman said the improved situation was to some degree temporary.

He said the oil sands plant of Syncrude Canada Ltd. of Edmonton was expected to be partly closed down for two months for maintenance work beginning in August, but the company had deferred this until September or later so swaps that might have been approved in the fall have been advanced.

Among the exchanges approved, Golden Eagle Canada Ltd., a subsidiary of Ultramar Co. Ltd. of Britain, obtained permission for 1,550,000 barrels — exchanges of 500,000 barrels with Texaco Inc. of New York and 1,050,000 barrels with Amoco Oil Co., a subsidiary of Standard Oil Co. of Indiana. The company requested nine million barrels until the end of the year.

Petrofina Canada Inc. of Montreal obtained 1,250,000 barrels — one million barrels from Ashland Oil Inc. of Ashland, Kentucky, and 250,000 barrels from Continental Oil Co. of Stamford, Connecticut. A spokesman for Petrofina said the company was seeking further swaps for the third quarter but he declined to say how much.

Canadian gold coin first in UNICEF-IYC program



United Nations Secretary Kurt Waldheim (centre) was presented with the first two in a series of legal tender gold and silver coins commencing the United Nations Children's Fund—International Year of the Child Coin Program. The first gold piece presented by William H. Barton, Canadian Ambassador to the UN (left) was a \$100-Canadian coin. Imre Hollai, Hungarian Ambassador to the UN (right) presented a 200-forint Hungarian coin. The royalties accrued through the program, commemorating the International Year of the Child, will be divided among UN agencies in developing countries and participating governments to benefit children round the world. Designs on the coins will be created by children or will depict children's activities.

Y. Nagata, United Nations