

News briefs

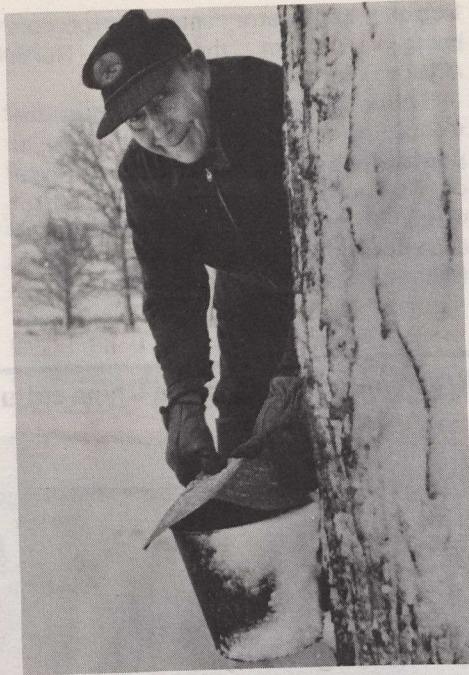
Multiculturalism Minister Jim Fleming has announced that a national symposium on race relations and the law will be held in Vancouver, April 22-24. The conference will study the concerns of Canada's racial minorities about discrimination. It will explore how Canada's legal framework may be made more responsive to incidents of discrimination. Organized by the Multiculturalism Directorate, the symposium is being planned in conjunction with the federal departments of Justice and the Solicitor-General, as well as the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Mitel Corporation of Kanata, near Ottawa, has agreed with British Telecom to extend one contract and to sign another for supply of telecommunications equipment. The first contract, for the supply of the Regent PABX is worth \$33 million over and above the existing contract valued at \$22 million. The new contract for the supply of the Super 10 PABX is worth at least \$3 million.

A book of discount coupons worth \$500 at local tourist establishments is saving visitors to Montreal up to 50 per cent at some 85 restaurants, accommodation facilities, boutiques and other attractions. Sold for \$8.95 and valid until May 31, the booklets, available from travel agencies, airlines, railways and bus companies, are a co-operative venture involving Travel Promotions Limited, private industry partners and the city's tourism department. They are available in 12 cities in the United States and Canada.

The federal government has approved a \$58-million loan to Northern Canada Power Commission for construction of a new 20-megawatt capacity turbine and electric generator. The generator is expected to improve energy supply and stabilize prices, which will provide the basis for the Yukon's next phase of economic development.

Choirs, theatre groups and other entertainers are among 176 senior citizens groups receiving \$1.14 million under Health and Welfare's New Horizon Program. About 21 000 participants are involved in the activities. New Horizons offers funds to groups of retired people to create projects of their own choosing and to undertake activities for the benefit of themselves and others in the community. The accent is on local needs and interests as seen by these older people.



Billy Bates, who has been tapping maple trees since 1927, checks a syrup bucket on his sugarbush near Ottawa. Thousands of Canadians are attracted annually to sugarbush farms between mid-March and mid-April to sample the sweet sap.

A new book on gold has been published by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. *Gold*, written by Dr. Tom Mohide, is designed to be a reference for investors, the jewellery trade, medical and industrial users of gold as well as the gold-mining industry. Canada is the world's third largest source of gold after South Africa and the Soviet Union and Ontario produces more gold than any other province in Canada.

Agrodev Canada Incorporated of Beaconsfield, Quebec has been awarded a \$1-million contract by the General Bureau of Animal Husbandry in the People's Republic of China. Agrodev will act as project managers for the first phase of the Northern Livestock Project in Inner Mongolia. Under the \$100-million project, farm implements and machinery, irrigation equipment, seed, livestock, and artificial insemination facilities, as well as milk processing and laboratory equipment will be provided.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$10-million (U.S.) line of credit with Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken of Sweden to assist Canadian exporters competing for sales in Sweden by providing their Swedish buyers with a simple and easily accessible credit facility through the bank. The main beneficiary of the line of credit is expected to be

small- and medium-sized Canadian manufacturing companies.

Labour Minister Charles Caccia has announced the establishment of a task force on micro-electronics technology. The task force will examine the status, implications and extent that micro-electronics technology is used in industries under Canada Labour Code jurisdiction. The study will also assess the adequacy of the Canada Labour Code as it applies to technological change with special emphasis on its impact on women who may be more affected by the introduction of micro-electronics technology.

Loans totalling \$185.16 million were made in 1981 under the Farm Improvement Loans Act. This compares with \$222.64 million loaned in 1980. Under the act, the government guarantees loans to farmers by chartered banks and other designated lenders for a wide range of purposes. The maximum that a borrower may have outstanding is \$100 000.

Dartmouth's Hermes Electronics Limited has been awarded a \$1.1-million (U.S.) contract by the United States Army to supply communication receiving antenna arrays, spare parts and manuals. Antenna equipment designed and developed by Hermes has had world-wide sales of more than \$5 million.

A 14-year-old Kitchener, Ontario, boy has become Canada's first national Rubik's cube champion equalling the world's record at unscrambling the cube's 54 coloured blocks in 26 seconds. The cube's inventor Erno Rubik, a Hungarian professor of architecture, was on hand for the championships held in Toronto. Duc Trinh, a Grade 7 student, defeated seven competitors from across Canada who had won regional championships. Trinh won \$500 and a trip to Budapest in May for the world championships.

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