

## Anniversary of multilingual book service

The Multilingual Biblioservice (MBS) of the National Library of Canada is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year.

This unique service makes books in 27 languages available to all Canadians.

The service, located in Ottawa, selects, purchases and catalogues a large assortment of books in the various languages and sends them in bulk shipments to regional deposit centres where they are made available to local libraries. Patrons cannot order specific titles, but they can ask for leisure reading in the language of their choice in such categories as fiction, children's books, biography, history, art, folklore, travel and crafts.

The Multilingual Biblioservice distributes about 30 000 books a year and now has a collection of more than 260 000 books in circulation.

Many of the books are selected from bibliographies, trade publications, journals

and other sources. Most of the material is popular like contemporary fiction, children's literature, and subjects such as biographies and folklore. Classics with wide appeal are also acquired, as are translations of works by Canadian authors.

In addition to distributing books, the MBS main office in Ottawa maintains a small reference collection on ethnocultural groups and their activities as well as a collection of material on library services to linguistic minorities around the world.

The concept of a MBS for Canadians was developed in the early 1970s and the Multilingual Biblioservice began operation as a division of the National Library of Canada in the fall of 1974.

Canada was the first country to establish such a service on a nation-wide scale, but other countries have followed the Canadian example and are working quickly to build their multilingual collections.

## Stamps honour women's rights activists

Canada Post will issue two domestic-rate stamps on April 17 featuring two Canadian women, Thérèse Casgrain and Emily Murphy, who were very active in the fight for women's rights.

Chairman of the Board of Canada Post Corporation René J. Marin, said that "because April 17 marks the day that equality rights enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms become effective, it is only fitting that we have chosen that day to commemorate the valiant efforts of these two champions of women's rights". He added that the stamps will also serve as reminders that the United Nations' Decade for Women, which is coming to a close in 1985, was proclaimed with a view to eliminating discrimination against women everywhere, for all times.



Thérèse Casgrain was born in 1896 in Montreal. She founded the *Ligue des droits de la femme* (League for Women's Rights) in 1920 which was active in working on problems affecting women, including their right to vote in Quebec. After more than a decade of repeated petitioning of the Quebec National Assembly, the right to vote was granted in 1940.

Thérèse Casgrain subsequently worked for many other social and political causes and represented Canada outside the country on many occasions. She was appointed to the Senate in 1970 and retired the next year. She died in 1981.

Emily Murphy was born in Cookstown, Ontario, in 1868. As a journalist and novelist, she wrote under the pseudonym Janey Canuck. She was appointed judge of the Edmonton Women's Court in 1916 and thus became the first woman magistrate in the British Empire.

Mrs. Murphy and four other women were instrumental in the "Persons' Case", which resulted, in 1929, in a decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, to reverse the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling that women were "not legally persons". She lobbied for the establishment of mental health clinics in Alberta and was successful in 1930. She wrote an important report on the drug trade in Canada, that was published in 1922, and a book on birth control. She died on October 26, 1933.

Portraits of Emily Murphy and Thérèse Casgrain painted by Muriel Wood of Toronto, appear in the design of the stamps with background sketches representing the principal concerns of their careers. Ralph Tibbles was responsible for art direction and typography.



## Curling champs

The North Vancouver women's curling team with skip Linda Moore, third Lindsay Sparkes, second Debbie Jones and lead Laurie Carney, won the 1985 world women's curling championship in Jonkoping, Sweden, beating the team from Scotland 5-2 in their final of ten games.

It is the second year in a row that a Canadian team has won the title and it is the first time in the seven-year history of the women's world championship that a country has won titles in successive years. Connie Laliberte's Winnipeg foursome won the title in 1984.

The 1985 champion Canadian team played the same style of game against Scotland that led them undefeated through their district and provincial playoffs, the national finals in Winnipeg and the first seven games of the round robin in Sweden. They lost two games prior to the final.

### Junior winners

The Canadian team skipped by Bob Ursel, with third Brent Mendalla, second Gerald Chick and lead Mike Ursel, also won the world junior men's curling championship held in Perth, Scotland.

It was the fifth world title for Canada in the 11-year history of the men's junior championship. Other Canadian champions were Paul Gowsell, 1976 and 1978; Bill Jenkins, 1977; and John Base, 1983.

Bob Ursel, whose Manitoba rink finished in a first-place tie with Scotland in the round-robin portion of the 1985 championship, came through with pressure shots in the tenth and eleventh ends to lead Canada to a 6-5 victory over Switzerland in the final.

## Kanata: A 'city of the future'

The city of Kanata has been invited to join 17 other cities around the world in setting up an international organization, tentatively called "Cities of the Future".

Mayor Marianne Wilkinson, who attended the inaugural meeting in Grenoble, France, said the organization is geared towards cities involved in the high-technology industry and is aimed at establishing an international network of "forward-thinking cities". She said the association could greatly improve the opportunities for local businesses abroad, and encourage foreign companies to set up in the Ottawa-Carleton area.

Representatives from Montreal and cities in the US, Israel, India, Hong Kong, Australia, Norway and France attended the opening