

### Japanese language-training at U of T

Teaching the Japanese language to Canadian students has its difficulties, according to Kazuko Nakajima, an assistant professor in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto, one of only two universities in Canada that offers a comprehensive program in Japanese language and literature.

The shortness of the school year — 26 weeks in length — and the long summer vacation are not conducive to consistent language training, she said.

To overcome this problem, Mrs. Nakajima has been introducing her students to members of the large Japanese community in Toronto, which is close to 13,000.

The complexities of the Japanese language present a real problem to Canadians used to an alphabet of 26 letters. It takes nine years for a student of Japanese to develop facility in reading and writing, compared to three years to learn English and six years to learn French, according to Mrs. Nakajima.

The lack of a good textbook also presents obstacles to Canadian students. American texts are not written in Japanese but rather in Roman letters. "We use these texts but I insert the Japanese words," Mrs. Nakajima said.

Six years ago, half of the students studying the Japanese language were Japanese Canadians. Since then, increasing numbers of English-speaking Canadians have enrolled in the course, the peak enrolment being in 1970, the year Expo was held in Osaka, Japan. Some 30 students now enrol in the first year language course and there are about 100 students taking the four levels of undergraduate language courses.

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### Soviet Union wins hockey series

The recent eight-game hockey series between Canada and the U.S.S.R. was won by the U.S.S.R. by four games to one. There were three ties.

Three of the last four games, which were played in Moscow, were won by the U.S.S.R. and resulted in scores of 3-2, 5-2, 4-4 and 3-2; the four games played in Canada ended 3-3, a win for Canada 4-1, a win for the U.S.S.R. 8-5, and a tie, 5-5.

### Federal funds for Quebec housing

Under the terms of three new major federal-provincial agreements Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) will make available \$97 million to the Quebec Housing Corporation to finance housing for low-income persons and families, for student housing projects, for neighbourhood improvement programs and for land assembly.

Financing arrangements in the case of public housing projects call for the Federal Government, through CMHC, to make loans to the Quebec Housing Corporation (QHC) of up to 90 per cent of the cost of a project. The same arrangement applies in the case of loans for student housing.

Under the neighbourhood improvement program, CMHC will contribute to municipalities through QHC 50 per cent of the cost of such elements as selection of neighbourhoods, the formulation of plans and the acquisition and clearance of land for housing and for social and recreational facilities. In addition, CMHC may make loans to QHC covering 75 per cent of a municipality's costs.

For land assembly, CMHC will make loans to QHC of up to 90 per cent of the cost of acquiring and servicing land.

### Travel study in Britain offered for senior education officials

A two-week travel-study course in Britain is being planned for senior officials in Canadian education. Superintendents and directors of education, ministers, deputy ministers and depart-

mental officials, and officials of national educational associations and deans of teacher training institutions are invited to participate in a course to be held at the end of March and beginning of April.

The program, called "Trends and Issues in the Local Governance of Public Education: a Comparative Analysis", is designed for study *in situ* of the changing and expanding role of local government (a large scale re-organization of local government came into effect in Britain in April 1974) with particular regard for the governance of public education. Special attention will be given to structures and processes being developed for more effective citizen involvement in education-policy development and for interinstitutional co-ordination and accountability. Needed reforms in the governance of Canadian education and the appropriateness of various British modifications to our schemes will be a recurring theme in the course.

### Throne Speech

(Continued from P. 2)

level of physical fitness of Canadians. A series of major athletic events including the Canada Winter Games in 1975, the Olympic Games in 1976, the Canada Summer Games in 1977 and the Commonwealth Games in 1978, should stimulate all Canadians, and particularly youth, to higher levels of participation and achievement in this area.

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Stemming the despoilation of our planet and returning our water, air, and land to a more natural state are urgent and challenging goals. Legislative measures toward these goals will include:

greater protection from contaminating substances in the interests of human health and ecological stability; and curtailment of ocean dumping through international agreement.

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There has been a rapid expansion in the numbers of people seeking to come to Canada as immigrants, as students, and as temporary workers. A Green Paper will be published shortly which will form the basis for public and federal-provincial discussion....