

The purpose of POS is to promote new or improved technology to make products from raw agricultural materials. The Saskatoon pilot plant also produces food for human or animal consumption and other finished products.

tical services from its own laboratories if the customer does not have its own team of analysts. Confidentiality is assured and research results are the exclusive property of the customer.

Customers served

The services provided by POS depend on the needs of the customer and include experimental planning and conceptualization, preliminary laboratory studies, establishment of a pilot plant, production of complete analytical data, production of limited quantities of a commodity for trial marketing, detailed documentation of projects, and product marketing proposals. Without having to make a capital outlay, a customer can use the company's \$7-million worth of facilities complete with the necessary professional workers on payment of a service charge. The company also provides a unique opportunity to give practical training to staff in charge of operations and analysis in all the important fields of farm products processing.

Speed of operation and the likelihood of success are greatly enhanced by the centralized skills and material available at POS.

The facilities and services of POS are also available to customers who are not members of the company. Canadian industries, the federal and provincial governments, universities and professional associations can become members for an annual subscription and modest registration fees. Membership entails certain privileges such as access to the in-house research program and to the information service, and lower service charges for use of the facilities. Although membership as such is limited to Canadian organizations, the company will also provide services to customers who are not Canadian.

Experience has so far shown that POS meets a real need among Canadians, a need that will likely become more prevalent if energy costs continue to rise.

Many Canadian companies in the coming years will likely take a close look at the advantages of processing raw materials at home rather than exporting them, given the lower transportation costs and increased product value that would result.

Prices a factor

Moreover, foreign companies whose suppliers include Canadian sources would doubtless be inclined to import reasonably priced finished or semi-finished products made from raw materials processed in Canada.

In a more general sense, new or improved food processing techniques can be of great benefit in offsetting the effects of the population explosion on world supply and demand in the food sector.

Assistance to Jamaica and Colombia

Canada is providing assistance for a solar hot water system in Jamaica and for a school in Colombia.

The Canadian International Development Agency will give \$244 900 to the Jamaican project to further an agreement signed by Sun Ray Solar Systems Limited of Windsor for construction of a commercial solar hot water system in Kingston.

The system will produce hot water for the Pediatric Centre at University Hospital of the West Indies and will be monitored and tested for one year. Installation of the system was scheduled ^{to} begin last month and to be complete by the end of this year.

The Canadian government will provide a \$6.4-million grant to Colombia to aid in establishing a school to boost productivity and upgrade the quality of that country's furniture industry.

The school, called the National Furniture Centre, will be operated by Colombia's national apprenticeship services, graduating 500 pupils a year with skills needed in all phases of modern furniture manufacturing. Colombia, which is contributing \$4.7 million to the project, has about 1 353 small-scale furniture making enterprises with low productivity. product quality that is inconsistent and an estimated 40 per cent of wood wasted in manufacture.

TV program helps fight crime

Calgary city police are offering \$2 000 ^{to} television viewers who can identify the villains in a *Crime of the Week*, reports the *Canadian Press.*

A televised re-enactment of unsolved rapes, robberies and murders is part of a new crime-fighting program in Calgary in which residents are paid cash for tips.

which residents are paid cash for tips. Police are hoping the program, the first of its kind in Canada, will pay off in increased arrests.

The new scheme offers the incentives of rewards and anonymity. Police have opened a special telephone line to handle anonymous tips. If the tip leads to an arrest, the informant is paid up to \$2 000.

Once a week, a major unsolved crime is re-enacted on the scene by amateur actors. It is filmed and shown on Calgary television station, with details also appearing on radio stations and in city newspaper.