

### Parks Canada enlists students

High school students are being encouraged to apply for the 1978 Conservation Corps, a program which lasts for seven weeks during July and August and offers about 240 secondary school students a paid working and learning experience in the national parks.

Camps will be operated in 14 national parks in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories.

Minister responsible for Parks Canada, Hugh Faulkner, said that students who were accepted would spend their summer doing manual work, such as cutting and preparing trails, constructing foot bridges, maintaining camp sites and planting trees. They will also work on wildlife surveys, environmental impact studies, researching public education programs, and forest fire control. Camping, backpacking, canoeing and orienteering are part of the program.

"By the end of the program, students should be familiar with the approach to management and preservation of the natural environment in national parks and will have made a real contribution through their work," Mr. Faulkner said.

### Medium security prison planned

The Federal Government will construct a medium security penitentiary in London, Ontario in 1979.

The London institution, one of several new, smaller medium security institutions being planned as part of the Federal Government's penitentiary construction program, will feature a design that divides inmates into small groups or units, en-

couraging the atmosphere of a supportive community with increased staff-inmate interaction.

The new facility will accommodate approximately 252 inmates and provide for a common eating area as the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on the Penitentiary System in Canada recommended.

### News briefs

Canada's first university-level course in computer engineering is to be introduced at McMaster University next September. Although some Ontario universities offer electrical engineering programs with options in computer science, the only other institutions providing specific computer engineering degree programs are at major universities in the United States, such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Caltech and Stanford. All graduates of the program at McMaster will be able to practise as professional engineers after two years as engineers-in-training.

Total landings of sea and inland fish for 1976 amounted to 2,419,809,000 pounds valued at \$391,672,000. Total value of fishery products and by-products amounted to \$975,835,000.

Employment and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen has announced the allocation of \$48 million to fund projects for the 1978 Young Canada Works Program which, it is expected, will create about 30,000 jobs for students this summer.

Former Cabinet minister Donald Macdonald, who relinquished the finance portfolio last September to enter private law practice, spent his last day in the House of Commons on February 28, ending a 16-year career in politics.

Mr. Harry Rogers, formerly Vice-President, Operations, Xerox of Canada Ltd., has been appointed Comptroller General designate, effective on April 2, 1978. He will report to the President of the Treasury Board and will be responsible for the assessment and upgrading of financial management programs and financial personnel throughout the federal public service.

Based on preliminary returns for 1977, the fourth year of the Federal/Provincial Co-operative Program on Road Safety, an estimated 5,200 persons died in traffic accidents in Canada, a decrease of about 2 per cent in the death rate from that of

In making the announcement, Solicitor-General Jean Jacques Blais added, "This type of medium security facility illustrates what we are trying to achieve in corrections — the creation of an environment and programs which provide offenders with opportunities for self-development."

1976. From 1973 to 1976, there was a 30 percent decrease in the road-fatality rate directly attributed to such program-safety measures as improved seat belts and more people wearing them; tougher law-enforcement for drunk drivers; reduction of speed limits, highway improvements and the use of more "crash-worthy" vehicles.

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan attended the UN/FAO World Food Program Pledging Conference at the United Nations headquarters in New York February 21, to make Canada's pledge to the program, which provides food aid for specific projects in developing countries, for the years 1979/80. "Canada is proud to be one of the founding members of the World Food Program," Mr. Whelan said. "We have been the largest donor to the program in the last three years and second only to the United States in all previous years." Since 1963, when the program was founded, Canada has contributed more than \$475 million.

Transport Minister Otto Lang announced recently that VIA Rail Canada would be established as an independent crown corporation early this spring. Originally, VIA was to be a subsidiary of Canadian National, responsible only for the planning and marketing of rail passenger service. Unified management by a separate corporation will promote cost-effective decisions, provide better control of costs and give VIA the ability to adapt quickly to market demands. The new crown corporation will manage all rail passenger routes, including some which will continue to be operated by the railways, beginning April 1, 1978, and become fully responsible for all passenger services by April 1, 1979.

The Montreal Canadiens lost 6-3 to the New York Rangers on February 25 in the twenty-ninth game of a record unbeaten streak. The Rangers' victory was their first in Montreal since February 22, 1972.

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs.) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.