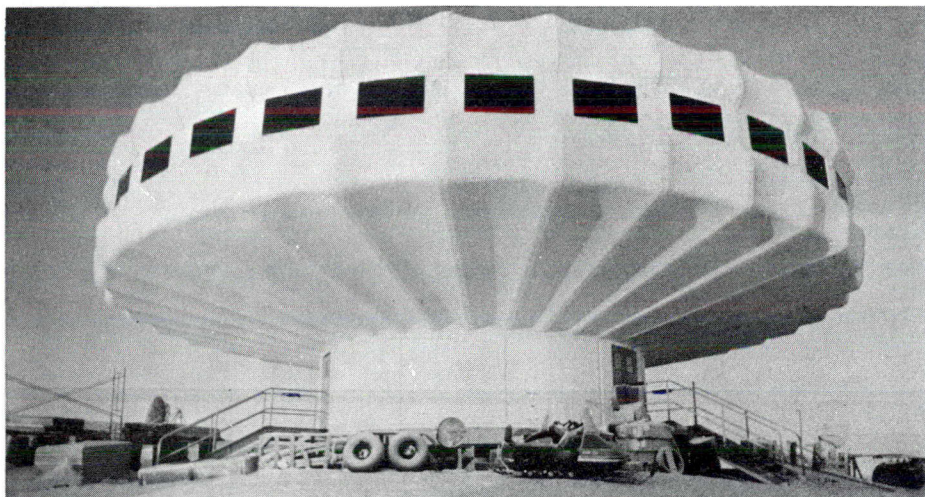


### Igloolik research lab opens

Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Judd Buchanan opened on August 30 the Eastern Arctic Research Laboratory in Igloolik, the main Eskimo settlement in the Foxe Basin area of the Northwest Territories.

Its circular design permits offices and laboratories to open off a central area so that minimal floor space is wasted in the halls. Other features include a steel frame covered with "plastic sandwiches" enclosing foam insulation and utilities such as heating and water storage located in the "stem" of the building.

The Igloolik lab is part of the Government's plan to encourage integrated research in the North; it follows the opening of a similar lab in Inuvik in N.W.T. in 1963. Before the Inuvik lab opened, Canadian research facilities in the North were mainly temporary field stations. Mr. Buchanan said that



Construction of the Igloolik research lab began in 1973. Its mushroom-like this situation tended to be costly, led to duplication and did not provide for integrated research.

The Advisory Committee on Northern Development recommended, in 1960, that a lab be built at Inuvik for the use

structure has already won two architectural awards.

of government and private research agencies. The Inuvik lab was successful and the next step was the establishment of a facility in the Eastern Arctic to be followed by other facilities in the Yukon and the Upper Mackenzie Valley.

### Another wheat sale to the U.S.S.R.

Canada has made its third sale of grain to the Soviet Union in recent weeks.

The Canadian Wheat Board sold 800,000 long tons of old-crop grain to V-O Exportkhele, the Soviet grain-trading agency. The sale comprises 750,000 long tons — about 28 million bushels — of No. 3 utility grade wheat and 50,000 long tons — about 3.3 million bushels — of feed oats.

The Board recently sold to the Soviet Union two million tons of this autumn's spring wheat crop and one million tons of this autumn's durum wheat crop. No. 3 utility is a grade of wheat not usually used for human consumption but for livestock feed. Last summer's wheat crop produced far more of this grade than normal because of an early frost. The Wheat Board indicated that this sale disposed of old crop supplies not previously committed.

### Human rights a two-way street

The settlement by the Manitoba Human Rights Commission of alleged discrimination on the basis of sex — male — in a compulsory company pen-

sion plan, may be a landmark case.

The complaint was first lodged with the Commission in May 1974 by a male employee of a company which was closing down operations in Manitoba.

The complainant alleged discrimination in that the compulsory company pension plan provided for normal retirement for females at age 60; but for males the age was 65. Similarly, female employees were eligible for early retirement at age 50, and males at age 55.

Some employees of the company, who were not transferred out of the province, were granted early retirement. A female employee of similar age and years of service to the male complainant was granted early retirement at \$2,152 a year, payable immediately.

The male complainant, however, falling short of the early retirement age, was only granted a deferred pension at \$1,180 a year, to commence in 1987.

Investigation determined that there was no actuarial basis for retiring women earlier. (Female employees have a longer life-expectancy than males.)

Paternalism and tradition appeared to be the main motivation for the established policy.

Harvey Moats, the executive director of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission, reported: "After a year of negotiations between the Human Rights Commission and the company, an equitable solution, satisfactory to the complainant, was worked out."

The male employee received an immediate cash payment of \$2,399, to compensate for the difference in receiving the pension at age 60 (as females did), compared to age 65.

The company also increased by \$1,682, the annual value of the deferred pension.

Mr. Moats said that, although the majority of sex complainants were female, "human rights legislation, as demonstrated by this settlement, is a two-edged sword".

### German students visit Ottawa

At the request of the Department of External Affairs, the Canadian Bureau for International Education organized a brief visit to Ottawa in July for a group of 43 German students working in Canada this summer. The students obtained their jobs through an exchange program between Canada and Germany organized by the German-Canadian