

Hockey

Probably, the sport that interests Canadians most is ice hockey. Almost every boy and girl learns to skate at an early age. Every village, every neighbourhood and almost every school yard has its skating rink, and the large cities have very modern facilities. The Montreal Forum, home of the Montreal Canadiens, a top team in the National Hockey League, has acquired international renown.

Curling and snowshoeing

Curling, initially played mainly by English-speaking Canadians, especially those of Scottish descent, is attracting a growing number of Quebecers, and snowshoeing, another sport gaining in popularity, has now more than 35 trails.

Carnivals

The Quebec Winter Carnival, held in Quebec City, is the event that draws the most visitors. It begins with the arrival of "Bonhomme Carnaval", the Carnival snowman king, who is accompanied by the Carnival Queen and her six duchesses. For two weeks parades, street dances, balls, concerts, dogsled races and countless other festivities take place (see Canada Weekly, No. 8, February 1974). Carnivals are also held in several other cities in Quebec, notably Ste-Agathe-des-Monts, in the Laurentians, and Chicoutimi.

A unique smelt-fishing festival that lasts for seven to eight weeks is held every year at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade, half way between Quebec City and Montreal. On the frozen river, over 1,500 wooden cabins, well heated and equipped with electricity and radio, shelter the thousands of fishermen who have been "bitten" by the sport (see Canada Weekly, No. 7 February 1975).

After a day of sports in the fresh air, people meet in the evening in the relaxed atmosphere of winter-resort hotels. Jokes and cheerful banter are exchanged by the fire, there is dancing, and Quebec or French cuisine is enjoyed with a heady wine — a perfect end to a beautiful winter's day. The more romantic take a midnight sleigh ride through a nearby forest, changed by moonlight into a dazzling white fairyland.



Mammal fossils in Arctic indicate link with Europe

Two United States scientists, working with the support of the Polar Continental Shelf Project of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, have discovered fossilized bones of mammals and reptiles on Ellesmere Island, the northernmost island of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago.

The fossils, estimated to be about 50 million years old, are of a type that is also known from Western Europe. This, according to the discoverers, indicates a link between Europe and North America, the last such connection between the two continents before they moved apart.

The two scientists are Dr. Mary R. Dawson, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Dr. Robert M. West, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

As reptiles are unable to exist in Arctic conditions, the discovery also shows that the climate in what is now Ellesmere Island was once much warmer.

Hospital equipment to Turkey

Harco Electronics Limited, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, has shipped \$44,000-worth of cardio-monitoring and intensive care systems equipment to Ankara, Turkey, to complete a \$70,000-contract with the Turkish Ministry of Defence. The equipment was sold through the Manitoba Trading Corporation for use in a number of Turkish military hospitals.

Morris Settler, president of Harco, said that negotiations with the defence ministry by Manitrade, a company representative and their agent in Turkey, commenced in September 1974, following a display of Harco's electronic monitoring equipment at the Izmir International Trade Fair, August 20 — September 20. The show resulted in the sale of \$20,000-worth of equipment.

"This \$44,000-shipment represents the conclusion of our largest overseas order although we will soon be sending Turkey another \$19,000-worth of equipment which we sold, with Manitrade's help, at the 1975 Izmir Fair," he said.

R.M. Armstrong, Manitoba's Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce and chairman and manager