News briefs

John P. Robarts, premier of Ontario from 1961 to 1971, died October 18 in Toronto at age 65. As a member of the Progressive Conservative Party Mr. Robarts represented London North in the Ontario legislature for 20 years. Mr. Robarts Confederation convened the Tomorrow Conference in 1967 and played an important role in the constitutional review process from 1968 to 1971. He also served Canada as co-chairman of the Task Force on Canadian Unity from 1977 to 1979. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said in a statement honouring the memory of Mr. Robarts that "he never forgot his broader allegiance to Canada as a whole. He was an ardent promoter of national unity and he played an active part in seeking accommodation among Canadians". In a state funeral procession the prime minister was one of 37 honourary pallbearers, all prominent in politics, business or labour.

The Department of External Affairs has announced an increase in the fee for a Canadian passport to \$21 effective November 1, 1982. Despite substantial increases in costs of producing a passport since the last increase in June 1980, the fee for a new passport was kept in line with the 6/5 per cent guidelines and only increased by \$1.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) announced the signing of two financing agreements to support sales to Israel. In the first agreement, \$106 321 (US) has been allocated under a line of credit agreement with Bank Hapoalim B.M. of Israel to support the sale of 56 computer terminals by Westinghouse Canada Incorporated of Burlington, Ontario to El Al Israel Airlines Limited for its reservations system. The second financing agreement is a \$71 655 (US) allocation under the line of credit agreement with Bank Hapoalim to support the sale of one cable twining machine and spare parts by Ceeco Machinery Manufacturing Limited of Maple, Ontario to Datic Cable Works Limited of Israel.

Quebec Manpower Minister Pierre Marois announced recently that \$40 million will be added to the province's \$160-million short-term job creation fund. The additional funding for the province's programs aimed at recipients of provincial welfare benefits is expected to add about 16 000 jobs to the 21 000 the government has created so far this year. The duration of the programs is limited, since so much of the work is temporary.



More than 12 000 Ottawa area residents joined in the second annual Terry Fox run to raise money for cancer research on September 18. The ten-kilometre run drew participants of all ages including babies pushed in strollers by jogging fathers and senior citizens with a number of people on crutches or in wheelchairs. Similar runs were held in some 750 other sites across Canada and the Canadian Armed Forces organized runs at bases around the world, including the USSR, Israel, Czechoslovakia and Sweden.

Sixteen of the rare and beautiful whooping cranes that breed in Canada and annually winter in Texas, have completed their 4 200-kilometre trip from Canada. Scientists said the birds were among a flock of 77, believed to be the largest in the world. The birds will stay in Texas until April.

Secretary of State Serge Joyal recently announced that the Coalition of Provincial Organizations of the Handicapped had been given a \$320 000 grant.

For the first time this year, Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, Oakville, Ontario reported a profit of \$1 million during the third quarter which ended September 30, 1982. In the corresponding quarter in 1981, Ford suffered a \$33-million loss. The gains were mainly in overseas operations in Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, which showed a profit of \$29 million during the quarter.

The 2nd Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2PPCLI) of Winnipeg took up Canada's portion of the United Nation's peacekeeping role in Cyprus at the end of September. This group is the thirty-eighth rotation of Canadian Forces troops to the Mediterranean island. A Canadian contingent has served in the UN force in Cyprus since March 1964. This contingent's area of responsibility is a sector containing the Cypriot capital of Nicosia, the largest city on the island.

CUSO, a Canadian non-government international development organization, is providing support for a Malaysian environmental group: Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth in Malaysia). CUSO funds will help the group begin a campaign to inform local communities about the causes and effects of devastating environmental damage.

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About 800 medical and para-medical specialists from around the world met in Montreal for a seminar on care of the terminally ill. The international seminar, sponsored by the Royal Victoria Hospital and McGill University, is held every two years in Montreal. This year's speakers included Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, Edwin Shneidman, Kathleen Foley and Robert Twycross. The Royal Victoria has a palliative care section, the first such service to be established within a university teaching hospital in North America.

The Stephens-Adamson division of Allis-Chalmers Canada Incorporated of Lachine, Quebec was awarded a \$72million contract to design and build a coal-handling system in Colombia. Financing for the deal was arranged by the Export Development Corporation. Engineering work has started at the Stephens-Adamson division in Belleville, Ontario with the manufacture of equipment expected to begin in 1983.

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

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

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

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Noticias do

