

codes and standards, engineering, fire performance and education to the forest-products industry."

U.S. Activities Program

The U.S. Activities Program, a special project of the CWC, was formed in 1963 to expand the market for Canadian wood products in the U.S. The program takes direct promotional action, but most of the effort goes into support of two national U.S. associations, the National Forest Products Association and the American Wood Council.

"Canada and the U.S. together form one market, our problems are mutual and we can deal with them in a mutual way," says Mr. McMillan.

Communications equipment pact with Britain

Northern Telecom Limited announced on October 5 that it had signed a licence agreement with the General Electric Company Limited (GEC) of England which will enable GEC to manufacture and market on an exclusive basis in Britain Northern Telecom's advanced SL-1 digital business communications system, and to sell it overseas.

The SL-1, which incorporates stored-program control and digital-switching, is the largest capacity digital private branch exchange (PBX) now available, with a range of from 100 to more than 7,000 extension lines. Some of the custom services available include "call-again", "speed dialling", "conference calls", "call-forwarding", "call-pickup" and "call-transfer".

The first system will probably be available in early 1978. Production will be concentrated in Coventry,

headquarters of the private telephone systems division of GEC Telecommunications Ltd.

The licence agreement is the second European pact for the SL-1 signed recently by Northern Telecom. In June the company announced it had licensed Televerket, the Swedish telecommunications authority, to manufacture and sell the SL-1 in the Swedish market.

GEC estimates the potential market for such equipment in Britain is about \$70 million a year.

Introduced in December 1975, the SL-1 has already become a market leader in North America with over \$22-

million worth of orders and commitments received from Canada and the United States. More than 100 systems will be delivered to North American customers this year.

Northern Telecom, with headquarters in Montreal, is the largest manufacturer of telecommunications equipment in Canada and the second largest in North America. It employs a total of 24,000 in Canada, the U.S., Ireland, Turkey and Malaysia. Its 1975 sales exceeded \$1 billion. The company's shares are listed on the Montreal, New York, Toronto and Vancouver stock exchanges.

News briefs

■ Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson, formerly Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister, left Ottawa for the Soviet Union on October 22 on a week-long trade mission. Mr. Jamieson was expected to meet with Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. His trip to Moscow and Leningrad is part of a Government effort to promote trade with eastern Europe and in particular the U.S.S.R. From the Soviet Union, Mr. Jamieson flies to Paris on a two-day official visit.

■ Prime Minister Trudeau, on a six-day visit to Japan, signed a "framework for economic co-operation" pact with that country on October 21 which may lead to expanded trade. Details will appear in a subsequent issue.

■ Former Cabinet minister Jean Marchand resigned his seat in the House of Commons October 25 to join Quebec Premier Bourassa's campaign for the province's election on November 15. Mr. Marchand left federal politics "vowing to carry on the fight for French-English unity", which brought him to Ottawa 11 years ago, in his native province of Quebec.

■ The following day, Bryce Mackasey, another former Cabinet minister, also announced his intention to run in the Quebec provincial election in Mr. Bourassa's Liberal party.

■ Average family incomes before taxes and other deductions rose 10 per cent in 1975 above 1974 levels but, says Statistics Canada, the gains were eroded by price increases. Average family incomes were \$16,263 in 1975,

compared to \$14,833 the previous year but there was no increase in real purchasing power because of rising consumer prices.

■ Manitoba motorists involved in an accident in Saskatchewan, and *vice versa*, may now have their insurance claim processed in the province where the accident occurs. The new arrangement, effective October 1, will result in a reduction of costs in the adjustment of claims.

■ The Federal Government and the province of Nova Scotia have entered a shared-cost program to encourage mineral exploration. High-sensitivity, airborne surveys will be made over the Halifax and Yarmouth areas by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), a branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, and maps showing basic information for use in mineral exploration will be published jointly by the GSC and the Nova Scotia Department of Mines.

■ Toronto Real Estate Board figures indicate a continuing slump in the Toronto real estate market. The Board recorded a slight decline in both the number and value of transactions conducted through its multiple listing service in September, the third consecutive month that sales were down.

■ McGill University is to receive a grant of \$658,607 over the next four years from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan, U.S. to aid McGill's School of Nursing develop a three-year master's program for certain non-nurse college graduates.

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