

in the Macdonald Gallery, Queen's Park, Toronto, in December last year.

The group of artists who formed the CSPWC did so because of their concern that water-colour painting was being overshadowed by the other fields of expression. It has since developed into one of Canada's most vital art organisations.

The Prince of Wales is an honorary member, and Madame Jeanne Sauve, Governor General of Canada, is Patron. The society receives support from Visual Arts Ontario and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, Toronto.

## Politics

### Tories re-elected in Alberta

Premier Don Getty and his Progressive Conservatives won re-election earlier this year in the Province of Alberta. The final standings in the election were as follows:

Progressive Conservatives	61
New Democratic Party	16
Liberals	4
Representative Party	2
Total	83

## Economy

### Ontario budget pares deficit

Ontario's Liberal government recently introduced a provincial budget which features a pared-down deficit, no new tax increases and more money for social programmes.

The provincial government has also proposed an employee share-ownership plan designed to encourage employees to buy stock in the companies they work for, and it has committed \$100 million towards a \$1 billion, ten-year fund to stimulate development of new technology.

## Sport

### 1988 Winter Olympic facilities boast world's latest technology

When Calgary plays host to the XV Olympic Winter Games — in February 1988 — the venues for

the competitions will, for the first time in the history of the games, be brand new, and they will incorporate the world's latest technology.

Here is an outline of some of the facilities that participants and spectators will be able to enjoy.

- The Canmore Nordic Centre, which is the site of the cross-country skiing, nordic combined (skiing portion) and biathlon events, has stadium facilities, a shooting range and 62 km of competition, training and recreational trails which link it with Canmore and Banff national parks.

- Nakiska, the site of the Alpine skiing events, is a world-class mountain resort carved from the forests of the eastern slopes of the Rockies. It is fully equipped with elaborate snow-making and slope-grooming equipment.

- The Olympic Speed Skating Oval — on the campus of the University of Calgary — has a design which ensures that all of the 4000 spectators it can hold will have an uninterrupted view of the speed skating events.

- The Olympic Saddledome is a multi-use facility that has 17,000 seats — none of which is more than 61 m from centre ice and all of which have unobstructed views. It derives its name from its unique saddle-shaped roof. The ice surface can expand to Olympic standards for the ice hockey competition. The Saddledome will also be the site of the figure skating competitions.

## People

### Canadian appointed member of war graves commission

Major General Desmond Smith, CBE, DSO, CD, distinguished Canadian soldier and business man, has been appointed a member of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, with effect from August 1.

The Commission was established by Royal Charter in 1917. Its duties are to mark and maintain the graves of the members of the forces of the Commonwealth who were killed in the two World Wars, to build memorials to those who have no known grave and to keep records

and registers, including, after the Second World War, a record of the Civilian War Dead.

General Smith is the first ever non-UK citizen to receive the appointment.

Born in Ottawa, he attended the Royal Military College in Canada and joined the Canadian Army in 1933.

He served with distinction during the Second World War in England, Italy and northwest Europe and was Adjutant General of the Canadian Army from 1958 to 1962 before embarking on a successful business career.

In addition to his British and Canadian decorations, General Smith was awarded the Croix de Guerre, Chevalier, Legion of Honour (1944), Comdr Military Order of Italy, Officer Legion of Merit (USA) and Order of Valour (Greece).

General Smith was Canada's Commissioner General at the Liverpool Garden Festival in 1984.

### Commodore James Plomer dies at age 74

Commodore James Plomer, a much-decorated Royal Canadian Navy officer, author and railway historian, has died at the age of 74.

Commodore Plomer was born in Bexhill, Sussex, lived much of his early life in South Africa, but moved with his family to Canada when he was 15.

He joined the naval reserve in Winnipeg before the Second World War and was called up in 1939.

During the war, he commanded an armed yacht in the Thames estuary, swept mines in the English Channel and was captain of the corvette, HMS Sunflower.

He was involved in the Battle of the Atlantic, for which he received the first of his two DSCs. He was also awarded the Order of the British Empire and the American Legion of Merit.

### Laurie Dennett finishes 1000-mile walk for MS

Canadian Laurie Dennett has completed her 1000-mile walk in 72 days to raise funds for, and to heighten awareness of, multiple sclerosis (MS). She set out from

Chartres, near Paris, and walked along ancient pilgrim roads to Santiago de Compostela in Spain (see *Canada Today*, issue no 11).



Photo: M Blanco

For the last 40 kilometres, she was accompanied by H.E. Roy McMurtry, Canada's High Commissioner in London.

The main objective of Laurie Dennett's walk was to raise £100,000 for research into the cause and treatment of MS. It aroused considerable media interest along the route as well as back in Canada and the U.K.

MS is a central nervous system disease affecting 50,000 people in the UK. It usually strikes in the prime of life and can sometimes have devastating effects — loss of vision, paralysis and incontinence.

### Canada Day celebrations



Photo: Searle Austin Associates

Over 800 visitors attended traditional Canada Day celebrations on July 1 at Canada House this year, during which concerts were given by the Edmonton Youth Orchestra, the Pacific Mennonite Choir, Ridley College Choir and Winona Brass Quintet.

The festivities culminated in the launching of balloons from Canada House whilst Musical entertainment in Trafalgar Square attracted over 2,000 people to the outdoor events.