

porters. The Treaty and its associated system of nuclear safeguards, applied by the International Atomic Energy Agency, are regarded by Canada as the basic instrument for the prevention of spreading nuclear weapons to more countries.

The Canadian aim at the Conference is to seek strong reaffirmation of the objects of the Treaty, and wider adherence to it. Canada is also reaffirming in Geneva its own commitment to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its readiness, as a supplier of nuclear material and equipment, to share the benefits of nuclear energy, provided assurance is given that it will be used solely for peaceful non-explosive purposes.

Canada is also strongly reiterating its view that all states, particularly ones with nuclear weapons, should negotiate in good faith toward the adoption of effective measures to achieve a halt to the nuclear arms race at an early date, a reduction in nuclear arms and a ban on nuclear-weapon tests in all environments.

---

### Arctic offshore gas-find confirmed

Northern Affairs Minister Judd Buchanan recently announced that Panarctic Oils Limited had successfully proved gas eight miles from its Drake Point discovery east of Sabine Peninsula, Melville Island, in Canada's High Arctic. The offshore step-out delineation well, called Panarctic East Drake 1-55, encountered gas at drilling depths more than 3,500 feet below the seabed.

Buchanan said that, in this time of threatening gas shortages, he was gratified that Panarctic Oils Limited was rapidly confirming the belief that the 20 to 30 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves necessary to justify the con-

struction of a polar gas pipeline existed and that Canadians, through the Government, held a 45 percent equity interest in this successful venture.

He explained that the well was drilled with a slightly modified conventional land-base drilling system from a land-fast, artificially-thickened, ocean-ice platform located on water more than 450 feet deep.

He noted that East Drake 1-55 was the second gas-pool delineation well drilled offshore from a land-fast ocean-ice platform. The first had been Panarctic Hecla N-52, drilled last year in more than 400 feet of water seven miles offshore from the Hecla gas-pool discovery on the west coast of Sabine Peninsula.

Both offshore delineation wells have demonstrated the continuation of gas-filled reservoir rocks in structures extending many miles seaward from each of the coastal gas discoveries. Each has proved the presence of gas accumulations of several trillion cubic feet.

Buchanan said he was pleased that Panarctic offshore drilling techniques, differing only slightly from conventional land-based drilling operations, had proved to be safe and efficient and economical compared to other offshore drilling methods. He considers that an increasing number of delineation wells – and eventually exploratory wells – will be drilled from land-fast ice-platforms in the offshore areas of Canada's Arctic archipelago.

---

### Canada host to international agriculture meeting

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences met in Canada from April 28 to May 10. The sessions of this, the first conference of the Institute to convene outside Latin America, were held at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa.

The Institute, familiarly known as "IICA" from its Spanish name (*Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas*), is the specialized body within the Organization of American States that deals with agricultural affairs. Its membership consists of 26 countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. Its headquarters are in San José, Costa Rica. There are IICA offices in most member countries.

The general aims of the Institute are: to help member countries stimulate and promote rural development by supporting programs designed to increase agricultural production and productivity; to expand employment opportunities in rural areas; and to increase the participation of rural populations in the process of economic development.

Canada joined the IICA in October 1972, and took part in the 1973 and 1974 annual meetings in Santiago and Caracas respectively.

The Ottawa meeting was attended by about 65 representatives, some of whom were ministers of agriculture. The Board of Directors met from May 5 to 8 inclusive.

On May 9, delegates travelled to Quebec City, stopping along the way to visit farm co-operatives and other agricultural institutions. On May 10, a round-table discussion was held at Laval University on the subject "Organization and functions of agricultural extension services".

---

### Rehabilitation of Bangladesh power system

The Saidpur diesel generating station in northern Bangladesh was officially commissioned March 20, marking another step in the Canadian-assisted rehabilitation of the country's power system.

The station, an integral part of the program to restore and expand power facilities in Bangladesh, will have a direct impact on irrigation and rural development by supplementing and making more reliable the supply of power for a nearby tubewell irrigation project. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provided grants of about \$500,000 to finance the necessary equipment, engineering services and technical assistance.

Bangladesh officials participating in the Saidpur inauguration included Mr. Abdur Rab Serneabat, Minister for Power, Flood Control, Water Resources, Forest, Fisheries and Livestock, and Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed, Minister of State for Forest, Fisheries and Livestock. Canada was represented by Mr. Paul Gérin-Lajoie, President of CIDA, who was visiting Bangladesh for discussions with government officials about Canada's substantial assistance program in that country.

---

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

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs.) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

*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.*

*Ahnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.*