

nions when she previewed some of the films for their target audience — children eight to 12 years old. “The kids responded so well, mainly I think, because here was another kid talking to them, showing them how she lives, what he thinks or feels,” she said.

In each of the films, the child tells his own story in his own words. As a 13-year-old film critic put it, after seeing one of the films: “I recommend it for people over the age of seven.”

News briefs

Canadian manufacturers, particularly those making goods for export, have become more optimistic about their production prospects. A Statistics Canada survey found that 43 per cent expect higher output in the first quarter of this year, 11 per cent expect lower output, and 46 per cent expect little change.

The general wholesale price index was 572.1 in December, up 0.1 per cent from that of November and up 8.9 per cent from the December 1976 figure. The December increase was the smallest monthly rise since last September, when the index also rose by 0.1 per cent.

The Federal Government has announced a program of grants to help companies design and develop new products and to create permanent jobs for graduates with two years of post-secondary education. The program is to operate in Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia on a budget of \$1.25 million until the end of September. Companies that hire new employees will receive from Design Canada up to 75 per cent of wages paid, or \$900 a month or \$7,500 an employee, whichever is least.

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services 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 Noticiero de Canadá.

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

There are no restrictions on the products, which may include fish processing, furniture, plastics, electronics or energy conserving products.

Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. will purchase the 400-ton-a-year heavy water plant at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, for \$66 million. The federal nuclear power development agency is to make 80 payments of \$825,000 each over 20 years before officially taking ownership of the plant. In the meantime, AECL has the right to operate the plant and sell its heavy water, which is used as a moderator and coolant in Candu-type nuclear reactors using natural uranium fuel.

Canada is giving Vietnam 22,000 tons of wheat flour valued at \$5 million to help overcome food shortages. Canada will also pay the cost of transporting the flour to Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City, bringing the total value of the aid to about \$7 million.

All 32 stamps issued by Canada Post in 1977 are available in the Department's souvenir collection. A \$4.75-package, containing \$3.98 worth of stamps, protective mounts, detailed background material and illustrations relating to each stamp, may be purchased at most post offices in Canada or by mail order from the Philatelic Mail Order Service, Confederation Heights, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0B5.

Pukaskwa National Park, Ontario, along the eastern shore of Lake Superior, has been established as the twenty-eighth national park in a system that stretches from Pacific Rim Park on Vancouver Island to Terra Nova National Park on the east coast of Newfoundland. Creation of the park, the traditional home of the Ojibwa Indians, will not threaten the rights of the native people in the area.

An additional 900,000 dwellings across Canada become eligible for grants under the Canadian Home Insulation Program as a result of the extension of eligibility to housing built prior to 1946. Housing constructed before September 1, 1977 in both the Yukon and Northwest Territories will now qualify for the grant assistance. A separate, federally-sponsored home-insulation program has been in operation for a year in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, where fuel bills have soared because both provinces are heavily dependent on imported oil for electric power generation.

Canada will contribute \$5.15 million to Bangladesh during the next three years

for materials and services needed to strengthen food-for-work projects in that country. External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson, who announced the grant, noted that it was the first ever made for that purpose. Some \$4 million will be used for local procurement of materials, for use in the construction of sluice gates, bridges, etc. to help Bangladesh control monsoon floods that destroy vital food crops each year. Canadian assistance to Bangladesh last year totalled more than \$37 million.

The Federal Government has announced a \$42-million renovation program for the old port area of Quebec City. The plan involves the construction of a museum, rehabilitation of heritage buildings, creation of new federal office space, wharf reconstruction and 300 new housing units.

Most daily newspapers in Canada sold for 15 cents a copy last year, and there seems to be no trend towards higher prices, according to a survey by the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association.

The Export Development Corporation has agreed to provide \$30.6 million in support of the sale of Canadian equipment and engineering services for the construction of an alumina plant on Aughinish Island, Ireland. Alcan International Ltd (Alcanint) will be the prime contractor and project manager for the supply of all goods and services for the initial plant. Scheduled for completion in late 1982, the \$500-million plant operated by Aughinish Alumina Ltd will have an initial capacity of 2.4 million tons a year. Alumina, produced from bauxite, is the intermediate step in the production of aluminum. The sale is expected to create some 900 man-years of employment for Canadians and to involve seven sub-suppliers in Quebec and Ontario.

We received an answer to our news brief in issue dated January 18, P. 8 regarding the theft of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's letter to Houdini from the Houdini Magic Hall of Fame, Niagara Falls, Ontario. “Don't worry,” it stated, “I had forgotten the wording of the code myself and just picked it up to refresh my memory. Will return it as soon as possible. You'll see.” The message was signed “Houdini”. P.S. Thanks Mrs. Lauschke of West Germany, we like your sense of humour. Can you use your influence with Sherlock Holmes to track down the missing letter?