

### Programs to alleviate unemployment

The Minister of Manpower and Immigration, Robert Andras, recently announced a modified "Do it Yourself" Local Initiatives Program (LIP) to cost \$83 million, for the coming winter.

This year's LIP, Mr. Andras emphasized, has been substantially altered, to involve more local people in the selection of local projects.

"The creativity and imagination of many Canadians will be a major factor in solving unemployment this winter," the Minister stated. "I was particularly impressed by the response of businessmen to my appeal last winter in an experimental element of LIP in which businesses sponsored non-profit LIP projects and contributed close to 50 per cent of total costs. The private sector will again be welcome to participate in LIP on this basis and I hope this infusion of community spirit will continue."

If successful, this experiment with local participation in federal programs could be extended, he said.

#### Local Initiatives Program

The major features of the 1973/74 LIP are:

- community-oriented, with local people advising on project approvals;
- flexibility, with staggered starting and ending dates (anytime from November until the end of May, to coincide with regional and local employment patterns);
- no extensions of new 1973-74 projects (projects that tend to generate community dependency will not be approved unless they can demonstrate, in advance, a permanent source of support);
- less funding for major commercial construction projects, particularly in areas where construction workers and materials are in short supply;
- priority given to applications involving new and imaginative projects, creating new jobs;
- wages based on local prevailing rates of pay for specific occupations, to a maximum average of \$100 a week.

#### Federal Labour Intensive Program

In addition to \$83 million for LIP, \$17 million will be allocated to the Federal Labour Intensive Program

(FLIP). This program is designed to accelerate the implementation of departmental projects in regions where unemployment is most severe. The Federal Government expects to spend a total of \$295 million to reduce unemployment this winter.

### Centennial of Canadian patents

At a ceremony on September 6, Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Herb Gray marked the centennial year of the *Patent Office Record* by presenting a copy of its first edition to Dominion Archivist Dr. W.I. Smith, for deposit in the Public Archives of Canada.

The fragile, old magazine is dated March 1873.

"This is an authentic piece of history," the minister told Dr. Smith, "well worth preserving for future generations. But it is much more than that. It is a symbol of the important role patents play in the market place and of the inventiveness of mankind."

Early volumes of the *Record* were published in a Government-subsidized, illustrated section of a private publication - George Desbarats' monthly *Mechanics' Magazine*, published in Montreal. Since then it has increased in size, importance and frequency of publication.

From a 40-page monthly, it has expanded to an average 96 pages weekly, packed with information of value to industry and consumers alike.

The first edition of the *Record* demonstrates that young men of that day had lively curiosities and ingenious solutions to many problems. The publication features plans, diagrams and descriptions of inventions ranging from a steam tramway and a torpedo launch to a machine for splitting kindling wood and a chaff-cutter.

There are Canadian patents dating back to 1791, but details of them were not published until Mr. Desbarats' magazine appeared 82 years later.

### Olympic Games stamps

The first two stamps of the special Olympic Games series were issued on September 20. They are in 8- and 15-cent denominations.

"I am pleased that the Canada Post

Office has the opportunity to contribute to the success of the first Olympic Games to be held in this country," said Postmaster General André Ouellet. "The stamps, which will be commemorating the Games, are in themselves unique, because they are the first Olympic stamps ever issued by Canada."

The first Olympic commemoratives were issued in 1896 to mark the modern revival of the Games after more than 1,500 years. The Games were held in Athens that year, and Greece, as host country, issued a series of 12 stamps in honour of the occasion.



Olympic stamps did not appear again until 1920 and it was not until 1924 that the issue of such commemoratives became an established practice for the host country. Other countries also began to issue stamps commemorating the Olympics, and in honour of their participation in the Games.

#### 1976 Olympic Games

Scores of athletes from more than 120 countries will converge on Montreal in 1976 to compete in the Olympic Games. Initiated in Greece, the first recorded Games were held in 776 B.C. They were terminated by a decree of Emperor Theodosius in 394 A.D. but were revived, largely by the efforts of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, in 1896. Since then the Olympics have been held every four years. Canada has been represented since 1900.

Besides the sports activities in 1976, Montreal will hold exhibitions of architecture, literature, music, painting, sculpture, photography, sports philately and performing arts.