

News briefs

Professor William Purdy of McGill University of Montreal has been awarded the Fisher Scientific Lecture Award for 1982 by the Chemical Institute of Canada for "novel and significant contributions in the field of biochemical analysis and instrumentation". The annual award is presented to a scientist residing in Canada who has made a distinguished contribution in the field of analytical chemistry while working in Canada.

Labour Canada has announced a commission of inquiry into part-time work in Canada. The commission, established under the Canada Labour Code, will examine the over-all employment position of part-time workers in Canada, and various issues such as compensation practices, supply and demand, the impact of unionization, and the shortcomings of current employment laws relating to part-time work. The commission is expected to recommend legislative and policy changes which would broaden the range of employment opportunities available to part-time workers and improve their remuneration.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$17.85-million (U.S.) financing agreement to support the \$30-million (U.S.) sale of three Canadair Challenger Executive jet aircraft, spare parts and related services to Sociedad Financiera Credival C.A. of Venezuela. This transaction marks EDC's first loan in support of the Challenger program. The interior fittings and avionics for these aircraft will be provided by Innotech Aviation Limited of Montreal.

The Coopérative Fédérée de Québec, a 35 000-member farming co-operative, broke the \$1-billion sales mark in 1981. Co-op president Paul-Emile St-Pierre told almost 800 delegates attending the federation's annual meeting that sales rose to \$1.075 billion from \$936.1 million a year earlier.

The Royal Bank of Canada has established a \$3-million (U.S.) line of credit with Taiwan's Export-Import Bank and Canadian importers of goods from Taiwan. The lending facility is available to Canadian importers at interest rates, which are considerably lower than existing rates because they are subsidized by the government of Taiwan.

A Canadian track team placed first in an annual Canada-United States women's indoor pentathlon competition held recently in Canyon, Texas. The Canadian



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police show band plays for more than 4 000 Caraquenos at a noon day concert in Plaza Bolivar in downtown Caracas. The performance was part of a two-week tour of Mexico and Venezuela as part of "Canada Week" activities organized by the Department of External Affairs in both countries.

team finished with 16 259 over the U.S. team which amassed 16 141 points. Jill Ross-Giffen of Toronto captured the 800-metre race in a personal best time and tied a pentathlon indoor world best in winning the long jump in leading the team to victory. Ross-Giffen also won individual honours with 4 523 points. The Canadian team also included Correy Rasenberg of London, Ontario; Allison Armstrong of Nepean, Ontario; Janet Scott of Winnipeg; Annie Potvin of Quebec and Lesia Phillipow of Saskatoon.

The federal government announced that \$40 million will be available to the auto parts and major appliance industries over the next two fiscal years. The assistance will be provided under the industry-specific restructuring program, which encourages firms to undertake capital projects in response to "serious industrial restructuring requirements". Of the total assistance, \$25 million has been designated for the auto parts industry and \$15 million for the major appliance industry.

Northern Telecom Limited of Montreal said its U.S. subsidiary, Northern Telecom Incorporated has signed an agreement to supply American Telephone and Telegraph Company of New York with telephone equipment. The two-year renewable agreement has a potential sales value of \$8 million (U.S.) for 1982 but could reach the \$20-million sales level by the end of the period.

A University of Victoria biology professor has developed a new way to drive the winter moth on Vancouver Island crazy. Dr. Richard Ring has isolated and identified the female sex attractant of the moth. Isolation of the compound means that it will have a significant impact in the drive to control the population of the moth which destroys bushes and trees. At present tree trunks are wrapped with a sticky material which traps the female as she climbs the tree. However, now the compound can be released into the environment resulting in the males becoming confused as to the location of females. This would considerably reduce mating and correspondingly control the moth population, said Dr. Ring.

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