

News of the arts
chair, the company will soon introduce a revolutionary three-wheeler chair for the growing number of people who need mobility assistance but are not totally dependent on it.

To service the growing number of dealers and export sales, Fortress Scientific has established service and warehouse facilities in Marietta, Georgia and Southall, England, along with its major facilities at Downsview, Ontario, and Pointe-Claire, Quebec.

According to Michael Smith, president, the company will be introducing additional innovative products during the coming year. Fortress Scientific has recently re-acquired the Allatt organization of Downsview which, as Fortress Allatt, is a supplier of replacement parts to the construction industry and manufacturers of sophisticated hydraulic paving equipment. More than 50 per cent of its business is outside Canada.

It was from previous experience with Allatt that Fortress Scientific became involved with powered wheelchairs. There were several disabled people in the company who were using what were believed to have been the best electric wheelchairs on the market.

The company was surprised at the chairs' lack of sophistication and decided to follow up with additional market research. This led to the intensive product research and development that has since resulted in the 655 FS powered wheelchair.

(Article from Canada Commerce.)

Natural gas pipeline

Polar Gas Limited has filed an application with the National Energy Board for a certificate authorizing the construction of a natural gas pipeline from the Mackenzie Delta across the Northwest Territories, along the Mackenzie River Valley, to Edson, Alberta.

The 2 145-kilometre pipeline would transport natural gas from the Mackenzie Delta and Beaufort Sea area to serve markets in Canada and the United States. Polar Gas plans to begin construction in 1987 and complete the facilities by 1991 at an estimated cost of \$3.3 billion.

Polar Gas had originally filed an application with the National Energy Board in 1977 to construct facilities to transport gas from the Arctic Islands along a more easterly route through Manitoba and Ontario. This application was later withdrawn.

The Polar Gas project is sponsored by TransCanada PipeLines, Panarctic Oils Ltd., Tenneco Energy Ltd., Ontario Energy Corporation and Petro-Canada.

New stamps mark visit of Pope John Paul II

The visit to Canada of Pope John Paul II, during which he will renew his plea for peace and goodwill among all nations, will be marked with the issue of two new stamps on September 7, 1984.

André Ouellet, Minister responsible for Canada Post Corporation, said the stamps "will mark the visit of Pope John Paul II as spiritual leader to 800 million Roman Catholics around the world and serve to carry his message of hope, peace and understanding throughout the world".

The stamps will be printed in two denominations: the 32-cent domestic



postal rate and the 64-cent international rate. The design by Montreal graphic designer Louis-André Rivard, centres on the Pope's personal coat of arms, a blue shield quartered by a gold cross, surmounted by the triple crown and the keys of St. Peter, the ancient symbols of the papacy. The background features a stylized map of Canada with indications of the stops on the Pontiff's journey.

The Pope is scheduled to begin his Canadian visit at Quebec City September 9. He will then travel to Trois-Rivières, Montreal, St. John's, Moncton, Halifax, Toronto, Winnipeg, St. Boniface, Edmonton, Fort Simpson in the Northwest Territories, and Vancouver. He will conclude his visit in the Ottawa-Hull area on September 19 and 20.

Supercomputer for Calgary

The University of Calgary will be installing Canada's second supercomputer next fall and it will be virtually free because of a \$25-million agreement reached with the province of Alberta and Control Data Canada Ltd. of Mississauga, Ontario.

The university hopes the Cyber 205 computer will attract world-class scientists to work on fifth generation computing applications. Canada has been relatively under-represented in use of supercomputers, which are ideal for simulating complex conditions for oil, automobile and airplane companies. Of the approximately 100 supercomputers in the world, 60 are in the United States and eight in Britain.

Control Data, which has now sold its first supercomputer in Canada, will be renting out some machine time to local oil companies, and has promised to supply the university with "state-of-the-art" equipment for the next ten years. The university has eight Honeywell computers.

Canada's first supercomputer was installed in Dorval, Quebec, for the federal Atmospheric Environment Service.

According to University of Calgary president Norman Wagner, the computer will be

"a provincial resource" and will be made available to faculty and students at other Alberta institutions. The government of Alberta will be purchasing \$10-million worth of time on the system over the next five years, said Edward Sullivan, assistant to the university's vice-president of research. Research and development contributions from Control Data total more than \$14 million, he said.

Although the University of Calgary will be the first Canadian university to have a supercomputer, "we have had discussions with most of the major universities over the last year or two", said Bruce McKelvey, vice-president of the company's western region.

Control Data's Cyber machine can perform 800 million instructions per second. It will be used in reservoir simulation, seismic processing, medical applications and integration research of a very large scale.

It will also be used with the Canadian Long Base Array of radio telescopes, a project of the Canadian Astronomical Society.

Alberta may also be the home of a new supercomputer project. By the end of the year, Myrias Research Corp. of Edmonton is expected to reveal the details of its Myrias 4000, which is believed to be a parallel processing computer.