

## H. Program Highlights

Equipment Displays and Demonstrations. The Specialized Periods staff produced or oversaw the production of equipment exhibitions in thirteen out of the fourteen Specialized Periods. Two exhibitions were commercial trade shows, and three exhibitions (Automobiles, Urban Transit, Trucks and Intercity Buses) featured vintage equipment as well as modern. Most of the products exhibited were from North America, and were not as innovative or unique, in most instances, as Specialized Periods staff had hoped. A number of the exhibitions captured the interest and imaginations of the general public such as the r.m.s. Titanic display in the Underwater and Offshore Resources period, and displays in the Transportation for Recreation, Human Powered Transportation, and Search and Rescue periods. Other exhibitions were more professional in orientation such as Marine Commerce and Modern Rail.

While not overwhelming in number, the contributions of international participants added significantly to the profiles of the displays. Notable international highlights were the participation of Stevenson's Rocket from Britain (STEAMEXPO), the Nippon Maru Tall Ship from Japan and the Hanbada, a commercial training vessel, from Korea (Ships of the World), aircraft from the U.S.S.R. and aerobatic teams from Italy and France (AIR FAIR 86 and the International Abbotsford Airshow). Other featured technology included modern urban buses from the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Britain and Belgium, the British "Railbus", a London Taxi adapted for the disabled with a specially designed wheelchair, a visit by Jacques Cousteau's wind-assisted ship, Alcyon, participation of the Japanese Maritime Training Institute in search and rescue demonstrations, and vehicle entries in the Expo-sponsored Innovative Vehicle Design Competition from Switzerland and Japan as well as the U.S. and Canada.

Seminars/Conferences. The Specialized Periods program included 56 conferences and seminars related to the theme of Transportation and Communications. Efforts to involve international participants in this portion of the program were more successful. Through financial support, in some cases, and effective lobbying in others, Specialized Periods staff stimulated the development of several major international conferences including Sea the Future (a conference on underwater technology), the International Polar Transportation Conference, the International Symposium on Alternative and Advanced Automotive Engines, and the International Conference on Satellite and Fibre Optic Communications. Each of these conferences involved leaders in the respective fields from all over the world.