

Canada's high tech industry

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area, in an attempt to put its new portable computer, the *Hyperion*, on the market as quickly as possible.

The computer weighs only nine kilograms and its compact 22-by-25-by-46-centimetre size allows it to fit under an airplane seat. It is twice as powerful as small units now on the market and it is the first portable unit compatible with the IBM personal computer, which can use software developed for that machine as well as software developed by Dynaloc. Further, it is competitively priced at about \$5 000 (US).

Initial reaction to the *Hyperion* was very favourable when it was introduced at the US COMDEX trade fair in Atlantic City, New Jersey at the end of June, and sales of some 6 400 units are expected by the end of July 1983.

Training

In an operation designed to let potential computer operators, programmers and technicians teach themselves more about computers, Control Data Canada Limited has opened its fourth Canadian centre, the Control Data Institute in Ottawa.

Students at the institute are able to learn at their own pace, using the computerized *Plato* learning system developed by Control Data. They work at a video display console linked to a powerful mainframe computer in Toronto with enough capacity to simulate conversation between student and computer. Students can also be directed to appropriate manuals, books or videotapes for pertinent information. Within a year, courses will be offered to the general public as well as workers already in high-tech industries.

In the travel industry, an Ottawa area firm, Ottawa/Algonquin Travel is installing computer terminals that will make it the first electronic travel agency in the area. In 1981, the agency purchased a membership with the Woodside Group of Travel Agencies, a world-wide network of 62 independent travel agents that specializes in business travel but is not limited to it. Ottawa/Algonquin Travel is connected by terminal to Woodside's computer centre in Boston linking it with other travel agents and 24 different world-wide reservation systems including hotels, airlines and car rental firms.

News briefs

In three federal government by-elections on October 12, the Conservative Party took two of the seats and the New Democratic Party one. For the Conservatives, Jennifer Cossitt received 54 per cent of the vote to win the seat in Leeds-Grenville and John MacDougall won the seat in the northeastern Ontario riding of Timiskaming. Lynn McDonald won for the New Democratic Party in the Toronto riding of Broadview-Greenwood. As a result of the by-elections the Liberals hold 146 seats in the House of Commons while the Conservatives now have 102 and the New Democratic Party 33. There is one independent.

New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield led the Progressive Conservative Party back to power in a provincial election held on October 12 winning 40 of the Legislature's 58 seats. The results of the election represented an increase of ten seats over the 1978 election for the Conservatives while the Liberals dropped to 17 from 28 seats and the New Democratic Party won its first seat ever in the province. Over-all, the Conservative Party increased its popular vote across the province by 5 per cent. The victory gives Mr. Hatfield an unprecedented fourth term as premier of New Brunswick.

The Export Development Corporation has made a \$75 000 (US) allocation under a line of credit with Banco de Chile to support a sale by Forano Incorporated of Plessisville, Quebec, to Agricola Y Forestal Flor Del Lago S.A. (AFFL) of Chile. The \$102 574 (Cdn) sale involves the supply of one *Model 900* twin circular saw for use in a sawmill operated by AFFL.

The federal government has awarded funds up to a total of \$3.96 million to the Saskatchewan Power Corporation to help finance the expansion of natural gas distribution systems. The Saskatchewan corporation has received federal funding for 14 gas extension projects primarily in the eastern-central and northwestern regions of the province.

Farmers in the prairie provinces will harvest their largest grain crop in history this year. United Grain Growers Limited, a prairie grain elevator co-operative, has forecast that farmers will harvest \$44.8-million tonnes of grains and oilseeds this fall — about 20 per cent better than the average in the last five years.



Posing as a robot, actress Abby Hagyard appears as the "ideal hi-tech secretary" as she demonstrates a new electronic typewriter as part of a promotional scheme in downtown Ottawa.

A McGill professor has become the first Canadian to be named president of the International Law Association (ILA). Dr. Nicolas Mateesco Matte, director of the university's institute and centre of air and space law, was elected to the position for a two-year period at the association's annual conference in Montreal. Since 1972 Dr. Matte has been president of the Canadian branch of the ILA.

Karen Strong-Hearth of St. Catharines, Ontario placed in the top ten of the recent world cycling championships for the fourth time in her career. She placed eighth in the four-lap race in Goodwood, England, about 42 seconds behind winner British cyclist Mandy Jones.

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