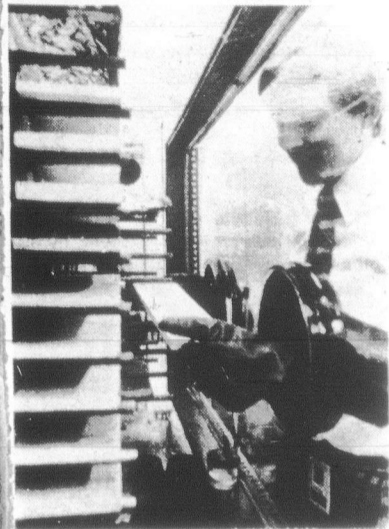
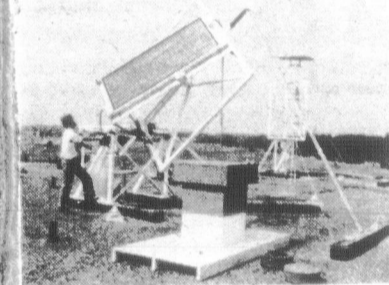


Business

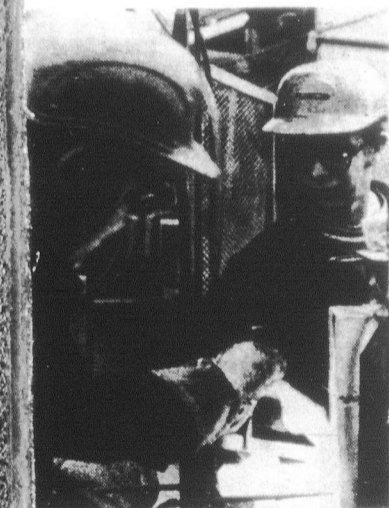
You name it, they probably gave it a test



Materials



Solar panels



Metallurgy

The International Table Tennis Federation had them do a survey to see how the ball would bounce on various table surfaces.

The Facelle company had them design the world's first paper diaper — and the machine to make it.

The Blue Mountain Pottery Co. was given two years to eliminate the lead in the glaze covering their products — so they came to them to find out what to do.

"They" are the Ontario Research Foundation, a team of experts housed in a sprawling building in the Sheridan Park Research Community in Mississauga. They celebrate their 50th anniversary this month.

The foundation is used by over 1,500 companies each year for product testing, research, and development.

In 1977, income from Canadian industry amounted to \$5,467,000, over 75 per cent of the foundation's business.

Contracts with the federal and provincial governments amounted to \$1,249,000, with the remaining eight per cent of the income coming mostly from foreign companies and governments.

The foundation was formed in the fall of 1928, following a proposal by Premier Howard Ferguson. He called for the government to provide substantial funding for an institution designed for "solving scientific problems of production and processing for Canadian Industries and natural resource developers."

The independent facility would be funded by contributions from industry, which would be matched dollar for dollar by the government. In the early years of the foundation, industry pitched in for \$1,872,760 by 1930.

The foundation has been at Sheridan Park since 1967 and employs about 325 people, most of whom live in Mississauga.

Foundation President W.R. Stadelman says over 70 per cent of the foundation's business goes to small companies, who end up paying a bill of less than \$1,000.

These small companies have no testing facilities of their own, but still need the facilities, and the foundation provides them.

On the other end of the scale, last year 16 companies spent over \$50,000 each for their research and develop-



ORF technician tests strength of carpet bind

ment at the foundation.

By addressing the needs of both large and small companies, Stadelman says, "we have filled an important need in the community. I think that is probably our greatest accomplishment."

What all is the foundation involved with?

On the roof of the big white building is equipment to test a solar collector panel's thermal efficiency over a wide range of operating conditions. Many other tests for energy conservation techniques are done at the foundation as well, including tests for fuels, insulation and combustion technology.

Air- and water-pollution tests are also carried out. Many companies used the foundation to ensure the trace metal levels in process streams comply with government regulations.

Some of the private-industry testing that goes on involves clothing fibres, footwear, textiles and paper products. The new double-decker GO trains were tested for load compression.

Work in the medical field is also underway, and a special project on the loss of wrist movement by arthritis victims was carried out. The foundation studied and designed an artificial wrist implant that would allow the person to do normal daily duties.

Though the accomplishments of the

foundation are many, there is cause for worry because of the spending restraints placed by the government.

For years, Stadelman has warned that Canada must increase industrial research and development to match mounting foreign competition.

He states in the 1977 annual report that "unless we take immediate steps to increase substantially our industrial research and development effort — and this would mean increased initiatives on the part of both industry and government — our opportunities for long-term economic growth and industrial stability can be seriously jeopardized."

New Cable 10 chief to focus on city issues

By JOHN STEWART
Times Staff Writer

Mississauga's Cable 10 television will be attempting to identify some of the issues of importance in the community, as well as reflecting them, says its new general manager.

Scott Colbran, 27, was recently appointed after five years of service with a cable system that served the southern half of York region.

"One of the things I would like to emphasize a little more," says the McMaster University graduate, "is our involvement in identifying issues in the community."

"We, as a television station, and other cable systems have tended to reflect what's going on in the community and react to requests for certain types of programming. I hope we'll have enough time to identify

concerns in the city and do programs about them as well."

Colbran plans to take a more involved role in the local political scene and has already initiated a program called It's Your Concern, which will see him questioning city councillors about their roles and about prominent issues in the areas they represent.

"It's not so much a change as a re-direction we're seeking," says the general manager. "I'd like to see us get more actively into the community."

Once the municipal election campaign period officially begins on Oct. 16, Cable 10 will offer free time for all candidates to reach the voters. The station also hopes to organize its own all-candidates' forum in the studio before the Nov. 13 election.

A further possibility is all-

candidates' programs which focus on individual wards.

Cable 10 has added two more full-time employees, bringing the complement to eight regular staff, to go with the hundreds of community volunteers. Colbran stresses that with the inclusion of Credit Valley Cable and Rogers Cable, programming now reaches the entire municipality.

"We have two aims: to have the entire city as an entity reflected in the programming and to develop more neighborhood-oriented programs."

Cable 10 experimented with this latter concept earlier this year with programs on individual communities, including Port Credit.

Some of the city's cable companies have hired programming coordinators, who will help the Cable 10 staff prepare programs for individual

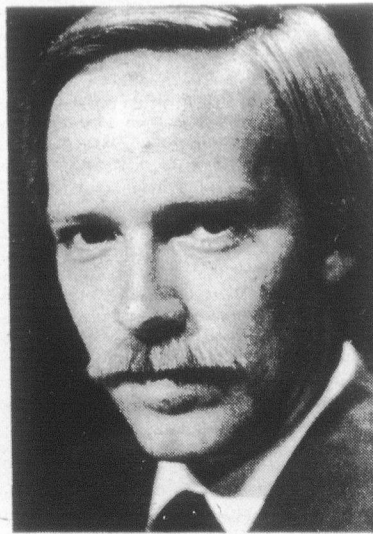
communities, such as Streetsville and Malton.

"We really hope to have two different kinds of coverage, some covering issues that affect the whole community and some which is specific to certain areas," says Colbran.

Cable 10's fall programming, including the unique locally-produced soap opera, Valleyfields, staffed entirely by volunteer actors, has already started. By mid-October, all the new programs will begin.

Cable 10 has also expanded its programming hours, going from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on weekday nights and starting a new Saturday programming feature from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Cable 10 is owned by the five cable firms operating in the city.



Scott Colbran