

Electronics display in Shanghai

Thirty-five manufacturers of electronics and scientific instruments will display their products at an all-Canadian exhibition in Shanghai from April 16 to 26.

The show, the Canadian Electronics and Scientific Instruments Exhibition, was arranged at the invitation of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT). Industry representatives will also take part in seminars. The general public will not attend but CCPIT will invite engineers, scientists, students, trading corporation representatives and end-users to view the exhibition and attend the seminars.

Following the showing in Shanghai, a group made up principally of sales engineers will visit Peking for meetings with China Trade Corporations, universities and factories.

Equipment expected to be displayed includes airport electronic devices including airport-surveillance radars, weather radar and instrument-landing systems, scientific and geophysical equipment of all types; radio-relay equipment may also be included.

Guides for day-care services

Marc Lalonde, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, recently announced to the House of Commons new policy guide-lines for day-care services which are being sent to provincial governments. The guide-lines, relating to the provision of day-care services for children, shareable under the Canada Assistance Plan, will enable the provinces to help families earning low and below-average incomes who need to use day-care facilities.

Priority is given to making the services available to single-parent families; families where both parents are working or where one parent is working and the other is enrolled in a vocational or education institution; or where there may be a physical, emotional, or social problem in the home. The guide-lines provide for income-tested programs in line with the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. Essentially, the parent pays a fee for day care which is adjusted to the family in-

come. A family of four with an annual net income of about \$5,500 would receive full subsidy for the cost of the day-care service; a similar family with an annual net income of about \$11,000, may still be entitled to a small subsidy but would be expected to pay the major portion of the cost.

"All across Canada there has been a growing concern and a recognition of the great need for day-care services," the Minister said. "Almost every province is interested in examining its existing day-care programs and in designing an expansion of them. The new policy guide-lines provided to the provinces will be of assistance in enabling the provinces to plan an orderly development of services with financial assistance from the Federal Government."

Priority issue

Besides the development of the guide-lines, the high priority the Government has placed on day care is reflected in a number of ways, said Mr. Lalonde. As a result of amendments to the Canada Assistance Plan regulations in 1972, shareable costs for day-care services are the full operating costs, including costs of equipment and supplies, and rent for depreciation on capital. For all other welfare services, shareable costs are restricted to salaries and related staff costs. The increased cost-sharing has given considerable impetus to the development of day-care services.

Demand increasing

Since 1972, when the National Day Care Information Centre was established, it has developed informational material on day care, including a pamphlet designed to help parents choose the right day-care service for their children, bibliographies suitable for groups interested in developing day-care services as well as for staff of existing services, and a newsletter. The demand for material has been steadily increasing. Some 50,000 copies of *Day Care for Children* have been distributed and the Centre's regular mailing list is now over 7,000. Currently a *Study of Day Care in Canada*, is almost ready for release and the Centre is developing a library of tapes that will be available for loan to agencies concerned with day-care services and interested groups.

The Federal Government provides consultative services to provinces, municipalities, voluntary agencies, and community groups.

International textile trade accord

Canada's accession to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (ITA) was announced on March 22 by Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Alastair Gillespie, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

The Arrangement, which was tabled in the House of Commons on that date, was concluded in December under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by negotiators representing nearly 50 countries, including Canada, which account for the bulk of world textile trade. The principal aim of the ITA is to encourage the expansion and progressive liberalization of international trade in textiles and, at the same time, to ensure the orderly conduct of such trade by avoiding disruption of markets and production in both importing and exporting countries.

Mr. Gillespie said that the ITA would permit Canada to operate its national textile policy within an improved and recognized international framework and should result in a more equitable distribution of textile imports among industrialized countries, thus lessening diversionary pressures on the Canadian market, which has one of the highest *per capita* import rates in the world.

The ministers noted that the ITA, which will remain in force for a period of four years effective January 1, 1974, represented a significant advance over previous arrangements for dealing with textile trade. It is the first time that an accord, which sets out internationally-agreed rules for dealing with disruptive imports, covers all principal textile products. All textile trade restraints in existence previous to the new accord must either be eliminated or made to conform with the new and more liberal rules within three years. The accord also calls for the formation of a textiles surveillance body, comprising eight signatory countries on a rotational basis, to supervise future safeguard actions taken under the new rules.