

French (CLEF), is being adapted to run on the Acorn computers that are used in many schools in the UK.

CLEF was developed by the University of Western Ontario and the University of Calgary. It consists of a programme of 63 computerised French lessons, which use colour, movement and graphics to help students complete a series of French grammar drills.

The lessons were designed for high-school and introductory-level university students, but they may also be used by much younger students.

## Exploration

### Canadians conquer Mount Everest

Two members of a Canadian climbing team have hoisted victory flags atop Mount Everest, signifying their conquest of the world's highest peak.

Sharon Wood and Dwayne Congdon, both of Canmore, Alberta, reached the summit after battling severe storms for several days.

Wood, the only woman on the 13-member climbing team, is the first North American woman to scale the 8848-metre peak.

Team leader Jim Elzinga of Toronto said in the telegram to Continental Bank of Canada, a major sponsor of the expedition, that Wood and Congdon left their sixth-level camp at 9am Tuesday and climbed continuously for 12 hours through whipping winds and severe cold to reach the top.

They spent five minutes on the peak, flying the Canadian and Chinese flags and planting the bank's flag, before descending to the camp in darkness, arriving at 3:30am the following morning.

The team ascended the peak on the little-known north side of Everest by way of China, rather than the southern Nepalese side usually taken.

Besides Wood—28, Congdon—29, and Elzinga—31, the team consisted of Barry Blanchard—26, James Blench—30, Dave McNab—30, Kevin Doyle—27, Dr Bob Lee—49, Laurie Skreslet—36, Jane Fearing—25 Dan

Griffith—35, Chris Shank—40, and Albi Sole—32.

## Stamps

New stamps focus on innovations Canadian Innovations in Transportation is the theme of a new commemorative stamp issue now on sale. The stamps feature four innovations. Each one carries a blueprint of an innovation, highlighted in colour, plus a small illustration of each invention as it was originally used.



Many Canadian innovations in transportation arose to meet the special demands of the Canadian environment. Three of the stamps illustrate this. In 1869, Dr J W Elliott, a Toronto dentist, invented the rotary snow plough to keep Canadian railways operating during the winter. In the early 1920s, Wallace Turnbull of Rothesay, New Brunswick, invented the variable pitch propeller. And in the late 1930s, Dr Wilbur Franks invented the anti-gravity flight suit. Innovations such as these reflect the importance that aviation has played in a vast country like Canada. The fourth new stamp focuses on the skills Canadians are now applying to space technology. It features the Canadarm remote manipulator system that was developed by the National Research Council of Canada and Spar Aerospace Ltd.

## Armed forces

### Equality of women in the armed forces

Canadian women could some day be fighting alongside men in a war



Captain Louise Chevalier, Flight Test Engineer, CFB Cold Lake, Alberta

— but only if they can persuade the military establishment that their presence won't disrupt the smooth flow of armed forces operations.

A government report outlining the Conservatives' position on a range of issues arising from equality provisions in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms concludes that women should be allowed to compete for all military trades and occupations. But the report, recently tabled in the Commons, says this goal should be pursued 'in a manner consistent with the requirement of the armed forces to be operationally effective in the interests of national security.'

Justice Minister John Crosbie, who was responsible for the report, told a news conference that the government is committed to expanding women's participation in the armed forces, now at 7400 people, or 8.9 per cent of strength. 'That's our principle. That's what will guide us,' he said.

The government estimates that women now can enter 65 per cent of military occupations, making them eligible for about 29,000 jobs.

## Culture

### International Year of Canadian Music



1986 marks a celebration that is intended to increase awareness of the vitality and diversity of Canadian composers. It has been named International Year of

Canadian Music. The idea for a celebration of Canadian music was conceived in 1984 during a meeting of the international Music Information Centres in Italy. Following this meeting, The Canadian Music Centre — with the help of funding from the Department of Communications and with the participation of 29 other national music organisations — established a Secretariat to promote and coordinate a year of concerts, conferences, recordings, broadcasts, telecasts and films. Canadian musicians will play and promote their music internationally. And in Canada, young people will be encouraged to compose their own music through nationwide young composers' competitions.

### Queen accepts gift of Canadian paintings

Sixty paintings — by members of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour (CSPWC) — will become part of the Royal Collection of drawings and water-colours at Windsor Castle, following their public exhibition at Ontario House.

The paintings, known as the *Diamond Jubilee Collection* of CSPWC, were completed as a permanent memorial to the founding of the Society in Ontario in 1925. The Queen has accepted the gift of the collection which will be hung in the Royal Library at the castle. The CSPWC believes this to be an event unique in Canadian art history.



Old Pals by Sam Black

The works cover scenes painted throughout Canada, and range from a nude study, landscapes and still-lives, to architectural studies, social situations, seascapes, wildlife, abstracts, birds, and ethnic studies.

The standard-framed size of the works are 20 x 27 inches (this was dictated by the requirements of the Royal Library). The collection was first shown publicly