

MOSAIC

CANADA

A new symbol for official languages.



Like all guidance and information signs, it is square and shows a white symbol on a blue background.

A new symbol to help the public identify more easily the federal offices that can serve them in both official languages.

The introduction of the new symbol emphasizes the importance the government attaches to offering its services actively in both official languages. From now on, it will be easier for the public to locate the offices and service points that are able to serve them in the official language of their choice.

The symbol will be phased in Canada between January and June 1988, and by October 1, 1988, at the latest, in Canada's embassies, consulates and main offices abroad.

This measure, respect the spirit of Bill C-72, which is intended to promote the equality of the two official languages in Canada.

STATISTICS

Equality of sexes. For every man there's a woman. For every woman there's a man. True or false? Well, it's false. According to the 1988 edition of the *Canada Year Book*, published by Statistics Canada, there are actually 102 women for every 100 men. In other words, there just aren't enough men to go around!

This hasn't always been the case. Back in Canada's pioneering days, when the main ingredient for settling in a harsh land was muscle, it was the men who slightly outnumbered the women. The 1903 *Canada Year Book* shows that while the established provinces like Quebec and Ontario had close to equal numbers of men and women, men had a decided edge in the West, outnumbering women 140 men to 100 women.

The turning point came in 1970. Since then, women have outnumbered men each year. And with today's women outliving men by an average of seven years, it looks like women will be the majority for a long time to come.

From *Inklings* published by Statistics Canada.

HEALTH

Gene found to cause a hereditary form of cancer. After five years of intensive research, a team of researchers from Queen's and Yale universities has discovered the gene that causes a rare form of hereditary cancer.

The discovery of this gene, which causes multiple endocrine neoplasia, an illness that affects the thyroid and adrenal glands, has made it possible to track down possible carriers more effectively, thereby increasing the chances of administering more rapid treatment to the victims. It is suspected that many cancers are hereditary, but only five have been linked with isolated genes. By isolating and studying this vital gene it may be possible to penetrate the genetic mechanism involved in all forms of hereditary cancer.

Although the researchers still do not know how these genes produce cancer, most of them feel that they indirectly control the growth of certain body cells.

Discovery of the gene does not imply that the illness will be cured. However, it does provide "a few indications" of the way in which the genes operate.

There may be cause for hope in the development of anti-cancer drugs, which would block the action of the growth factor, preventing the cancerous cells from multiplying.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dan Beeby, a journalist with associated Press and William Kaplan, a professor at the University of Ottawa Law Faculty are the co-editors of *Moscow Despatches: Inside Cold War Russia*, which has just been published by James Lorimer & Company, Publishers.

The book presents some of the Moscow Despatches of Canada's former Ambassador to the Soviet Union, John Watkins. A linguist of genius, Watkins travelled widely throughout the Soviet Union in the post-stalin thaw and met with Soviet citizens from every walk of life. His despatches are still of relevance today for their wisdom and insight into the USSR. The book was published with considerable assistance from current and former members of the Department of External Affairs.

