

To mark Italian Week in Ottawa, Ambassador Giorgio Smoquina of Italy sent to the National Library, on behalf of his Government, about 400 volumes chosen from the most recent Italian publications. The collection offers an absorbing survey of writing trends in the arts, the social sciences and history.

The Library has also been presented with the Bulgarian books which were on exhibit in the foyer of the auditorium in May of this year. In return, the National Library of Canada organized an exhibition of Canadian publications at the Cyril and Methodius National Library in Sofia in September.

The Government of Guatemala, through its Trade Promotion Centre in Montreal, has donated a magnificent atlas entitled *New Atlas of Guatemala*, which is a valuable addition to the Library's collection of reference material.

Population – advance figures

Preliminary counts from the June 1 census of Canada show Canada's population reached 22,598,000. The final 1971 figure was 21,568,311.

The preliminary figures do not include persons absent from their usual place of residence on census day or who were overseas in the diplomatic corps or armed services. Any necessary adjustments will be included in final figures to be published in the spring of 1977.

Provinces

Following are 1976 preliminary population figures for the provinces (with final 1971 population in brackets): Newfoundland 549,000, (522,104); Prince Edward Island 116,250,

(111,641): Nova Scotia 812,000, (788,960): New Brunswick 664,500, (643,557): Quebec 6,141,500, (6,027,764): Ontario 8,132,000, (7,703,106): Manitoba 1,006,000, (988,247): Saskatchewan 907,650, (926,242): Alberta 1,799,800, (1,627,874): British Columbia 2,406,250, (2,184,621).

With the exception of the Ontario centres of Windsor and Sudbury, all metropolitan area populations in the country increased in population from 1971 to 1976. There has been an increase in persons living in municipalities and fringe areas surrounding major cities but in many of the larger cities the populations in the city core have declined in the last five years.

The preliminary count for the city of

Montreal, for example, showed 154,000 fewer persons than in 1971 for a 1976 total of 1,060,000 but the metropolitan area increased its population to 2,759,000 from 2,731,211 in the same period. Population of the city of Toronto dropped 102,000 to 611,000 in 1976 but population of the metropolitan area climbed to 2,753,000 from 2,602,098. Vancouver's city count at 396,000 was down 29,700 from 1971 but there was a metropolitan area increase from 1,082,352 to a 1976 total of 1,136,000.

Besides showing a movement from core sections of metropolitan areas to adjacent municipalities, the latest census shows an increase in a trend, first observed in 1971, to fewer persons *per* household.

News briefs

- Capital spending by some 300 large Canadian companies is expected to rise by 18 per cent next year after a 12 percent gain in 1976, according to Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Jean Ch  tien. The preliminary results of the regular October survey of these companies by the Department shows that companies have revised downward their spending intentions for this year, but this has been compensated for by upward revisions in the 1977-80 period. The 300 companies account for more than two-thirds of Canada's non-agriculture business outlays on new buildings, machinery and equipment.
- The unemployment rate for October reached 7.6 per cent, the highest seasonally-adjusted rate since an equivalent figure in May 61, reported Statistics Canada, November 9.
- Amtrak, the United States public railway agency, will lease the LRC (light, rapid and comfortable) trains built by a Canadian consortium for a two-year trial, said Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Jean Ch  tien, November 3. The trains, worth about \$5 million each, will be bought by the Federal Government after the trial period if Amtrak doesn't want them.
- RCA Ltd. Communications Systems have been awarded a \$1.1-million contract to manufacture and install equipment that will link up an earth station in Kenya with a new series of space satellites.

- A ministerial delegation from Rwanda, headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Aloys Nsekaliye, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, visited Canada recently. In Ottawa discussions were held with the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the President of the Canadian International Development Agency and the Vice-President of the International Development Research Centre. The delegation also visited Montreal and Quebec City.

- Deliveries of crude oil to Montreal through the new Sarnia-to-Montreal pipeline extension are expected to reach 234,000 barrels a day this month and exceed 250,000 barrels a day in December, compared to the October average of 148,000.

- Air Canada will extend its charter class fares on scheduled flights to include France and West Germany.

- Canadian National Railways is doing something concrete about the price of wood. It plans to replace wooden ties with concrete ones on its main line tracks.

- Members of the Calgary Mountain Club in Alberta have a daring new pastime – climbing frozen waterfalls. New climbing equipment has made this possible – especially the pterodactyl, a type of hammer named for a prehistoric flying reptile which had a long jaw and long finger, together with a new type of ice dagger that has a serrated edge, and ice screws.

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