

Highest bravery award

The Cross of Valour, Canada's highest civilian award for bravery was presented to René Jalbert, the sergeant-at-arms at the Quebec National Assembly, by Governor General Jeanne Sauv .

Mr. Jalbert, a veteran of the Second World War and Korean War, received his award for subduing a gunman who killed three people and wounded 13 others with a hail of machine-gun bullets in the Quebec National Assembly. Entering a room where the man had taken refuge, Mr. Jalbert first convinced him that he should let several employees leave and then he spent four hours convincing the man to surrender.

Nine other people were honoured at the ceremony as recipients of the Star of Courage and another 19 were awarded the Medal of Bravery.

Since the awards were established 12 years ago, 835 have been presented.



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Ren  Jalbert receives Canada's highest award for bravery from Governor General Jeanne Sauv .

Computerized laundries help to sort out wash

A Montreal consulting company that designs automated processes for industry has developed two computerized systems that it claims can save commercial and institutional laundries up to \$100 000 a year.

One of the systems, the Exactcount-045, developed by Entreprise Electronique D.S. Inc., is a microprocessor-based laundry sorting system that includes a series of four infrared light frames and 11 high-speed conveyor belts.

Michel Simard, vice-president of the company, said the sorter can help sort up to 3 630 kilograms of laundry an hour. "The automated sorter changes the entire way of doing work in the laundry," he said.

Workers in large laundries now weigh and sort laundry by hand when it arrives at the plant and customers are billed on a per kilogram basis at the end of each week.

Increased productivity

With the new sorter one employee enters the customer's account number into the computer via a terminal, and then two other employees toss the laundry onto different conveyor belts moving at 65 metres a minute. Each piece of laundry is counted as it passes through an infrared light frame and travels to large bins behind the stainless steel structure. The sorter, using a three-channel multiplexor, keeps track of up to 45 different laundry items as they move through the system.

When the sorting is completed, an ins-

tant print-out lists all laundry received. This enables the company to bill customers as each batch of clean laundry is delivered.

Entreprise Electronique D.S. has sold five of the systems in Quebec. One was installed at Hector Jolicoeur Inc., one of Quebec's largest and oldest commercial laundries. Germain Lemire, president of Hector Jolicoeur, said plant operations had improved considerably since the sorter was acquired early in 1984.

Before the system was installed at the laundry, eight employees sorted incoming laundry, but now no more than three perform the task. Because the sorter increased production capability the employees were transferred to other stations.

Washing machine control

The other computerized system, the Ramses-65, controls large commercial washing machines. It can be programmed to memorize up to 15 different sets of washing instructions and controls water temperatures and the quantities of detergents and bleach introduced automatically into the machine.

Mr. Simard said the system, which costs \$5 000 to \$7 000, was designed to replace aging electromagnetic controls on older models. It also saves heat, hot water, detergent and bleach, and eliminates employee error. With the electromagnetic controls, one employee operates two washers, but with the computerized controls one employee can manage up to ten machines.

Pizza pizzazz

Two Vancouver salesmen and an accountant are attempting to revolutionize the take-out and delivery pizza industry in the city through a simple "one-call, one-pizza" concept. With only one telephone number, Jeet Mandair, 32, Frank Evanshen, 35 and Brian Kreiter, 30, are claiming to sell pizza more conveniently and consistently using computer communications technology.

When an order is received at the company's headquarters, a telephone operator enters it into a computer terminal. The computer looks at the address and telephone number of the order and assigns it to the nearest Pizza 222 location for preparation and delivery.

The one-call, one-pizza concept is credited to a Toronto company, Pizza Pizza Limited, by the group. "I feel very strongly that what's happening with Pizza 222 and with Pizza Pizza in Toronto is revolutionizing the take-out, delivery pizza business. I think you will see some major changes because of this concept spreading through North America," said Frank Evanshen.

The group, incorporated in March 1984 have been making pizzas since July. They had 16 Vancouver locations by the end of September with 13 of them franchised.

The average investment from a franchise holder in Pizza 222 is \$40 000, including a first-time franchise fee. Revenues of 12 of the 13 franchises were \$12 000 in August, the second full month of operations. Telephone headquarters have processed as much as \$10 000 in orders in one day.

Winterlude's a winner

Ottawa's annual winter festival, Winterlude was selected as one of the top 100 tourist events in North America by the American Bus Association.

The association is made up of more than 2 000 North American bus companies and tour operators. The top 100 attractions are chosen by a committee of about ten people in the association from a list of more than 300 attractions submitted by individual states and provinces.

Association spokesman Maggie Stait said factors that go into the choices include how unusual an event is and whether it has developed an international reputation or is just a "local event". She said events from seven Canadian provinces made the list, with a total of about 14 Canadian attractions.

The 1985 festival, to be held February 1 to 10, will include ice sculptors from Japan.