

interest in Canadian subjects including drama, English and French literature, geography, history, international studies, law, politics and social studies. Its library also has strong Canadian holdings.

During May, the university is playing a role in the *Canada in Birmingham* program including a joint colloquium on administrative law with Laval University of Quebec City. This is being followed by a workshop on two hydro-electric power projects in eastern Canada, along with a display on energy sources in Alberta. A series of public lectures are also being held on recent developments in Canadian society, literature and external relations. In addition, various Canadian cultural events are also taking place at the university.

On the sporting side, Cliff Thorburn, Canada's world snooker champion from Toronto and Bill Werbeniuk from Vancouver will play in a tournament with two Midlands snooker stars.

Coincidental to the Canadian invasion of Birmingham, was Wardair's inaugural non-stop weekly charter flight between Toronto and Birmingham on May 7.

Birmingham already has many links with Canada. Apart from London, it is the only English city with a Canadian consulate and many Canadian firms have representatives in the area. Since the



One of the Science Circus activities is a game that illustrates the fundamentals of mathematical probability. A ball is dropped in and moves through a maze, bouncing left and right.

opening of the National Exhibition Centre, Canadian companies and provincial representatives have been regular visitors to the city.



A Time of Plenty 1970, a stone-cut by Tookome, is one of the works included in the Dialogue exhibition, one of the cultural events being presented.

Coal demand studied

The federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is conducting a survey of world demand for thermal coal.

The work is being done in co-operation with the provincial governments of Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia, as well as the federal Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Regional Economic Expansion.

Three teams, each comprising federal and provincial officials, visited Europe, Latin America and the Far East as part of the study.

The study is expected to provide the federal and provincial governments with first-hand market information on which to base policies.

It also will provide information about markets for Canadian coal mining and other companies. The demand for thermal coal, used primarily for generating electricity, is increasing rapidly because of rising oil and natural gas prices.

Chemist wins Swedish prize

A Canadian chemist has been awarded a Swedish prize designed "to stimulate innovations in industry in Sweden or abroad".

Dr. Harry Halton of C-I-L Incorporated of Mississauga, Ontario, will receive the first Marcus Wallenberg Foundation award donated by the Swedish industrialist and banker for which it is named.

The \$140,000 prize is being given to Dr. Halton for his discovery of a catalyst of major significance to the pulp and paper industry.

Dr. Halton has pioneered work in the use of anthraquinone in the production of pulp from wood. Anthraquinone, a chemical used in the production of paint, acts as a catalyst in the pulping process, reducing the boiling time required, increasing the yield and eliminating sulphurous pollutants.

Dr. Halton's work has shown that the addition of a small quantity of the catalyst increases the speed of delignification, the process in which lignin separates from the cellulose fibres in wood.

Dr. Halton, who received a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Windsor in 1971, is leading a team of scientists at the Montreal C-I-L research laboratory.