

Discussions on the delegation of federal authority over cable television were also very productive. There was consensus on a number of issues related to delegation, including consensus that the protection of the Canadian broadcasting system should be an essential feature of any future delegation arrangements.

"The cable-television delegation discussion was a general one," the Minister said, "which will be pursued in the months to come as I continue bilateral explorations with the various provincial ministers." She pointed out, however, that the question remained an extremely complex one, which could ultimately be resolved only through highly detailed and complex negotiations.

Energy update

Petro-Canada's 1977 annual report, tabled recently in the House of Commons by Alastair Gillespie, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, summarizes the activities of the second year of operations for the national energy corporation created by an Act of Parliament in July 1975.

Among the year's activities are the following highlights:

- Petro-Canada ranked tenth in Canada in the number of wells it drilled — having drilled 128, of which 86 now produce gas and 18 produce oil.
- Petro-Canada participated in the drilling of 13 of 27 wells in Canada's frontier regions.
- Total exploration expenditures were \$60.5 million.
- The corporation pursued new methods of developing energy resources in its work on a delivery system for gas reserves from the Arctic Islands to the south; the Polar Gas pipeline; the installation of an Arctic offshore well completion; ice movement and drilling systems innovations; studies on the development of Canada's heavy-oils resources; the extension of the gas pipeline system to Quebec and the Maritimes, and the development of a pilot project for the in-situ development of Alberta oil sands.
- At year end the consolidated assets of the corporation were \$878.7 million, consisting of: \$48.1 million in current assets, \$91.8 million in investment in Panarctic Oils Ltd., \$259.1 million in investment in Syncrude Canada Ltd., \$479.7 million in other property plant and equipment.

Ottawa helps Quebec health centre

The Federal Government has contributed some \$16 million to the costs of the Cité de la santé, a training centre for health and research personnel, in the city of Laval, Quebec.

The 335-bed university hospital, affiliated with the University of Montreal, can train 75 doctors each year. The new institution has a capacity to treat about 275,000 outpatients and about 50,000 emergency cases each year.

Cité de la santé is also a community centre where the emphasis will be placed on health as something to acquire and preserve. The emphasis on prevention, community health and better life-styles is an idea already promoted by Health and Welfare Canada.

The federal contribution to the project represents approximately half of the construction and installation costs, the balance being paid for by the other two levels of government.

EDC projects for Argentina

Loans by Canada's Export Development Corporation (EDC) and Canadian banks totalling \$57 million will support the sale of Canadian equipment and engineering services valued at as much as \$67 million, for two pulp-and-paper projects in Argentina. SNC-Rust Limited of Montreal and Sandwell and Company Limited of Vancouver will provide engineering, design and project-management services for the construction of a sulphate pulp and industrial-paper mill and a bleached-pulp mill, both in Argentina's northern Misiones Province. Construction costs for the two mills are expected to reach nearly \$900 million. "With Canadian engineers participating in the initial stages of the projects," says EDC chairman John A. MacDonald, "we can expect to obtain sales of Canadian equipment for the two mills." He added that the loans ensured that Canadian equipment-suppliers would be able to tender on a competitive basis.

- At year end Petro-Canada owned 93 million gross (15 million net) acres of leases in Canada.
- In 1977, Petro-Canada added 2.9 million barrels of oil and natural gas liquids to its reserves. This was offset by 10.2 million barrels of production, leaving reserves of 151.6 million barrels at year

end. The corporation added 53.6 billion cubic feet of gas to its reserves to offset production of 32.5 billion cubic feet of gas, leaving reserves at year end of 821.8 billion cubic feet.

- Total net revenue of \$88.7 million was generated by sales of oil, gas and natural gas liquids.

Canada's major oil resource areas

