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Canadian paper industry stresses research and modernization for the future, 1

United economic effort urged, 3

Field trials of satellite services, 3

Canada-Algeria sign agreement during ministerial visit, 3

Versatile information system planned by Northern Telecom, 4

Japanese car exports to Canada, 4

Scenes of Winterlude 1983 — Ottawa's annual winter carnival, 5

Leather footwear import quotas expanded, 6

Mystery of multiplying caribou baffles wildlife officials, 6

Videotex service planned, 6

News of the arts — exhibition, awards, 7

News briefs, 8

Canadian paper industry stresses research and modernization for the future

Canada's abundant forest and energy resources, plus an established, forward-looking forest industry have helped make Canada the world's premier pulp and paper exporter and its second largest producer.

In Canada, 75 pulp and paper companies currently operate 148 plants in nine of the ten Canadian provinces. These employ more than 140 000 woodlands and plant workers. This work force is mainly located in 100 or more communities whose economic stability depends primarily on pulp and paper.

The pulp and paper industry is a major component of Canada's manufacturing sector, its national profile having gained strength over the years. Today, Canadians control nearly 75 per cent of total production. The industry is a leading employer, offers competitive salaries and wages, and has a very high value-added by manufacture. It also contributes to the country's balance of payments, playing a leading role in Canada's trade balance. Its net contribution is more than the contribution of the agriculture, mines,

fisheries and fuels sectors combined. In 1980, the pulp and paper industry produced \$11-billion worth of goods, representing 3.7 per cent of the gross national product. Of this, \$8.5 billion was exported, that is, 11.5 per cent of Canada's total export revenues.

Production and export

Both in Canada and abroad, the major portion of wood pulp production is used domestically in the manufacture of paper and paper products. In 1980, for example, only 16 per cent of world pulp output was traded on international markets. Canada was the leading exporter, accounting for 34 per cent of world trade, while Sweden came a distant second with 16 per cent. Recently, most of the pulp and paper industry has fallen behind as a result of the international economic recession. Nevertheless, Canadian production and exports have been maintained at acceptable levels.

During the first quarter of 1982, Canada produced 4.76-million tonnes of paper pulp. More than 65 per cent of this



Canada's vast renewable forest resources supply the pulpwood for the industry's pulp and paper mills. The huge woodpile shown in the foreground might be sufficient to feed a large mill for a couple of months.



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