

# MOSAIC

## CANADA

### Rick Hansen Completes World Tour.



On Friday, May 22, a crowd numbering tens of thousands cheered Rick Hansen as he returned to the shopping centre in Oakridge, a Vancouver suburb, from where he had begun a world tour 26 months earlier. During these 26 months, Hansen travelled through 34 countries and covered more than 40 000 kilometres. He also raised more than \$15 million for spinal cord research, rehabilitation and wheelchair sports.

Hansen wheeled his way through every kind of weather from snowstorms to tropical rain showers, crossed the Alps, met with the Pope and saw the Great Wall of China.

His story has a romantic

tinge to it, since in October Hansen will marry physiotherapist Amanda Reid, who accompanied him on his voyage.

Hansen covered 40 kilometres on the last day of his odyssey, during which he averaged 80 kilometres per day. "Dreams do still come true," he said as he entered the Oakridge shopping centre, where he started from more than two years ago.

**Population Growth of Canada Termed "High".** Despite the decrease in the birth rate and the decline of immigration in the early 1980s, Canada's growth rate continues to be one of the highest in the West. And although traditional family values are being set aside, the number of divorces has been decreasing in Canada since 1983.

These facts are two of the many items synthesized in the Statistics Canada publication *Current Demographic Analysis: Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada, 1986*, at the 55th Congress of the ACFAS (French-Canadian Association for the Advancement of Science) that ends today in Ottawa.

During the period 1980-84, Australia was the only one of the 28 major industrialized countries to undergo an annual rate of population increase higher than

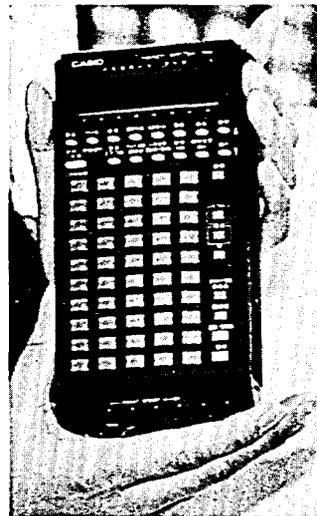
Canada. However, the figures are all quite low: Australia, 1.4%, Canada, 1.1%, Poland and the USSR 0.9%, and all others, below 0.7%. The greatest population decrease was West Germany's 0.2% per year.

After a meteoric rise between 1967 and 1982, during which divorces rose from 11 165 to 70 436, the number in Canada has continued to decline by about 5% per year. The 1985 figure for divorces was 61 980.

These data, which in many cases have been rearranged and synthesized from other statistics already published in the regular catalogues of Statistics Canada, are accompanied by regional analyses by authors Jean Dumas and Rejean Lachapelle.

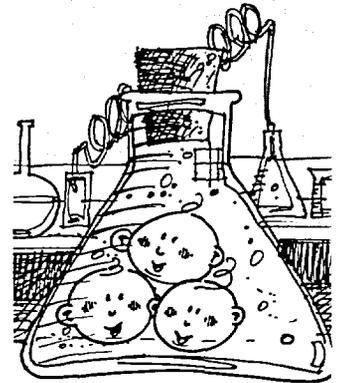
## TECHNOLOGY

### Mini-Processor.



Last week Casio Computers, a Japanese company, unveiled the latest thing in word processing. One has only to type the desired information on the keyboard and slip the machine onto a piece of paper to make the characters appear. The cost per unit is 32 000 yen, or \$320 Canadian. The unit has a read-only memory of 4 megabites containing, in the current model, 50 000 Japanese characters.

### Test Tube Triplets Doing Well.



Two boys and a girl who were conceived in a test tube were reported to have been doing quite well just a few moments after their birth.

Jessica, Ryan and Steven were born at 9 a.m. and are the children of Libert and Leleith Broughton. Four physicians assisted in the delivery.

"They are all doing very well and are in excellent