
Wildlife (Continued from P. 2)

capital, there are so many beaver that several farmers make a respectable part-time income from trapping them for their pelts.

This ability of wildlife to recover quickly from losses and exploitation creates other problems for wildlife officers. Because most wild species are not easily observed, they can multiply rapidly before their increase is detected. Inventories must be repeated frequently in case significant population changes pass unnoted.

Research is, of course, basic to any improvement in wildlife management. One

relatively neglected area is the pathology and diseases of wildlife. Another is the effect of chemical-control agents such as insecticides. CWS investigators have found that fish-eating birds and raptors such as falcons are unable to reproduce adequately when certain persistent insecticides have been introduced into their environment; insecticides are also known to have adverse effects on fish reproduction. The responsibility for increased research will be that of the wildlife biologists; this handful of scientific investigators and advisers will have to be strengthened and given more public backing if they are to provide the sound factual basis for improved wildlife management programs.

all licences. The new system is expected to save taxpayers money and improve service by enabling the department to redirect limited manpower resources formerly tied down to the task of handling licences manually.

Basic old-age pensions increased on April 1 to \$186.80 a month from \$182.42, the Health and Welfare Department has announced. Guaranteed income supplements and spouses' allowances also rose. The increases are based on the cost of living. The maximum guaranteed income supplement, paid to poor pensioners on an income-tested scale, will rise to \$153.35 from \$149.76. A pensioner receiving the maximum supplement on top of the old-age pension will receive \$340.15 by April 1.

The Quebec Government will raise the minimum wage in the province to \$3.65 an hour from \$3.47, effective April 1. The new minimum wage for workers under 18 will be \$3.23 an hour, up from \$3.07. The minimum wage for service workers receiving tips will increase to \$3 an hour from \$2.85. Quebec adopted a policy several years ago of yearly increases in the minimum wage to account for inflation. The latest increase in the full minimum wage equals about 5 per cent.

The Public Archives has recently acquired the original seven volumes of the *Journal d'un Fils de la Liberté* written by Louis-Joseph-Amédée Papineau (1819-1903). He had begun writing his diary while in exile with his father Louis-Joseph Papineau, following the Rebellion of 1837 and continued to make entries almost daily until 1855. Accompanying the journals is a volume of newspaper clippings and notes on the rebellion in both Lower Canada and Upper Canada. These served as source material for the political commentaries he made in the first two volumes of the journals.

Snuggling and cuddling "boarder babies" is a new program initiated at Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital, where volunteers act as surrogate mothers for newborn infants who must remain in hospital. The babies are at a period in their lives when they need cuddling and stimulation to grow — by establishing an emotional tie with an adult. The program involves feeding, diapering and holding the babies who must stay in the hospital after their mothers go home or whose mothers are unable to help feed them for medical or surgical reasons.

News briefs

Gulf Canada Ltd. will spend \$120,000 to buy ten or 11 kidney dialysis machines to be placed in hospitals across Canada. The sum represents part of the money charged motorists in December after the Conservative government introduced a four-cent-a-litre (18-cent-a-gallon) excise tax as part of its budget. When the budget was defeated two days later in the House of Commons, service stations stopped collecting the tax. Gulf offered to refund the excess to its customers, but \$116,000 was not claimed. Last month, Shell Canada Ltd. gave \$300,000 in unclaimed excise tax collections to ten Canadian children's hospitals.

Dr. Roger Thibert, a University of Windsor professor of chemistry and director of the University clinical chemistry program, has been named as the 1980 recipient of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry Award for his outstanding efforts in education and training. Dr. Thibert will receive his award in Boston, May 1, at the national meeting of the AACC. This will be the first time the award has gone to anyone outside the United States.

Alberta's Petroleum Marketing Commission was given the power to sell oil directly to specific customers on an individual contract basis, effective April 1. Commission Chairman Wayne Minion said that the change gives the commission 80 per cent of the province's conventional crude oil production. "We're going to maintain the right to the actual sale of the petroleum. We want to impress upon individual buyers we would like this oil used to its highest degree," he said.

The Export Development Corporation and the Bank of Montreal recently announced the conclusion of a \$3.5-million financing agreement to support the \$4.1-million (U.S.) sale of electrical transmission equipment to Brazil by Canadian General Electric Co. Ltd., Toronto, Ontario and Dominion Engineering Co. Ltd., Peterborough, Ontario. The sale, to Furnas Centrais Eletricas S.A. (Furnas) is for the supply and assembly of six shunt reactors at the giant Itaipu power project on the Parana River, on the Brazil-Paraguay border. This is the third EDC-financed sale to Furnas, one of Brazil's major power utilities. The two previous loans totalled \$17 million.

The Federal Department of Communications is now introducing a national computerized licensing system for the General Radio Service (GRS, or CB radio). Canada has approximately one million CB users, with the licences of some 360,000 of them expiring March 31. First renewal notices are now being mailed from a new central computer facility at DOC headquarters in Ottawa. The computer will process returns and will soon be issuing

Canada Weekly is published by the External Information Programs Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to the editor.

Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.