

Trade update

A new Canadian trade office has been opened in Bombay, the financial and business capital of India and the headquarters of key manufacturing groups. Opened as part of the Asia-Pacific component of Canada's national trade strategy, the new office will improve services to Canadian exporters in India.

Canadian Marconi Co. of Montreal has received a contract worth \$4.3 million from British Telecommunications PLC to enlarge its CMA-755 telex exchange in London.

Canadair Limited of Montreal has signed an agreement to sell three Challenger 601 business jets to Poly Technologies Inc., acting on behalf of the government of China. The agreement, Canadair's fourth with a national government, also provides for Innotech Aviation of Montreal to furnish the cabins and install cockpit electronics systems on the twin-jet aircraft. Delivery of the first finished plane is scheduled for next summer.

Cansulex Ltd. of Vancouver has received a \$112-million (US) order from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for 830 000 tonnes of sulphur. The contract calls for the shipment of 120 000 tonnes to Cuba and the balance to the USSR. Canadian sulphur shipments to the Soviet Union and Cuba last year totalled 543 000 tonnes.

McCain Foods Ltd., based in Florenceville, New Brunswick has announced that it is expanding in the Japanese market and will sell four varieties of french fries and frozen harsh browns directly to the consumer through grocery stores rather than to institutional market. McCain has exported to Japan for more than 12 years and last year sold 7 000 tonnes of potato products there.

Sentrol Systems Ltd. of Toronto will receive \$412 675 (US) in financing support from the Export Development Corp. to supply two basis weight and moisture measurement systems to IKPC-Industrias Klabin de Papel e Celulose S.A. of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Air Canada has sold five DC-8 jetliners for a total of \$10 million (US) to Avex Ltd., a Swiss-based aircraft brokerage subsidiary of United Aviation Services Inc. of New York.

News briefs

Minister for External Relations Monique Vézina has ratified two memorandums of understanding between Canada and Zaire for projects which will be funded through the Canadian International Development Agency. In the first, \$1 million will be allocated to the University of Sherbrooke to extend to the Nioki region of Zaire primary health care activities, retrain medical personnel, undertake research projects and ensure the supply of pharmaceutical products. In the second project, valued at \$5 million, Quebec's Department of International Relations will assist the revitalization of the agricultural sector of Zaire, especially in livestock-raising and co-operative development.

Howard Pawley retained his position as premier of Manitoba as he led the New Democratic Party (NDP) to victory in the provincial election on March 18. The NDP was elected in 31 ridings, the Progressive Conservatives in 25 and the Liberals in one.

Canadian skaters won one silver and two bronze medals in the 1986 world figure skating championships held in Geneva in March. Brian Orser won a silver medal in the

Off-road wheelchair



Gerhard Young of Edmonton, Alberta demonstrates the all-terrain, recreational wheelchair he developed. The ARC-1, which has three-wheeled tracks on each side for travel over loose dirt, sand and snow was designed to give the disabled greater mobility on rough terrain. Mr. Young said the wheelchair is driven by a gas-powered, electric generator which could be used to power other equipment on a camping trip. The prototype was completed early in the year and a finished model is expected to be available this spring.

Jim Cochrane, Edmonton Journal

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men's event while Tracy Wilson and Robert McCall placed third in the ice dance event and Cynthia Coull and Mark Rowsom were third in the pairs competition.

Dennis Foon, director of Vancouver's Green Thumb Theatre, has won a British Theatre Association Award as best playwright for young people's theatre. Winners of the award are chosen by the editors of *Drama Magazine*, which annually gives ten awards in different categories. Mr. Foon won for two plays called *New Kid* and *Invisible Kids* performed by a London company in 1985.

Two Canadian rivers, the Alesk River in Klucane National Park Reserve, Yukon, and the French River in Ontario have been proclaimed Canadian Heritage Rivers in recognition of their special natural and cultural features. They are Canada's first rivers to be proclaimed under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

The new National Atlas of Canada has been published by the Surveys and Mapping Branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. The atlas portrays Canada's geography with a wide variety of maps illustrating the country's environment, resources, economy, cultural diversity and history.

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