

Volume 7, No. 37

September 12, 1979



## Two-way TV trial a milestone in Canadian videotex services, 1

Energy main topic of First Ministers' meeting, 3

Canada-Israel joint project, 3

Royal Canadian Mint to market new gold coin, 3

B.C. coal in Italy, 4

Uranium production to increase, 4

Stocks hit trade record, 4

Engineers win major grain projects in India, 4

Business outlook brighter, 4

Canadian support for human settlements in Asia, 5

Bottle floated for 50 years, 6

Birth control by nasal spray, 6

Keeping workers happy, 6

Ancient campsite unearthed, 6

News of the arts — exhibit, television, ballet, arts briefs, 7

News briefs, 8

## Two-way TV trial a milestone in Canadian videotex services

A \$10-million field test of two-way television technology, which will help Canada maintain its place as a world leader in visual communications, will be undertaken by Bell Canada and the Federal Government.

The federal Department of Communications and Bell, Canada's largest telecommunications carrier, will co-operate in what is described as one of the biggest tests of interactive visual communications. It will begin in 1981 in Toronto.

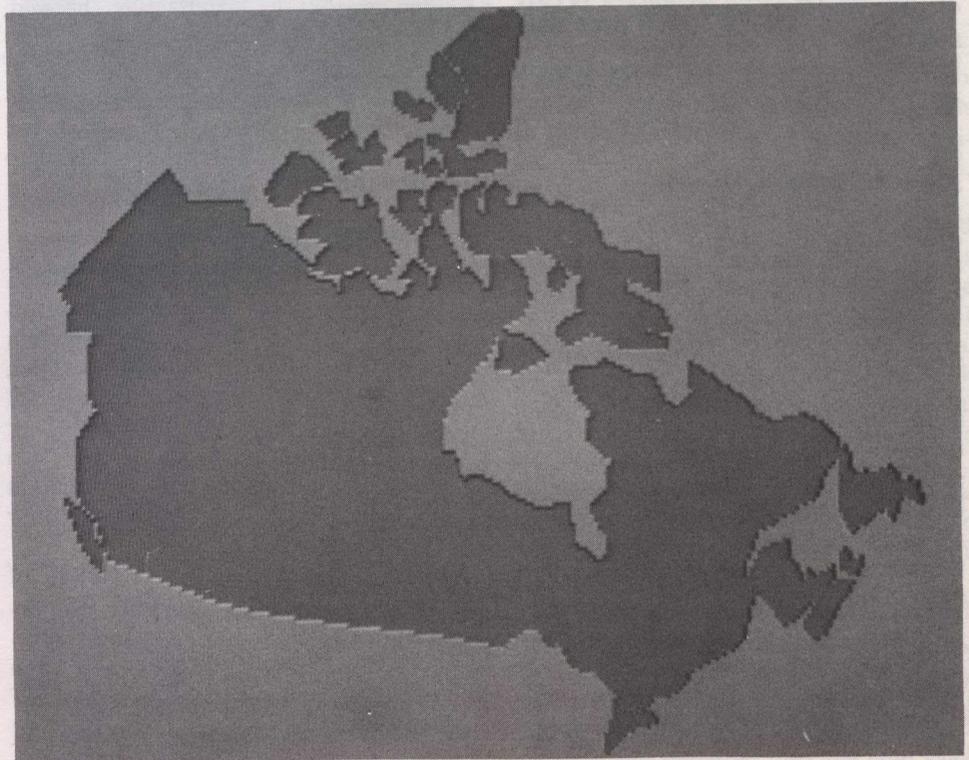
Using the Canadian-designed Telidon, the two-way television technology developed by the Communications Research Centre, a branch of the Communications Department, (see also *Canada Weekly* dated May 16, 1979), some 1,000 terminals (modified television sets linked to a computer) installed in homes and offices, will offer both residential and

business users a choice of up to 100,000 "pages" of information for display on their own screens.

### Telidon's superior system

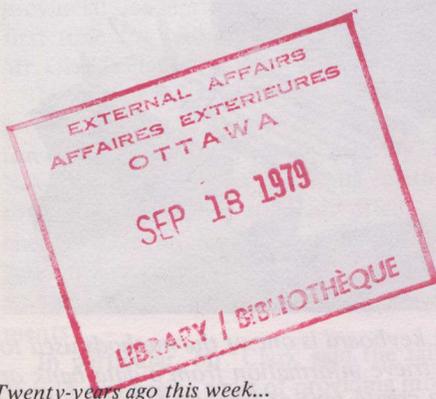
Bell, which has adopted the name Vista for its interactive visual information services, began last February a small in-house test of first-generation technology, similar to that used in Europe. The European systems are based on an "alpha-mosaic" approach, resulting in cruder graphic designs; Telidon, the second-generation, "alpha-geometric" method is a significant improvement over other designs because of its superior quality resolution and graphics and is more flexible, making it easier to accommodate future improvements.

The Federal Government's \$2.5-million participation in this co-operative trial



Map of Canada as displayed on an ordinary TV receiver using the Telidon coding. The high quality and fine resolution distinguishes Telidon from other videotex technologies.

Sept. 12/79



Twenty-years ago this week...

Major-General Georges P. Vanier was appointed Governor General of Canada succeeding Vincent Massey.