

Trade update

Canadian companies selling goods and services to Mexico will receive support from a \$10-million (US) line of credit between the Export Development Corporation (EDC) and Banca Serfin, S.N.C. This is the ninth line of credit opened or renewed by EDC in Mexico recently and brings to \$110 000 million (US) the amount available for allocations.

The Canadian Wheat Board has reached agreement with Baghdad for the sale of more than 2.5 million tonnes of wheat over the next five years. At current prices, the contract would be worth at least \$500 million.

Combustion Engineering Canada Inc. of Ottawa and its Yugoslav joint-venture partner Minel-Kotlogradnja have signed a \$235-million contract with Reik Kolubara for the supply of two steam powered generators for a power plant near Belgrade. The agreement, worth \$105 million to Combustion Engineering, marks the first North American sale of such equipment to Yugoslavia.

Mitel Corporation of Kanata, Ontario will receive financing support of \$3.10 million (Cdn) from the Export Development Corporation for a sale of equipment for the Cuban hotel industry. The sale involves the supply of telephone switching equipment for 19 Cuban hotels, and supporting installation supervisory services.

SED Systems Inc. of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan has beaten several international competitors to win a \$3.6-million contract from the International Maritime Satellite Organization to build the ground-based equipment to monitor Inmarsat's first communications satellite. The London-based organization uses satellites to provide ship-to-shore communication services to vessels operated by its more than 45 member countries.

Northern Telecom Ltd. of Mississauga, Ontario and Motorola Inc. of Schaumburg, Illinois will collaborate in the research and development of a new family of semiconductor components for use in an Integrated Services Digital Network. Under the agreement, Northern Telecom will provide network and system architecture, semi-conductor device specifications and network testing and evaluation.

News briefs

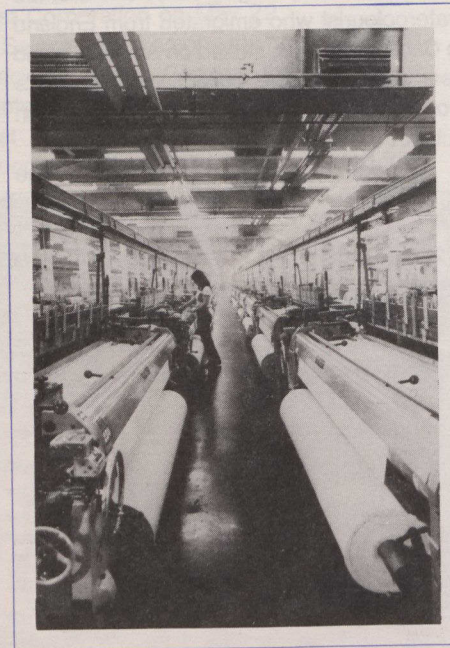
Minister of State (Forestry) Gerald S. Merrithew led a forestry trade and investment mission to Finland, Norway and Sweden, May 16-27. The mission focused on foreign investment opportunities in Canada's forest sector, technology transfer and joint ventures.

External Relations Minister Monique Vézina has announced that Canada will contribute \$18 million to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) during 1986. \$6 million of that amount will be for the general activities of the UNHCR, \$4 million for Afghan refugees in Pakistan, \$3 million for refugees in Central America, \$2.4 million for Africa and \$1 million for Thailand.

Canada and Luxembourg have signed a reciprocal Convention on Social Security that will co-ordinate the operation of Canada's Old Age Security program and the Canada Pension Plan with those Luxembourg programs which provide old age, disability and survivor's benefits. Canada has similar agreements with Barbados, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Portugal, Sweden and the United States.

Richard Vollenweider, senior scientist at Environment Canada's National Water Research Institute in Burlington, Ontario, was

Future looms



A single operator supervises 25 shuttleless weaving machines at Dominion Textile Inc.'s plant in Sherbrooke, Quebec. The modern machines in this plant produce four times as much cloth as conventional looms.

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a winner of the largest environmental award in the United States, the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. Dr. Vollenweider's research into eutrophication, a process in which the Great Lakes and thousands of smaller lakes, rivers, and reservoirs were being over-fertilized by decaying algae, was the basis of a joint US-Canada program which has helped reduce phosphorus levels in the Great Lakes by 60 per cent since 1972. The \$150 000, 1986 Tyler award was shared with Swiss chemist Werner Stumm.

The Alberta Progressive Conservative Party led by Premier Donald Getty was returned to power in the May 8 provincial election with 61 seats. The New Democrats won 16, the Liberals 4 and the Representative Party 2.

Jack Hodgins, a novelist and short-story writer from Victoria, British Columbia has been awarded the 1985 Canada-Australia Literary Prize, consisting of \$3 000 and a trip to Australia. Mr. Hodgins' works include *Spit Delaney's Island*, a collection of short stories, and the novels *The Invention of the World* and *The Resurrection of Joseph Bourne*, which won the 1979 Governor General's Award for Fiction. The Canada-Australia award is designed to make Australians and Canadians familiar with each other's writers.

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Editor: Carole Stelmack.

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