

the Department of External Affairs from February 12 to 14. The display will include a selection of building products and systems that have earned Canadian manufacturers recognition for quality, durability and economy.

In timber-frame construction, the most common method of building houses in Canada, building components including plywood sheathing, gyprock panels, plastic finishes, fibrous insulation and structural members are standardized to ensure compatibility and rapid assembly. Canadian technology and materials are also available to implement timber-frame construction.

In addition to housing construction, Canadian expertise extends to concrete flooring systems, finished wood products in a wide choice of species, do-it-yourself cottage kits, and specialty building materials.

### Canada in Germany

Canadian companies that will be participating at CONSTRUCTA 86 include:

- Association des Producteurs de Granite du Québec Inc. — Quebec's largest association of manufacturers of granite construction products;
- Bay Mills Limited — fiberglass mesh tape and fabric;
- CANALOG Wood Industries Limited — modular log home and cottage kits;
- Council of Forest Industries of British Columbia (COFI) — Canada's largest forest industry association;
- Hambro International (Structures) Limited — composite floor systems;
- IVISWOOD Industries Limited — specialty wood products;
- Medalist Forming Systems — concrete forming systems; and
- Seaboard Lumber Sales Company Limited — lumber, plywood, shakes and shingles.



Pine embossed panelwood from Seaboard Lumber will enhance a room.

Commercial Illustrators Ltd.

## Pension fund agreement with Germany



Ludwig Wegmann

Minister of National Health and Welfare Jake Epp (seated left) and West Germany's Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Norbert Blüm signed a reciprocal social security agreement on November 14. The agreement will co-ordinate the operation of Canada's old age security program and the Canada pension plan with those German programs which provide old age, invalidity and survivor's benefits.

## Historic shipwreck discovered in BC waters

The Vancouver Maritime Museum has announced the discovery of the *Ericsson*, an 1850s American vessel originally driven by an engine billed as the successor to steam power.

The *Ericsson* lies in Barkley Sound off the west coast of Vancouver Island. It is described as "one of the most important wrecks ever found in British Columbia".

### Revolutionary engine

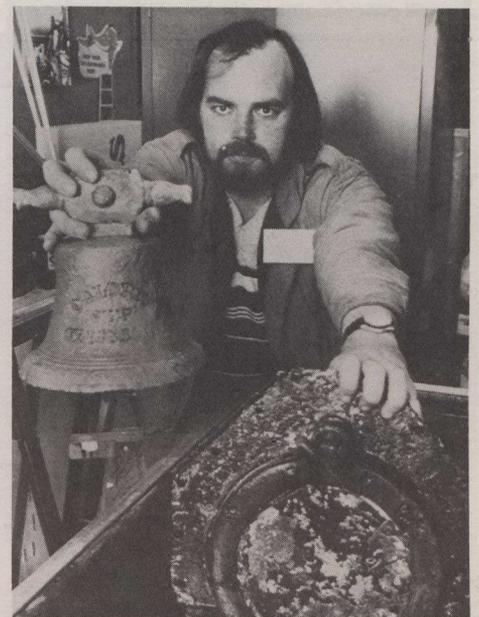
The *Ericsson*, an 80-metre wooden ship launched in 1853, was originally fitted with a large caloric engine with pistons 4.3 metres high. It was designed by the Swedish-American engineer John Ericsson, an important developer of the screw propeller, who built the ironclad warship *Monitor* during the Civil War.

The caloric engine was based on a now discredited theory of hydrodynamics that heat was a fluid material. Its engine was considered a technological marvel when it propelled the ship around New York harbour on her maiden voyage in January 1853, impressing newspaper reporters who were permitted to ride on the cylinders. It was believed at the time that it would make the steam engine obsolete.

But the *Ericsson* could not keep up with faster steam-powered ships and went through a series of conversions to steam.

In 1892, a storm drove the vessel onto the rocks of Barkley Sound, an area well-known for strong winds, heavy tides, fast currents and submerged rocks.

David Griffiths, a member of the Underwater Archaeological Society of British Columbia led the expedition that located the wreck.



Ralph Bower, Vancouver Sun

David Griffiths, who led the team that discovered the *Ericsson* in BC waters, displays the bell and a porthole from the ship.