

## Canada at agriculture meeting

Minister of Regional Economic Expansion Pierre De Bané led the Canadian delegation to the first conference of agriculture ministers of the member countries of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation held in Paris last month.

Mr. De Bané, who is also Francophone Affairs Advisor to Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan was accompanied by officials of the federal department of agriculture. The Quebec and New Brunswick governments were also represented in the Canadian delegation as participating governments in the agency.

The purpose of the ministerial meeting was to promote co-ordination of efforts and sharing of resources by all agency members in the agricultural sphere, particularly in the research, technology and training sectors.

Water problems, managerial training, as well as co-operation and exchanges in the dissemination of scientific and technical information were also studied. The meeting was also intended to give direction to and formulate action programs of the aging in the technical co-operation sphere of its activities.

## Uranium resources rise

As a result of continued exploration efforts, Canada's uranium resources increased by 50,000 metric tons of uranium metal in 1979, according to a report released by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

The report, entitled *Uranium in Canada: 1979 Assessment of Supply and Requirements*, estimates that total resources in the measured, indicated and inferred categories amount to 587,000 metric tons of uranium.

Only 10 per cent of this uranium will be required domestically over the next 30 years to fuel the more than 14,000 megawatts of nuclear power capacity now operating or committed for operation in Canada by 1990.

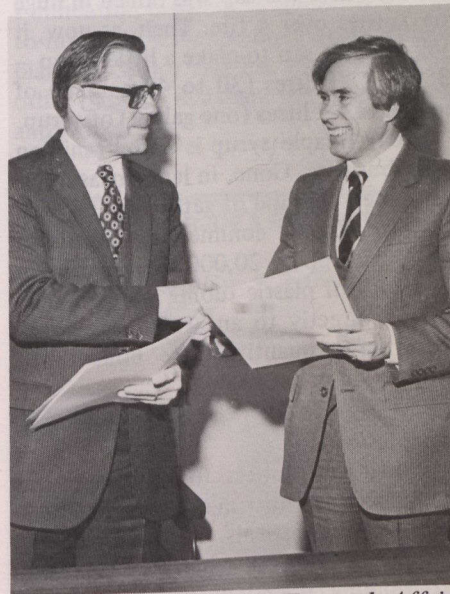
Some 60 per cent of the 587,000-metric-ton total is located in the Elliot Lake and Agnew Lake areas of Ontario; most of the remaining uranium resources of economic interest are located in northern Saskatchewan.

Uranium exploration activity increased significantly in 1979 with total exploration expenditures reaching \$130 million.

The report states that in 1979 seven uranium-producing operations in Canada, employing some 6,000 people, produced 6,817 metric tons of uranium. Canadian production capability could grow from 7,700 metric tons of uranium in 1980 to 15,300 metric tons by 1990, provided that adequate markets are available.

As of January 1, 1980, outstanding uranium export commitments amounted to 52,400 metric tons or about 9 per cent of the total Canadian uranium resources mentioned above. Of the more than \$600-million worth of uranium shipped by Canadian producers in 1979, some 85 per cent was destined for the export market. Japan is currently Canada's most important uranium customer, followed by the United States, Britain, West Germany and Spain.

## Nuclear agreement signed



*Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan (right) and Australian High Commissioner to Canada B.G. Dexter shake hands following the signing of a new agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, including exchanges of nuclear material, equipment and technology. The agreement meets the government's safeguards against the use of nuclear material for explosive purposes. It also requires prior Canadian consent over processing of Canadian uranium or transfer of Canadian uranium and nuclear equipment to third countries by Australia. There are similar protections for Australian uranium and nuclear devices sold to Canada.*

## Research funding rises

Minister of State for Science and Technology and Minister of Environment John Roberts has announced that \$1.514 billion will be provided for research and development in 1981-82, an increase of 17 per cent over 1980-81 expenditures.

Since 1979-80, federal funding for research and development have increased by a total of \$413 million. In 1980-81 there was an increase of \$197 million over the previous year's figure.

The government's research and development policy calls for an average annual expenditure increase of 17 per cent. In dollar terms, this would have meant increases of \$181 million in 1980-81 and \$211 million in 1981-82. This target has, in fact, been exceeded in both years.

Some of the major increases in research and development funding increases are:

- \$60 million in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, mainly in respect to the National Energy Plan;
- \$31 million for the National Research Council including nearly \$5 million for the continuing construction of the new institutes at Boucherville, Quebec (materials research) and St. John's, Newfoundland (ice research);
- \$26 million for the industrial research and development support programs of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce; and
- \$18 million in Agriculture Canada, for agricultural and food research and development.

## Canadian journalists honoured

Five Canadian journalists have been named to the News Hall of Fame, which honours Canadian communications experts.

The 1981 appointments set a precedent with the name of the late E. Norman Smith, editor of the defunct *Ottawa Journal*, joining that of his son, I. Norman Smith, also a former *Ottawa Journal* editor, who was elected to the Hall two years ago.

Others elected to the Hall of Fame were: Charles Lynch, chief of Southam News Services; Doris Anderson, former editor of *Chatelaine* magazine for 20 years; Mort Fellman, editor of the North Bay Nugget; and Norman James, retired *Toronto Star* photographer.