

Commerce, said that the new post had been established to assist Canadian businessmen seeking markets for their products and services in Thailand.

Carl E. Rufelds, until recently Canadian Consul and Assistant Trade Commissioner in Milan, has been appointed to head the new post as First Secretary (Commercial).

The opening of the Bangkok office brings to 74 the number of such offices maintained by the Trade Commissioner Service in 51 countries.

Thailand, which has a population of 30 million, is one of the most accessible market areas in the world, with no foreign exchange restrictions on imports. In 1967, Thailand imported \$1.2-billion worth of goods, of which more than two-thirds were manufactured items.

AID FOR ST. VINCENT BEREAVED

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, has announced that Canada is contributing to a relief fund for families of persons lost at sea in December near the island of St. Vincent in the Caribbean. A donation of \$2,000 is being made to the fund, which has been established by the Administrator of St. Vincent.

About 70 persons drowned when the ship, the *Federal Queen*, sank. Most of the victims were Vincentians working as skilled craftsman on development projects throughout the Grenadine Islands. They were returning home for Christmas. A combination search-and-rescue vessel and harbour launch, the *Ocean Breeze*, which was supplied to St. Vincent under the Canadian International Development programme, co-ordinated rescue operations immediately following the disaster.

SCIENTIFIC TITLES BY COMPUTER

A system for scanning by computer the titles of papers published in selected journals and providing scientists and engineers at regular intervals with bibliographies of papers in their specific fields of interest has been developed as a joint project by the National Science Library and the Computation Centre of the National Research Council of Canada.

After three years of testing, the system will provide Canada's scientific, engineering and industrial communities with quick access to the world's scientific information. The method, known as a mechanized system for the dissemination of information (SDI), is the outgrowth of a broader programme in which computers and related electronic data-processing equipment are being used for the processing, storage and recovery of information.

The SDI programme is at present based on two magnetic tape services - Chemical Titles, on tape produced by Chemical Abstracts Service, Columbus, Ohio, and ISI, on tapes produced by the Institute for

Scientific Information in Philadelphia. The CT tapes, which have been used by NRC Library for more than two years, are supplied every two weeks and cover about 650 chemistry and chemical engineering journals. Use of the ISI tapes was begun early in 1968. These are provided weekly and cover 1,831 journals in many fields of science and technology. The two services account for about 600,000 title references annually.

MATCHING OF KEY WORDS

The key to the SDI programme is the preparation of "interest profiles". For example, if a scientist or engineer is interested in the use of computers in teaching, his "profile" will contain key words such as computer, instruct, education, learning, teaching, CAI, CBI, CAL. The Library feeds this information into a computer, matching the key words to the titles of papers concerning computers and education, and recording the titles for users of the service.

The Library now provides 170 scientists and engineers with weekly bibliographies in their fields of interest. The service is solely one of current awareness and alerts scientists to the existence of new papers.

Until recently, restrictions by producers on the use of magnetic tapes and the experimental nature of the work obliged the Library to limit the SDI service to NRC scientists and others working in the Ottawa area. However, restrictions on the use of tapes have been lifted, the service has passed the experimental stage, and the Library now is planning to make the service available on a national scale.

SUCCESS AT U.S. BOAT SHOW

Almost a quarter of a million dollars in current sales has been reported, and another \$1 million forecast during the coming year, by 18 manufacturers of Canadian pleasure-craft, who exhibited at the Mid-America Boat Show in Cleveland, Ohio, in January. In addition, four companies that exhibited outside the stand sponsored by the Canadian Government sold \$38,000 in boats and accessories and have projected an additional \$650,000-worth of business in the next 12 months.

Of particular interest to U.S. buyers were the Canadian sailing craft, acclaimed in export markets for their workmanship and finish. A houseboat, designed and built in Canada, which can be used in water or on the highway, attracted a great deal of attention. Power-driven boats were also of interest to U.S. buyers.

This was the first time Canada had taken part in the Mid-America Boat Show under the sponsorship of the Departments of Industry and Trade and Commerce. The Canadian stand, covering 8,400 square feet in the centre of the main hall, was the largest in the show. Attendance during the 10-day exhibition exceeded 130,000.