

## Fraggle Rock captures international Emmy award



Canapress

Characters from *Fraggle Rock*, the new Canadian television show, celebrate the news of winning an international Emmy award for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

*Fraggle Rock*, the new Canadian children's television show, won an international Emmy recently for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), adding to the fame of its creator, Jim Henson, who also created the Muppets.

"We're delighted," said Duncan Kenworthy of Henson Associates. He and John Dimon of the CBC are co-producers

of the weekly, half-hour series.

*Fraggle Rock* is not a sequel to the *Muppet Show*, Mr. Kenworthy said. It's aimed at children aged seven to 12, while the *Muppet Show* is more adult entertainment. *Fraggle Rock*, which took a year to create, made its CBC debut last January. The award it received was for children's programming.

### News briefs

Canada will open an embassy in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, Prime Minister Trudeau announced during a recent official visit. The United Arab Emirates, a federation of Gulf states which was formed in 1971, is a major OPEC oil producer. The new embassy will play an important role in furthering Canada's trade with the federation as well as supporting our other bilateral and regional interests. The embassy is expected to become operational in the fall of 1984.

China will purchase 1.4 million tonnes of wheat for delivery by July 1984, the Canadian Wheat Board announced. This sale, worth about \$300 million at current prices, brings total sales to China this crop year to 3.5 million tonnes, the minimum under the terms of a three-

year contract. The sale was for cash, and is for the top three grades of red spring and winter wheat. Renewal of a one-year agreement to supply wheat and barley to Japan has also been announced. Shipment is to be of 1.3 million tonnes of wheat and 900 000 tonnes of barley in 1984, the same as in 1983.

Canadian stock exchanges are breaking all records, thanks to the surge of new equity issues in 1983. The number of listed shares traded in the first 11 months on the Toronto, Montreal, Alberta and Vancouver exchanges reached 5.5 billion, almost twice 1982's 2.9 billion for 11 months. Trading value of \$35.8 billion for that period was far ahead of \$20 billion for 11 months of 1982.

Husky Oil Operations and Bow Valley Industries have acquired major offshore oil and gas rights from Mobil Oil Canada that will result in a \$400 to \$700 million

drilling program. The rights are near Mobil's most prized offshore area, the Hibernia oilfield on the Grand Banks. Drilling will begin at once on at least eight and up to 14 wells.

Robert W. McLaren, former Canadian High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, has been named managing director of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC) and assistant Commonwealth Secretary-General at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, England.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$10-million (US) line of credit agreement with Comision Federal de Electricidad (CFE) of Mexico. The agreement will assist Canadian exporters competing for sales to CFE by providing it with a simple and easily accessible credit facility. It is expected that the main beneficiaries will be small- and medium-sized Canadian manufacturing companies. CFE is the Mexican government agency solely responsible for providing public electric power services throughout Mexico.

The Alberta government and a group of private companies are pulling together in an effort to supply oil and gas exploration equipment worth about \$264 million to China. More than 20 companies have taken out tender documents. Alberta's International Trade Minister Horst Schmid said the government is encouraging companies to form consortiums instead of bidding against each other. He said the tender is the largest ever issued by China for such equipment.

Marc Ferland, 15, of Beauport, Quebec placed second in the world junior figure skating championships in Sapporo, Japan. Victor Petrenka of the USSR won the event and Tom Cerniak of the United States placed third.

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