Snowmobiles, Duty Free

The popularity of the snow-mobile—the salvation of an estimated 750,000 snowbound Canadians and the despair of the conservationists—is continuing to spread, not only to the United States, but, under the label of snow scooters, to Europe.

To keep the dramatic new sport at a safe operating level, government restrictions and simple caution are harnessing the indiscriminate use of the snowmobile, limiting its use to trails rather than roads and adding other safety provisions. The little vehicle can plow through snowbanks at fifty mph, which has opened up whole areas of the country once virtually shut down in winter.

There are twelve Canadian manufacturers, and in 1970 they exported 235,264 machines with a dollar value of \$160.3 million. The United States bought almost all—\$158.2 million of the

total. For a brochure write its first and largest manufacturer, Bombardier, Ltd., at 8600 Decarie Blvd., in Montreal, Quebec. Their "Skidoos" range in price from \$595 to more than \$2000 for a racing model, with a median price of about \$800. The firm sold more than 180,-000 in 1971. The Canadian Snowmobile Association, St. Agathe des Monts, Quebec, can provide information on other manufacturers. No duty on snowmobiles.



Buying Canadian? Show The Colours

Canadian flags are produced by Kennedy's Specialty Manufacturers, a "sniper" firm that does "a little bit of this and a little bit of that."

The flags are a durable nylon of government specification and are sewn. Or, if the order is big enough, they are screened.

The smallest is 6" x 10" and costs \$.60, the largest 9' x 18' and sells for \$101.00, and the



most popular is 3' x 6' and costs about \$7.50 in the U.S. Duty would add about twenty per cent to any bill.

Homesick Canadians and maple leaf admirers generally may write the company, P.O. Box 250, Erin, Ontario for a price list.

Makes You Strong

Canada makes OK beer, no dispute. Molson Canadian lager is from the oldest continuously operating brewery in North America. Labatt's beer and ale are good. Canadian Breweries Ltd., makes Carling Black Label, O'Keefe, and Dow. Try any beer labeled Canadian, if you're partial to suds, eh?

And Other Buggies

Besides inventing snowmobiles, Canada has been a prolific developer of other types of ATV's-All Terrain Vehicles. One new and attractive one is the Terra let, the first fourwheel drive ATV in Canada. (There are six-wheel drive ones.) Terra let is made of fiberglass, with a twenty-eight horse power, two-cycle, two-cylinder engine made by Kohler of Germany. The two-range transmission is made by the company, Terra Jet Inc., of Drummondville. It cruises at fifty-eight mph in high range on land and seven mph in water. About 3,000 have been sold to date. some to the Canadian Mounties and the Quebec government. Terra Jet costs about \$1200 to dealers in the States, who retail it for about \$1600 to \$1700. For more information and a list of distributors, write M. Marcel Goddard, Sales Director, P.O. Box 724. Drummondsville. Quebec.

For information on other Canadian off-the-road vehicles, write Mrs. Anna Armstrong, Canada Courier, Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.