

with her cubs. As the bear attacked his companion, Aspeslet leapt on the animal's back and stabbed it with his hunting knife, shouting to the girl to feign death. He and the animal rolled down a 20-foot embankment, where the bear suddenly remembered her cubs and trotted off to look for them.

The medal, the Royal Society's highest honour, is awarded for the bravest deed reported during the year to the humane societies of the Commonwealth.

Three levels of government join in attack on unemployment

Closer co-ordination between Canada Manpower Centres and provincial and municipal welfare offices is planned by the Manpower and Immigration Department to ensure the best services for people who want to work but whose requirements extend beyond the present range of counselling, training, mobility and placement activities.

Manpower Centres and welfare offices will gain a better appreciation of related functions and services through joint meetings. Case conferences and a team approach will be initiated to co-ordinate comprehensive services and reference to appropriate agencies for assistance, as well as to assess factors inhibiting employment of welfare clients.

Counsellors specially trained

While manpower counsellors already have access to the Training-on-the-Job Program, which provides incentives to employers to hire disadvantaged workers, and to the Local Initiatives Program, aimed at creating employment, particularly for those on social assistance or unemployment insurance, additional specially-trained counsellors will provide an internal consultative service to deal with employment problems of hard-to-place workers.

To overcome difficulties in identifying the needs of certain clients, provision is being made for the purchase of diagnostic services from agencies approved by the provinces. Work-adjustment training, involving the purchase of short-term training

from vocational agencies such as sheltered workshops, is also planned, in addition to the basic job training now available.

The Department of Manpower and Immigration, which has for some time made limited financial contributions to voluntary and community agencies, will expand this support through a new program to provide better means of rendering manpower services and programs to groups experiencing exceptionally high unemployment. Another new measure will subsidize employment for "hard-core" unemployed and provide them with the opportunity to become conditioned to the work-world through pilot projects similar to local initiatives projects, but extended for two to three years and carefully selected and developed by local citizens' groups and federal and provincial agencies.

Since the structure of welfare organizations and methods of providing their services vary from province to province and within provinces, the Department of Manpower and Immigration, in conjunction with the Department of Health and Welfare, is endeavouring to ensure that area and municipal welfare authorities are fully informed of their respective programs and services.

Hovercraft firm lands distributor in United States

An Ottawa hovercraft manufacturing firm has secured its first distributor in the United States as a result of a recent Ontario trade mission to Minneapolis-St. Paul in Minnesota; MHV Industries Ltd has signed a contract for 100 units with Lund of America.

H.M. Shantz, marketing manager for MHV, said his company — which is operating with the aid of an Ontario Development Corporation loan — will have Lund handling the distribution of the \$3,000-hovercraft in Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. MHV has other distributors in Australia and Brazil and, in Canada, in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

The two-passenger hovercraft, with separate 30-horsepower motors for thrust and lift, are of a size that

makes them appropriate for year-round use in either recreational or commercial fields, Mr. Shantz said.

Modern forestry research centre

The first phase of construction of a \$7.2-million forest-research centre in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, began at the end of November.

The new facility, which will be located on 21 acres, is to be one of the best-equipped in Canada.

The first of the four construction phases of the Great Lakes Forest Research Centre called for excavating and grading the site. The second, which involved piling, was carried out late this month. The third phase, construction of the concrete sub-structure and superstructure will take place in April, while the fourth and final phase will complete the research centre by April 1975.

The total design provides an efficient working laboratory to meet forestry research requirements. It features an inviting interior and an exterior whose appearance is in keeping with the site and its surroundings.

"The Centre will house a variety of expertise in the area of forestry; sylviculturists, ecologists, forest management people and so on. It will cover the whole field of forestry research and development. It will not be specialized in one field," said Mr. Davis. "It will deal with urban forestry research, particularly Dutch elm disease problems, and pursue present programs to solve forest management problems in Ontario."

In keeping with the Department of the Environment's policy of setting a good example in the battle against pollution, the laboratory will contain special waste-treatment facilities, including equipment to treat chemical wastes.

Room for extra staff

Although, the building initially will accommodate the present staff of 49 scientists and 100 support staff of the Great Lakes Forest Research Centre and a small group of researchers from the Water Management Section, it has been designed to accommodate extra staff, as well as to house visiting scientists from other laboratories and universities.