

Mining committee appointed

Fifteen mining industry executives were appointed to serve on the National Advisory Committee on the Mining Industry (NACOMI) which met recently in Ottawa, Minister of State for Mines Judy Erola has announced.

The committee's main objectives are to facilitate a rapport between the Minister and representatives of the mineral industry and to identify present and future trends, problems and opportunities affecting mineral development in both a national and international context.

At the meeting NACOMI members reviewed the commodity situation and the general outlook for the mineral industry.

Mineral policy issues which were discussed included acid rain, health and safety, manpower problems, transportation and international developments.

Satellite image analysis system opens in Victoria

Federal Environment Minister John Roberts recently opened a new Canadian Forestry Service satellite image analysis system which will allow federal scientists to conduct research on natural resources in British Columbia and the Yukon.

The \$402,000 Geographical Monitoring System (GEMS), located in Victoria, British Columbia, will take digital data from the orbiting *Landsat* satellite and resolve it into visual displays that show distribution of different tree stocks, insect outbreaks, fire damage, and information on wood supplies and logging practices.

The *Landsat* satellite passes over western Canada every 18 days and the GEMS system can convert the satellite's numerical data into images or graphic displays. It can reproduce the images in coded colours to show differences between land and water, between rivers and roads, or between coniferous or deciduous forests. The GEMS can monitor the environmental impact of pipelines in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, water pollution and changes in wildlife habitat.

The system, developed by OVAAC8 International of Downsview, Ontario, has already been sold in Poland. Sales to other countries as well as to Canadian resource companies are under negotiation.

Women aid developing countries

Canadian women are working through the leadership of a national organization to help women in developing countries to help themselves.

When it comes to providing for basic needs — food, clothing and shelter — the best third world development projects are those initiated and run by third world communities themselves, according to Dr. Norma Walmsley, president of MATCH Centre International.

Unlike most third world development projects, MATCH does not administer programs from a central agency, but instead encourages women's community groups in Canada to take on specific projects of their own. MATCH's goal is one of matching women's groups on opposite ends of the world with the benefit of development.

Dr. Walmsley said that once people in the Third World see one project underway and succeeding, a snowballing effect takes over and many more projects begin to spring up. But it is of utmost importance

that Third World people themselves initiate projects on their own, she said.

MATCH's network is made up mostly of women's organizations. In some parts of the world women do most of the agricultural work as well as take care of the family. Thus, women can do much to improve the quality of life in their community.

The Canadian Government, through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will, in many cases, provide three-quarters of the total funding for development projects if local community groups are able to raise one-quarter. Under this arrangement, MATCH now has 50 projects underway and has a network of 120 contacts around the world.

Projects have included sending a Canadian speech therapist to a treatment centre in Calcutta, renovating a damaged water well in Malawi, training young women to sew in Sri Lanka, building a market place in Swaziland and digging a shallow well in Tanzania.

(From Insight, May 1980.)

Beaufort offshore drilling program approved

Federal approval has been given to Dome Petroleum Limited to resume offshore exploration drilling in the Beaufort Sea for the fifth consecutive year.

The company's 1980 program will be expanded from that of previous years. It plans to drill five new wells and to re-enter four previously suspended wells for further drilling or production testing.

Total planned expenditures for Beaufort Sea operations in 1980 is \$200 million.

Offshore operations will be aided this year with the deployment of the *Kigoriak*, a new Class 3 icebreaker that arrived in the Beaufort Sea in August 1979. It will assist the drillships to get to their designated sites earlier in the year when shore fast ice and pack ice is still present.

