

London's Old Vic re-opens courtesy of "Honest" Ed



Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, chats with Canadian businessman "Honest" Ed Mirvish and his wife Anne at the opening of the renovated Old Vic theatre in London, England. The historic theatre, which Mr. Mirvish purchased in 1982 and renovated at a cost of \$2 million re-opened with the musical *Blondel* by Tim Rice. An affectionate tribute to the 160-year-old theatre was paid by Sir Laurence Olivier who described the Old Vic as the "old jewel in the crown of London...glittering and shining once again... due to the rare generosity of a Canadian gentleman, Mr. Ed Mirvish".

Canapress

News briefs

A new Canadian Consulate in Perth, Australia, was officially opened on November 14 by Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade). The Consulate is Canada's fourth trade post in Australia. Horst Schmid, Minister of International Trade of Alberta, also participated in the opening ceremony, which was attended by several senior members of the government of Australia.

Rolm Corp., an Ottawa firm which specializes in the office communications business, introduced a new series of telephone switching systems recently that includes the largest unit available in Canada. The CBX II (computerized branch exchange) was introduced in a teleconference from Rolm's headquarters in Santa Clara, California. It can be built for customer needs varying from ten to 10 000 lines, twice the capacity of the former largest switchboards available in Canada.

The new Detour Lake, Ontario gold mine, a joint venture of Campbell Red Lake Mines and Amoco Canada Petro-

leum, cost \$130 million to put into operation, and at full production will be the largest tonnage producer in Canada. Capacity of 2 500 tonnes a day will soon be reached, with 3 000 daily expected by year-end. Developing an underground mine has begun, for startup by early 1987, raising total capacity to 4 000 tonnes a day.

Preparations are under way for a high-tech stock index for the Toronto Stock Exchange, to include such companies as Northern Telecom and Mitel Corp., now in the electrical and electronic sub-index of the TSE 300. Such companies will be included in both indexes. Twenty to 30 stocks will be included initially, and the index will be weighted by the market value of the component companies.

A contract valued at \$400 000 has been awarded by Canadian Commercial Corporation to Valcom Limited, Guelph, Ontario for the supply of Meter Whip Antennae to the US Navy. The contract contains two options for additional quantities and, if exercised, the total contract value would be in excess of \$1 million (US). Valcom is a long-standing supplier to the US Navy for

this product which has a patented integrated base. Valcom's antennae sales, through Canadian Commercial Corporation, stand at \$556 000 (Cdn.) from January 1983 to the present.

Safety standards for the commercial application of wind energy technology in Canada will be set by mid-1984, according to the Canadian Standards Association. Testing and evaluating standards, and interconnection standards to regular power grids, are also in development. Work on the standards, began in 1982. The standards and new product warranties will give consumers in remote regions savings of between 25 and 35 per cent in the cost of electricity from fuel-driven diesel generating plants.

Seven Canadian hotels have been given Five Diamond rating in 1983, the highest possible award from the American Automobile Association. Given for superiority in guest facilities, services and atmosphere, the awards this year went to 47 hotels and resorts in North America. The association saluted recipients at its annual national meeting held recently in Washington, D.C. The Canadian winners are: the Hotel Bonaventure, Quatre Saisons and Ritz-Carlton in Montreal, Four Seasons Hotels in Toronto and Vancouver, the Hotel Vancouver and Westin Bayshore, also in Vancouver.

At last, a computer to help with hassles! Elaine Stafani of Windsor, Ontario, president of the Consumers Association of Canada, recently pushed a button at a large mall in London, Ontario to put the first Hassle Help computer into operation. Based on the Telidon system in conjunction with a Videopress booth, Hassle Help provides basic tips on shopping for, and registering complaints about, products as diverse as home appliances to health insurance.

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