shelves accommodating 22 easy-to-remove circuit cards. At the heart of the electronics are microprocessors (minicomputers) which contain the system's operating program. The traditionally bulky electro-mechanical switching devices have been replaced by a new Mitel electronic system contained in small silicon chips (manufactured in its plant in Bromont, Québec) resulting in reduction of size and cost of the equipment. Also, special Mitel design has allowed the elimination of transformers which interface with telephone lines, further reducing the system's size and weight. Extensive use of CMOS (Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor) circuitry has reduced power requirements which not only saves money but also

prevents heat build-up and, therefore, prolongs component life.

Another attractive feature of the Mitel EPABX is the built-in diagnostic system for localizing problems. The equipment is designed so that a malfunction is easily pinpointed, reducing repair cost and time. A series of self-check routines inform the user by digital display of any malfunction and its location.

The best criterion for judging the quality of the Mitel EPABX is its acceptance in the marketplace. The American giant, AT&T (American Telephone and Telecommunications Corporation), has approved the system, opening the way for Mitel to sell to the U.S. Bell companies. At least 40 other companies in the U.S., Canada

and Europe have also shown interest. Currently, 20 units from a pre-production run are being tested by prospective clients and factory production increases are leading up to a rate of 100 units per month.

Mitel, a young Canadian company with annual sales of $25 million, is a good example of the fact that the entrepreneural spirit is alive and well in Canada and that our Canadian electronics industry can compete with the large international corporations. □
**Sadiq Hasnain**

**Front view of console control cabinet with circuit cards in place.**

**Vue de face du pupitre de commande de la console équipé de circuits imprimés.**

Mitel Corp.