

Computer science accreditation

Accreditation by computer may soon be required for the best jobs in data processing. Six Canadian universities, including the influential University of Waterloo and the Canadian Information Processing Society have developed what they say is the first computer science accreditation program in Canada and probably in North America.

This voluntary program will allow potential employers to identify students who have graduated from curricula judged to be suitable for the profession.

Mandatory courses include computer hardware, operating systems, logic circuits and several programming languages.

Canadians appointed to Canada-Israel Institute

Four Canadians have recently been named directors of the Canada-Israel Institute for Industrial Research and Development. The new members are: Ray Wolfe of Toronto, chairman and president of the Oshawa Group Limited; Richard Kroft of Winnipeg, Manitoba, president of Tryton Investment Co. Ltd.; Steven Dorsey of Montreal, president of Micom Canada Ltd.; and Dennis De Melto, director general of DRIE's Office of Industrial Innovation, who will represent the federal government.

The Israeli members appointed to the board of directors by the Minister of Industry and Trade of Israel are: Avraham Asheri, director general, Ministry of Industry and Trade; Arie Lavie, chief scientist, Ministry of Industry and Trade; Rubin Zimmerman, industrialist and banker; and Israel Asher, director general, Degem Systems Ltd.

The four Canadian members appointed by the federal government and their Israeli counterparts will work together to promote and facilitate joint industrial research and development projects and the commercial development and marketing of the results of such projects in Canada and Israel.

A memorandum of understanding signed between Canada and Israel led to the establishment of the institute on June 29, 1983 by the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Under the agreement, Canada and Israel will each contribute \$200 000 towards its establishment.

Franco-Ontarians featured

A recent book exploring the history and culture of the Franco-Ontarians is an important contribution to information about the French identity in Canada. The book is called *Voices from French Ontario*, by Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos and is published in paper-back by McGill-Queen's University Press.

The author was born in Montreal and has personal knowledge of the social and cultural problems of minorities within a large society, having grown up in the English-speaking minority of Quebec. Her first book, *The French Fact in Quebec*, won a Governor General's award for non-fiction.

For her study of the Franco-Ontarians, Miss Arnopoulos travelled extensively in the area of northern Ontario, from Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and Pembroke in the south to Timmins and Hearst in the north. About 300 000 French-speaking people live in this area, and Miss Arnopoulos looked into how they retained their language and culture, surrounded by an English-speaking society.

The French character of the region began about a century ago, after the Canadian Pacific Railway opened up the country. French-Canadians moved in, taking jobs in the forest industry, the mines and on farms. They were largely isolated, and developed a strong identity before the opening of the Sudbury mines which brought about an increasing urbanization. This book outlines how the Franco-Ontarians managed to resist assimilation.



Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos

Film series explores technology

TV Ontario, the Toronto-based public service broadcasting station — an agency of the Ontario government — is joining with VISNews Productions of London, England in a new co-production series of 13 television programs budgeted at \$1.3 million.

Wally Lougul, TVO producer, said that 75 per cent of *The Real Story* — an entertaining and informative way of helping people understand changes being brought about by the revolution in technology — will be shot in Ontario.

The series should be completed by January 1985. So far, marketing response for the series has been favourable, and Mr. Lougul says there are good possibilities for a pre-sale series on the 200 to 300 US public service stations.

Canadian poets reach wide audiences

For some reason Canadians appear to be poetry addicts. More poetry books are sold *per capita* in Canada than in any other country, and many critics consider that contemporary Canadian verse is one of the most vital bodies of poetry in the English-speaking world.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Canadian poets are reaching world markets. Margaret Atwood recently received the International Writers' Prize conferred by the Welsh Arts Council. Earle Birney's poetry has been translated into Russian, Hungarian and French. Irving Layton, who was born in Romania and came to Canada with his parents at the age of one, has been translated into Hungarian, Italian and Spanish.

The name Leonard Cohen is known throughout the world and his verse appears in magazines as far afield as Chile, India, Romania and Italy. Michael Ondaatje, who was born in Sri Lanka and educated in England, has had his work published in the United States, Mexico and the Soviet Union. Al Purdy, the most down-to-earth of Canadian poets, has won literary prizes in the United States. And Dorothy Livesay, Tom Wayman, to name only two, are frequently invited to read their poems in Australia, Denmark and Norway.

While many Canadians wonder and worry about their identity, our poets have made Canada and the Canadian scene familiar to readers in many corners of the world.