

### Sekine Canada Ltd subject of Japanese documentary

Sekine Canada Ltd a bicycle-manufacturing company in Rivers, Manitoba, will be the subject of a half-hour documentary film produced by the Hokkaido Broadcasting Company of Tokyo, Japan.

The film will deal with Sekine's native training program and the unique nature of this industrial project taking place at the OO-ZA-WE-KWUN Centre Inc. in Rivers.

The Sekine policy of employing native workers has met with impressive success. Although none of the workers had previous experience in bicycle manufacturing, little training was needed to produce the first bicycle. This is considered a most satisfactory achievement in manufacturing circles and is attributed to the Japanese technique of teaching and the ease with which the native workers fit in with Japanese supervisors. The training method has been very successful not only at Rivers but at the Sekine plant in Taiwan, the only places where the Sekine bicycles are manufactured outside Japan.

Harry Paul, Chairman of the Board of Sekine Canada, said that the Manitoba film would be shown on the Japanese public affairs program "Passport 4", which has an estimated viewing audience of 30 million.

Of the 100 employees of Sekine Canada Ltd, 75 are Canadian Indians from tribes across the province.

### Family comes too

The Department of Indian Affairs chooses the trainee. He and his family are lodged at the centre on a "pay-as-you-go" basis while he undergoes an orientation course.

"Instead of bringing in one employee from a reserve, we bring his whole family to Rivers where they can enjoy all the benefits of community life," Mr. Paul said.

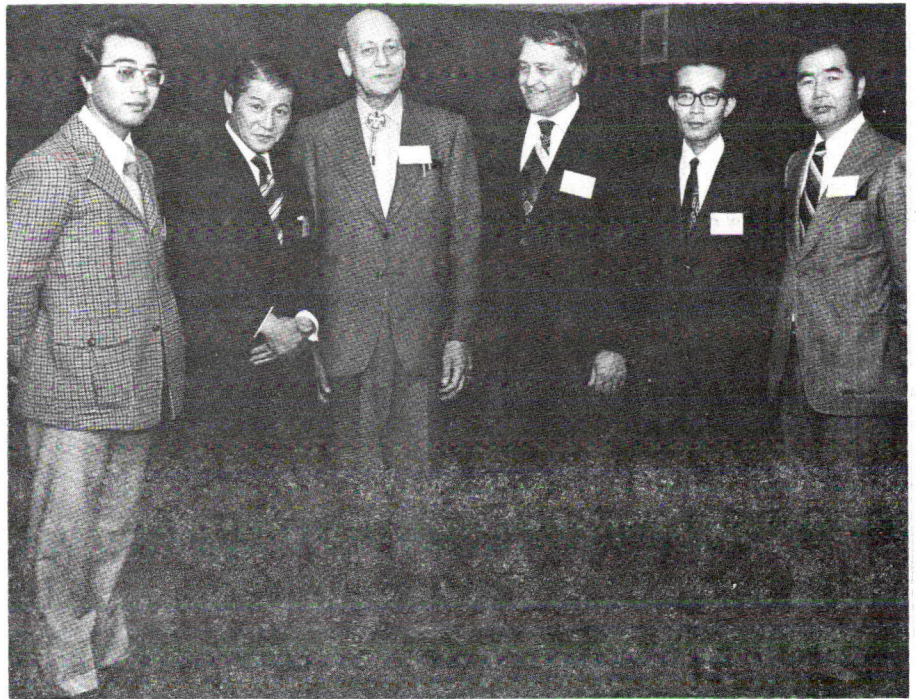
"Our Indian employees and Japanese supervisory staff work extremely well together. Our plant is unique because four languages are spoken, Japanese, French, English and native and the workers have overcome the barriers of communication.

Many of the Indian staff have risen rapidly to important positions in the plant, since everyone is given equal

opportunity to develop his or her potential to the fullest," said Mr. Paul. Dr. Ahab Spence, President of the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Sekine Canada Ltd. Dr. Spence, a minister and teacher in Indian Missions

for 28 years, joined the Department of Indian Affairs in 1973.

Last year the plant produced 55,000 bicycles in the \$129-to-\$700 price range. This year the company expects to produce between 80,000 and 100,000 units.



*Sekine Canada officials with members of team filming Rivers documentary. From left to right: Hiroshi Sasaki, Director, TV News and Public Affairs, Hokkaido Broadcasting Company of Tokyo; Tetsunosuke Chaki, Consul-General of Japan; Dr. Ahab Spence,*

*Director, Sekine Canada Ltd; H.C. Paul, Chairman of the Board, Sekine Canada Ltd, Yasuyuki Kitamura, producer, TV News and Public Affairs, Hokkaido Broadcasting Company of Tokyo; Mitsuaki Komori, President, Sekine Canada Ltd.*

### International Women's Year – world conference

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently that the Canadian delegation to the United Nations World Conference of the International Women's Year in Mexico City from June 19 to July 2, would be headed by Coline Campbell, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to Marc Lalonde, Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

Mr. MacEachen, noted that the Canadian delegation would be limited to nine members, in accordance with the suggestions of the United Nations, and in line with the delegations from other participating countries. The group will include four federal officials, three provincial representatives and a member of the Advisory Council on the

Status of Women.

The Minister also stated that there would be a formal consultation with the provinces prior to the development of Canada's position at the conference. A consultative meeting will also be held with representative non-government organizations.

At the same time, Mr. MacEachen announced that Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency would contribute \$20,000 to the Voluntary Fund of the International Women's Year, from which the United Nations is paying all expenses associated with this year, including the cost of the world conference. The money will be earmarked to assist developing countries to participate in the conference.