

**THEY SHOOT...
THEY SCORE!**



**ILS LANCENT...
ET COMPTENT!**

Lord Stanley donated a trophy for a national tournament in 1893 (the oldest competitive sport trophy in the world), and the first Stanley Cup championship was played the next season, with Montreal taking the cup. The first recorded game in the U.S. took place at Yale University in 1894.

The National Hockey Association was formed in Canada in 1910 and reorganized as the National Hockey League (NHL) in 1917. In 1924 the Boston Bruins became the first American team in the league and they were quickly followed by others. After the Depression, the league was left with six teams—the Bruins, Montreal Canadiens, Toronto Maple Leafs, New York Rangers, Chicago Black Hawks and Detroit Red Wings—until a major expansion in 1967 doubled the number. The NHL now has teams in 26 Canadian and American cities.

Canada won the first four Olympic gold medals in the sport between 1920 and 1932, and dominated international amateur competition until the 1950s, when the Soviet Union emerged as a major hockey power. In the 1970s and '80s, Sweden, Finland and Czechoslovakia also became strong competitors.

Hockey didn't achieve national popularity in the U.S. until the American team upset the Soviets for the Olympic gold medal at Lake Placid in 1980. A hockey boomlet followed, culminating in the U.S. victory over Canada in September of this year in the World Cup finals (previously known as the Canada Cup), the premier international hockey event.

CANADA URGES AP MINE BAN BY END OF 1997

Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has challenged the world's nations to sign an international agreement banning anti-personnel (AP) land mines by the end of 1997, to be implemented by the year 2000, and he offered Ottawa as the site for the signing conference.

Mr. Axworthy's invitation came at the conclusion of a conference held in Ottawa in October to map strategy for securing a global ban on AP mines. Fifty countries, including the United States, participated with non-governmental institutions, multilateral agencies and mine victims. Russia sent observers to the conference, but others, notably China and Iraq, were not represented.

It is estimated that more than 100 million anti-personnel mines lie buried in some 70 countries and that they kill or maim about 500 people, mostly civilians, per week. New AP mines—several million a year—are laid faster than existing ones can be cleared.

Participants in the Ottawa conference committed themselves to work for "the earliest possible conclusion" of a legally binding agreement to ban the production, stockpiling, transfer and use of anti-personnel mines, but did not set a timetable for achieving it. Several

countries, including Canada, are working on draft language for a treaty.

The United States supports negotiation of a global ban on anti-personnel mines and will introduce a U.N. resolution to that effect during the current session of the General Assembly, but it has not committed itself to a deadline.

Mr. Axworthy said Canada decided to set a target date unilaterally in order "to put our rhetoric into action" and channel the momentum generated by the conference. "We cannot wait for a universal treaty," he said. "We can start now, even though we may have to proceed with a treaty that does not, in the first instance, include all of the states of the world."

Canada will launch a full-scale diplomatic effort during the next year to promote the signing of a global ban by December 1997.

The international movement to eliminate anti-personnel land mines has gained considerable impetus in the last year, partly through the efforts of such groups as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Land Mines Survivors Network, and the 650-member coalition operating as the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines. When Canada announced a moratorium on the production, export and operational

use of AP mines in January, it was one of only a handful of countries with such restrictions. Since then, France, Italy, Brazil and other producing countries have stopped producing the mines, the United States and others have stopped exporting them, and seven countries—Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Norway, the Philippines, Switzerland and Austria—have banned AP mines entirely.

Canada's then Defence Minister, David Collenette, announced during the Ottawa conference that Canada would destroy its stockpile of 90,000 anti-personnel mines, two-thirds of them immediately and the remainder in the context of negotiations towards an international treaty.

Mr. Axworthy pledged that Canada would contribute \$2 million in additional assistance for the clearing of anti-personnel mines in various parts of the world and will sponsor a seminar on developing Canadian expertise in mine-clearing technology and victim assistance in Winnipeg in early February 1997.

Japan will play host to an international meeting on demining technology in March, and Belgium will sponsor a conference in June to assess progress on the campaign for a global ban.