

## Police recruit ethnic officers

Five years ago, Vancouver's police department mounted a recruiting drive to hire and train police officers who might better represent the multicultural aspects of Canada's third largest city. At that time, the 1 000-member force had only two police officers with ethnic backgrounds.

Police officers began to contact cultural groups in the city with a view to making presentations showing the advantages of careers in policing. They hoped to attract Canadian citizens from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, with the necessary high school education.

The police department began an advertising campaign and Superintendent Hank Starek, then in charge of staff development, participated in ethnic radio and television programs. Immediately the project began to bring results.

### Height requirements waived

Applications came in from the Chinese, Italian, East Indian and Black communities. In some cases height requirements were waived if the candidate was otherwise qualified.

The successful candidates entered the British Columbia Police Academy for training. Within a year they were active as male or female probationary constables. Today the police force includes five members from the Chinese community, six members of East Indian descent, two Black members, and one Japanese-Canadian.

The Vancouver police department has become a model in hiring practices, offering, for example, Cantonese language training to a dozen officers so that the city's large Chinese population will receive better service. Constable Bob Cooper patrols the city's Chinatown district where he is able to talk with shopkeepers and restaurateurs in Chinese dialects. Constable John Draganni, fluent in Italian, has been assigned to the Italian district.

But the Vancouver police department wants to do more, and so Staff Sergeant Ken Higgins is now recruiting for the force on college campuses across Canada. He is also visiting community groups in the city but this time parents and children are the target. He said that if attitudes can be changed they may filter down to the young people planning a vocation.

(Article by Alyn Edwards in Canadian Scene.)

## Skiers post World Cup wins

Canadian athletes showed winning form with victories in three recent World Cup ski competitions.

In Lahti, Finland, Horst Bulau of Ottawa won both the 70- and 90-metre ski jumping events. Bulau won the 70-metre competition with jumps of 89 and 89.5 metres and soared 114 and 109.5 metres to take the 90-metre jump. Matti Nykanen of Finland leads the World Cup ski jumping circuit with 267 points compared to Bulau's 252. To win the overall title Bulau must win two of the remaining six World Cup events and Nykanen must place no higher than third.

### Men's race

In men's downhill action in Aspen, Colorado, Todd Brooker of Paris, Ontario won his second World Cup race with a time of 1:47.87. Brooker also won on the Austrian Hahnenkamm hill in January. As a result of his most recent win, the Canadian moved into eighth place in World Cup downhill standings with 67 points.



Laurie Graham holds bouquet following her first World Cup downhill victory.

Laurie Graham of Inglewood, Ontario won her first World Cup women's downhill race held at Mont Tremblant, Quebec. She covered the 2 535-metre course in 1:32.53 making her the first Canadian woman to win a World Cup race this season. The victory moved Graham into fifth place in World Cup standings with 63 points.

## Mustard seen as potential crop

Agriculture Canada is conducting research on mustard that could make it an alternative oilseed crop for western Canadian farmers.

In the past, mustard has not been used to make edible oil, an ingredient in products such as margarine and mayonnaise, because it contains erucic acid, a chemical harmful to humans. Recently, Australian researchers bred a new mustard variety that is low in erucic acid. Scientists at Agriculture Canada's Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Research Station now are taking this research a step further and are looking at ways of making animal feed from the mustard meal once the oil is extracted.

Mustard normally contains too much glucosinolate for it to be used as animal feed. Glucosinolate is a substance high in sulphur. Eating large amounts of this can cause growth and reproductive problems in animals.

### Removes harmful substance

"In our research we've added a new technique to the conventional method of extracting the oil and it seems to be effective in removing the glucosinolate," says G.I. McGregor, an Agriculture Canada researcher in Saskatoon.

In addition, the researchers are attempting to breed a glucosinolate-free mustard variety.

"Adapting mustard for use as an edible oil and animal feed poses similar problems to those researchers encountered when they began trying to remove oil from rapeseed," says Mr. McGregor.

Rapeseed, now grown widely as an edible oil and meal crop in western Canada under the variety name canola, was also high in erucic acid and glucosinolates.

"Through research, scientists were able to eliminate the erucic acid and glucosinolate content of rapeseed to come up with canola. We've every indication that we can do the same with mustard," he said.

Mustard has been found to be more drought tolerant and less prone to shattering than rapeseed. Because of these characteristics, mustard can be grown in areas where rapeseed production is not possible. Last year, Canadian farmers grew 80 000 hectares of mustard, mostly on the prairies. This could increase dramatically if mustard becomes a viable oilseed crop for western Canada.