

News briefs

The Ontario government is buying \$10-million worth of educational computers for use in the province's schools and is initiating a \$5-million program to develop software for them. The program, sponsored by the government's Board of Industrial Leadership and Development, will include the purchase of microcomputers designed to Ministry of Education specifications. The educational microcomputers are being manufactured by the Canadian Educational Microprocessor Corporation, a Canadian high-tech company created to service the educational market. Prototypes will be in the schools this fall and production models available early next year.

The Canadian Wheat Board has signed a contract for the sale of wheat to the government of India. It will be shipped through Pacific and St. Lawrence ports from October 1983 through March 1984. The sale is the first by the board to the government of India since 1975.

The first joint conference held by two major educational associations — the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the American Council on Education — will be held in Toronto, October 12-14. The theme of the conference will be "North American Higher Education: Shaping the Future" and guest speakers will include Larkin Kerwin, president of the National Research Council of Canada; Reverend Theodore Hesburgh, president of the University of Notre Dame; and Robert Anderson, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Rockwell International Corporation.

For the twelfth consecutive year, businesses in the area of London, Ontario can take advantage of a low-cost business consulting service being offered by the University of Western Ontario. The management consulting service, conducted by business students, covers such areas as financial planning, inventory control, marketing, promotion and production scheduling.

The Export Development Corporation has signed a \$93.16-million (US) loan agreement to support sales by various Canadian exporters to the Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company. The exporters include Northern Telecom International Ltd., Northern Telecom Canada Ltd., and Phillips Cables Ltd., all of Ontario. The sales, expected to total \$109.6 million (US), will involve the supply of equipment and services for the second phase of the modernization of Trinidad's domestic telecommunications systems.

The University of Waterloo, which has the largest university credit correspondence program in Canada, will undertake an audio teleconferencing trial in some of its correspondence courses this fall. The experiment will offer students the opportunity of receiving two teleconferencing tutorials in each of their courses. Students will meet for classes, sitting around a table with microphones so they can ask questions of the professor. Co-ordinator Jack Gray expects that about 50 students in up to ten locations across Ontario will be linked with a UW professor at one time. In addition, portable computers will be made available to students in remote locations so they can send and receive electronic mail.

Temperatures soared to a record-setting 39 degrees Celsius September 2 in Winnipeg, Manitoba beating many of the recognized hot spots in the world. Honolulu, Miami, the Bahamas, all seemed cool when matched against the sweltering Winnipeg heat. Only Phoenix, Arizona and Needles, California, where it hit 43.8 degrees Celsius, were hotter. The previous Winnipeg record was 37.2 degrees Celsius set September 7, 1906.



Joy, a Shetland sheepdog, playfully paws her "master", Hero I, a robot programmed to give the dog various commands, during a recent demonstration in Windsor, Ontario. The two are part of an educational program aimed at teaching children the responsibilities of owning a pet. According to John Kirkland, general manager of the Essex County Humane Society, children pay more attention watching the robot instruct the dog than a human.

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