

## Nuclear reactors sold to Romania

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) and the Bank of Montreal, leading a consortium of Canadian banks, recently concluded financing arrangements for the \$1-billion sale of Canadian goods and services for four Canadian 600-megawatt nuclear reactors to Romania. The loan is the largest of its kind supporting a single export sale from Canada. The bank participation of \$320 million also exceeds all previous export financing arranged by EDC and the Canadian banks.

The project, which should bring about 33,600 man-years of employment to some 15 major suppliers across Canada, will involve the supply of engineering and other services, equipment and materials, including erection, commencement and training related to the construction of the nuclear power units.

## Women workers

There were 4,022,000 women in the work force in 1977, representing 37.9 per cent of the total labour force of 10,616,000, reports the 1977 edition of *Women in the Labour Force*, published recently by Labour Canada.

The following facts, pertaining to the same year, were also contained in the book:

- 45.9 per cent of the 8,767,000 women aged 15 years and over in the population were in the labour force. This compared with a participation rate of 34.6 per cent in 1967 when 2,358,000 women were in the labour force.
- 2,430,000 married women were in the labour force, representing 44.1 per cent of married women in the population. In 1967, only 28.3 per cent (1,265,000) of married women in the population were on the work force.
- 82.8 per cent of all single women in the population aged 25 to 54 were in the labour force; of single men in this age group, 85.2 per cent were in the labour force. The participation rate of married women aged 25 to 54 was 49.5 per cent in 1977, compared with a participation rate of 96.3 per cent for married men in this age group.
- women represented 44.1 per cent of the unemployed labour force and 37.3 per cent of the employed labour force. The rate of unemployment for women

was 9.5 per cent compared with a rate of 7.3 per cent for men.

- the participation rates of women in the labour force ranged from 50.7 per cent in Alberta to 34.4 per cent in Newfoundland.
- 22.1 per cent of all employed women worked part time; the comparable percentage for men was 5.4 per cent.

## First stamps for 1979

A \$1-stamp depicting Fundy National Park, issued on January 21, initiated a series of high-value definitives of Canada's national parks. The tides of the 29-year-old New Brunswick park shown on the stamp, which was the first issued this year, were painted by Ron Bolt.



The Quebec Winter Carnival, celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary this year, will be honoured with a new 14-cent commemorative stamp to be issued February 1. The stamp, illustrated by Antoine Dumas, a native of Quebec City, shows a colourful carnival crowd and "Bonhomme Carnaval", the jovial spirit of the festival.



## Canada/Cuba sport exchanges

Close to 100 Canadian athletes in seven sports will travel to Cuba this year for training and competition under a renewed sport exchange agreement signed in December by representatives of the Canadian Government and the Republic of Cuba.

The annual program is the fourth to be signed since the two countries agreed to enter into the exchanges in 1976.

Canadian teams in boxing, fencing, soccer, judo, wrestling, synchronized swimming and team handball will travel to Cuba, while Cuban athletes in diving, canoeing, wrestling, gymnastics, volleyball, judo, track and field, swimming and basketball will visit Canada to train and compete.

In addition, specialists from both countries involved with women in sport will exchange visits.

## Mr. Schreyer visits the Queen

Canada's new Governor General, Edward Schreyer, and his family visited England recently, paying a courtesy call on the Royal Family at Sandringham House in Norfolk.

Mr. Schreyer assumed his duties as the Queen's representative in Canada on January 22.

## New mail service long way from pony express

Bell Canada and Ivor Kaye and Assoc. Inc. of Toronto, plan to begin in February what is believed to be the world's first completely electronic mail service.

Customers in Toronto and Montreal (soon to be followed by Vancouver, Calgary and Ottawa) will pay 98 cents a page to send a standard-size letter over the system, called Fascan, which guarantees transmission of the letter within two hours. The express service, offering delivery within 15 minutes, will cost \$1.35 a page. Overnight delivery will cost 70 cents a page.

Agents in shopping plazas and offices will handle requests for many customers. Companies that are frequent users can rent terminals from Fascan for \$50 or less a month, or buy the unit for about \$1,500.