

• The Bank of Montreal, a major Canadian bank, offers live on-line banking to the home over Infomart's Grassroots service, Canada's first commercial system, now serving 1,500 subscribers. The service provides for account balance enquiry, account transfers, and specific banking information. Perle Systems of Toronto helped to develop the system. The bank has also established a branch of the future in Toronto to field-test videotex and self-serve terminals. A videodisc interface adds full motion and sound to videotex text and graphics for customers to access marketing messages and account information.

Futuristic work stations feature highresolution, touch-sensitive colour monitors, speakers, magnetic card readers and printers. Using the card reader, customers can access their account data, calculate mortgages, and obtain printed copies of account statements by entering a personal identification number on the screen which redefines its image to match the keyboard of an ATM.

