

## Bacteria named for Canadian

The Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, has named a recently discovered bacteria for a Canadian scientist.

The *proteus penneri* bacteria, known for its role in urinary tract infections, was named for Professor John L. Penner, a University of Toronto bacteriologist. Don Brenner of the US centre said the bacteria was named for the Canadian scientist "because we consider John Penner to be the world's best authority on *proteus* (a strain of bacteria that has been known to lead to serious infection of wounds and to blood poisoning)".

Professor Penner and his research team have developed new information about where infections come from and how bacteria move between people. The discovery of *proteus penneri* was spurred on by work Dr. Penner has been conducting at the University of Toronto.

## Canada negotiates with Airbus

The Canadian government, De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited and Airbus Industrie are negotiating on Canadian participation in the Airbus A-320 aircraft program.

The negotiations, which began July 23 in Ottawa, are expected to be complete in December. De Havilland has been designated as the Canadian industrial partner in the aircraft project.

The A-320 is a 150-seat-passenger aircraft which will be powered by two advanced jet engines. It is designed to replace aging and outmoded single-aisle aircraft in the 120-180 seat category.

This aircraft is being developed by Airbus Industrie, an international consortium with partners in Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Spain. Airbus Industrie has been successful in marketing two previous aircraft, the A-300 and the A-310, despite problems being experienced by many of the world's aerospace companies adversely affected by the current economic climate. According to a recent study prepared by an American group, Airbus now controls 43 per cent of the world's passenger aircraft market compared to only 3 per cent in 1977.

Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Regional Economic Expansion Herb Gray said in announcing the negotiations that three conditions must be fulfilled to ensure Canadian participation in

the Airbus Industrie A-320 program. First, Canada must be satisfied that the project is commercially viable; the A-320 program must result in significant industrial benefits to the Canadian aerospace industry, particularly in terms of employment and the transfer of advanced technology; and finally, Canadian participation must be on the basis of recovery of expenditures incurred by the federal government.

"Airbus Industrie has proven its ability to produce aircraft of high technical quality and demonstrated success in the marketplace," Mr. Gray said. "I have every confidence that the A-320 program will improve upon this record and I look forward to a successful outcome of the negotiations."

## International forestry prize

For the second consecutive year, a Canadian has been awarded the Marcus Wallenberg Prize, a Swedish award given for contributions to the forest industry.

The 1982 award was presented by Stora Kappenberg of Sweden to Dr. Ricardo O. Foschi, an adjunct associate professor at the University of British Columbia and a researcher at the Vancouver laboratories of Forintek Canada Corporation, a company involved in research and development of wood products.

Stora Kappenberg, dating back to 1288, is the oldest publicly-owned company in the world still in operation. The firm, which is one of Sweden's largest enterprises for forestry and forest pro-



Dr. Ricardo O. Foschi

ducts, initiated the prize to recognize, encourage and stimulate pioneering scientific achievements that would contribute to a broader knowledge and technical development within the forest industry.

Dr. Foschi received the 1982 prize for his work on "The Assessment and Prediction of the Structural Reliability of Structures Fabricated from Wood and Wood Products". In his work he combined mathematical and pragmatic engineering evaluations to establish how wooden structures can be evaluated for withstanding stress. His work is now providing a rational basis for the engineering design of wooden structures, taking into account the various factors unique to this type of construction: the variability of wood; its behaviour under long-term loads; and the type of fastenings used.

The first Canadian to win the prize was Dr. H. Holton of Canadian Industries Limited who was last year's winner.

## Wildlife areas to be preserved

Canada has designated the world's only known nesting area for whooping crane and ten other wildlife areas under the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance.

The designated wetlands cover 100 000 square kilometres, mainly in the North, and are as large as the combined area designated by 32 other countries that have signed the preservation convention.

Canadian Wildlife Service policy adviser Hugh Boyd said naming the areas gives them no special legal status but would commit the government to try to protect them.

"Naming these sites is evidence of the growing recognition by governments of the important role that wetlands play in our natural environment," said federal Environment Minister John Roberts in a statement this summer.

The areas are migratory or nesting areas for millions of sandpipers, ducks, geese, swans and falcons and the habitat of caribou, musk ox and bears.

They range from Mary's Point, a New Brunswick tidal marsh, to the Alaksen wildlife area on the Fraser River delta. Other areas are in Ontario, Manitoba and the Yukon and five are in the Northwest Territories.

In 1981, the first wetland in Quebec was designated and two more are likely to be named following negotiations with Saskatchewan and Alberta.