

## Group links business grads

McGill University in Montreal has set up a group to link its business graduates around the world.

The McGill International Business Association (MIBA) is intended to develop contacts after graduation that "will promote the exchange of international business information" and be "a valuable contribution to graduates' future business endeavours".

Planned activities include an annual newsletter to introduce new members and alert them to career opportunities, as well as publication each year of a membership directory. A general meeting will be held every two years.

According to the bylaws, "general members shall be any McGill MBA alumnus with a demonstrated interest in international business through an academic concentration or international work experience." The MIBA was formed with 42 general members representing 17 countries.

Membership fees will be credited towards a scholarship fund for foreign students studying international business at McGill.

## Vacationers set record

Canadians took a record number of vacation trips in 1980 with automobile travel, particularly during domestic vacations, showing a significant upswing.

The result of the 1980 Vacation Travel by Canadians survey indicated that Canadians took 8.9 million vacation trips last year, an increase of 7 per cent over 1979. The ratio of these journeys taken in Canada, the United States and offshore destinations remained virtually unchanged over 1979 with 67 per cent spending one or more nights in Canada, 26 per cent in the U.S. and 13 per cent in offshore places. (Figures exceed 100 per cent because some travellers visited more than one area.) Among domestic trips, 71 per cent were taken by car, a level not reached since 1977.

At the same time, Canadians are taking shorter trips closer to home. The average number of nights *per* vacation was 12.6 — the shortest length of stay in five years — with more than half the trips within 1,425 kilometres (880 miles) of home.

Canadians spent an average of \$581 in Canada, \$1,123 in the U.S. and \$2,287 in offshore destinations. This represents

increases of 13, 14 and 12 per cent, respectively, over the 1979 figures.

The survey, sponsored by the Canadian Government Office of Tourism, also reveals that the number of Canadians travelling to the northeastern U.S. resumed 1978 levels — back up to 6 per cent — after dropping to about 4 per cent during threats of fuel shortages in the summer of 1979. Since this increase to the northeastern U.S. was offset by a decline in Canadian travel to the southern and western states, total Canadian travel to the U.S. remained virtually unchanged.

## Med-threads are fashion fad

Two Canadian university students have found a blossoming market in surgical garb, the latest fad in jogging and lounging wear.

Peter Ho and Bradley Jones, University of Waterloo students, have discovered a lucrative business in "Med Threads", the latest in surgeon-style smocks and pants.

Last summer, the two decided to forego the traditional low-paying summer job and started their own business; this year they are expanding.

With the aid of a \$1,000 interest-free loan from the Ontario government's Student Venture Capital program, plus personal loans, Ho and Jones set up Smockers Limited.

After a slow start due to supply problems, Smockers Limited took off and brought in sales in the \$30,000-plus range. After expenses, the two students were able to finance their university years with a few dollars to spare.

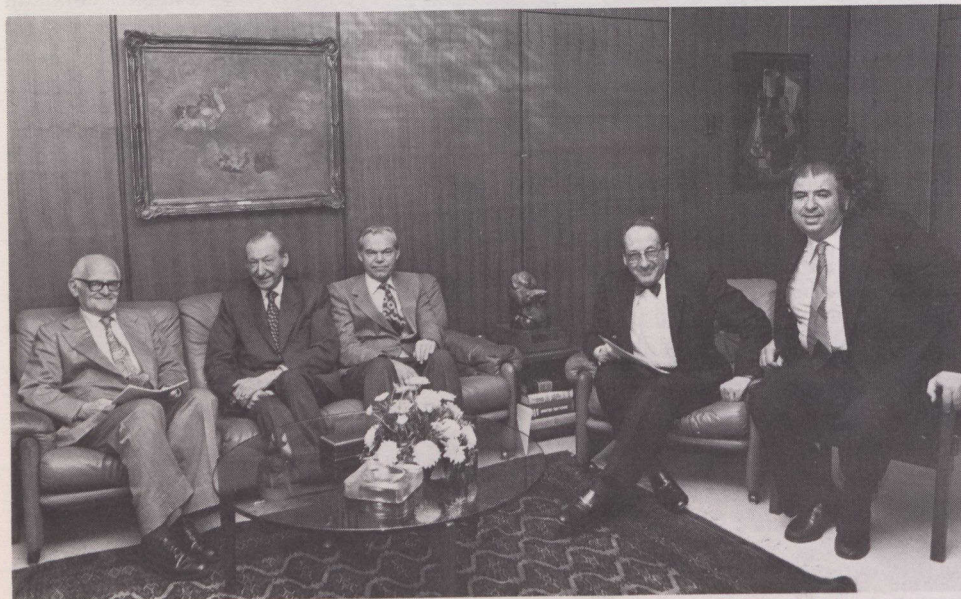
Ho, 21, predicted the business will be even more successful this summer.

Smockers Limited was born when Ho and Jones discovered the very popular surgical smocks worn in the dormitory by doctors' sons and daughters were hard to come by.

They buy actual surgeons' garments from a London, Ontario manufacturer and retail them under the name Med-Threads. The smocks are 100 per cent cotton and cost \$18 for the pants, \$15 for the shirt.

Now that the ground work of the company has been laid, Ho and Jones are considering hiring another student to manage the operation. "We ran our legs off last summer," Ho said. "We're looking forward to getting a little help this year."

## Non-governmental organizations meet UN Secretary General



Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim (second from left) meets in his UN headquarters office with Homer Jack (U.S.A.) (at left) of the World Conference on Religion and Peace. Other representatives of the Non-governmental Organizations Committee on Disarmament who were present were: (from the Secretary General's left) Murray Thomson (Canada), Project Ploughshares; Serge Wourgaft (France), World Veterans Federation; and Nouri Abdulrazzak (Egypt), Asian-African People's Solidarity Organization.