

News briefs

Panarctic Oils Ltd., on behalf of 67 companies, has negotiated 20 exploration agreements with the federal government which will fund about one-half of a \$700-million (Cdn) program in the high Arctic over the next five years. Panarctic, owned 53 per cent by Petro-Canada, the Crown-owned oil company, will operate all the agreements, which cover about 14.37 million hectares. This is the largest package of exploration agreements concluded at one time under the new oil and gas legislation for the frontier.

According to a study for the Science Council of Canada, the private automobile is still the dominant mode of travel between Canadian cities and, in fact, is still increasing its share of the market. The growth of automobile use was halved to about 3.5 per cent annually after the 1974 oil embargo by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. But even that annual increase of about 5 billion passenger kilometres is greater than the total amount carried by the bus industry and almost double the total passenger traffic carried by rail. Despite efforts to conserve energy, the automobile has won about two-thirds of the annual growth, with the other third going to air travel.

Retail trade rose 1.1 per cent in September to a seasonally adjusted \$8.23 billion from \$8.14 billion in August, Statistics Canada reports. The latest month was up 4.3 per cent from an adjusted \$7.89 billion in September 1981.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed an \$80-million (US) line of credit with Tunisia. The arrangement will assist Canadian exporters competing for sales in Tunisia by providing Tunisian buyers with a simple and easily-accessible credit facility through the Ministry of Planning and Finance. The line of credit will parallel a \$20-million (Cdn) line of credit with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). EDC also signed a \$7-million (US) multiple disbursement agreement loan to support a sale of pulp and paper equipment and related services by various Canadian exporters to Pisa-Papel de Imprensa S.A. of Brazil. The loan will be used to finance commercial contracts up to the total value of \$8.2-million (US) to facilitate the purchases of goods and related services that will be used in the construction of a newsprint paper mill being built near Jaguariaiva in the State of Parana.



This saw-whet owl, injured from crashing into a windshield, was rescued by Bob Dale of North Gower, Ontario. The owl, now on the mend, rests on the shoulder of seven-year-old Angie Dale.

The formula for assembling a team for the prospective Canadian Football League franchise in the Maritimes has been approved in principle by CFL governors. The formula stipulates that each of the nine current CFL clubs would be allowed to protect no more than ten imports and ten non-imports from their final rosters after the 1983 season. The new club, called Atlantic Schooners, is hoping to join the CFL for the 1984 season.

There's new hope for paraplegics, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Albert Aguayo of McGill University, Montreal. Paralysis caused by damage to the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) has long been thought beyond repair. Yet in the peripheral nervous system, severed nerves can grow back and function again. Neurologists now think it may be cells surrounding these nerves that spur their regrowth. Dr. Aguayo has successfully regrown spinal nerves in rodents by bridging cut ends with a tube-like peripheral nerve sheath. The damaged nerves grew all the way through the graft. The next step is to see if they will function normally. Dr. Aguayo recently received the \$10 000 Wakeman Award "for research with the most promise for helping paraplegics".

According to *The Globe and Mail*, a weekly newspaper featuring exclusively Canadian news is now available in news boxes and smoke shops in the Tampa, Florida, area of the United States. The tabloid *Canada News* will provide two million Canadians living or vacationing in Florida with a summary of Canadian political news, sports and weather reports. The publication is edited and processed by the *St. Catharines Standard*, a Southern Ontario daily. It sells for 50 cents a copy and will also be available by subscription.

Canada Weekly is published by the Public Affairs Branch, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to the editor, Joanna Kerr.

Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias de Canadá.

Canada

ISSN 0384-2311