Britain's Royal College honours Canada's most distinguished nurse

A Canadian was among ten nurses elected by the Royal College of Nurses of the United Kingdom to receive official recognition during the College's diamond jubilee year.

Helen K. Mussallem, executive director of the Canadian Nurses Association, was the only nurse from outside Britain to receive an honorary fellowship from the College in a special ceremony in London recently.

The occasion marked the first time in the 60-year history of the College that it exercised its power to confer fellowships and honorary fellowships in recognition of exceptional contributions to the advancement of the art and science of nursing. The fellowship awarded to Dr. Mussallem was in recognition of "her work at international level in advancing nursing education and high standards of nursing practice."

The citation described her as "Canada's most distinguished nurse in her generation" and pointed out that: "She can equally well be described as a



Helen Mussallem (centre) who recently received an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Nurses, is seen above with Catherine Hall, RCN

nurse of the world, so generous has she been in accepting overseas assignments under the aegis of the World Health Organization and of other governmental and non-governmental bodies, executive secretary, and Winifred Prentice, the immediate past president, who presented the award in London, England.

also in responding to individual calls from the profession in various countries wishing to benefit from her vast knowledge of nursing education and deep understanding of the nursing process."

Guatemala semester for students of Simon Fraser University

Three professors and about 30 students from Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Burnaby, British Columbia will use Guatemala as their classroom this summer.

Offered for the first time under the auspices of SFU's Latin American studies program, the field semester will last two months, with eight courses from the program and three other university departments — modern languages, sociology/anthropology, and archaeology.

Co-ordinator for the field school is Dr. Marilyn Gates, of the sociology/anthropology department; the two SFU colleagues joining her are Dr. José Garcia, modern languages, and Dr. Herb Alexander, archaeology.

"The uniqueness of the field school program," explained Dr. Garcia, "lies in its interdisciplinary nature. The course common to all student participants other than Spanish majors will be an intensive Spanish-language course during the first semester of the field school. Being on location will

give the students excellent language practice, and local instructors will assist."

"We chose Guatemala," said Dr. Garcia, "because of its rich multicultural texture, and the lack of strong foreign influences there." Guatemala's rural culture is, apparently, still highly traditional; the field school will be located at Huehuetenango, a rural town in Guatemala's northern uplands, not far from the Mexican border.

The Central American country also will provide an opportunity for study to the participating archaeology and sociology/anthropology student majors. Guatemala is reputed to have some of the finest remnants of classical Mayan culture. "There is even a possibility of an invitation to our archaeology majors to participate in a mapping and excavation of an archaeological site," said Dr. Garcia. There will be field trips to acquaint the students with the people and different regions of Guatemala, and visiting speakers will talk on various subjects.

Canada/U.S. road agreement

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson announced the signature on February 10 of an agreement between Canada and the United States for a highway rebuilding and paving project in northern British Columbia and the Yukon. The notes exchanged were signed by the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, Thomas O. Enders, and by Mr. Jamieson.

The terms of the agreement call for the United States to provide funds for the reconstruction and paving: British Columbia, as its contribution, will provide the additional right-of-way required and the use of natural construction materials within its boundaries. The Department of Public Works will manage the project and will set up and administer the committees required to define construction schedules and procedures. When the roads are completed the Yukon territorial government will carry out the maintenance under agreement with the Federal Government. The United States Federal Highway Administration will review the program