

People

Human rights prize for international law professor

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a Canadian professor has been awarded the United Nations Human Rights Prize, the first Canadian to receive this honour.

Professor John Humphrey is Emeritus Professor of International Law at McGill University, Montreal. He was the first Director of the UN Human Rights Division, and played a key role in preparing and drafting the Universal Declaration which was adopted by the General Assembly in 1948.

Since returning to Canada in 1966, Professor Humphrey has been active in university teaching and working with non-governmental organisations. He has written extensively on human rights and international law, and in 1974 was awarded the Order of Canada.

Coins

Silver coin commemorates the bi-centenary of an epic journey

In 1789, Alexander Mackenzie made an epic canoe journey from Fort Chipewyan in Northern Alberta to trace the course of the river that now bears his name. Two hundred years later the Royal Canadian Mint celebrates this famous explorer and the

discovery of the Mackenzie River with a commemorative silver dollar designed by Ontario artist John Mardon.

Mackenzie, who was born in Scotland in 1764, went to North America at the age of ten and later joined a firm of fur traders. He took up a post on the Athabasca River as second in command to Peter Pond, a noted explorer in his own right. Pond believed that Cook's River in Alaska was the mouth of a large river that flowed westward out of the Great Slave Lake (now in the Northwest Territories to the north of Alberta).

Pond's theory fascinated Mackenzie, for, if correct, it would mean the river could provide a travel route from the interior to the Pacific. So Mackenzie mounted an expedition to test the idea, only to find that the river led to the Arctic Ocean, not the Pacific, as was supposed. Undaunted, four years later he set out on a second expedition westward from the upper reaches of the Peace River in Alberta. His plan was to cross the Continental divide from the watershed of the Peace to that of the Fraser, and then follow the Fraser to its mouth. However, on the advice of Indians he decided to complete the final leg of his journey overland. The trip was accomplished with astonishing speed and efficiency.

In 1799, Mackenzie returned to Britain where his 'Voyages' were published in 1801 and he gained a knighthood in 1802. He eventually married and retired to an estate in Scotland. But the Mackenzie River flows on - one of the great, but least known, rivers of Canada. With a length of 2650 miles, it is the second longest river in North America after the Mississippi, and its sparsely populated basin is one of the few great unspoiled areas of the world.



Actual size
36mm dia.

Art

Papworth hospital receives gift of Canadian art

Fourteen prints by the famous Canadian landscape painters known as the Group of Seven, were recently presented to Papworth Hospital by the Counsellor for Cultural Affairs at the Canadian High Commission.

These artists reached their zenith in the years 1920 to 1930, although there was prior influence from Tom Thomson. The works of Lauren Harris, A Y Jackson, Arthur Lismer and Fred Varley, are

probably some of the most representative paintings of a 'post impressionist' style which emerged in Canada the earlier part of this century. All of the works presented to Papworth Hospital come from originals housed at the National Gallery of Canada.

The gift was received by Dr Stark of Papworth Chest Unit and donated by the Canadian High Commission in memory of Roy Dunlop, Canadian author and broadcaster, who was a regular patient at the Hospital until his sad death late last year.

This spring saw a host of trade shows in and around London, at which Canada had a major presence.

Canada Marketplace '89, a unique event at which 35 Canadian high-tech companies met potential British buyers. The concept received praise from both sides of the Atlantic and will be repeated in other markets. At least one European distribution agreement has been signed already, which is expected to result in sales of about 2 million dollars over the next two years.



Models display Canadian garments at a Canada House fashion show. The event attracted more than 100 fashion buyers and agents - including world famous names such as Harrods, Liberty, House of Fraser and Next.

Hon John Crosby, Minister for International trade, dons a Billingsgate porter's hat at a Canadian exhibitor's stand during the International Food Exhibition, held at Olympia. This is the fourth year Canada has had a national stand where 15 Canadian companies exhibited products ranging from fish to biscuits, honey to blueberries.

