

SPIRALLING SALES SINCE '65

CAP has come a long way since it was set up in 1965. Since that time its annual sales have increased from approximately \$60,000 to over \$1 million and are expected to grow to \$2 million within three years. This is a remarkable achievement. Through the efforts of CAP, Eskimo art has found its way into the major art galleries of Europe and North America. Some seven hundred dealers in 11 different countries are supplied by CAP. Last year, the company provided material for 33 exhibitions of Eskimo graphic art, sculpture and handicrafts. Through these exhibitions people as far away as Europe and Australia got to know and admire your work.

As minister responsible for Northern Development I am fortunate to have the advice of the Canadian Eskimo Arts Council. I wish to pay tribute to its members not only for the advice they give me but also for their individual and collective efforts at promoting the image of Eskimo art....

PILOT HEALTH SCHEME IN THE YUKON

The Yukon Territory has been chosen as the test area for a proposed new health-data information system that is expected to be used eventually across Canada by the medical services branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare in Indian and northern health service programs, Yukon Commissioner James Smith announced recently.

The project, entitled "Health Data System Pilot Study", began in July, when a team of four health experts from the federal Department of National Health and Welfare spent ten days in the Yukon.

The system would eventually enable health officials to observe trends, problems, available services, etc., across Canada by merely glancing at a computer-prepared output. Such information is at present mainly compiled "by hand" - a method health officials find slow, cumbersome and inefficient.

HEALTH NEEDS INCLUDED

Areas of health care to be investigated and incorporated into the data system will include such diverse subjects as sanitation systems available in certain communities, the number of doctors and nurses in various areas, the amount of dental health care, and many other factors. Virtually no area connected with health services and health statistics is to be overlooked.

The pilot project in the Yukon is one of the results of a broader study of health in the North during 1969 by the Toronto consulting firm of Booz, Allen and Hamilton Ltd. They recommended that a process be developed to identify and define health needs, set health objectives and goals and monitor the progress made in meeting these objectives.

"The Yukon was chosen as the best place to implement such a system because the organization of both direct health care and public health care is

more highly developed and sophisticated here than anywhere else in the North," Commissioner Smith said. "We are very happy and proud to have the survey take place in our territory."

Information gathered will be used initially to identify health needs in the Yukon and evaluate the effectiveness of present health programs.

NATURAL GAS AS MOTOR FUEL

As part of its contribution to the fight against pollution, Bell Canada is experimenting with compressed natural gas in its vehicles as a substitute for gasoline.

Four telephone-repair trucks, two in Montreal and two in Toronto, have been equipped with conversion devices that enable them to use natural gas as fuel during a pilot study that began last month. The converted trucks will be the first in Canada using natural-gas fuel in normal operation.

Natural gas, when burned, emits a significantly smaller quantity of the major air pollutants, such as carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen, than gasoline. Though its use as fuel for stationary internal combustion engines is not new, its development for use in motor vehicles has taken place only during the past few years.

The purpose of the pilot study is to assess in Canada's climate, the performance of vehicles powered by natural gas and to study the economics of using natural gas in the 7,000 vehicles that Bell operates.

"With air pollution the problem that it is, we want to explore every possible way of helping clean up the atmosphere in our cities," said Bell vice-president Harry Pilkington. "If using natural gas provides a way of fighting air pollution, then we're going to take a good look at it. Obviously, we're not in a position right now to determine if natural-gas conversion would be the right thing for us to undertake on a large scale. It might not be economic with a fleet the size of ours, or there may be a better alternative. But this we won't know until after we've completed the tests."

DUAL OPERATION

Mr. Pilkington explained that for practical and economic reasons the Bell trucks have been converted to what is known as a dual-fuel operation, i.e. they will be able to operate on either natural gas or gasoline. Natural gas would be used in situations where pollution effects are most pronounced - in "stop-and-go" conditions of heavy traffic and congested urban areas. If, however, the vehicle was travelling on highways or required to travel beyond the range of the natural gas it carried, it could be switched to gasoline, by simply pulling a choke-like control located on the dash panel of the vehicle.