

cations, current technology, systems and services. Research and planning sessions will provide insight on future perspectives. An exhibit of earth stations and related products and demonstrations of line transmissions are also planned. Papers on a variety of session topics are now being solicited for presentation and publication in the conference proceedings. Enquiries should be directed to the Conference Chairman, Dr. Kamilio Feher, University of Ottawa, 770 King Edward Avenue, OTTAWA, KIN 9B4.

OTTAWA: THE "SILICON VALLEY" OF THE NORTH

A new advanced technology centre was opened recently in Ottawa, as part of a \$ 120 million technology programme launched by the Government of Ontario's Board of Industrial Leadership and Development. The programme provides for six new advanced technology centres in Ontario. Appropriately, the first of these has been opened in Ottawa which is sometimes referred to as "the Silicon Valley" of the north, because there are over 200 high technology companies in the area, including Bell Northern Research and Mitel Corporation. The new \$ 20 million Ottawa Centre specializes in silicon chip technology and is essentially a co-operative agency designed to give small and medium-size business an opportunity to apply expensive and advanced technology in their operations. One of its functions will be the design of circuits of semi-conductors (chips) for the manufacturing of products and processes.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

A supermarket in Nova Scotia is planning to use waste cardboard grocery boxes for heating. The provincial government, under its Pilot Projects Programme, is granting \$ 17,000 towards the total \$ 26,000 cost of the scheme. Plans are to install a hot water boiler, heat exchangers and associated hardware so that the annual 90,000 kilograms of corrugated cardboard boxes which the shop otherwise dumps in a local landfill site, is used instead to keep customers warm in winter. The supermarket was previously heated by an oil-fired furnace and a wood-fired unit which consumed 17,252 litres of oil and 190 cubic metres of hard wood a year. Annual energy savings are estimated at \$ 5,600.

