

Montreal twins tops in triathlon

The sensational Puntous twins of Montreal finished one-two in the women's section of the Ironman triathlon world championships held in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii recently.

Sylviane Puntous set a women's record for the 226.27-kilometre endurance test with a time of ten hours, 43 minutes and 39 seconds while her sister was clocked in 10:49.45.

The 22-year-old twins, sensations on the gruelling distance race circuits of North America, usually can be seen winning with their hands joined at the finish line.

But Patricia had a flat near the 113-kilometre mark of the bicycle race. Both women bettered the previous women's record of 10:54.08.

The race, considered one of the most challenging athletic events in the world, combines a 3.8-kilometre open ocean swim, a 180.3-kilometre bicycle race and a 42.2-kilometre marathon.

The sisters now plan to give up triathlons to begin training for the women's marathon at the 1984 Olympics.

Canada's religious history recorded

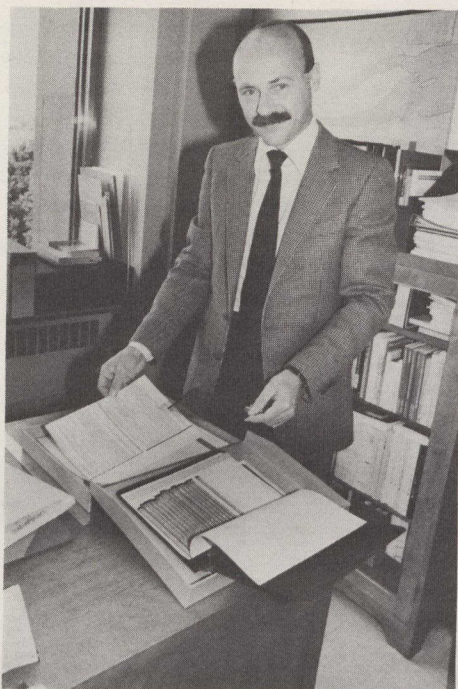
Under a joint project of the Public Archives of Canada and Ottawa's Saint Paul University, about 2 000 important documents relating to Canada's religious history are being made readily available to Canadians on microfiche.

The step marks the first time all religious documents from Canada during the period from 1622 to 1799 have been brought together and presented in a more accessible form.

Until now, the collection of correspondence has been stored in the Archives of the Sacred Congregation de Propaganda Fide (Propagation of the Faith) in Rome, a special department of the Vatican established in 1622 to promote the Catholic faith in the face of growing Protestantism. Those researching the religious history of Canada who went there for information had to sift through mountains of letters to find those pertaining to Canada.

In 1977, Luca Codignola, an Italian professor at the University of Pisa began searching the Vatican archives for historical correspondence from Canada.

He made copies of the documents —



Victorin Chabot helps to compile letters.

The Citizen

usually written in French, Italian or Latin — and attached to each a summary of their contents in English.

The Ottawa end of the project was carried out by Victorin Chabot, chief of the Public Archives' French archives section, and Reverend Pierre Hurtubise, director of Saint Paul University's Canadian religious history research centre.

The summaries are available on microfiche to researchers, libraries, religious communities and parishes for \$13.50. The accompanying documents will be available on microfilm within a year.

Together they provide a valuable record of early religious life and the struggle of orders such as the Capucins, Jesuits and the Récollets to survive.

Mr. Codignola will soon begin work on the next phase — nineteenth century documents.

Greenhouse effect poses threat

According to experts a predicted warming of the earth's climate — known as the greenhouse effect — could alter the landscape of Canada, flooding some areas and turning others into dustbowls, reports the *Canadian Press*.

While balmy temperatures will moderate Canada's cold winters, Prince Edward Island will probably be cut in half by a rising Atlantic Ocean and the Hudson Bay low lands could become the

country's foodbasket, studies predict. The arid southern prairies would get drier and many crops would be eliminated and possibly replaced by rangeland.

Scientists believe that such dramatic changes could occur world-wide because industrial air pollution is forming an insulating blanket around the planet.

The polluting gases — mostly carbon monoxide from the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, gas and wood — permit sunlight to reach the earth, but slow the natural escape of infra-red heat from the planet's surface. As a result, scientists say that the earth will heat up like a pot of flowers in a greenhouse.

Two US studies say the first effect of the global warming may be noticeable in a decade and severe changes will take place in the next century, possibly including mass movements of population.

Henry Hengeveld, adviser to Environment Canada on the issue, says the greenhouse effect "is the global environment issue of the century.

"For the first time, man will change his environment on a global basis."

Although experts predict that the amount of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere will double before the year 2100 and will probably raise the earth's temperature two degrees, the greatest effect will occur near the poles.

Southern Canada can expect a temperature increase of three to five degrees, while the north will be about ten degrees warmer.

Study on oil substitute

The federal government and the government of the Northwest Territories will fund a feasibility study to cost \$125 000 on the use of propane and natural gas as substitutes for oil in the Northwest Territories. The government of Canada will provide funding up to a maximum of \$75 000 and the Territorial government the balance.

The study, part of a \$19-million program of Federal Energy Initiatives for the North, was first announced by the federal government in April 1982. The initiatives were undertaken to assist the Territories in their efforts towards off-oil conversion and energy conservation, and involve among other activities the examination of local supply options for remote communities and the enhancement of existing energy programs to make them more responsive to northern needs.