

Trade update

Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher has announced the formation of 14 Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGIT) to provide a sectoral viewpoint on all trade matters and in particular on upcoming trade negotiations. The SAGIT will complement the work of the International Trade Advisory Committee.

Canadian Wheat Board Minister Charles Mayer recently announced that Canada will supply up to 4.5 million tonnes of wheat to Brazil under a new long-term agreement. During 1986, 1987 and 1988, Brazil has agreed to purchase between 750 000 and 1.5 million tonnes of wheat annually. Wheat is Canada's major export to Brazil, comprising 43 per cent of total exports to that country in 1984.

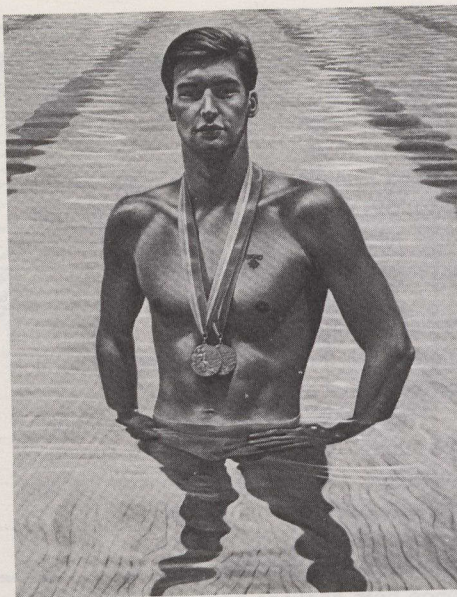
Fifteen Canadian companies will display various products and services at the Cairo International Trade Fair, March 8-21. They range from construction products, food, personal and home care products to engineering, computer and marketing consulting services.

Some 25 Canadian companies will be participating at the International Commercial Exposition (EXPOCOMER 86) in Panama City, March 12-17. In addition to food, beverages, liquors and tobacco, displays at the show will include a wide range of products, from clothing, sporting goods, toys jewellery and cosmetics to building and home products, computers and micro-computers, educational materials and banking services.

Agricultural Development Corporation (AGDEVCO) in Saskatchewan has been awarded a \$2.194 million contract to undertake a five-year project to improve dairy production, forage crops and soil on a large state farm in Heilongjiang, China. The contract is part of a \$3.73 million Canadian International Development Agency project for technical assistance to State Farm 852 which provides a livelihood for some 60 000 people.

Canadian exporters of health care products will be participating in a solo medical show in Cleveland, Ohio, on March 14. Some 200 institutional association procurement officers are expected to attend.

Funding for Olympians



A portrait of Alex Baumann of Sudbury, Ontario, double gold medalist in swimming at the Los Angeles Olympics and world record holder in the 200-metre and 400-metre individual medley events, painted by Ken Danby, a well-known Canadian sports artist, is available in limited edition signed prints and graphically designed posters. The Canadian Amateur Swimming Association plans to use the proceeds from sales to support the development of amateur swimming in Canada and for preparing for the 1988 Olympics.

News briefs

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark has announced that the government will provide \$3.2 million from 1986 to 1989 to upgrade the Yellowknife seismic array, which consists of a series of short period and long period seismometers, as a major Canadian contribution to monitoring an eventual comprehensive nuclear test ban (CTB). Yellowknife is recognized as a unique and sensitive location to monitor global seismic events including underground nuclear tests. The achievement of a CTB is a fundamental Canadian objective which Canada promotes multilaterally within the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

Corrigendum: the figures relating to the size and composition of the community of Canadians of Indian origin in Volume 2, No. 2, January 22, 1986, P. 2, were approximations only. According to the 1981 census there were 212 465 people of Indo-Pakistani origin in Canada and 61 785 were registered as Sikhs.

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External Relations Minister Monique Vézina recently announced that Canada will provide \$9.3 million from 1985 to 1988 to the Association of Community Colleges of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency for development projects in the Third World. Programs in a number of areas including health, agriculture, education, administration, communications, water supply, energy, engineering, and basic vocational or trades skills will receive funding.

The Canadian Society for Fifth-Generation Research has signed an agreement to exchange scientific, mathematical, and engineering information with the Tokyo-based Institute for New Generation Computer Technology (ICOT). "This will be the first agreement ICOT will have consummated with a foreign organization," said Peter Eggleton, a science and technology counsellor at the Canadian embassy in Tokyo.

Three Canadian writers, Margaret Atwood, Robertson Davies and Alice Munro were guests of honour at the forty-eighth annual International PEN Congress held this year in New York. PEN, which was founded in 1921 to link international writers, now has 86 centres in 55 countries.

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