

always complement these other techniques and may soon be introduced as a regular or routine study for those patients entering hospital suspected of having joint or bone disease. In addition to having greater sensitivity than X-rays and other isotope scans, the fact that polyphosphate shows the extent of the joint disease gives it an added advantage — it indicates where to X-ray.

The next step in Dr. Hawkins' research is to carry out experiments which should help to make the application and interpretation of the scan clearer and more specific. For example, at this stage it is still not known how soon the scan becomes "hot" after inflammation begins in a joint or how soon it becomes cool after healing begins. Nor do doctors yet know precisely what "hot spots" mean in a patient who has no symptoms referable to the area in question or whether the "hotness" of the scan accurately reflects the degree of inflammation. But despite these unanswered questions, the method as it has been developed thus far has proved an invaluable tool in the detection and evaluation of certain forms of arthritis and metabolic bone disease.

Eight calves, one donor

Alberta Livestock Transplants Ltd of Calgary, Alberta recently reported what it thinks is an agricultural first: the birth of eight fullblood Maine-Anjou calves, all brothers and sisters conceived by one female, but carried and given birth by seven different Jersey and Holstein mothers. There was one set of twins.

Although it is hoped to eventually export frozen fertilized embryos, the freezing process has not yet been per-

fectured. At the moment, Alberta Livestock Transplants is interested in developing the technology of embryo transplants. Maine-Anjou bull calves are, however, available for immediate export. Maine-Anjou heifer calves will be available for export in July.

Although experiments in embryo transplants have been going on for several years, the birth of the eight fullblood Maine-Anjou calves from one donor is believed to be the largest number of purebred Maine-Anjou calves born from a single operation.

The donor cow was stimulated by the use of hormones to produce a number of eggs, instead of the normal one or two. Five days after fertilization, the embryos were removed by delicate surgery and implanted in recipient females. The implantation is usually one embryo to one recipient, but it is possible to implant two eggs in a recipient if twinning is the objective.

Each egg implanted has similar brother-sister genetic potential and will not acquire characteristics of the recipient foster mother. There is no apparent difference in the growth of fetuses during normal pregnancies. Once the transplanted egg has been implanted into the recipient uterus, there is no more chance of rejection or abortion than there is during a normal pregnancy.

Just as artificial insemination was the technique used in the last decade for the propagation of the blood lines of superior bulls, embryo transplants offer similar possibilities in the 1970s for expanding the numbers of offspring which can be obtained from excellent dams.

Staggered hours for federal employees

C.M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board, recently announced that Federal Government departments in the Ottawa-Hull area had been asked to co-operate in the development and implementation of measures that would spread out the arrival and departure times of their employees to relieve heavy peak-hour pressures on the national capital region transit systems.

Departments and agencies have been encouraged to introduce, where feasible, staggered or flexible working hours or other measures that will spread out the arrival and departure

times of their employees — particularly in the downtown Ottawa area, where some 35,000 federal employees are located.

Deaths and causes

There were 162,413 registered deaths in Canada in 1972, an increase of 3.3 percent over the 157,272 recorded in 1971.

Cardiovascular diseases remained the most important cause of death, accounting for 49.1 per cent of all fatalities. The corresponding proportion for 1971 was 49.4 per cent. The proportion of deaths from cancer rose to 19.9 per cent from 19.7 per cent in 1971. Accidents were responsible for 7.9 per cent of deaths in 1972 compared to 7.6 per cent in the previous year. Respiratory diseases caused 6.6 per cent of deaths compared to 6.5 per cent in 1971.

Weekend hockey results

National Hockey League

Results February 23
Boston 6, Pittsburgh 2
Los Angeles 4, Montreal 4
Vancouver 4, Toronto 3
Detroit 5, St. Louis 3
Chicago 3, Philadelphia 1
Atlanta 5, Minnesota 3

Results February 24
Buffalo 3, Boston 2
Montreal 3, St. Louis 2
Los Angeles 3, Toronto 3
Detroit 5, NY Islanders 3
NY Rangers 3, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 4, Chicago 2

World Hockey Association

Results February 23
Houston 5, Edmonton 2
Cleveland 7, Vancouver 3
New England 3, Chicago 0

Results February 24
Minnesota 2, Cleveland 1
Winnipeg 3, Chicago 1
Houston 7, Vancouver 1
New England 2, Toronto 0
Quebec 7, New Jersey 4
Edmonton 5, Los Angeles 3

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2. An index appears quarterly.

Material may be freely reprinted, for the use of which credit would be appreciated; photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs.) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Ciertos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.