Special delivery service



This copy of an Upper Canada stage-coach left Ottawa recently for Toronto, recreating the Ottawa-Toronto mail run from the time of the mid-1800s. The coach carried letters of congratulations from former Prime Minister Trudeau and members of Parliament to Ontario premier William Davis and the people of Ontario. The journey is part of Ontario's two-hundredth birthday celebrations.

News briefs

Leading Canadian manufacturers and suppliers of offshore products, equipment and services will participate in the Offshore Northern Seas (ONS 84) Conference and Exhibition at Stavanger, Norway, from August 21-24. ONS is one of the world's major international offshore shows, alternating each year between Aberdeen, Scotland, and Stavanger. At last year's show in Scotland, 14 Canadian firms participated netting on-site sales of more than \$243 000, with follow-up sales exceeding \$5.5 million.

Canada will contribute an additional \$110 000 to help combat acts of piracy committed against Vietnamese refugees in the Gulf of Thailand. The funds will support an anti-piracy program sponsored by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross. The program provides financial assistance to Thailand's government and armed forces to conduct such activities as air and sea patrols.

"The Information Centre and Changing Technologies" is the theme of the fourth APL Users Meeting, to be held October 15-17, 1984 at the Westin Hotel, Toronto. I.P. Sharp Associates, the Toronto-based international software company, is expecting over 800 attendees from around the world. Keynote speakers will include author and lecturer James Martin who will share his views on changing technologies and methodologies and their relevance to the creation of a global information centre.

Commissioner General for the 1986 World Exposition, Patrick Reid, has been named "Marketer of the Year" by the Sales and Marketing Executives of Vancouver. In presenting the award, chairman Raymond Dagg commended Mr. Reid's efforts in promoting Expo 86 to the nations of the world: "Two years prior to Expo's opening day, 30 nations have agreed to participate in Vancouver's World Exposition. This is a remarkable achievement for Commissioner General Reid."

Expo 86 is offering a \$250 000 prize for innovation in the design of a personal land transportation vehicle capable of carrying an operator and at least one passenger. Organized by the Engineering Students' Union of the University of British Columbia, the competition is open to other engineering students from nations participating in Expo. Many new inventions have made their

debut at World Expositions since the first Great Exhibition of 1851, including the ferris wheel, elevators, and moving sidewalks.

Ten Ontario computer hardware and software companies visited New Zealand and Australia on a trade mission June 21 to July 6. The group was led by James Taylor, parliamentary assistant to Ontario Industry and Trade Minister Frank Miller. Participants visited Auckland and Wellington, New Zealand, before travelling on to visit four of Australia's industrial centres — Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

Ontario Industry and Trade Minister Frank Miller led six Ontario companies on a 14-day business mission to the People's Republic of China starting June 20. The delegation explored trade, industrial joint ventures and technology-transfer opportunities in China, which is now Canada's fifth-biggest overseas market. Mr. Miller said the mission begins a concerted, planned effort by his ministry to develop a long-term business relationship with China. It will be followed by other trade promotion activities later this year.

A talking, automated banking machine has been put into service by National Cash Register (NCR) Ltd. of Mississauga, Ontario. The NCR 5080 uses a human voice to lead customers through their banking transactions with instructions in both English and French. The machine has also been designed with a television-style screen to provide a graphic display of messages.

Ottawa's Norah Good has set a world record for the 3 000-metre run at the International Games for the Disabled held recently in Long Island, New York. Good captured the gold medal with a time of 11:35:93. She also won a silver medal in the 1 500-metre class B3 event. Her class is for people with between 3 and 10 per cent of normal vision. The Games are considered the Olympics for blind and amputee athletes. Kim Umbach of Cumberland, Ontario, won a bronze medal, finishing 35 seconds behind Good in the three-metre event.

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