

Canada Weekly

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Canada's high tech industry grows exponentially

Canada is not only keeping pace but is contributing to world-wide developments in high-technology as many Canadian firms are becoming leaders in this rapidly changing field.

Companies in the Ottawa-Carleton area especially, have been involved in creating and introducing new high-tech products to world markets and are expanding their services and facilities accordingly.

One company with a strong commitment to research and development in Canada, Bell Northern Research Limited (BNR), is expanding its facilities and constructing a new building that will more than double the size of its central research operation in Nepean near Ottawa, Ontario.

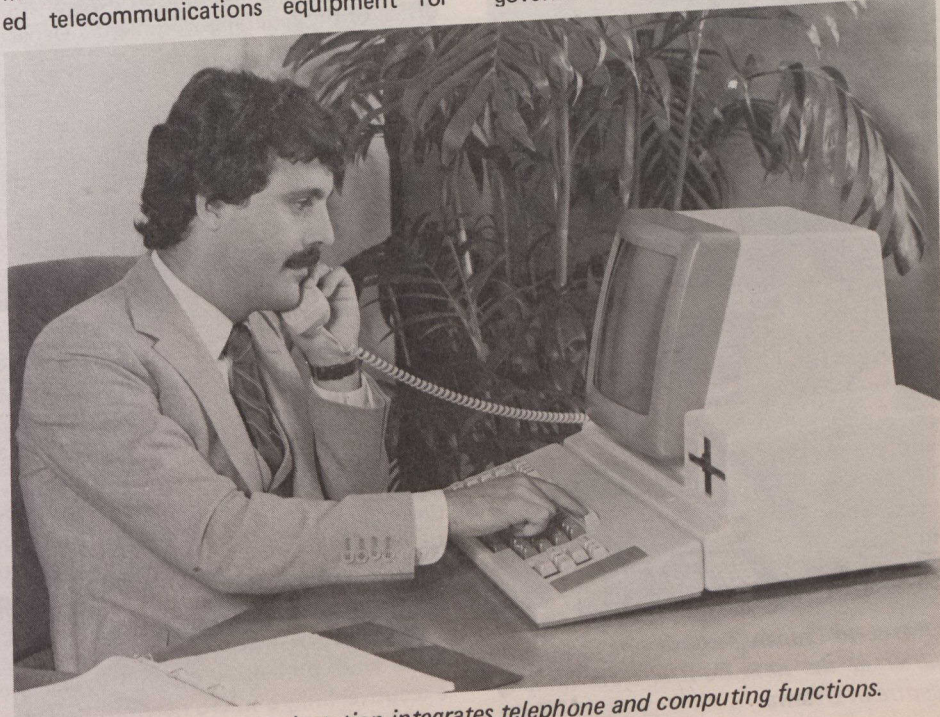
BNR is the largest private industrial research and development organization in Canada and one of the largest in North America, with other centres located in Montreal, Edmonton, as well as, California, Michigan, North Carolina and Texas in the US. BNR develops sophisticated telecommunications equipment for

Northern Telecom Limited, which is based in Montreal, and holds 70 per cent interest in the company. It also performs systems engineering and long-range planning for Bell Canada Limited, which holds the other 30 per cent interest.

Biggest high-tech project

The new building, scheduled for completion in 1984, is the largest private-sector, high-technology project undertaken in the Ottawa-Carleton area. The building has been specifically designed for research and development and projects there will concentrate mainly on "big-ticket" items that tend to be designed to order. About 20 per cent of the building will be used for electronic laboratories and the rest for software design development and similar projects.

BNR has also been involved in an advisory capacity in helping other firms become established in the high-technology sector. Recently the company developed a five-year business plan for the Ontario government's board of industrial leader-



Mitel's new executive work station integrates telephone and computing functions.



External Affairs
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ship and development (BILD) program which is establishing six centres in Canada to give small- and medium-sized businesses access to new technology and management data.

The plan outlines how the microelectronics centre in Ottawa, the first centre established by BILD, can help small- and medium-sized manufacturers obtain, understand and adapt custom-made semi-conductors so that they can be used to build new products.

The other centres, which are expected to be operational by the end of the year, are a robotics centre in Peterborough, a computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) centre in Cambridge, a resources machinery centre in Sudbury, an auto-parts centre in St. Catharines and a farm equipment and food processing centre in Chatham.

Another rapidly-expanding high technology company in the Ottawa-Carleton area, Mitel Corporation of Kanata, unveiled a new communications system and a new product this year and signed several agreements that are expected to increase sales of the company and create many new jobs.

New communications system

According to Mitel president Mike Cowpland, the firm's sophisticated communications system, called the *SX-2000*, is the first of a family of large switching systems designed to handle both voice



Instructor supervises student on computer at the new Control Data training centre in Ottawa.



The compact portable computer developed by Dynalogic Info-Tech Corporation.

and data transmissions. With the capacity to serve 150 to 10 000 telephone lines, the equipment can switch telephone calls and computer data as well as act as the core of an electronic office communications system.

Mr. Cowpland said that the equipment was two to three years ahead of products marketed by competitors and it also had the advantage of being 60 per cent smaller, both in size and power consumption, than anything of similar design.

The first field trial of the *SX-2000* began in October at the Ottawa district office of the federal government's Department of National Revenue.

Executive work station

Integrating the telephone and computing functions of the *SX-2000*, Mitel has developed an executive work station called *Contact*. The station combines electronic mail, time management, financial planning, data communications and word processing with voice telephony and operates with any analogue telephone system. It includes a 30-centimetre video display screen, full keyboard, telephone, micro processor and data storage in a single cabinet.

Contact is the first office product developed by Mitel using the new communications system but Mitel expects to expand the executive work system to include *Phonewriter*, a work station for administrative assistants that will have more word-processing capability, and the executive link, a micro-network designed to link *Contact* and *Phonewriter*.

Mitel also recently signed in principle two important agreements to apply the *SX-2000* switching system: one with International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) of Armonk, New York and the other with Scientific-Atlanta Incorporated of Atlanta, Georgia.

In the first agreement, Mitel will combine the *SX-2000* voice and data switching system with IBM's data and word processing expertise and develop a new family of office automation products. The possibilities for new products are unlimited, according to Mitel chairman Terry Matthews, and IBM and Mitel expect them to be the communications heart of the office of the future. As such they would integrate many products that were previously incompatible, including: data, voice, video, electronic mail, voice and message switching, local area networks, and remote printing.

In the agreement with Scientific-Atlanta, Mitel will design, manufacture and market a satellite communications system called *Skyswitch*. The system will combine satellite and telephone/data switching technologies for business and long-distance communications. One of the features of the system will be that companies with remote branches will be able to communicate voice or data via satellite through "skytrunks".

Compact computer marketed

Another company in Nepean, Dynalogic Info-Tech Corporation, is also expanding rapidly and building a new plant in the

(Continued on P. 8)

Canadians conquer Mount Everest

Two Canadians, in separate attempts, have reached the summit of Mount Everest, the highest point in the world.

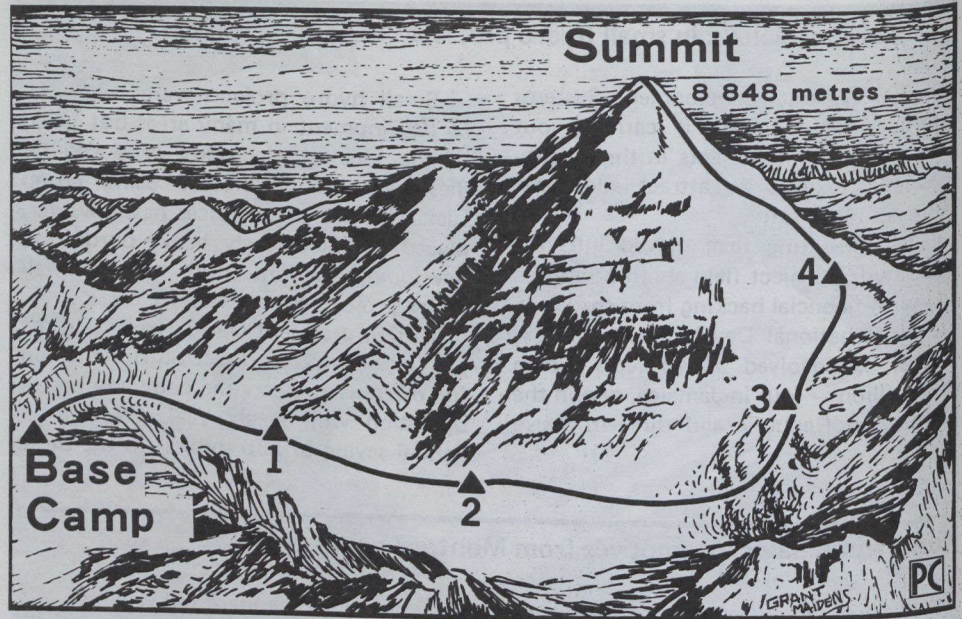
Laurie Skreslet, 32, of Calgary, Alberta and Sherpa guides Sungdare and Lhakpa Dorje were the first to the top on October 4. Three days later Patrick Morrow of Kimberley, British Columbia and two other Sherpa guides reached the summit.

The two Canadians were members of the eight-man Canadian team which was the twenty-sixth expedition to complete the 8 848-metre climb to the top since Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay first stood on the summit in 1953. Other members of the team included: expedition leader William J. March and David Read of Calgary; deputy leader Lloyd Gallagher and Alan Burgess, who was in charge of climbing and also made an attempt to reach the top falling short by 457 metres owing to equipment failure, of Canmore, Alberta; Gordon Smith of Golden, British Columbia; and Dwayne Congdon of Invermere, British Columbia. The Canadian climbers were accompanied by 16 Sherpas.

Other Canadians assisting the venture either in Kathmandu, Nepal or at the base camp, were expedition manager John Amatt of Canmore, base camp manager Peter Spears, cook Kurt Fuhric and *Calgary-Herald Southam News* jour-



Laurie Skreslet was the first Canadian to reach the summit.



Map of Mount Everest showing base camp and four campsites.

nalist Bruce Patterson. Dr. Stephen Bezruchka travelled as far as the second camp.

Major funding for the climb came from Air Canada which was the official sponsor of the event, and more than 100 companies contributed donations and equipment. Teleglobe Canada set up transmission equipment at the site and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation paid for television rights.

Used South Col route

The Canadian team made the climb up the traditional South Col route after abandoning plans to scale the mountain via the South Pillar route which no one has ever scaled to the summit.

Early in the expedition, the team had been ahead of schedule, but the weather and the deaths of three Sherpas and North Vancouver cameraman Blair Griffiths cut short the advance. A lingering monsoon season dumped snow on the mountains for nearly two weeks, creating several avalanches, particularly on the Khumbu icefall.

The icefall, a two-kilometre glacier is one of the major obstacles facing Everest climbers and is considered one of the most intimidating stretches of terrain in the mountaineering world. As the heavy snows slowly push down the mountain faces, enormous pressure builds up on the glacier below, where it is forced between a narrow gap in the mountains and over a steep ridge. Numerous crevasses and ice towers are created on the glacier. It was an avalanche rolling down the mountain that killed the three Sherpas on the ice-

fall and a falling serac — an ice tower — that killed Mr. Griffiths.

Following the tragedies six members of the original Canadian team decided to leave the expedition.

Five camps set up

Base camp was established by the Canadians on a rocky moraine at 5 846 metres above sea level — only slightly lower than Canada's highest mountain, Mount Logan in the Yukon. From there it took two days of scouting and three days of climbing to push a route through the Khumbu icefall and establish camp one above the icefall at 6 023 metres. The Canadians and Sherpas set bridges over the crevasses in the icefall and anchored them deep into the snow to provide a "highway" for transporting food and equipment to camps above.

Three more camps were set up, one more above the Khumbu icefall at 6 641 metres and two on the South Col. The fourth campsite at 7 925 metres was only 923 metres from the summit.

In order to receive permission to use the South Col route, the Canadian team was required to wait above the Khumbu icefall for the four-man team led by Peter Edmund Hillary, the son of Sir Edmund, to proceed ahead through the Western Cwn (Cwn is a Welsh word meaning valley) in its bid to scale the 8 371 metre Lhotse, a sister peak of Everest.

From the fourth camp, the two small groups of climbers made their final assault on the mountain ascending the sharp Southeast Ridge to the South Summit, past the treacherous Hillary Step and

on to the summit of Everest. The Canadian climbers chosen to make the final ascent were the fittest of the climbers.

During the final climb the climbers each carried two oxygen tanks plus supplies in case they were forced to camp overnight on the way back from the summit. Weather conditions for both climbs were reported ideal by expedition officials in Kathmandu.

Mr. Skreslet said the last steps in reaching the summit in high altitudes are the toughest, even though the climbers are equipped with oxygen masks. "You'll take one step and then you'll inhale, then another and you exhale and you feel like you can't go another step," he said.

Congratulations were sent to the climbers by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and from the other members who had left the expedition.

In his telegram, Mr. Trudeau said the climbers had "captured the imagination of all Canadians and the attention of the world" in the climb.



CP Laserphoto

Pat Morrow reached the summit of Mount Everest on October 7.

One of the Sherpas with Mr. Skreslet, Sungdare, established a world record by reaching the top of Mount Everest for the third time.

(CANEVEREX, the promoting agency for the expedition have various items for collectors in commemoration of the success of the Canadian expedition — pins, crests, decals etc. All proceeds go towards the cost of the expedition. Orders should be sent to CANEVEREX at 1801 McGill College Avenue, Suite 530, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1N3.)

Big business in recycled tires

British Columbia firms are turning discarded tires into usable products, reports the *Canadian Press*.

Some of the 2 million to 3 million rubber tires discarded each year in that province are being recycled into such diverse products as floating docks, fences and recreational floors.

Last year, Topper Floats of Delta, British Columbia processed 25 000 rubber tires for floating docks, platforms and mooring buoys.

Using a patented process, the company filled tires with polystyrene beads, then steam-pressed them to bond and evenly distribute the material that causes the tires to float.

Tire casings protect the material from marine growth, petroleum products and damage caused by debris and tides.

Don Downie, who owns and operates I and D Enterprises of Kelowna, British Columbia, makes rubber fencing from discarded tires.

This type of fencing is highly recommended by veterinarians to prevent injury to animals.

Rubber floors

North-West Rubber Mats Limited makes rubber flooring from tires in a converted barn on the Pitt River.

The plant, which opened in 1968, runs 24 hours a day, producing recreational flooring that can be used in ice arenas, gymnasiums for weightlifters and stables. Also manufactured are grooved horse trailer mats and mats for pickup trucks. The mats are shipped across Canada and the United States and as far away as Panama and New Zealand.

North-West also regrinds its die-cutter trimmings, with old fire casings, to produce experimental road-paving material of rubber and asphalt, originally developed in Sweden.

The rubber additive helps provide longer highway wear, more flexibility and reduces winter frost heaves. The mixture has been used in Saskatchewan and the United States.

Roads paved with new material

Last summer, three test strips totalling 735 metres were paved in Victoria, British Columbia as a demonstration area, using a combination of hot asphalt and rubber grindings.

The joint project between Victoria and

the provincial environment ministry is being monitored by the US highways administration laboratory in Vancouver, Washington.

OK Tires of New Westminster, British Columbia is one of the largest tire recyclers in the province, using about 158 000 radial and bias-ply tires a year.

Used tires, particularly radials, are not always in good supply. To meet the quota of 3 040 retreaded tires a week, three shifts work around the clock, inspecting thousands of tires for flaws such as cuts or damage to the sidewall and cord. Almost 60 per cent of the tires are rejected.

Funding for science centre

The federal government will contribute \$5.35 million towards construction of the Sudbury Science Centre which is expected to be a major tourist attraction in northern Ontario.

The funds, to be made available to the \$23.5-million project in fiscal year 1982-83, include \$4.1 million towards the capital cost of the project, \$1.25 million from a special employment fund and \$350 000 for displays from Energy, Mines and Resources Canada of seismic monitoring equipment and a weather monitoring unit from Environment Canada. An additional sum of up to \$100 000 will be contributed on an annual basis to the operating costs of the federal displays.

The \$5.35-million federal contribution joins \$5 million from INCO, \$1 million from Falconbridge, a \$7-million Lottario grant and \$3 million from the Ontario government in the form of an endowment grant. The centre is seeking private donors to make up the rest of the capital cost.

When in full operation, the centre located in Sudbury, Ontario, will produce directly or indirectly 130 jobs with a payroll of \$2.6 million. The estimated impact on the tourist industry in northern Ontario is estimated at 220 person-years in jobs and an additional \$11 million to the regional economy.

The Science Centre will be a world class facility containing outstanding educational, scientific and technical displays. It will employ a unique design concept and will represent a new step in the evolution of science museums. Incorporated in the centre's display program will be the Big Nickel Mine, a major exhibit of mining science, history and technology.

Company specializes in small hydro projects

Canadian Energy Development Systems International (CEDSI) is carrying out nine small hydro projects in three countries and expects to attract additional business in the future.

The consulting firm moved into the small hydro project field about two years ago with financial backing from the Canadian International Development Agency. CEDSI is involved in projects worth \$60 million — four in Jamaica, two in the Dominican Republic and three in Sierra Leone.

Small hydro projects were once vital to development in many areas but faded in the face of electricity produced by diesel-powered generators using cheap fuel. The rise of oil prices has, however, placed an increasingly heavy burden on developing nations and makes small hydro projects attractive once more.

CEDSI president David Henry said the pay-back period in direct oil substitution for the nine projects the company has in operation will be six years creating an annual saving of \$10 million to the three

countries.

In addition, the projects may also assist in food production by providing irrigation systems for small farmers and agricultural processing plants using the electricity generated by small projects.

A typical project can be completed in two to three years for \$10 million to \$20 million compared to the vastly higher costs and longer time required for major hydro projects, said Mr. Henry.

Most small projects involve diverting water through canals to the generating site. A natural difference in height of land provides the "head" of water to drive the generator. The higher the source of water fed through the turbines of the generator, the more power can be developed. In large-scale projects, the "head" is created by building expensive dams to back up vast lakes.

The World Bank intends to spend \$10 billion this decade on engineering studies for \$200-billion worth of small hydro projects to be carried out during the years 1990-2000. Mr. Henry said he expects CEDSI to win a number of contracts for these projects.

Tunisia purchases locomotives from Montreal company

Bombardier Incorporated of Montreal was recently awarded a \$26-million contract for 22 diesel-electric locomotives for the Tunisian National Railways Corporation (SNCFT).

The order is to be financed on a competitive basis mainly by the Export Development Corporation. In addition, the Canadian International Development Agency is contributing some funds within its \$150-million development co-operation program with Tunisia.

The contract consists of 13 *MXS 264* locomotives with a net power output of 2 200 horsepower for metric railway and nine *MXS 620* locomotives of 2 400

horsepower for standard railway.

The locomotives will be produced in the railway products and diesel division of Bombardier's Montreal plant and deliveries are scheduled for the end of 1983.

Other Bombardier locomotive sales include those to Brazil, \$54 million; Mexico, \$100 million; and New Jersey and Portland, Oregon in the United States for \$84.6 million and \$21.6 million (US) respectively. Currently Bombardier is stepping up its marketing, mainly in the United States and overseas, with a target of reaching about 20 per cent of the world market.

Canada-US co-operate on tar sands

Canada and the United States have signed a two-year, \$1.2-million co-operative research agreement on heavy oil and tar sands development.

The agreement falls within the terms of reference of a memorandum of understanding for co-operation in research and development signed by both countries in 1979. Participating in the co-operative program are the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Saskatchewan Department of Energy and Mines, the Alberta Oil Sands Technology and Research Authority and the United States Department of Energy.

Recovery of petroleum from tar sands and heavy oil deposits is difficult and expensive. The joint research program will evaluate recovery processes using steam injection into reservoirs enhanced by various additives. Initial experiments will be conducted in the United States on small-scale laboratory equipment; the most promising processes then will be tested in large-scale reservoir simulators at the Alberta Research Council in Edmonton.

Program activities will be managed by a co-ordinating committee with membership from both countries and costs will be shared equally.



One of the locomotives Bombardier sold to Mexico City for use on its subway system.

Ships' captains plan for historic anniversary

The captains of 20 of the world's great sailing ships met in Quebec City in October to make plans for the four-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Jacques Cartier's initial exploration of the St. Lawrence river.

The meeting was the first conference held by the captains whose ships serve as training schools and represent such countries as Argentina and the USSR. The last time the ships assembled was in New York in 1976, to celebrate the United States' bicentennial year. The gathering of sailing vessels in New York was estimated to have attracted 6 million people and it is anticipated that large numbers will visit Quebec when the ships assemble for the 1984 celebrations.

A summer festival is planned in 1984 and the training ships will travel up the St. Lawrence for a six-day visit to Quebec. The festival will commemorate Jacques Cartier's voyage in 1534 from the French port of St. Malo to the St. Lawrence where he claimed North American territory — the extent of which was unknown

— for his king, Francis I.

The federal, Quebec and municipal governments are co-operating in the plans for 1984 and they are sharing the \$150 000 cost of the October captain's conference.

In the anniversary year, plans are that the sailing vessels will assemble at St. Malo and then sail across the Atlantic, making calls at Halifax and Gaspé on their way to Quebec. To make it easier for them to navigate the St. Lawrence, they will travel up-river in convoy. The group of graceful, tall-masted ships will provide the outstanding spectacle of the anniversary but a series of additional events are planned by the Quebec 1534-1984 Corporation that already is at work from headquarters in Quebec City.

A challenge race for yachts of uniform design representing the ten Canadian provinces is planned as well as a trans-Atlantic sailing race for Formula 1 yachts from Quebec to St. Malo.

Quebec City will be the centre of the 1984 celebrations because it became the capital of New France as a result of

Jacques Cartier's sixteenth-century voyages. Under the French government and the succeeding British regimes, Quebec City developed into a major port where in a single season 1 439 vessels dropped anchor.

The old French port of St. Malo, in Brittany, now is a favourite place for Canadians visiting France because of its charm and its association with Canada's early colonial days. The MacDonald-Stewart Foundation in Montreal, which devotes itself especially to the restoration and preservation of historic places in Quebec, has located the stone manor house in St. Malo where Jacques Cartier lived, and it now attends to its maintenance as a historic site.

(Article by William Stewart in Canadian Scene, September 10, 1982.)

Clothing import restrictions

Short-term initiatives intended to restrict selected clothing imports to Canada for 1983 have been announced by the federal government to help preserve jobs and enable the domestic industry to continue the work of industrial adaptation begun in 1981.

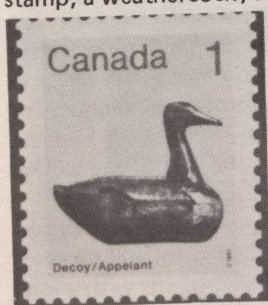
The Canadian Industrial Renewal Board, with funding of \$250 million over the next five years, was established in 1981 to assist the clothing and textile industry's efforts to rationalize and modernize and to increase productivity and restrain prices. Temporary assistance has become necessary for the industry, however, owing to the impact of increased imports during 1982 and current difficult economic circumstances. Employment in the industry has become seriously affected with a loss of some 27 000 jobs, a reduction of 15 per cent in the past year.

In the new measures, the government has invoked the consultative clauses in Canada's bilateral restraint arrangements with its four principal suppliers: Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China and the Taiwan Textile Federation. In discussions with these countries, the Canadian government will negotiate lower levels of clothing imports for selected product areas where the import competition facing the Canadian industry is particularly serious.

At the same time, the government is conscious of the needs of Canadian consumers and is satisfied that they will continue to be able to obtain a wide range of reasonably priced, quality garments.

New stamp issue features heritage artifacts

Canada Post has issued a new set of six low-value definitives featuring Canadian artifacts. In addition to illustrating aspects of life in bygone days, the artifacts shown on the stamps also pay tribute to those who preserve and make known the culture of Canada's past. The one-cent stamp features a decoy; the two-cent stamp, a fishing spear; the three-cent stamp, a stable lantern; the five-cent stamp, a wooden bucket; the ten-cent stamp, a weathercock; and the 20-cent stamp, a pair of skates.



World renowned classical Canadian pianist dies

Glenn Herbert Gould of Toronto, acclaimed as one of the world's most brilliant, innovative and eccentric pianists, died on October 4 following a stroke.

Mr. Gould was a celebrated classical musician with a repertoire that included hundreds of pieces by a wide range of composers. His foremost interests were the works of Johann Sebastian Bach and twentieth-century composer Arnold Schoenberg.

The stroke came only two days after Mr. Gould celebrated his fiftieth birthday by releasing a new recording of his own interpretation of Bach's *Goldberg Variations*. His first recording in 1954 had also been the *Goldberg Variations* and his interpretation at that time staggered other pianists and musicians. It also made the music of Bach both accessible and enjoyable to music listeners and contributed to a revival of interest in the music of Bach. *Time* magazine said that the recording "was Bach as the old master himself must have played" and *Newsweek* described the performance as "sensitive and superb".

Child prodigy

Mr. Gould demonstrated perfect pitch and the ability to read music at the age of three. He graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Music when he was 12, the youngest graduate in the school's history with the highest standing in the country. He won his first piano competition at the age of 11.

The concert *début* of Mr. Gould was as an organist in a recital at the Eaton Auditorium in Toronto in 1945. His piano *début* in Toronto took place the following year but it was not until the success of his first appearances in Washington and New York in 1954 that he decided to become a concert pianist.

On stage, in addition to his superiority as a pianist and interpreter, Mr. Gould attracted attention for his casual and extraordinary mannerisms. He usually sat at the piano in an awkward slouch with his legs crossed on a low chair that almost placed him below keyboard level and he had a habit of humming unmusically while performing — something he seemed to be quite unaware of and incapable of eliminating even for recordings. Engineers had to devise methods for muting the sound of his voice.

Although Mr. Gould retired from a concert career in 1964, his artistry conti-



Glenn Gould's cut-off chair placed him below keyboard level at the piano.

nued to enliven the international music scene through the numerous recordings he made. There have been few musicians of any nationality whose recorded output has remained so long on the active list.

In his recordings, Mr. Gould felt he was fully in control and able to manipulate all the variables to his own advantage. He insisted that interpretation could remain fixed, immutable; that it was possible to set down, for all time, one's ideas about a given masterwork confident that these would never alter. Through his records, he brought a sense of excitement and discovery to music which contributed to the high esteem felt for him by so many music lovers.

It was not only through his piano performances that he won international acclaim. To a lesser degree, he was known as a harpsichordist and organist. On the radio he acted as narrator, performer, deviser, producer and writer, in programs ranging from musicological and critical assessments of composers such as *Arnold Schoenberg — The Man Who Changed Music*, to analyses of little-known Canadian regions like *The Ideas of the North*. His television appearances were also known for their similar variety. Mr. Gould was a composer of four musical works and a writer whose articles appeared most frequently in *High Fidelity* magazine and Toronto's *The Globe and Mail*.

Museum receives craft collection

A major collection of contemporary Canadian crafts has been donated to the National Museum of Man by the Massey Foundation.

The collection, assembled during the past six years, represents the work of over 200 craftsmen and consists of almost 900 individual objects from all regions of Canada. Works from the common craft media such as wood, glass, textile, metal and leather are included. The collection acknowledges the renewed interest in the crafts which are now flourishing in Canada and the high standard being achieved by professional Canadian craftsmen.

The National Museum of Man is preparing the collection for a major travelling exhibition to be mounted within the next two years. The collection will also be a source for further publication, exhibition and research to enhance the prestige of the fine crafts and provide greater exposure of this work to Canadians.

This donation coincides with the recent publication of the book *The Craftsman's Way* which explores the lifestyles and work of many contemporary Canadian craftsmen.

Arts briefs

The Grey Fox, a Canadian film directed by Phillip Borsos, won the top prize, the Italian Critics' Prize, at the Taormina International Film Festival in Sicily, recently. In addition, actor Richard Farnsworth received the best actor award. The film will be distributed to the US and Canada by United Artists Classics.

The 1982 Charlottetown Summer Festival presented at the Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, set attendance records this year with four productions led by Lucy Maud Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*. The musical, starring Thea MacNeil as the freckled Prince Edward Island orphan, was presented for the eighteenth consecutive season. The new Alan Lund musical, *Singing' and Dancin' Tonight*, also enjoyed a successful engagement and will tour six major Canadian centres in 13 weeks beginning February 1983.

Second City TV (SCTV) recently won the Best Writing Award for a television program in 1981 at the annual Emmy Awards presentation.

Canada's high tech industry

(continued from P. 2)

area, in an attempt to put its new portable computer, the *Hyperion*, on the market as quickly as possible.

The computer weighs only nine kilograms and its compact 22-by-25-by-46-centimetre size allows it to fit under an airplane seat. It is twice as powerful as small units now on the market and it is the first portable unit compatible with the IBM personal computer, which can use software developed for that machine as well as software developed by Dynaloc. Further, it is competitively priced at about \$5 000 (US).

Initial reaction to the *Hyperion* was very favourable when it was introduced at the US COMDEX trade fair in Atlantic City, New Jersey at the end of June, and sales of some 6 400 units are expected by the end of July 1983.

Training

In an operation designed to let potential computer operators, programmers and technicians teach themselves more about computers, Control Data Canada Limited has opened its fourth Canadian centre, the Control Data Institute in Ottawa.

Students at the institute are able to learn at their own pace, using the computerized *Plato* learning system developed by Control Data. They work at a video display console linked to a powerful mainframe computer in Toronto with enough capacity to simulate conversation between student and computer. Students can also be directed to appropriate manuals, books or videotapes for pertinent information. Within a year, courses will be offered to the general public as well as workers already in high-tech industries.

In the travel industry, an Ottawa area firm, Ottawa/Algonquin Travel is installing computer terminals that will make it the first electronic travel agency in the area. In 1981, the agency purchased a membership with the Woodside Group of Travel Agencies, a world-wide network of 62 independent travel agents that specializes in business travel but is not limited to it. Ottawa/Algonquin Travel is connected by terminal to Woodside's computer centre in Boston linking it with other travel agents and 24 different world-wide reservation systems including hotels, airlines and car rental firms.

News briefs

In three federal government by-elections on October 12, the Conservative Party took two of the seats and the New Democratic Party one. For the Conservatives, Jennifer Cossitt received 54 per cent of the vote to win the seat in Leeds-Grenville and John MacDougall won the seat in the northeastern Ontario riding of Timiskaming. Lynn McDonald won for the New Democratic Party in the Toronto riding of Broadview-Greenwood. As a result of the by-elections the Liberals hold 146 seats in the House of Commons while the Conservatives now have 102 and the New Democratic Party 33. There is one independent.

New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield led the Progressive Conservative Party back to power in a provincial election held on October 12 winning 40 of the Legislature's 58 seats. The results of the election represented an increase of ten seats over the 1978 election for the Conservatives while the Liberals dropped to 17 from 28 seats and the New Democratic Party won its first seat ever in the province. Over-all, the Conservative Party increased its popular vote across the province by 5 per cent. The victory gives Mr. Hatfield an unprecedented fourth term as premier of New Brunswick.

The Export Development Corporation has made a \$75 000 (US) allocation under a line of credit with Banco de Chile to support a sale by Forano Incorporated of Plessisville, Quebec, to Agricola Y Forestal Flor Del Lago S.A. (AFFL) of Chile. The \$102 574 (Cdn) sale involves the supply of one *Model 900* twin circular saw for use in a sawmill operated by AFFL.

The federal government has awarded funds up to a total of \$3.96 million to the Saskatchewan Power Corporation to help finance the expansion of natural gas distribution systems. The Saskatchewan corporation has received federal funding for 14 gas extension projects primarily in the eastern-central and northwestern regions of the province.

Farmers in the prairie provinces will harvest their largest grain crop in history this year. United Grain Growers Limited, a prairie grain elevator co-operative, has forecast that farmers will harvest \$44.8-million tonnes of grains and oilseeds this fall — about 20 per cent better than the average in the last five years.



Posing as a robot, actress Abby Hagyard appears as the "ideal hi-tech secretary" as she demonstrates a new electronic typewriter as part of a promotional scheme in downtown Ottawa.

A McGill professor has become the first Canadian to be named president of the International Law Association (ILA). Dr. Nicolas Mateesco Matte, director of the university's institute and centre of air and space law, was elected to the position for a two-year period at the association's annual conference in Montreal. Since 1972 Dr. Matte has been president of the Canadian branch of the ILA.

Karen Strong-Hearth of St. Catharines, Ontario placed in the top ten of the recent world cycling championships for the fourth time in her career. She placed eighth in the four-lap race in Goodwood, England, about 42 seconds behind winner British cyclist Mandy Jones.

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