

Canada Weekly

Ottawa
Canada

Volume 10, No. 22
June 2, 1982

Canadian climbers ski to top of Chinese mountain, 1

Work safety data computerized, 3

Northern oil deal announced, 3

Canada co-hosts OECD ministerial meeting, 3

Nature park for disabled, 4

Speaking through Telidon, 5

War Museum acquires medals of Canadian flying ace, 5

Fashion prizes presented to outstanding designers, 6

Post office issues three new stamps, 6

Rum waste for fuel, 6

News of the arts — awards, new concert hall, 7

News briefs, 8

Canadian climbers ski to top of Chinese mountain

A team of 16 Canadians will mount an expedition this September to climb to the summit of Mount Everest. Canadian mountaineers preparing for the expedition have already made successful trial climbs on Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, Mount Annapurna IV in Nepal and Mount Muz Tagh Ata in China. In the following article, Patrick Morrow, one of four Canadians who took part in the climb of Muz Tagh Ata last September, describes the team's experiences during that expedition.

Ours was the first Canadian mountaineering expedition to enter China. Four of us, members of the 1982 Canadian Mount Everest Expedition, sponsored by Air Canada, undertook the ascent of Muz Tagh Ata, rising 7 456 metres in the Chinese Pamir, as a training climb.

The leader of the climb, John Amatt, business manager of the Everest expedition, had obtained permission from the Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA) for the group to visit this remote part of the country. Lloyd Gallagher, another team member, had enjoyed a memorable career as a guide for Canadian Mountain Holidays. He had spearheaded the successful Canadian Pumiri Expedition of 1977 in Nepal. Dr. Stephen

Bezruchka, the group's climbing doctor, having practised for several years at a health centre in the remote western hill region of Nepal, was well prepared for any mountain emergency we might encounter. Pat Morrow, a professional adventure photographer and a dedicated cross country skier, was the only one of us to bring nordic equipment to climb the mountain.

China's national airline, CAAC, took us the 4 200 kilometres to Urumqui, capital of Kinjiang autonomous region, then another 1 450 kilometres across China's largest desert, the Taklimakan, to the city of Kashgar, situated on the ancient silk route.

Our goal, the Pamir region, is to the



Mount Muz Tagh Ata rising 7 456 metres and Little Karakul Lake.

Pat Morrow



External Affairs
Canada

Affaires extérieures
Canada



The Canadians, travelling by camel, approach Muz Tagh Ata.

west of Kashgar and forms a geological structure in which the great Tian Shan, Karakorum, Kunlun and Hindu Kush mountain system radiate. (Pamir means a high intermountain plateau-like valley, hemmed in by parallel mountain ranges.)

A ten-hour ride took us through the Gez Defile, the steep canyon between Mounts Kongur and Chakragil of the eastern Pamir. We dusted ourselves off on the shores of Little Karakul Lake where Muz Tagh Ata rose vertically above us out of the Sarikol Valley. This valley is the home of the Kirghiz, a once nomadic tribe who have large herds of sheep, yaks, camels and horses. Kirghiz legend tells of Janaidar, an ancient city on top of Muz Tagh Ata, where fruit trees bear



Team members John Amatt and Steve Bezruchka ski along the mountain.

year round, flowers never wither, and people remain youthful forever. This story contrasted with the valley where we were shivering in the cold breeze in spite of our heavy clothing.

In four attempts on the mountain in 1894, the Swedish explorer, Sven Hedin reached 6 278 metres. Having arrived at that altitude on the broad back of a yak, he contended that the secret of freedom from the troubles of altitude is the avoidance of bodily exertion.

However well acclimatized his yak may have been, it lacked the technical prowess needed to thread its way through the crevassed field on the lower slopes of the mountain, and the climber and his hairy mount were turned back.

Camels used

Ours was the fourth successful climb of the mountain after Chinese, Russian and American parties. Nine camels and several drivers were recruited from the fields to carry us and our supplies to base camp at 4 420 metres. Our liaison officer, Song Zhi-Yi and interpreter Tien Sheng-Yuan, remained at base while we prepared to establish camps higher up the mountain. Mr. Song had been to 8 200 metres on Qomolangma (Mount Everest) on the CMA's ascent of that mountain in 1975, so he had as much altitude experience as anyone on our team.

Next day, we made a vain attempt to drive three camels to the snowline. They faltered 150 metres above base camp, and we were left to carry the loads on our own backs.

We prepared a snow platform for our tent at 5 330 metres and sat out a two-

day storm, catching up on some reading and getting a little rest. The effects of altitude were beginning to show — most of us experienced intermittent headaches, nausea, and slept poorly. The increasing altitude demanded complete concentration and a maximum output of energy. Advance a ski, rest, take three or four breaths, advance the other ski... and on and on.

Push to the summit

Several days of endless horizons brought us to Camp Four at 6 705 metres. This was the highest any of us had camped. We pondered the fact that on Everest the challenging climbing begins above this height! We spent a day in our sleeping bags preparing for a summit push the next day.

The morning dawned clear and cold -30 degrees Celsius. We gulped fluids and put on our skis and started slowly for the top. With his fingers frost-nipped from putting on his skis, John returned to the tent.

The snow was windpacked, and as we entered a high basin, the weight of our bodies forced the snow to collapse. A horrible renting sound ripped through the basin. Breathless, we stared at the upper slopes looking for a fracture line. Miraculously, no avalanche had been triggered. We pushed on another seven hours on the rock-hard snow with the wind clawing viciously at our backs.

And then came the reward. Instead of the lost city of Janaidar, we saw a lovely mushroom of rime ice reaching 46 metres

(Continued on P. 8)



John Amatt, the expedition's business manager, inside the tent at base camp.

Work safety data computerized

Labour Canada recently inaugurated a computerized service to provide up-to-date information on workplace hazards as well as other occupational safety and health data.

The service is available to workers, employers, government, workplace health and safety committees, and the general public. It is provided through a computer terminal located in Labour Canada's headquarters, linked to a major world-wide data base developed by the International Labour Organization in Geneva. The Canadian data base is managed by the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) in Hamilton, Ontario.

The terminal is being installed, on an experimental basis, to supply information on a wide range of occupational health and safety questions, including safe job conduct and dangerous substances.

Terminals have been or will be installed in various centres across Canada by the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. Future CCOHS plans call for terminals which would allow users to "converse" with the computer in order to explain better their information requests.

Northern oil deal announced

Esso Resources Canada Limited of Calgary and ten Canadian companies will participate in a \$600-million exploration program over the next five years in the Mackenzie River delta-Beaufort Sea region.

The deal, covering six exploration agreements between Esso and the federal government, is the first since passage late last year of the Canada Oil and Gas Lands Act, the new federal program for petroleum activity on frontier lands.

The agreements cover six million acres of land both onshore in the Mackenzie delta and offshore in the Beaufort Sea.

Land returned to government

At present, the entire acreage is shared 86 per cent by Esso and 14 per cent by Petro-Canada. Under the energy legislation, half of the land is turned back to the federal government, with 25 per cent relinquished after the third year and 25 per cent after the fourth year of the agreement.

Under the deal, Esso will farm out a major portion of its own lands to ten

Canadian companies with Home Oil Company Limited of Calgary acting as the operator.

The remaining partners are Canaland Energy Corporation, Bralorne Resources Limited, Oakwood Petroleum Limited, Spitzee Resources Limited, Valley Industries Limited, Bow Valley Industries Limited, Westcoast Petroleum, 107180 Canada Limited, the oil and gas arm of Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, Argyll Resources Limited, and MLC Oil and Gas Limited.

Esso Resources' parent, Imperial Oil Limited of Toronto, controlled by Exxon Corporation of New York, is the only U.S.-controlled multinational represented in the agreement with a 10 per cent share.

Petrocan's 14 per cent interest is not

affected by the announcement.

Assuming the companies make commercial discoveries and go to the production phase of development, and counting in the 25 per cent Crown share interest in all frontier lands, Esso would effectively wind up with 37 per cent of production of oil and gas. The federal government would have 25 per cent, with 14 per cent for Petrocan and the remainder divided among the remaining partners in the farm-out arrangement.

Between 60 and 70 per cent of the \$600-million exploration program — in effect more than \$400 million — will be funded by federal petroleum incentives which provided grants worth up to 93 cents for every dollar of exploration by companies with at least 67 per cent Canadian ownership.

Canada co-hosts OECD ministerial meeting



Mr. Gray (left) and Mr. Asling speak with reporters following the closed door sessions.

Canadian Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion Herb Gray, along with his Swedish counterpart, Neil Asling, co-hosted a recent meeting of regional development ministers from member countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The sessions afforded the 19 national representatives, 15 of them of ministerial rank, the opportunity to have a frank exchange of views on current regional issues, both at the conference table and on a one-to-one basis. The meetings addressed the growth of protectionism and the wide differences of opinion on regional devel-

opment ranging from the free market economies to those that are highly structured.

Traditional regional problems have recently been complicated by massive sectoral disruption — for example, the North American auto industry has been hard hit by world-wide recession and increased international competition.

On the Canadian front, Mr. Gray explained that more than \$500 million would be spent in the next three to four years through the federal Industry and Labour Adjustment Program and the Canadian Industrial Renewal Board to meet the problems of regionally concentrated sectoral decline.

Mats Jonell

Nature park for disabled

A lodge and camping area designed especially for use by the handicapped was opened last October in Alberta's Kananaskis Provincial Park, southwest of Calgary in the Rocky Mountains.

The \$1.7-million resort is the first public park in North America with both indoor and outdoor facilities designed for use by the disabled.

Located on high land overlooking Lower Kananaskis Lake, with a view of the Spray Mountains dominated by Mount Indefatigable, the complex accommodates 40 overnight visitors in cedar cabins and others in a 15-unit campground for tents.

William Watson Lodge

The William Watson Lodge complex includes two-bedroom and three-bedroom cabins and a main building with dining and sitting areas, fireplace, kitchen, library, laundry facilities, sundeck and first aid room. The cabins also have kitchens and sundecks with barbecues.

Special facilities throughout the complex include railings and grab bars, raised toilets, lowered sinks and light switches, tilted mirrors, front controls on stoves, free space under sinks, 30-inch wide doorways, ramps or flat entrances and hard-packed trails free of barriers to those in wheelchairs.

The trail system around the lodge, linking picnic areas, a fire circle and scenic lookouts, will be covered with asphalt this year.



Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed accompanied by Mrs. Lougheed (centre) and Mrs. Marguerite Watson (left), officially open the centre.

The nearby Mount Lorette Ponds have been deepened and stocked with trout. Wheelchair access is provided to the ponds by flat asphalt roads and paths. Plans are in the works to make fisheries at Sibbald Creek, Ford Creek and Grotto Mountain Pond accessible to the disabled.

The lodge was named for an author and lecturer whose research laid the groundwork for vocational training schools for the disabled across Canada.

Born in Clydebank, Scotland, in 1904, Mr. Watson was paralyzed in both arms from birth and later lost the use of both legs. His family moved to Canada in 1911



Mr. and Mrs. Lougheed and Mrs. Watson (left) stand on verandah of the main hall of the William Watson Lodge. The verandah offers a view of the Spray Mountains in the Canadian Rockies.



Alberta Labour Minister Les Young and two disabled visitors inspect the recreation and accommodation facilities of William Watson Lodge.

Alberta government photos

and settled in Fort MacLeod, Alberta where he learned to swim and ski and to write with both his toes and his mouth.

After graduating from high school with honours, he earned a law degree from the University of Alberta in 1928 but was denied the opportunity to articulate because of his disability.

Mr. Watson devoted the rest of his life to improving social and environmental conditions for the disabled. He died in 1965.

Speaking through Telidon

The federal Department of Communications is working on the establishment of a Bliss/Telidon system that would provide the disabled with access to the same information that other users can obtain through Canada's two-way television technology.

When Charles Bliss invented a visual code allowing users to create messages by choosing appropriate symbols, he invented speech for those who cannot communicate verbally.

The speech-impaired comprise a variety of groups, including the cerebral-palsied, the aphasic, the mentally retarded, the deaf, the autistic and the multi-disabled. All of them need a quick and easy means by which they can communicate and be taught.

Visual symbols

Blissymbolics is just such a means. It is a visual-symbol system which has been expanded by the Blissymbolic Communication Institute (BCI) of Toronto to include some 1 500 standardized symbols.

The means for communicating the Bliss code has taken several forms to date. The first was a display board presenting an array of coloured symbols which fit on the user's wheelchair or was used at his work station. The most recent is a federal project using Telidon videotex technology.

Herb Bown and Bill Sawchuk of the Communications Research Centre, have developed a terminal generating Blissymbol displays by writing a text and graphics protocol, "Picture Description Instructions", which is the heart of the Telidon system.

Bliss/Telidon system

The department's goal is the establishment of a Bliss/Telidon system at the BCI. The system components would include Telidon videotex terminals with the capability of generating text, graphic and Blissymbol displays, a data base containing Bliss educational content and information provider terminals.

The user terminals would be able to communicate with other terminals as well as to access data on public and private data bases. They would be designed to accept a number of custom-designed switches, which make it possible for a range of users to operate the system. A joint venture between BCI and Telidon will eventually allow the speech-impaired to have access to the same information and services available to all Telidon users.

War Museum acquires medals of Canadian flying ace

The medals of Captain Arthur Roy Brown, a Canadian flying "ace" in the First World War, have been purchased by the Canadian War Museum, in Ottawa.

The generosity of 275 former Canadian service personnel or their families made the acquisition of the medals possible.

Shot down Red Baron

Captain Brown was an outstanding fighter pilot during the First World War and was one of only 12 Canadians to be awarded a bar to the Distinguished Service Cross. He was considered by many to have been the man who shot down Baron Manfred Von Richtofen, the "Red Baron" of Germany, and he received the bar in June 1918 for this act.

The accompanying citation, as was customary, omitted the enemy pilot's name. It read: "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On the 21st April 1918, while leading a patrol of six scouts he attacked a formation of 20 hostile scouts. He personally engaged two *Fokker* triplanes which he drove off; then, seeing that one of our machines was being attacked and apparently hard pressed, he dived on the hostile scout, firing the while. This scout, a *Fokker* triplane, nose dived and crashed to the ground. Since the award of the Distinguished Service Cross he has destroyed several other enemy aircraft and has shown great dash and enter-

prise in attacking enemy troops from low altitudes, despite heavy anti-aircraft fire."

The Distinguished Service Cross was presented to Captain Brown in September 1917. The citation referred to several aircraft that he had shot down during the month and also to one occasion just prior to the squadron's return to Dunkirk, when Brown dove on four enemy aircraft about to attack a comrade, and with both guns jammed, simulated an attack and drove them off.

In all, Captain Brown was credited with shooting down 13 enemy aircraft.

Brown was born in Carleton Place, Ontario in 1883. After obtaining his private pilot's licence in 1915 from the Wright Brother's Aviation School in Dayton, Ohio, he joined the British Royal Naval Air Service which became the Royal Air Force on April 1, 1918. He served as a flight commander with the No. 9 (Naval) Squadron and then the No. 209 Squadron which was equipped with *Sopwith Camels*.

After the war, Captain Brown was posted to the staff of a flying school in England. A near-fatal crash ended his career as a fighter pilot in July 1918 but his interest in aviation remained and he later organized General Airways which operated a small airline between Noranda, Quebec and Haileybury, Ontario.

Captain Brown died in Stouffville, Ontario in 1944.



Three medals awarded to Captain Brown: (left to right) Victory Medal, 1914-1918 Medal and the Distinguished Service Cross and Bar.

Fashion prizes presented to outstanding designers

A Montreal designer was presented the top prize at the first annual Clairol Fashion Awards held recently in Toronto.

The honour went to Dita Martin, a native of Austria, who specializes in suede and leather garments. Miss Martin received a one week, all-expense paid trip to Paris to meet several renowned couturiers in their own salons, plus \$2 000 in cash.

The Clairol Fashion Awards are intended to recognize promising young designers. To be eligible for the compe-

tion the entrants had to be working as designers for more than two years and less than five, have their own label, or create a line for a manufacturer whose clothes are sold at retail level.

Twenty-one of Canada's top designers showed samples of their latest creations at the awards dinner.

A second seal-of-achievement award was made to veteran Montreal designer Leo Chevalier, judged by Canada's fashion media to have made the most outstanding contribution to the fashion

Post office issues three new stamps

Canada Post Corporation has issued three new definitive stamps — two for domestic use and one for overseas mailing.

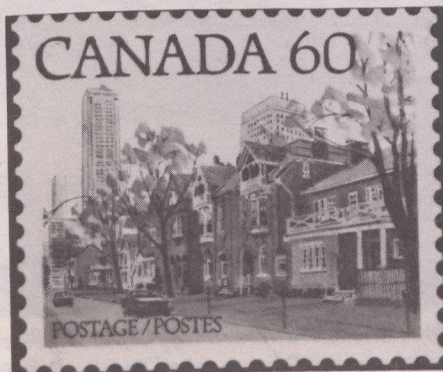
The domestic letter-rate stamps will portray Queen Elizabeth II or a maple leaf. The design on the 60-cent overseas letter-rate stamp depicts an urban street scene in central Canada.

The 30-cent Queen Elizabeth II stamp is the latest in a long series of Canadian stamps featuring the sovereign. Although the very first Canadian stamp was the famous Three-penny Beaver of 1851, the second and third postage stamps, issued the same year, portrayed Prince Albert and Queen Victoria respectively.

Queen Elizabeth II first appeared on a definitive stamp in 1953, following her accession in 1952. The new stamp was designed by Heather Cooper, based on a sculpture by Jaroslav Huta.

The second 30-cent stamp depicts a maple leaf, the symbol of Canada. People began to make this association very early in the country's history. Early travellers admired the bright colours of maple leaves in autumn, and in the spring delighted in maple syrup, which the Indians introduced to the Europeans. In 1805, the *Quebec Gazette*, described the maple leaf as the symbol of French Canadians and a year later *Le Canadien* spoke of it as an emblem for Canada as a whole. In 1934 the St. Jean Baptiste Society of Lower Canada adopted the maple leaf as its emblem. Upper Canada accepted the maple leaf more slowly; nevertheless, in 1847 the Reverend John McCaul of Toronto called it "the chosen emblem of Canada". In 1860 citizens of Toronto displayed maple leaves to greet the Prince of Wales. In 1867 Alexander Muir composed *The Maple Leaf Forever*, and in 1868 maple leaves appeared on the coats of arms of Ontario and Quebec. To represent their nationality, Canadian soldiers in both world wars displayed the maple leaf. It gained ultimate sanction as a national symbol when it became the central element in the design of Canada's national flag, proclaimed in 1965. The maple leaf stamp was designed by Raymond Bellemare of Montreal.

The last stamp, with a value of 60 cents, depicts a street scene in an Ontario city. Previous stamps in the medium value series produced by Canada Post showed street scenes of a town on the prairies, a city in Quebec, and a city on the Atlantic coast. Tom Bjarnason of Toronto designed the new stamp with the delicate line work of the illustration in one-colour steel engraving on a background of three-colour lithography.



industry.

The judges also asked that two other young designers, Albert Shu of Vancouver and Tim Jocelyn of Toronto, be given special mention for their promise in the design field.

Miss Martin's collection — although not as trendy or eye-catching as some of the entries — was labelled by judge Keitha MacLean, editor of *Flare Magazine*, as the one that met the criteria of good, solid workmanship along with a lasting quality.

Miss Martin's trio of mustard-toned suede co-ordinates banded with buttery leather and her cherry-red suede coat dress won applause for its fine detail and attention to classical lines.

Mr. Shu, an active member of the Western Canadian Fashion Designers Association and a partner in the Fashion Workshop in Vancouver, showed a collection in black-and-white wool checks and series of caramel-toned silk day dresses concentrating on intricate detail.

Mr. Jocelyn, specialized in one-of-a-kind designs using his talent in multi-coloured embossed, inlaid, handcrafted and embroidered sculpture on jackets and dresses. He showed designs ranging from casual to evening wear.

Rum waste for fuel

A Nova Scotia distillery tested a system last summer that produces methane from waste molasses left over from rum production, reports Chris Wood in *Canadian Renewable Energy News*.

By next year an anaerobic digester, called Biothane, may turn a 27-million litre disposal problem for Acadian Distillers, into a considerable energy resource. The Biothane digester utilizes bacteria that turn molasses waste into methane.

The distillery, located in Bridgetown, was assisted by a federal-provincial energy agreement in a pilot program that successfully turned 909 litres a day of liquid molasses waste into methane.

The distillery owned by Standard Brands of Canada generated 113 650 litres of waste molasses every day during the summer months while making rum spirit. At present the waste is sprayed on fields as fertilizers.

The company is currently looking at the feasibility of using a \$600 000 full-scale digester that would feed methane directly into one of the distillery's two main boilers.

Medical films take prizes

Two Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) television programs have won awards at the John Muir Medical Film Festival in the United States.

Reconnective Surgery, from *The Nature of Things* series with David Suzuki, was named best film on microsurgery. *David*, from the series *Man Alive*, won in the category, best film on special people.

Reconnective Surgery, filmed in Canada and China, was produced by Michael Bennett and directed by James Murray, executive producer of *The Nature of Things*. It was written by William Whitehead.

David, winner of ten other international awards, is about David McFarlane, a young man with Down's syndrome. The film was produced, directed and written by Tom Kelly.

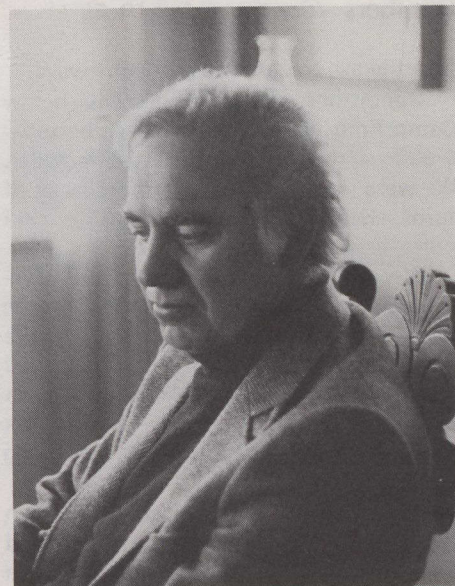
The CBC was the only broadcasting organization to win more than one award.

Canada-Australia award

Fiction writer Leon Rooke has been presented the 1981 Canada-Australia Literary Award which is given alternately each year to Canadian and Australian writers and includes \$3 000 (Cdn.) and a trip to Australia.

Designed to familiarize Canadians and Australians with each other's writers, the award is made for the writer's total production rather than for a single work and there are no restrictions on genre — novelists, playwrights and poets are eligible. The country receiving the award nominates six writers from which a jury from the other country chooses a winner.

In Canada the award is funded through the Department of External Affairs as part of its program for the promotion of Canadian literature in foreign countries and administered by the Writing and Publishing Section of the Canada Council. Australian funding comes through the Australian Council.



Kathleen Williams

Leon Rooke

Short story writer, novelist and playwright Leon Rooke was born in North Carolina in 1934 and has lived in Victoria, British Columbia since 1969 and is now a Canadian citizen.

Although Leon Rooke has been writing short stories since the 1960s and has written nearly 100, he is best known for his first novel *Fat Woman* (1980), which was nominated for the Governor General's Award for Fiction.

In 1981 Rooke published a short story collection called *Death Suite*, and another novel *The Magician in Love* and he, along with John Metcalfe, edited the 1981 and 1982 editions of *Best Canadian Stories*. A new novel, *Shakespeare's Dog* is scheduled for publication later this year.

Rooke has had several plays produced as well, including *Ms. America* which played recently at Factory Lab Theatre in Toronto.

Arts awards presented

The Canadian Conference of the Arts recently presented its annual awards for outstanding service to the arts in Canada.

Mario Bernardi, conductor of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, G. Hamilton Southam, founding director general of the centre, Betty Oliphant, artistic director and ballet principal of the National Ballet School in Toronto and Louis Archambault, a sculptor from Montreal, were awarded the 1982 Diplomes d'Honneur, the highest prizes of the Canadian Conference of the Arts.

New concert hall to open in Toronto this fall



Canadian Government Office of Tourism

Roy Thomson Hall, a new \$39-million concert hall seating 2 800 people, will open September 13 with an inaugural performance by the Toronto Symphony and Mendelssohn Choir. Formerly known as New Massey Hall, the building encompasses 9 000 square metres on a one-hectare site, with a glass exterior providing heat in winter through solar intrusion. The complex contains a main auditorium, rehearsal hall, musician support areas and libraries, change rooms, offices and on-site parking for 400 vehicles. Special features include a 5 207-pipe organ with an electronic memory system, 1 080 square metres of sound-absorbing banners, continental seating and special facilities for the handicapped. The stage accommodates more than 100 musicians with room for an on-stage choir. Located in the city's downtown core, the hall will serve as permanent home for the Toronto Symphony and Mendelssohn Choir, as well as being used by touring performers and for community purposes.

Climbers (Continued from P. 2)

into the air, frozen into a pristine wave.

Conditions for our descent below Camp Four could not have been better — 1 520 vertical metres of heavy powder. We were inspired to carve a short series of turns, always ending hunched over our ski poles, gasping for breath.

We arrived at base camp and celebrated our success with probably the most appreciated banquet of the entire expedition. Mr. Song and Mr. Tien had seen us descending and prepared a feast of stir-fried vegetables (they had brought a wok with them) with rice and Kinjiang Pijiu, a Chinese beer.

After the climb, we spent a week in the Sarikol Valley, where we enjoyed Kirghiz hospitality. People invited us in to their felt-covered yurts for tea and fermented yak's milk, and through sign language we managed to develop friendships.

Back in Beijing, six weeks after our expedition began, we were addressed and congratulated by Shi Zhan Chun, vice-president of the CMA, who himself climbed Muz Tagh Ata in 1956. He toasted us in the Shaanzi Province room of the Great Hall of the People: "I hope that through this expedition, friendship between Chinese and Canadians will continue to develop."

News briefs

Energy, Mines and Resources Canada has approved the drilling of a wildcat well approximately 300 kilometres east of St. John's, Newfoundland. The well, named Mobil et al Bonanza M-71, will be drilled with the semi-submersible drilling unit *Zapata Uglan* in an estimated 201 metres of water to a projected depth of 564 metres. Mobil Oil Canada Limited will be the operator of the well. Petro-Canada Exploration Incorporated and Gulf Canada Resources Limited will also participate.

An additional one million homes across Canada are now eligible for grants under the federal Canadian Home Insulation Program (CHIP). The announcement changes the eligibility date in most provinces from January 1, 1961 to January 1, 1971 — adding to the insulation program all of the homes built in Canada during the 1960s. CHIP provides up to \$500



Claudia Kerchhoff (right) winces as she splashes through the rapids in her kayak as companion Dirk Van Wijk (left) watches before he makes the same venture. Both are members of the Canadian Whitewater Kayaking Team and were practising the sport along the Jock River near Ottawa.

for insulation improvements in homes of three storeys or less.

Digital Equipment of Canada Limited of Kanata, outside Ottawa, has added a new small computer system to its product line. The VAX-11/730, with prices starting at about \$60 000, operates on the same programs as the three larger members of the family. This means that computer users who bought the more powerful VAX-11/750, 780 and 782 systems can use the new "super minicomputer" in remote locations.

Health and Welfare Canada has announced grants totalling \$2.2 million for 316 New Horizons projects. Twenty-five groups will use the funds being presented on the tenth anniversary of the New Horizons program to dispel some myths about old age. Since its beginning, the program has funded about 17 000 projects chosen by groups of retired people for the benefit of themselves and others in the community. New Horizons encourages self-determination and community involvement of retired people with the accent on local needs and interests.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) provided insurance, guarantee and financing services totalling \$4.4 billion in 1981, a record high and a 26 per cent increase over the 1980 figure. In the corporation's annual report, tabled recently in Parliament, Sylvain Cloutier, chairman of the board and president, described 1981 as "a year of determined effort and notable achievement". EDC is a Canadian

Crown corporation that provides a wide range of insurance and bank guarantee services to Canadian exporters and arranges credit for foreign buyers in order to facilitate and develop export trade.

Freelance science writer Lydia Dotto has won the Ministry of State for Science and Technology's annual Science Journalism Award. The \$1 000 prize was presented at the Canadian Science Writers' Association annual meeting in Montreal and was awarded in recognition of Ms. Dotto's article *Thinking Small* which appeared in the November/December 1981 issue of the University of Toronto publication *The Graduate*. The award is designed to encourage excellence in science writing and to promote public awareness of science and technology.

Canada Weekly is published by the External Information Programs Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to the editor, Joanna Kerr.

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

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticario de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.

Canada

ISSN 0384-2312