

# Canada Weekly

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## Arctic housing problems lead to innovative construction

Once a year in late summer a boat pulling crate-laden barges arrives in the tiny western Arctic settlement of Holman Island.

For a hectic few days, another year's supply of goods from the South is unloaded on the dock. It is a scene repeated in all the Inuit villages scattered along the Arctic's vast coastline. Besides packaged dry goods, food staples, appliances, and hardware for the Hudson's Bay stores, the barges are also loaded with crates of building supplies and components. The Arctic has few indigenous construction materials, so virtually every board and nail must be imported from the South.

Since the early 1950s when the Inuit first began to live in permanent settlements, they have relied on prefabricated housing units built in the South and shipped North for re-assembly. In an earlier age they simply built small but efficient winter shelters — snowhouses — and lived in skin tents or sod houses in summer. But as the Inuit abandoned their nomadic existence for a life in fixed communities, their housing needs changed drastically.

### Crude housing

The first communities were crude shacks built of scrap materials left by the white men who had come to the North. Whole families crowded together in cramped quarters. Contagious infections and pernicious diseases such as tuberculosis were rampant.

In response to this crisis, the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs shipped small, one-room houses some 26-square metres to the new settlements. Later, these "matchboxes" were followed by larger one- to three-bedroom units of up to 66.8-square metres. Both the "matchboxes" and the larger bungalows were provided to the native people at low rents under the federal government's northern housing rental program.

Although better than scrapyards shacks, the buildings from this early housing program were crude dwellings by southern



*In mid-August, barges with prefabricated housing components are unloaded on the ice-rimmed shore of Holman Island.*

standards and certainly not the final answer to native housing needs.

In 1974, the Northwest Territories government, through its newly formed Northwest Territories Housing Corporation (NWTHC), took over responsibility for northern housing from the federal government. Its mandate was to "make available an adequate standard of housing to all residents of the Northwest Territories". It was a formidable task for the fledgling organization considering the harsh Arctic environment, the lack of building experience in the North, and the special needs of native peoples adapting to a foreign lifestyle.

Temperatures may plummet to an icy -30 degrees Celsius or colder during much of a winter that lasts seven months. Gale force winds howl through settlements unprotected by trees or other natural barriers. It takes a sturdy house to withstand the constant battering of fierce Arctic storms.

But by far the biggest environmental problem for designers of northern houses

CMHC



External Affairs  
Canada

Affaires extérieures  
Canada



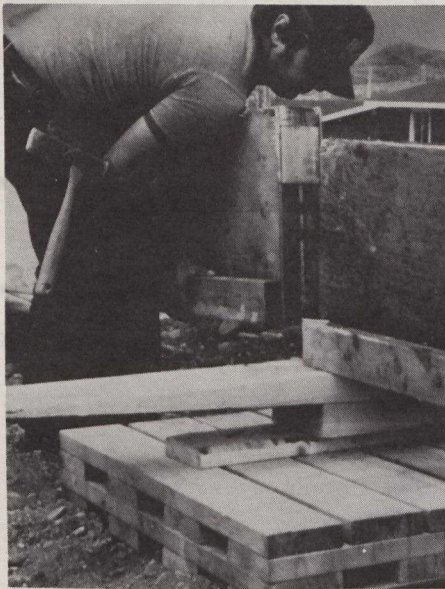
is the permafrost, or permanently frozen ground, that underlies most of the Northwest Territories. Permafrost areas have two distinct layers — an upper or active layer that freezes and thaws with the seasons, and a lower layer that may be more than 100 metres thick in places and remains frozen.

A slight change in the environment and the loss of insulating vegetation, for example, can start the permafrost thawing and turn once-solid ground into a muddy bog. Foundation problems arise when the heat from a house placed directly on the permafrost causes the frozen soil to melt. As a result, the house starts to sink into the mud.

The permafrost problem is usually tackled in one of two ways. First, by constructing houses on piles sunk deep into the frozen ground — an effective but expensive method. Or, by the more common method of erecting housing on insulating gravel pads. However, ice often remains embedded in the gravel, creating an unstable foundation as it gradually thaws, and wreaking havoc with joints and woodwork.

#### Brief construction time

Another major obstacle for northern builders is the short construction period in the Arctic, a mere four or five months at the best of times. Moreover, there are few indigenous materials with which to build houses in the tundra, nor are there as yet enough skilled tradespeople in the North to build housing components. This means that materials must be imported over great distances from the South to be



*The house is lifted off the permafrost layer by gravel bed and wood footings.*

assembled before the first winter storms.

To offset these problems, northern houses are usually prefabricated in the South and shipped to the Arctic in easy-to-assemble panels. Needless to say, the transportation costs, handling accidents, and shipping delays all add to an already inflated construction bill.

With the support of the federal government through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the NWT HC is attacking northern housing problems in several ways. It has initiated a major rehabilitation program to bring existing houses in the North up to standard and to make them more energy-efficient. Architects in consultation with northern communities are creating innovative building designs, specifically adapted to northern conditions. Through extensive training programs, the NWT HC is fostering the growth of a local construction industry as a means of lowering the exorbitant cost of building in the North.

#### Houses last 15 years

Unless rehabilitated, the average northern house has a life expectancy of about 15 years. This is due to the wear and tear caused by nature, and also to heavy use by large families crowded into their homes through much of the year. Current plans call for rehabilitation and insulation by 1989 of most of the 2,360 houses built under the northern housing rental program.

Much of the rehabilitation work on northern homes will be done by local native people who are currently receiving extensive training in the building trades.

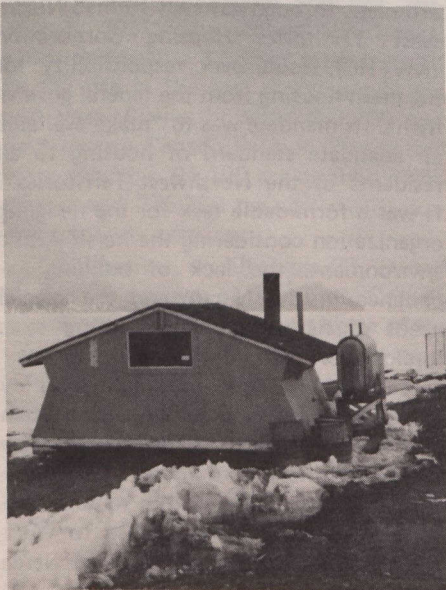
It is hoped that within three years, housing will be turned over to the native people through their local housing associations and through the district housing federations. CMHC will become the resource for technical assistance, financial funding, and control teaching.

To realize this goal, the NWT HC has begun a five-year training program whereby local residents learn the construction, maintenance and management trades. In 1980 alone, the territorial government spent \$420,000 on instruction for 130 trainees. The NWT HC also plans to train local contractors in tendering procedures, program and finance management.

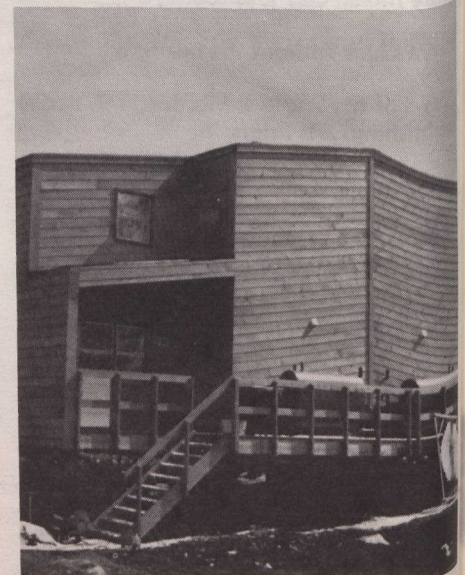
#### Unique northern residence

Innovative homes now being built in the North include details such as a porch for the hunter to butcher meat or repair a snowmobile. A series of demonstration homes has just been completed in seven communities in the Keewatin district of the Northwest Territories. Most striking about these demonstration houses are their energy-conserving features. Each building is a highly insulated, airtight cube with walls 30 centimetres thick. Almost all windows face south to bring in as much sunlight as possible, and a large porch across the front of the building provides a buffer against strong winds. The porch also acts as a passive solar collector to capture the sun's heat on bright days.

*(Excerpts from an article by Gabriella Goliger in Habitat, No. 4, 1981.)*



*Twenty-year-old house provided under the early federal housing program.*



*Recent housing takes many forms as architects experiment with the suitability of various designs and materials for the northern lifestyle and climate.*



## UN discrimination pact ratified

Canada has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The 30 articles of the convention cover measures to eliminate discrimination against women in various fields including political and public life, the right to nationality, education, employment, health and marriage and the family. Rights of rural women and elimination of stereotypes are given special attention.

In making the announcement, Secretary of State Gerald Regan, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan and the minister responsible for the Status of Women Judy Erola reiterated the commitment of the federal government to amend the discriminatory provisions of the Indian Act, within the context of the proposed Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms after consultation with Indians and other interested parties. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will study ways of amending the Act in consultation with interested parties.

## Petro-Canada budget increased

The federal government has approved a \$1.6-billion budget for Petro-Canada in 1982, an increase over the \$900 million spent in 1981.

The government will provide \$425 million directly to the national oil company.

The rest will be covered by funds generated from within Petro-Canada, about \$1.1 billion or 69 per cent of total spending, and the remainder will be achieved through borrowing.

The budget sets aside \$550 million for spending on offshore exploration and development activities.

Among other things, the company is active in the Beaufort Sea and off the coasts of Labrador, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, where it has a substantial stake in the Hibernia oilfield.

A further \$450 million will be directed towards conventional oil exploration and development in the Northwest Territories and in the Western provinces.

The rest of the budget will be divided among a range of activities, including research and development and oil-sands, natural gas and coal projects.

The Cabinet order, recognizing that the company needs financial flexibility in

planning for subsequent years, also provides authority for Petro-Canada or its subsidiaries to enter future commitments of up to \$1 billion for conventional exploration and production and \$4.5 billion for non-conventional and special projects. The ceiling for such commitments last year was \$1 billion.

The budget does not cover possible new takeovers by the federal Crown corporation. The company acquired Petrofina Canada Incorporated last February and 85 per cent of the \$1.4-billion price is being covered by a new tax on consumption, called the Canadian ownership charge.

## Diplomatic relations with Maldives

Canada has established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Maldives.

Robert W. Clark, currently Canada's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, will be accredited as ambassador to the Republic of Maldives, with residence in Colombo. He has been high commissioner in Sri Lanka since December 1979.

The establishment of formal diplomatic relations with the Maldives, an Indian Ocean state, reflects the importance Canada attaches to this region and the growing role of the Maldives as a centre attracting Canadian tourists.

## Norway joins SARSAT project

Norway has joined the satellite-aided search and rescue system (SARSAT) project in which Canada is a participant.

The objective of the project is to use satellites in low polar orbits to assist search and rescue teams to locate rapidly any aircraft or ships in distress. The concept envisages a satellite to detect the distress signals and to relay the information to a network of ground stations whose task is to process the signals so as to locate the endangered vehicle, and report its findings to a rescue co-ordination centre.

Norway is to establish a receiving station in Tromso, in the northern part of the country, to cover areas in the Arctic and North Atlantic used by the Norwegian fishing fleet.

Canada, the United States and France agreed in 1979 to co-operate in the SARSAT program. In 1982, Canadian and French electronic equipment will be put aboard U.S. weather satellites for an

initial 15-month orbital demonstration project.

The Soviet Union is participating in a joint evaluation of the system, and will also launch a similar system (COSPAS) that is compatible with SARSAT. Discussions are also underway with Japan and Britain, which have expressed interest in taking part.

Experiments by the Canadian Department of Communications' research centre have shown that such a system could locate aircraft crashes or marine mishaps with an accuracy of ten to 20 kilometres, in a matter of minutes. The satellites orbiting over the poles every 12 hours would monitor emergency frequencies used by commercial and military ships and aircraft. Ground stations would receive the transmitted information by way of satellite and flash it to rescue co-ordination centres.

## Consulates upgraded in U.S.

Six Canadian consulates in the United States have been designated consulates general.

In announcing the change in status of the consulates, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan said the Canadian government was recognizing the increasing responsibilities they have in contributing to effective representation of Canadian interest in the U.S.

Consulates in Buffalo, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Minneapolis and Philadelphia have been designated consulates general.

Posts in the United States were originally established to provide consular services and facilitate trade relations between the two countries. Over time the consulates have expanded their tasks to include disseminating information about Canada to the U.S. public and issuing visas to immigrants or travellers from third countries.

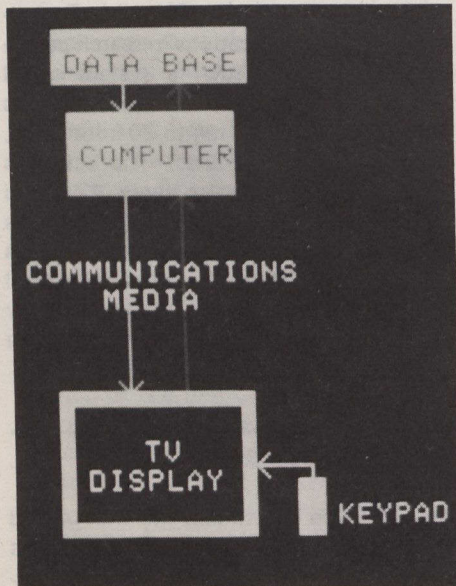
Dr. MacGuigan said that the effective and positive management of relations with the United States has always been a central goal of Canadian foreign policy. He added that it is necessary for Canada to be able to communicate its policies as clearly and directly as possible to interested U.S. parties.

The other Canadian consular posts in the United States are already established as consulates general: they are Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco and Seattle.



## Telidon projects to increase in Canada and in United States

The federal government, along with a number of organizations, has announced projects that would enhance the use of Telidon, Canada's two-way television technology, within Canada and the United States.



Electronic graphic shows how Telidon system works.

The government has approved 52 applications to develop Telidon across Canada as part of a \$9.5 million Telidon industry investment stimulation program.

Under the one-for-one terminal subsidy program, the government will pay half the costs of Telidon terminals for the projects. The 52 companies are expected to install 8,400 terminals, more than doubling the number of terminals now committed to field trials.

About a quarter of the funds are allocated to tourism, 20 per cent to the agricultural and fish business, 15 per cent to education and training, 10 per cent to home services and 7 per cent to Telidon page creation services.

The applications include one by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool to provide farmers with grain price information, one by New Brunswick Telephone Company Limited of Saint John to give Atlantic fishermen information on prices and regulations and one by Toronto General Hospital to develop a computer-aided diagnostic service.

### CBC system

The federal government and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) have signed a memorandum of understanding

to ensure that broadcast Telidon services will be introduced to the Canadian public in English and French within the 1982-83 broadcast season. The \$6-million trial, called project IRIS, will be funded by the Department of Communications with all goods and services to be provided by Canadian industry.

During the three-year project, the CBC will conduct intensive in-home teletext trials in Montreal, Toronto and Calgary beginning this September. The trial will provide viewers with means of using their television sets to receive news and information in the form of Telidon pages and graphics.

The CBC test will employ 700 terminals rotated among 1,400 homes. The CBC and the Department of Communications will also locate user terminals in CBC regional offices and a number of public locations across Canada. In addition, teletext signals will be distributed by way of satellite by the CBC and will be accessible to anyone with a privately-owned teletext decoder.

### Incentives for special uses

The federal government has announced that certain disadvantaged groups who wish to initiate Telidon projects may be eligible for assistance under a federal initiatives program.

The \$1-million program will aid non-profit groups who want to make use of

Telidon for special applications. Those eligible under the program include consumer organizations, women's groups, natives and the disabled. Preference is being given to projects that demonstrate innovative and practical applications of Telidon in meeting the special needs of these groups.

The federal government is also investing \$750,000 in a project to be undertaken by Vidéotron of Montreal to develop and test a device that enables a cable-TV subscriber to switch from one type of service, such as cable TV to another, such as Telidon, pay-TV or home computing.

The company has developed a decoder called the System for Information on Demand (SID). The device is technically an interface between the TV set and the cable. It will function as a cable TV converter enabling the user to switch channels, control the reception of Telidon information services, deliver "pages" of information at the user's command, store software for personal computers, and permit access to remote locations for alarm services.

Vidéotron is already distributing an electronic newspaper with *La Presse* of Montreal as part of a project called Intervention in which Telidon technology is being used.

### Available at shopping centres

In October, London Free Press Holdings Limited of London, Ontario announced that it was setting up a Telidon-based in-



Fifty-two Canadian companies will install Telidon equipment in 1982.



## Early historical documents displayed by Archives



Map of America, drawn by Jean-Baptiste-Louis Franquelin, 1688.

An exhibition, entitled *Dreams of Empire – Canada before 1700* was opened last month by Minister of Communications Francis Fox at the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

This exhibition profiles Canada's history from its infancy to 1700. Two hundred and fifty reproductions of archival documents drawn from 52 Canadian, American and European institutions will be on display. These documents, which range from maps, engravings, pictures and seals to medals, manuscripts and printed material, serve to illustrate eight distinct themes: the origins, exploration and occupation of the continent; population and settlement; government; wars; the economy; society

and culture; and religion.

According to Bernard Weilbrenner, assistant Dominion archivist and the project's director, "this exhibition is both a memorial and an illustration of Canada's history. It contains often unedited and little-known documents that are consulted by researchers when writing about Canadian history".

As the entire exhibition has been designed to travel to other regions across the country, it is composed of copies rather than original documents. In addition, all the documents on display will be reproduced in a hardcover reference book. The exhibition *Dreams of Empire – Canada before 1700* will be on display at the Archives until April 4, 1982.

## Nuclear reactor sold to Jamaica

Canada has sold a mini nuclear reactor – *Slowpoke II* – to a Jamaican university, marking its first international sale of the small machine in more than five years.

The *Slowpoke*, which stands for safe low-power critical experiment, will be used by Jamaica's University of the West Indies for medical, environmental and other research work.

Six similar reactors are already in operation across Canada, including Ottawa. They are used for research purposes, mainly to analyse the mineral content of ore samples, although they can also analyse soil, tissues, water and hair.

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

(AECL), which made the \$625,000 sale, had previously sold a *Slowpoke* to a university in West Germany but it is not expected to begin operation until 1984. The Jamaican machine should begin operation in about a year.

The *Slowpoke* concept was developed in 1970. It uses just two pounds of enriched uranium and produces about 20,000 watts of heat. The *Slowpoke* is one of the cheapest research reactors in the world to buy and operate, said AECL officials.

Five Canadians will travel to Jamaica to install the reactor, which should take about a month. Canada's nuclear regulatory body, Atomic Energy Control Board, will be involved in licensing and approving the Jamaican installation.

formation and advertising service in partnership with Cablesare Limited of the same city. London Free Press Holdings controls the *London Free Press* newspaper and CFPL Broadcasting Limited, while Cablesare Limited specializes in cable television hardware and software.

The venture involves the installation of Telidon terminals in shopping malls and other public places. Infopress, as the service is tentatively called, will provide community information, weather, shopping information, news headlines, transit schedules and electronic billboard advertising. Most data will be provided by the newspaper through a computer at Cablesare.

Infomart of Toronto, which markets the Telidon system, and Times Mirror Videotex Services, a unit of Times Mirror Company of Los Angeles have announced a new equal partnership. The partnership will enable Canadian videotex companies such as Electrohome Limited of Kitchener, Ontario and Norpak Limited of Kanata, Ontario to sell directly in the United States market.

Times Mirror Company had previously agreed to a joint venture with Infomart that would include a trial of Telidon in 350 California households. The trial, which will begin this March, will run until September.

## Refugee relief for Thailand

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing a \$2.375 million cash grant to four international organizations for humanitarian relief in Thailand.

The four international agencies are: the United Nations Children's Fund, (\$300,000); the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (\$800,000); the International Committee of the Red Cross, (\$375,000); and the World Food Program, (\$900,000).

These organizations have been providing considerable relief to Thailand given the massive outflows of refugees from Kampuchea since 1979. Canada's contribution will be aimed specifically at the plight of refugees inside Thailand and on the Kampuchean border as well as Thai nationals displaced by the influx of refugees.

The \$2.375 million brings to a total of \$22 million, Canada's official humanitarian relief for Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.



## Swimmers win gold

A number of Canadians earned gold medals at the sixth annual U.S. international swimming championships recently.

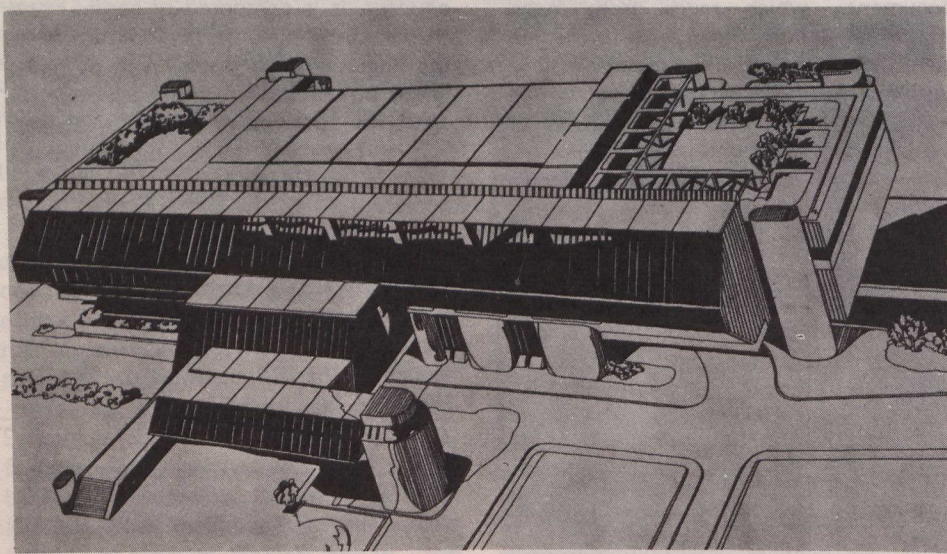
Victor Davis, 17, of Waterloo, Ontario was the outstanding male performer at the meet winning two gold medals and establishing a world's best time in the men's 200-metre breast stroke event clocking 2:11.54. Since the competition was held in a 25-metre short course pool, Davis' time was not eligible for world-record consideration.

Davis also won the 100-metre breast stroke in 1:01.36. Both his times were Canadian and age group (15-17) records.

Two more gold medals were won by Peter Szmidt, 20, of Edmonton, Alberta who clocked 1:49.26 in the 200-metre free style and 3:49.00 in the 400-metre free style. Mike West, 17, of Waterloo, won a fifth gold medal at the meet and established Canadian national and age group records with a time of 55:88 seconds in the 100-metre back stroke.

The relay team of Peter Szmidt, Wayne Kelly, Benoit Clements and Alan Swanson, swam to a silver medal in the 800-metre free-style relay setting another Canadian record at 7:23.64.

## New conference centre under construction in Montreal



*Les Palais des Congrès, a convention centre currently under construction in Montreal, is expected to be opened in the spring of 1983. The centre has 65,000 nights' occupancy confirmed through to 1986 primarily by United States associations, according to president Jean Labonté. Located in downtown Montreal, the new centre has a 9,300-square metre exhibition hall, a 4,600-square metre convention hall, 30 meeting rooms seating 80 to 1,200 delegates, a cafeteria restaurant, lounge bar, press room and underground parking. About 8,000 hotel rooms are within 20 minutes walking distance of the centre, half of which are connected to the city's subway system.*

## Centre involved in hazard alert

Canada is part of an experimental international alert system that originates at the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva.

When an alarm sounded in Geneva recently about the potential cancer-producing properties of a chemical, it brought a quick response from the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety in Hamilton, Ontario.

After receiving the warning from the ILO about the chemical 2-Nitropropane, the Canadian centre immediately sent the information to the 2,600 organizations and individuals on its mailing list. Within two months the Canadian centre received 50 inquiries from businesses and individual workers about the chemical.

The centre's action was part of the ILO's international occupational safety and hazard alert system that reaches out to 98 countries, including Canada. At present only five hazard alerts have been sent to the ILO for world-wide transmission.

The chemical with the suspected carcinogenic properties is used as a solvent in adhesives, printing inks and paints for street signs and marine coatings.

## Rare Indian clay jugs found

A Canadian skin diver diving in the St. Lawrence River has made a rare discovery of two complete Indian clay cooking jugs that experts say are about 1,300 years old.

Steven Alford of Kingston, Ontario found the jugs and kept them in water because he did not know how old they were and did not want to take any chances with them.

Although scientists have known that Indians roamed southern Ontario for 10,000 years or more, archeologists have unearthed only 13 other complete jugs and most of them only half as old. Generally, they reconstruct jugs from fragments found in digs.

### Submerged for 1,000 years.

What is unusual about this find is that a small jug was found inside a much larger one and both have survived the 1,300 years underwater in what was described as "unbelievable condition".

The jugs are now in the hands of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto for study and conservation. Because the jugs had been underwater for so long the larger jug was washed with water and buried in sand so the moisture could be drawn out slowly to minimize cracking. The small jug, already fragmenting, was allowed to air dry.

The earliest fragments of Indian vessels acquired by the museum have been dated around 500 B.C. but the museum does not have any complete jugs from that era. Its oldest Indian vessel is dated about 500 A.D. and most of the other complete jugs are dated after 500 A.D.

## Soya sauce without the beans

A University of Alberta food scientist has invented a soya sauce made without soybeans, reports the *Canadian Press*.

Dr. Buncha Ooraikul recently produced a sauce made with canola, formerly known as rapeseed meal, instead of soybean meal and figures the sauce could be produced for about 30 cents a litre.

Canadians purchase about \$10 million worth of soya sauces each year.

"It (canola sauce) tastes exactly the same and the chemical properties are very similar to commercial soy sauce," claims Dr. Ooraikul.

Most canola is used for producing cooking oil and the meal is fed to animals



## Photographs record Chinese history

An exhibition of photographs, recording the Chinese Communist Revolution as witnessed in Shanghai, was presented recently at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa.



Street Urchin Begging from Two Women, silver print.

*Shanghai 1949: Photographs by Sam Tata* is an exhibition of 63 black and white photographs taken by Tata who was born in China in 1911 and emigrated to Canada in 1956.

Using a 35 mm camera, Tata documented street life and every day events in the various districts of Shanghai: the French Settlement, the French Conces-



Cultural Parade with Posters of Mao-Tse-Tung and Chu-Te, silver print.

sion, the Chinese Quarter and the International Settlement.

Tata's early career as a photographer was significantly affected by his acquaintance with the French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson. Along with Cartier-Bresson and Marc Riboud's photographic works on China, Sam Tata's works are considered an important contribution to photojournalism of that period.

## CBC helps hearing impaired

Two Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) programs have become the first Canadian weekly series to use closed captioned for the hearing impaired.

*The Beachcombers* and *Man Alive* have begun the captioning process, which allows the hard of hearing to see the spoken words with the use of a special adaptor.

The closed-captioning process is being done at the United States National Captioning Institute centre in Falls Church, Virginia until a Canadian captioning centre goes into operation.

CBC began using closed captioning earlier this year in its weekly telecasts of two U.S. situation comedies, *Barney Miller* and *Three's Company*.

A Canadian-produced TV special, *Clown White*, the story of a friendship between a rebellious nine-year-old deaf boy and a clown-faced mime artist, was also produced with closed captioning. Other Canadian-produced series will be closed captioned in 1982.

## Native publishing firm

An Indian-operated publishing house specializing in literature by and about natives is marking its first year of business this month.

The company, called Theytus Books, is run by Randy Fred in Nanaimo on Vancouver Island in British Columbia. Copies of its first book — a paperback edition of *Gone Indian* recently appeared on bookstands along with three other releases. Seven more books are planned for this year.

The firm had its beginnings four years ago when Fred, a member of the Tse'shaht tribe on the west coast of Vancouver Island left Port Alberni looking for work in Nanaimo. He helped form the Quan-a-ts-us-tal (the Coast Salish word for handshake) which attempts to give natives

more access to the media.

In 1979, the 20-member society was working on a series of video documentaries and the first edition of a newsletter. Fred was looking for sponsors to make the newsletter permanent when it was suggested that the group try publishing instead.

Quan-a-ts-us-tal members received a federal grant for a feasibility study in 1980 and found both a supply of manuscripts and a market to justify a new publishing firm. The group received another grant of \$104,000 and a promise of money for the second year of operation allowed Theytus — a Coast Salish word meaning "preserving for the sake of handing down" — to open at the beginning of 1981.

Last year Theytus published 12,000 copies of four titles. This year 30,000 copies of seven titles will be printed. Fred estimates 15,000 copies will have to sell for the company to break even.

*Gone Indian*, the company's first release, is a satiric novel of an American graduate student's venture into the Canadian frontier. Other titles published by Theytus include a book of children's stories by a local author, based on Coast Salish legends, an autobiography of an elder of Vancouver Island's west coast Pacheenaht tribe, and a handbook on marine life.

## Arts briefs

The Charlottetown Festival is preparing to honour Canadian composers, whose songs have been on the hit parade, with a new musical revue, *Tonight: A Musical Entertainment*. Artistic director Alan Lund and musical director Fen Watkin have chosen the best Canadian music in pop, country and swing for the show which will premier this summer. Some of the more enduring pop pieces include Ernest Seitz's *The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise*, Shelton Brooks's *The Darktown Strutters' Ball*, Billy Munro's *When My Baby Smiles at Me*, and Geoffrey O'Hara's *K-K-K-Katy*.

The Donovan Chorale of Montreal received the 1981 Healey Willan Prize for amateur choirs at a recent performance. The prize is a special award of \$2,000 for the best, the most promising or the most improved group in the music section's annual amateur choir competition. The Canada Council established the prize in 1980 to honour Healey Willan for his



contributions to Canadian music, especially in the field of choral music.

**Montreal composer John Rea** was recently awarded the fourth annual Jules Léger Prize for his work *Com-possession*. The music was composed for pre-recorded tape, guitar and strings. The Léger prize — a golden sculpture by Louis Archambault and a \$5,000 cheque from the Canada Council — was instituted by the late former governor general to encourage composers of music for small ensembles, of which he was fond.

**The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra** has received a gold record for achieving sales of one million copies of a live recording with the British rock group *Procol Harum*. It is the only symphony orchestra in Canada with a gold record. The orchestra, which is in its thirtieth anniversary season, gives more than 60 concerts a year in its home concert hall in Edmonton and in Alberta communities such as Camrose, Red Deer, Sherwood Park, Banff and Fort McMurray.

**Quebec author and playwright Michel Tremblay** was awarded the 1981 France-Quebec literary prize for his book *Thérèse et Pierrette à l'École des Saint-Anges*. The book is the second in a trilogy dedicated to the working-class Plateau Mont-Royal district of Montreal. The first volume of the series, *La grosse femme d'à côté est enceinte (The Woman Next Door is Pregnant)* has just become available in English and the final French volume of the trilogy is slated for release next spring.

**The Canada Council** announced a pilot program in dance to support presenters of independent dancers and choreographers through alternate dance spaces, series or festivals. Under the program, grants of up to \$5,000 maximum are available to small-scale presenters of dance to cover the salary of an administrator or programmer and/or to help with publicity and promotion of dance events.

**The Canada Council** will renew and double the Peter Dwyer Scholarships it has granted for the last ten years to promising students of the National Theatre School in Montreal and the National Ballet School in Toronto. The prizes, named in memory of the late first executive director of the council, are administered by the schools, each offering six awards to its most promising senior students for living expenses and tuition. The scholarships to each school originally totalled \$5,000. The council has decided to increase the amount to \$10,000 for each school and has stipulated the number of prizes should remain the same.

## News briefs

**Davie Shipbuilding Limited** of Lauzon, Quebec has sold four offshore drilling rigs to Global Marine Drilling Company of Houston, Texas for \$152 million (U.S.). The federal Export Development Corporation has signed a \$106-million loan agreement to support the sale, which brings to ten the number of drills sold by Davie to the Houston company.

**The Canadian Wheat Board** said exports of Western grain in the five months to December 31, 1981 totalled a record 10.83 million metric tons. The rate for the first five months of the crop year compares with 9.8 million tons a year ago. The target for the crop year ending July 31 was 26 million tons.

**The federal government** has approved \$2.5 million to build a new meat processing laboratory at Agriculture Canada's Lacombe, Alberta research station. The new facilities will allow researchers to carry out studies on the meat processing industry, especially the effects of pre- and post-slaughter conditions on meat quality. There will also be research on methods of increasing the shelf life of pork and beef.

**The Export Development Corporation** has announced that 17 claims totalling \$435,487.97 were paid to Canadian exporters under its exports insurance programs during the quarter ending September 30, 1981. This brings claims paid during the first three-quarters of 1981 to 115 with a total value of \$6,228,640. The claims by country were: United States, eight and Algeria, Brazil, Costa Rica, France, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Sudan, Sweden and West Germany, one each.

**A new animal quarantine station** has been opened at Mirabel International Airport, near Montreal. The \$750,000 facility will help the federal government monitor imported livestock for diseases. The 1,000-square-metre station can accommodate one planeload of animals at a time. Cattle, sheep, goats, swine, horses, birds and zoo animals can be kept there. Livestock from countries free of foot and mouth disease must stay in the quarantine for a minimum of 30 days, at the discretion of the veterinarian in charge. Birds are quarantined for 28 to 45 days.

**Figure skater Kay Thomson** of Toronto won the gold medal in the women's singles competition of the Moscow Skate held last month. Thomson, 17, beat out 19 other skaters for the first place finish.



*David Trumble (left) said to be Canada's oldest citizen, gets a kiss from his daughter at his one-hundredth and fourteenth birthday party held recently in Belleville, Ontario. "When you're 114, you're stepping on the gas to heaven," quipped Trumble at the party. The nursing home resident said his sight has declined in the last while and his memory is not as sharp as it used to be.*

**Steve Podborski** of Don Mills, Ontario and Susan Natrass of Edmonton, Alberta have been named Canada's male and female athletes of the year for 1981 by the sports awards committee of the Sports Federation of Canada. Podborski won four World Cup downhill events last year and placed second or third in five others. Natrass, a trapshooter has won six world championships and was recently named Canadian athlete of the year. Swimmer Alex Baumann of Sudbury, Ontario and skier Gerry Sorenson of Kimberley, British Columbia were the runners-up.

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