

## Math Wise Series On Line for Fall

Alberta, Ontario and Quebec are showing a new ninth and tenth grade math series produced by the Agency for Instructional Development to help students recognize the important connection between mathematics and life.

Twelve, 15-minute programs are organized into four modules — measuring, comparing, locating/interpreting and predicting. Each program includes a documentary and a dramatic segment. The documentaries introduce mathematics skills and illustrate their use in everyday situations. The dramas show teenagers using the skills to solve problems.

This new series, called "Math Wise", has been sponsored by a consortium of 25 agencies including EXXON Corporation and the Shell Companies Foundation.

## Copyright Update

André Ouellet, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, and Francis Fox, Minister of Communications, said today that they have requested their departmental officials to work closely together to prepare legislation proposals to revise Canada's Copyright Act within the next 12 months.

The Ministers said they both regard new copyright legislation as an urgent priority, in view of contemporary cultural conditions and technological developments.

The existing Copyright Act came into force in 1924. Although it has been amended several times, it has not been substantially revised since its adoption.

"There has been considerable examination of the issues that need to be addressed by new copyright legislation," Mr. Ouellet and Mr. Fox said in a joint statement. "Creators, users of copyright materials and the general public have had opportunities to present their views through briefs and consultation with federal government officials, and their views have been carefully examined by the Interdepartmental Copyright Committee. Most of the necessary groundwork has been completed, and it is now time to proceed with the task of preparing legislative proposals."

## Of Interest

**International Association of School Librarianship Annual Conference**  
Red Deer, Alberta  
Aug. 1-6, 1982

This conference provides an opportunity for librarians from around the world to share their experiences. Proposals have already been received from England, Japan, Australia and the United States.

A post conference study tour will begin immediately after the conference and explore the Banff National Park and Lake Louise areas.

For further information contact:  
John G. Wright, Chairman  
Faculty of Library Science  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta

**Resources in Context**  
**Association for Media and Technology**  
**in Education in Canada**  
June 6-9, 1982  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Presentations and papers on the use of materials and resources in education are requested for AMTEC '82. Among the topics

to be considered are copyright, television awareness, videotape, computer literacy, etc.

For further information, contact:  
Mr. Gerald Brown  
AMTEC Conference Chairman  
1180 Notre Dame Ave.  
Winnipeg, Man.  
R3E 0P2

**People Like You and Me**  
**International Council for Educational Media**  
**Film/Video Competition**

Students are encouraged to participate in an international competition in visual language productions, particularly the production of a film or videotape. The competition is open to all ages from primary students to persons in teacher training institutions. All shows must be contemporary in theme and be understood without words.

For further information, contact:  
Hans Kratz  
ICEM Project  
Alberta Educational Communications Authority  
502 - 10053 - 111 St.  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2H8

## Vancouver Offers Publications for Sale

The Vancouver School Board Library Services has announced that some of their publications will now be available for sale. For five years the VSB Library Services has provided materials on an *exchange* basis with district coordinators and university faculty; this will continue so long as the service is reciprocal. Publications are offered for sale at cost to others. The Vancouver School Board Library Services offers for sale only those publications and services which do not appear to be available commercially.

### Subscriptions

The *Curriculum Resources* Series provides annotated lists of recommended materials and services on specific curriculum topics. Approximately 8 times per year. Available for \$15 prepaid, September - June only.

*Recommended Media* summarizes reviews of audiovisual materials appearing in the major reviewing journals. On 3 inch x 5 inch cards arranged by Dewey classification number. Approximately three mailings per year. \$20 prepaid for calendar year.

The *KWIOC Index* is an annual computer-produced index to periodicals used in secondary schools but not indexed in the *Canadian Periodical Index, Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, or Index to Free*

*Periodicals*. \$10 prepaid for calendar year.

### Single Items

Approximately 400 *Cross Reference Cards* are available in *French* for French language collections. \$15 prepaid, including periodic updates.

*Find Out About Canada!* is a resource-based cooperative teaching unit in secondary social studies. A learning stations approach to Canadian reference materials with questions at the easy, average and difficult level for forty titles. Answers and suggestions for grading included. Revised edition, 1980. \$4.50.

*Finding The Facts* offers a learning stations approach to reference materials for senior business education. Developed and taught cooperatively by teacher-librarians and classroom teachers, the unit includes questions at the easy, average and difficult levels for 28 titles. Answers and grading included. 1980. \$4.50

To order:  
Resource Materials  
Program Services  
Vancouver School Board  
1595 West 10th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6J 1Z8

## Health Videotapes Win U.S. Awards

An Ottawa-based health education company has taken first prize and three honourable mentions in the video competition of the 23rd annual American Film Festival, held recently in New York City.

The prestigious Blue Ribbon Award was presented to executive producer Robert Abelson, president of Take III Health Education, for "The Stomach Story".

Take III Health Education produced the award-winning 14-minute colour video cassette in association with Patrick Lee/Sloth Enterprises of Toronto and independent Toronto directors Jay Sampson, Graham Parker, and Rupert Macnee. "The Stomach Story" was written by Doug Lavender of Toronto and Julie Voyer of Ottawa, and used the talents of Ottawa puppeteer Noreen Young.

Aimed at six-to-ten-year-olds, the produc-

tion uses puppets — one of which has a stomach ache — to explain the digestive system, digestion, elimination, and the common causes of stomach upsets. The body organs "speak for themselves" from their positions inside the lifelike, if somewhat fanciful, Magnificent Body Model.

In the same Health category, Take III received honourable mentions for "Fitness Fun" and "Good Eatin'". Honourable mention was also given to "Families: Growing and Changing" in the family relations category. All are 14-minute, broadcast quality color video productions.

"We submitted only these four entries," says Mr. Abelson, "and every one was cited."

The productions are part of Take III's HealthWise library, a series of 13 video cassettes that deal with various aspects of

health — from allergies to emotions — for children. The series outlines the general principles of healthy body mechanics and disease states; promotes healthy attitudes and habits; aims to instill confidence in medical staff, adults, and the family; and promotes the concept of the uniqueness of the individual, especially in development.

All the HealthWise productions use a combination of puppets, animation, line drawings, and live action.

For information on obtaining these videotapes:

Communications Consultants  
331 Cooper Street  
Suite 703  
Ottawa, Ont.  
K2P 0G5

## Computer Helps Media Bookings

Larger collections of resource materials including more films, more slides, and more videotapes have increased the circulation problems of media centres. A variety of commercially made computer programs have been developed to assist in solving circulation tangles. One such program was developed by Gordon Molnar & Associates and is used in many Ontario centres.

Certain basic assumptions have been made when designing computer software for use in media centre bookings. One is that most school boards have a media centre for storing, promoting and distributing films, and that these centres produce catalogues which give a brief synopsis of films/audiovisual equipment available for distribution in local schools. In turn, these schools will book films/audiovisual equipment by various methods (mail, telephone or pick-up) with the responsibility for distributing and controlling the films delegated to one person within the school, frequently a librarian, secretary or teacher.

Using a commercially developed film and booking equipment booking system, a school is able to call in to a board's media centre where an operator with a telephone headset is seated at a terminal on-line to a computer. The operator keys in the booking request and an instant confirmation of that booking, cancellation or denial appears on the screen for instant relay to the caller.

Thus the person calling in knows exactly the status of the material; it is no longer necessary to fill out order forms or wait a period of time before learning whether you are going to get a particular film or piece of equipment you ordered. Instant confirmation, or denial, is the basic key to the success of the new software system.

The set-up of the system requires the initialization of data files; from that point, the software handles the normal day-to-day operation. The three files are (1) film and equipment master file; (2) holiday file; and (3) cost centre file.

The film and equipment master file can contain the following information: film or audiovisual equipment number; title/description (can include model number and serial number); status codes (N - New, S - Sold, P - Used for parts, M - missing, D - damaged, W - withdrawn); purchase date; purchase price; disposal date; selling price; current year code; booking summary (by each week of the year); current year data (bookings, cancellations, denials and negotiations statistics); and subsequent year data.

The system provides the flexibility to allow boards different ways of numbering their films and equipment, and this usually depends on how their media department catalogues are set up. For example, some will have three copies of the same film and may number them 1020, 1020A, and 1020B. Others may have duplicates of the same film with entirely separate numbers — in this case the software is programmed to "point" to the second copy (number) of the film if the first is fully booked.

By entering the purchase price of film and audiovisual equipment a board always has a total value available for insurance purposes.

With the holiday file, a board can enter a maximum of 60 school holidays for a given year, and the system will not allow a booking, return, or pick-up on a school holiday.

The cost centre file simply identifies the schools that come within the board's jurisdiction — school number, address, postal code, etc.

## Nigerian Project Seeks Assistance

Arthur Shears, former media specialist at Holland College, Prince Edward Island, has assumed a position with A.R.A. Consultants on a project in Ilorin, Nigeria. This World Bank sponsored project is involved with the establishment of the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI); ARTMI will play a key role in the Nigerian Government's overall development strategy. Initially the Institute will concentrate on traditionally delivered, short courses in management but plans do include possible expansion into distance education. In terms of programming, the ARMTI project will be developing courses in agricultural management, project planning and evaluation, financial management and organizational behaviour.

A number of institutions in Canada have developed expertise in program development, packaging and delivery of courses in agricultural and other related areas. ARMTI would like to hear from any of these institutions, with a view to possibly setting up an exchange of information and/or sample materials. Of interest are such items as: research reports, program development reports and evaluations, reviews of various instructional delivery systems, annual reports, printed and audiovisual materials catalogues, price lists, etc.

Please forward all information:  
ARMTI-2  
A.R.A. Consultants  
151 Bloor Street West,  
Suite 701,  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5S 1S4