



The IEPA gives the learning disabled a second chance

"Have you ever been to a hockey game and bought a program so you can pretend to read it?"

It's not really a question. Rather it's a cry for understanding from a learning disabled person trying to fit into the norm. It's not a matter of further education — he's been through school and received little or no help from that quarter. No help until now that is.

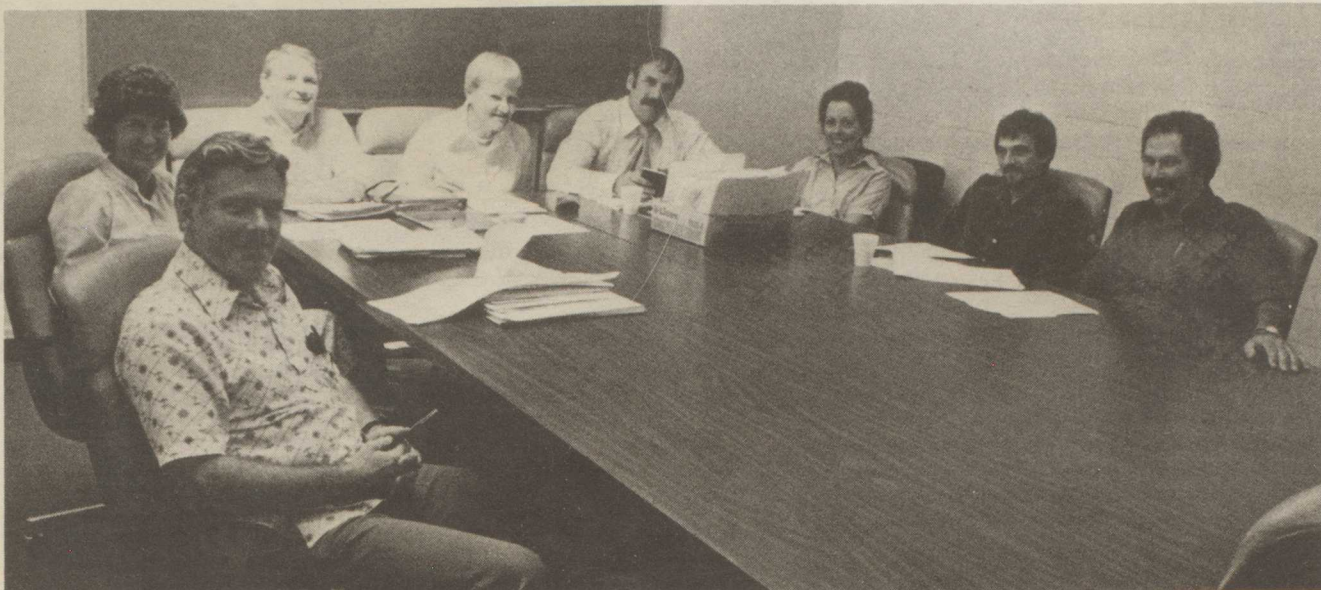
Through a unique program K.E.C. counsellor Greta Nelson and diagnostician Malcolm Cant are giving the learning disabled a second chance. K.E.C.'s Individualized Education Program for Adults (I.E.P.A.), which got off the ground due to the hard work of Nelson and Training and Development Division Chairman Colin Casey, is Canada's first program of service to the learning disabled adult at the community college level. It may also be the first of its type in the world.

The learning disabled cannot learn through ordinary methods of teaching. The problem is in the brain's ability to process information correctly through sensory channels but, according to Cant, some of the people least conscious of the problem are the instructors.

"Some instructors don't feel there is such a thing as a learning disability," said Cant. "They just say, 'so and so, is a lazy bugger'."

The I.E.P.A. was initiated as a result of the increasing number of students who were being referred to the Counselling Department because of learning difficulties encountered in the regular classroom. Nelson decided to survey all the campus instructors to find out how many students in each of the classes were experiencing definite learning problems. To her surprise and dismay, the results showed an average of 15.5% of the students in each class were thought to be experiencing definite learning problems by the instructor.

In response to this need Nelson and Casey drafted a written proposal to obtain a Special Projects Grant from the Ministry



I.E.P.A. Committee meets for one of its weekly sessions.

Individual instructors can refer any students whom they feel are experiencing learning difficulties to their department representative on the I.E.P.A. committee. The representative arranges for the referring instructor either to attend the weekly meeting in order to describe the student's exhibited behaviours, or to send a written report via the department rep. The committee, as a whole, determines from the material presented whether the student is an appropriate referral to the learning diagnostician. In addition, referrals may be made to such services as vision and hearing testing, psychiatric assessment, counselling or tutoring in the Learning Centre.

If the student is referred to the diagnostician for an assessment, an initial interview is conducted with the student. "I try to set them at ease," said Cant, "and explain the process and what I'm going to do. You have to have mutual trust. I don't promise them miracles," he said. After the assessment has been completed, all the findings are shared with the student and the proposed program is explained in detail.

"I explain to the students what I've found and what produces it and how we can go about improving it. I tell them they won't see any benefit from the program for about three to six months, but it's usually a lot sooner," he said. "Then they begin to realize they aren't so dumb after all."

Cant says he drives his students hard, but he also drives himself just as hard and they respond to this.

"The more you put into something, the more you get out of it. It's like marriage," he said. Cant explained that the learning impaired are usually of average or above average intelligence. "They are all highly motivated because this is their last chance. They all have a history of failure on the academic side and are the most under-employed people around."

For students deemed in need of an individualized program, a half hour session, three times per week, is established. The referring instructor is then informed of what is being attempted in the sessions and what might be added or deleted in the regular classroom to complement the program.

Up until a few months ago, Cant had a program assistant but when the money ran out, she had to go. Unfortunately this has meant that Cant has had to cut down on the amount of time he gives each student and is now having to write assessments at home. Although his schedule is a very demanding one Cant is managing to cope, but for how long? According to Nelson the program is getting more and more referrals from various programs, including College Foundations, as well as calls from people outside wanting to enrol their children in the program.

"Some people are even ready to relocate their entire household," said Cant, "so they can get their child enrolled."

So far 81 students have been referred to the program. Cant is presently working with 24 students. When asked about the success of the program, Cant replied with a satisfied smile, "it's been very good."

One of the reasons the program is working so well has to be Cant himself. He is very responsive to his students and has a good understanding of their problems.

While still living in his native country of Australia, Cant was knocked unconscious and stayed that way for a couple of weeks. As a result of the accident, Cant lost the ability to remember what he read. There was no help available to help overcome his problem, so he set about teaching himself how to recall his visionary memory, with complete success. Later he began to work with retarded children and also taught special

physical education to physically handicapped children. Moving to the States, Cant received a BSc and his MSc and Med from the University of Oregon. He is currently working on his doctorate in special education (learning disabilities and neurological impairment) at U.B.C. Prior to coming to K.E.C. Cant was director of special education for the Vancouver Neurological Centre and before that was an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan teaching Special Physical Education.

"There are very few well-trained learning diagnosticians," said Nelson, "so we were extremely lucky to acquire his services."

Besides seeing his students Cant is also responsible for conducting in-service workshops for all campus instructors so that they might be made more aware of the forms that student learning problems take. In this way, said Cant, the instructor's recognition of the learning problems become more valid and accurate.

For the future it is envisaged that the same referral system, with the same personnel will be continued as it is now an integral part of the total functioning learning system. More in-depth, in-house workshops are planned and also outside workshops for those professionals who are referring students to K.E.C. for the I.E.P.A. services.

"As I see it," said Cant, "it is an investment of today's dollars into tomorrow's future."

We should close on that note, but instead we'll let a couple of Cant's students tell it like it is.

"I don't feel that I am in that 'big black hole' that I was in before. I am not in the corner reading the same book over and over again. Now I can pick up almost any book and read from it," and . . .

"I am not going to give up because I know that I am not dumb or stupid."

He couldn't take it any longer!

A guilty conscience?

Better late than never!

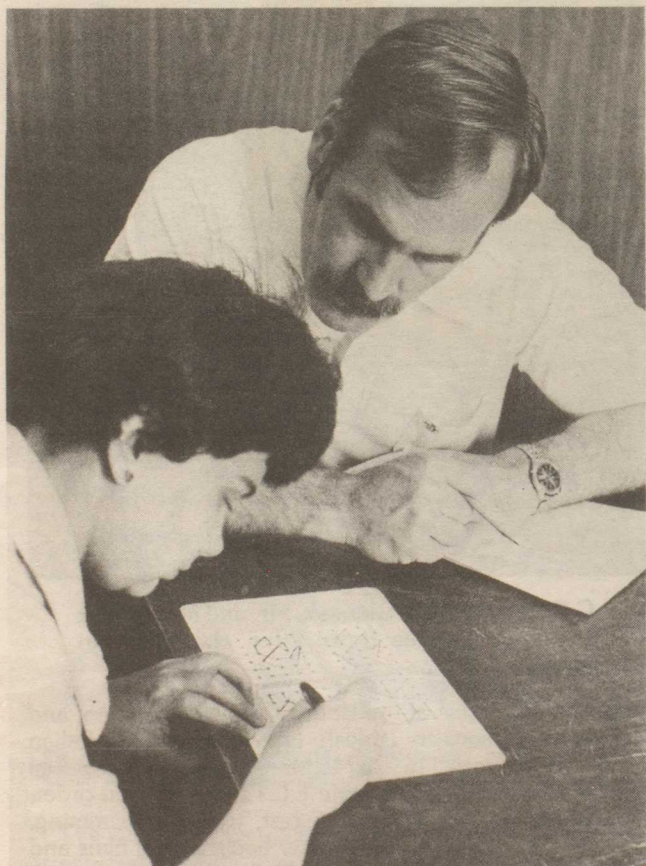
Whatever. The following letter was received at King Edward Campus during the end of May.

Dear Sir:

Upon taking a night school course in High School German at King Edward School during SPRING OF 1963, I removed a copy of Roget's Thesaurus from between a pair of bookends on a window sill in the room in which I received instruction. I did not return the book but if you will accept a newer version which I am mailing under separate cover it will make me very pleased.

Please forgive me for not returning it or making repayment sooner.

Yours truly,



Diagnostician Malcolm Cant works with one of his students.

of Education, Science and Technology. Their proposal met with success and they received money to initiate a program at K.E.C. and to hire a diagnostician and a program assistant. In late September of 1978, Cant was hired and the program commenced in October. It was not smooth sailing however. Testing materials were held up due to the mail strike and Cant couldn't get a room to conduct his program. Ever resourceful — K.E.C. personnel cleaned out a closet/storage area beside the administration building, laid down carpet and Cant was ready for business.

An I.E.P.A. committee was formed composed of a representative from each instructional department, Medical Services, the Learning Centre, Counselling Department and the learning diagnostician. In addition, outside agency representatives were applicable. Next, a format for student referrals was implemented.

VCC Board honors retiring personnel

The Vancouver Community College Board recently hosted a special dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel to honor 15 retiring personnel for their years of dedicated service to the College.

In all 47 people attended the dinner which was chaired by principal Tony Manera, and which hosted members of the College Board, Campus Principals and senior administrators from the Regional Offices, who, along with the guests of honor, enjoyed a sumptuous meal of onion soup Roast Prime Ribs of Beef Au Jus, followed by Cherries Jubilee Flambee.

"The dinner went very well," said Vi Bienert, Assistant in Personnel, who helped arrange the dinner. "Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. It was a big group, which probably helped keep things lively," she said.

Following the dinner, Campus principals spoke briefly on each of their retiring people. Dean Robert Cunningham represented K.E.C. Mr. Manera also said a few words to the group and made reference to their total years of service, 254 years to be exact, which they had given to the students. Chairman of the Board, J.C. Melvin Scott, thanked them on behalf of the Board.

THE RETIREES —

Who they are
Where they're from
What they did
& What they are going to do!

Gordon Martin - Welding instructor, V.V.I.

Gordie joined the institute in 1951, but his career as a welder started long before. He got his first welding job in Vancouver in 1937. Welding jobs with the British American Oil Company in Calgary; the Dept. of Public Works in Edmonton; Reliance Welding and Boiler Works, also in Edmonton; the Burrard Dry Docks in Vancouver, and Leek and Company in Vancouver preceded his move to the V.V.I. Gordie is highly enthusiastic about his retirement and says it's great to be a senior citizen. "Everything is half price now," he said with a chuckle. Future plans include travelling around B.C. and the States in his new truck and trailer pursuing his favorite hobbies of photography and tracing the history of places he visits. Gordie says he is going to miss the V.V.I. and its people. "I've been so used to coming here it's going to be a hard habit to break. I can't believe almost 30 years has gone by," Gordie leaves the V.V.I. on Aug. 31.

Mrs. Anne Stradiotti - Hairdressing instructor, V.V.I.

Before joining the V.V.I. in 1966, Anne was owner/operator of the Oak Lane Beauty Salon for almost 10 years. Before that she worked for a couple of years at Henri's Beauty Salon. Anne received her early hairdressing training from the V.V.I. The first thing Anne says she is going to do when she retires on Sept. 30th is to sleep in. "For the past 7½ years I have been getting up at 4 a.m. and it's finally beginning to tell on me. Other plans for Anne include: decorating her house and taking a night school typing course. "I've got a good typewriter at home and I can't use it. Now's my chance to do something about it." Anne has no travel plans to speak of, she is just going to be happy to stay at home and get out and work in the garden.

Ronald Brynat - Auto Mechanics Instructor, V.V.I.

Mr. Brynat left the V.V.I. in December after almost 28 years at the Institute. He spent the last three years as department head. Ron began teaching in 1939. In 1940 he taught carburetion at Vancouver Technical and later at Boulthée Ltd.

Mrs. Kathryn Buchanan - Power Sewing instructor, V.V.I.

Mrs. Buchanan's first power sewing job was with Aljean of Canada where she worked first as a power machine operator for five years, then spent the next eight as supervisor of the Press department. In all, Mrs. Buchanan spent 20 years working in the needle trade in Montreal. In 1970 she came to the V.V.I. as a temporary instructor, then went on permanent staff in 1973. Mrs. Buchanan left the Institute in Dec. 1978.

Kenneth Calvin Campbell - Hairdressing instructor, V.V.I.



Chatting during the cocktail hour are from left, retirees Keith Smith and Frank Cook, C.E. Principal Alf Glenesk, V.C.C. Principal Tony Manera, Mrs. Kim Smith and College Board Chairman J.C. Melvin Scott.

Mr. Campbell spent 24 years in the hairdressing trade before joining the V.V.I. in 1962. He retired last August.

Mrs. Margaret Clarkson - Practical Nursing Instructor, V.V.I.

Mrs. Clarkson came to the V.V.I. in 1969. She received her Bachelor of Applied Science/Nursing degree from U.B.C. in 1948. From 1953 to 54 Mrs. Clarkson did pediatric nursing at Vancouver General Hospital, then spent the next five years in medical nursing at St. Paul's Hospital. In 1960 she became a medical nursing instructor at St. Paul's Hospital of Nursing, before coming to the V.V.I. She left the Institute last August.

Gwen Low - English Language Training Instructor, K.E.C.

Gwen received her training from Teacher Training College in Moose Jaw, Sask. Her early teaching jobs were in Saskatchewan, but beginning in 1966 she taught English Language Training at Night School at John Oliver for approximately four years. In 1970 Gwen taught an afternoon E.L.T. course at a Unitarian Church for the Vancouver School Board and in 1971 joined the Special Programs Division (K.E.C.) as an instructor in the Advanced Class of E.L.T. Following this she became the registering teacher for E.L.T. Gwen says she wants to catch up on everything she has neglected in the past 10 years when she retires this coming August. "My husband has been waiting for me to retire and we hope to do some travelling," said Gwen. "It is going to be nice not having my time structured. The last 10 years have been good, but I'm now looking forward to a change."

Mary Anderson - English Language Training instructor, K.E.C.

Mary received a BSc. with honors in chemistry from Edinburgh University. She also took a diploma course in dietetics at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Mary spent the next couple of years doing research in nutrition at the Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Edinburgh University.

Travels to Nairobi, Kenya; Trail and Comox, B.C.; Kerala, South India, and Ankara, Turkey, with her husband took up the next 24 years. A brief stop in Vancouver in 1964 to attend U.B.C. resulted in a basic teachers certificate. While living in Turkey, Mary taught English to Turkish adults — engineers,



C.E. Principal Alf Glenesk, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cook and retiree Betty Pilon chat prior to dinner.

scientists and bankers at the British Council in Ankara, and gave private lessons to Turkish, French, Swiss and Italian adults and children. In 1971 Mary joined the Special Programs Division as a part time E.L.T. instructor. In order, Mary's retirement plans include: rest, walking, swimming, working in her garden to restore her body, seeing films and taking courses, reading to strengthen her mind so she can write her autobiography. Mary also wants to continue with her interest in second language learners and to brush up on her dietetics. "I want to be frivolous - a merry widow not a retired teacher." Mary also wants to keep in touch with her many friends at K.E.C. and asked that we would include her address and telephone number to facilitate this. It is: 4048 W. 32nd Avenue, telephone 224-1741. Mary will leave K.E.C. this coming August.

Joseph Duncan Macadam - Mathematics instructor, Langara

Macadam came to V.C.C. approximately 16 years ago (King Edward School, Adult Education Centre) after teaching in various secondary schools throughout B.C. and on the Lower Mainland. He received his BA from London, England, a BEd from U.B.C. and a MA in classics also from U.B.C.

Frank Cook - Physics instructor, Langara

Frank began his V.C.C. career in 1963 following study at

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Retirement cont'd from page 2

Stanford and Princeton and a period as a teacher in the Vancouver school system. He taught at what was then known as the King Edward Senior Matriculation and Adult Education Centre — presently K.E.C. His retirement plans include continuing an avid interest in auto-touring and spending as much time as possible with his grandchildren.

Elmer Fast - Mathematics instructor, Langara

Elmer Fast is one of the few remaining V.C.C. teachers who started with the College in 1965. He was instrumental in the development of Langara's computer courses and in the introduction of senior level calculus at V.C.C. He is a fitness buff and amateur wine-maker and he plans to pursue both activities after leaving his teaching post.

Mary Jones - Welfare Aide instructor, Langara

Another V.C.C. original, Mary began her teaching duties at V.C.C. after achieving the rank of lieutenant in the Canadian Women's Army Corps Social Services Branch.

Keith Smith - Classics instructor, Langara

Keith has been a faculty member since 1964 following an honours BA in classics, an MA in Latin and several teaching positions in his native Barbados and Trinidad, visiting places he hasn't seen for 16 years.

Hans Tonne - Modern Languages instructor, Langara

Hans leaves V.C.C. after 13 years as an instructor. He spoke only Swahili until the age of six before switching to German and finally English. Before coming to V.C.C. Hans taught at high schools in Burnaby, Prince Rupert, Chilliwack and North Vancouver. He plans to use his retirement to fulfill a 28 year-old dream of crossing Canada from coast to coast.

Betty Pilon - History instructor, Langara

Betty came to V.C.C. after a BA in history at UBC, an MA at the University of New Brunswick and a stint at the West China Union University in Chentu, Szechuan. Her teaching duties finish at the end of August.



Retiring Langara Campus instructors Keith Smith and Duncan Macadam with Mrs. Macadam socialize prior to dinner.

Dental Assisting students graduate

The Dental Assisting Department recently held its 17th graduation ceremony in the Sandman Inn.

Thirty-four students were awarded certificates by V.V.I. Principal Jake McInnis. Pins were presented by Department Head Shendra Collin.

During the ceremony special awards were presented to members of the graduating class. The Practical Training Award, presented by Dr. E. Nikolai, went to Dottie Demosky; the Iain McLeod Memorial Trophy, presented by Dr. B. Windrum, went to Marsha McVeigh and Judy Holden, and the Book Award, presented by Dr. G. Derksen, went to Jana Prochazka. Other award winners were: Darlene Engelking (Radiography Award), Bonnie Demosky (Theory Award), Fran Kowalishyn (Outstanding Student Award), Rita Gardner (Pediatric Dentistry Award) and Kathi McClure (Award for Clinical Efficiency).

Guest speaker at the graduation was Dr. Theo Van Rijn from V.C.C.'s Health Services. The student address was given by Dianne Williams.



V.V.I. Principal Jake McInnis and Assistant in Personnel Vi Bienert chat with retirees from left, Gordie Martin, Anne Stradiotti, Kathryn Buchanan and Elmer Fast.



Enjoying themselves at the dinner are from left, Iver Jones, Mrs. H.E. Tonne, retiree Hans Tonne, V.C.C. Principal Tony Manera and retiree Mary Jones.

Gerry Sylvester accepts new post

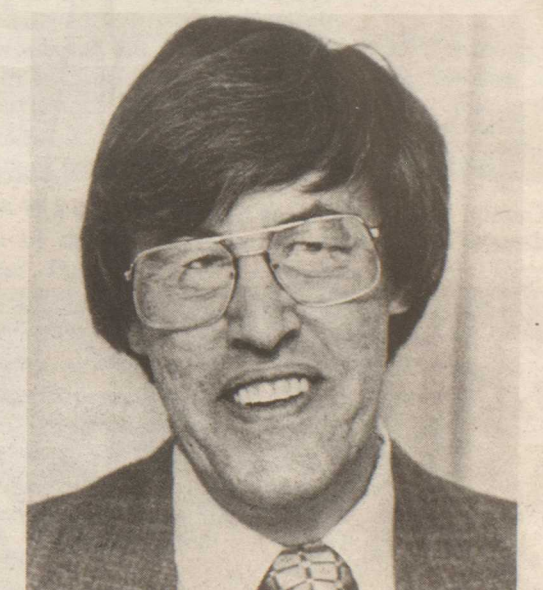
It's been great but it's time to move on, sums up Gerry Sylvester's feelings about leaving Langara Campus to accept the post as Principal of Malaspina College on Vancouver Island.

Langara Campus's Dean of Instruction says he has mixed emotions about his imminent departure from the campus. On one hand, he is going to miss the people at the College but, on the other hand, he feels it is time for someone else to accept the challenge as Dean.

"I've been Dean for the past seven and a half years. They need some one with a fresh outlook and I need a new challenge," he said. "However, I have enjoyed the 11 years I have spent with the College. It's been a great place to work for. We have some really fine people here," he said.

Gerry is looking forward to his new job and says he has had an unbelievably warm welcome from everyone at Malaspina. "The College has a good track record and I hear they have some top-notch people working there," he said. Gerry says his family have been very supportive about the move, which he discussed with them prior to accepting the appointment.

Teaching history, in what is now K.E.C., was Gerry's first job with the College. That was in 1968. In 1972 he was appointed



Dean of Instruction. Prior to joining V.C.C., he was associated with Notre Dame College in Nelson, B.C.

Gerry says the time he has spent at Langara has been great. "People have always been very supportive," he said, "and I've learned a great deal from Principal Dr. J.J. Denholm and his predecessor Mr. Newberry. I feel very proud to have been associated with V.C.C."

Gerry assumes his new post September 1.

INTERCOM

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K.E.C.'s Dean of Instruction and retiree Gwen Low, left, chat with Mr. and Mrs. James Kennedy, Langara Campus Principal Dr. J.J. Denholm and retiree Mary Anderson, accompanied by her son.

CE Grad Short & Sweet

The only way to describe Continuing Education's recent graduation ceremony at Eric Hamber Centre is "short and sweet". Good speakers, enthusiastic students and a small, but appreciative audience, all added up to make a good evening.

It was the largest class of graduates to date. One hundred and ninety certificates were presented to students who completed the requirements in the following programs: accounting; business administration - general; communications; managerial supervision; marketing management; occupational counselling; office, sales, personnel or small business management; electronics technical; technical drafting and early childhood education.

The students, who ranged in age from 19 to 65 years, came from a variety of backgrounds, High school drop-outs to people with university degrees went through the program.

The graduation ceremony opened with a welcome to the students and guests by head instructor at Hamber, Tom Kelly, who said he appreciated the support the surrounding community have given the program.

Greetings from the College Board were delivered by Board Chairman, J.C. Melvin Scott, who said he was happy to see everyone complete their studies successfully. "I hope it will stand you in good stead in your future pursuits," he said.

College Principal Tony Manera, who was next up on the podium, said it was a pleasure to be at Hamber for the second time. He told the crowd that people come to V.C.C. for a variety of reasons, but whatever the objective, tonight's group stands out as a special group, he said. "Some people do the absolute minimum to get by, but you do not fit that category. You have initiative and the results here tonight show it."

"I congratulate you and wish you well in the future and I hope you will always have good memories of the College."



London Drugs President Stanley Glazer addresses the crowd.



C.E. Principal Alf Glenesk, right, and Business Administration instructor Tom Kelly, pose with graduating student Edward Farago who spoke during the ceremony on behalf of the students.



Master of Ceremonies Bernie Schachter presents the graduation students to the first two platform guests, Board Chairman J.C. Melvin Scott and V.C.C. Principal Tony Manera.

Alf Glenesk, Principal of Continuing Education, spoke briefly about the business administration program and the people who have helped make it successful, some of whom were in attendance at the ceremony. He told the audience that the work the students have put in represents 240 hours of instruction. Mr. Glenesk then introduced the special guest speaker for the evening, Stanley Glazer, President of London Drugs Ltd.

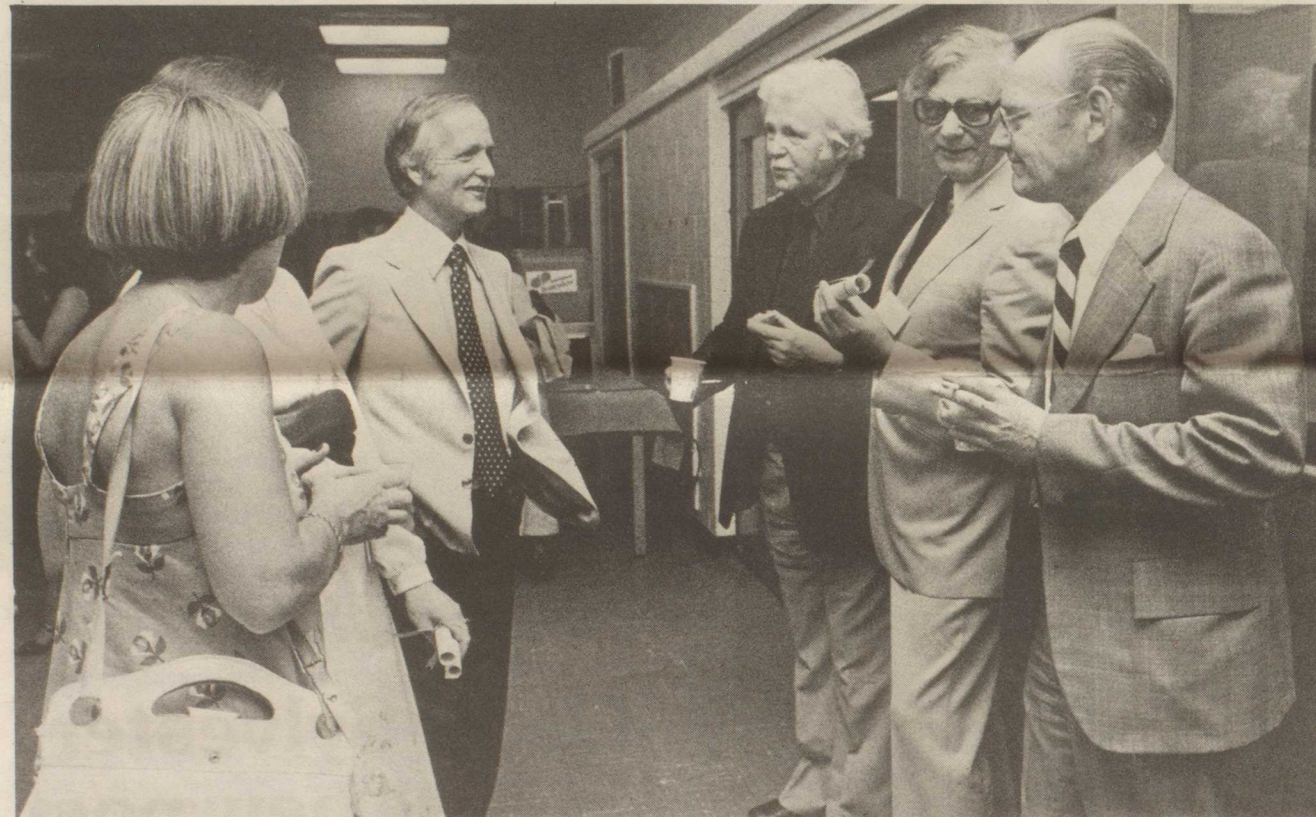
Glazer said he was delighted to be at Hamber and congratulated the students on their achievements. He said he feels nothing but admiration for the students because they have had to cope with a great deal while attending night school. You did so and deserve the credit," he said. Glazer then turned his thoughts to what it means to each student to receive a certificate.

"It means you are qualified in your field," he said, "which may bring you more money and/or a promotion."

"It has opened the door for you to be successful, so what you do with the certificate is what is going to count from now on. In the future your employer will want to see your track record not your education record."

"You have taken charge of your life by being here, so don't stand back now and wait for an appraisal at work — draft up a career plan and take it to your company. Ask them how you can best achieve your goals with their help."

Following the introduction of the graduating students by Master of Ceremonies Bernie Schachter, who is an instructor in the Business Administration Program, refreshments were served in the cafeteria.



Chatting with a couple of students following the ceremony are from right, Langara Campus Principal Dr. J.J. Denholm, Head Business Administration instructor Tom Kelly, C.E. instructor Doe McRae and C.E.'s Darg Bell-Irving.

New CE program aids mildly retarded adults

You have to know what you want to get it. Simple, right? Wrong. What if you can't recognize what you need or want or don't have the vocabulary to ask for it. You are beat before you start.

These people are the mildly retarded — the ones whose education wasn't completed by the time they reached 19 years of age and who, for the most part, were enrolled in occupational or special classes in school. For most of these people, their education stopped dead when they left school, but not their need, says Marion Belke, who is currently coordinating a Program for Mentally Retarded Adults, operated by V.C.C. Continuing Education.

"People do learn after 19 years of age, but up till now programs have catered to the 5 to 18 year age group."

"After 19 years of age we assume you have the initiative to select whatever you want, but these people are not adjusted to the working environment and need continued life skills training," said Belke.

The Program for Mentally Retarded Adults is a pilot project funded by the Continuing Education Division, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. The purpose of the program is to provide an educational process whereby a mentally retarded adult may attempt to acquire basic knowledge which leads to participation in the community. The program, which started Oct. 1, 1978, is currently operating some classes at Eric Hamber Centre in the evenings. The use of the centre allows the student to model social behaviours

from other adults who participate in business evening classes at Hamber.

"Because we are a funded project we have to balance curriculum development with actual program delivery," explained Belke. "Hopefully it will become an on-going program. The curriculum will belong to the Ministry after completion and it's up to them to decide what they are going to do with it."

To date, 186 people have gone through the program. Of these, 60.4% are in sheltered workshops during the day and earn less than the minimum wage. Fourteen percent of the participants do hold regular paying jobs, and 21% do absolutely nothing, said Belke. The average age of the students is 29 years.

Participants are not graded in the program. They are pre-tested before going into a course. Each course operates as a separate entity, explained Belke. The students can decide what they want. After 20 hours of instruction they are tested again. "The differences in skills we write up as competencies," she said, "and participants are given a letter of merit if they can do certain things. The amount of competencies vary according to student and learning. Some will have 10, others three," she said.

Courses which have already been offered by the program are: basic money - coin recognition (offered three times due to the big demand for it, said Belke); telling time; personal

Langara's 13th grad proves lucky for one student

It may have been the 13th graduation ceremonies of V.C.C., Langara Campus, but it turned out to be a lucky night for student Richard Side, who won the Governor General's medal for academic excellence.

First Chief Executive Officer of V.C.C. Dr. B.E. Wales returned to the College to present the award during the ceremonies which were held May 24 at Langara Campus. The Governor General's medal is awarded each year to a student in a diploma program who has achieved the highest scholastic standing during his or her course of studies at Langara. Side, an accounting graduate, achieved a grade point average of 3.9 over four terms. "A commendable record," said Dr. Wales.

Winning the medal was a great honor said Richard, who learned about his good fortune standing in a line waiting to file into the gym. "It made me feel weak at the knees for a moment," he admitted, "and it explained why the family had all come into town from Alberta. I thought it was just a coincidence that they all came to Vancouver together," he said. Attending the graduation were Richard's parents, his brother and sister-in-law, his grandparents and even an aunt. "I was happy about the award and it sure made my parents feel good too," he said. "It was a real boost and gave me confidence in what I can do and can achieve."

Richard was born in Fort Nelson and spent his early school years in Dawson Creek and his junior high school years in Montrose Junior High in Grand Prairie, Alta., where his family now resides. In his 11th year at school Richard dropped out. "I didn't do at all well at school," he said. "The learning environment didn't suit me."

Richard completed his grade 12 at Grand Prairie Community College and then worked for a short time for the Department of the Environment, Province of Alberta. He spent the next nine months travelling through Europe and the Middle East. On returning to Canada Richard decided he wanted a career badly. "I was very insecure and really wasn't sure what I was capable of doing," he said. Richard didn't have the requirements for university, but he was determined to apply himself fully to whatever he chose. After taking an objective look at himself to decide what work would best suit his personality and outlook, he chose accounting and has never regretted it. "I was extremely motivated by the time I hit Langara," he said, "and have since found that I really enjoy that aspect of business."

Richard praised his instructors at Langara and liked the personal approach many took, but now he says, he's ready for something different — U.B.C. and ultimately a Commerce degree. Richard still hasn't decided whether he will follow through with accounting or turn his sights towards law. That's for the future. Right now Richard is earning some extra money to help take him to university by working for our own Continuing Education department at the Regional Offices.

Well, we know Richard was an extremely happy man on grad night, but no less enthusiastic were the over 400 other students receiving diplomas that night. The gymnasium was packed with students and their families and friends.



Deans Gerry Sylvester and Dr. A.L. Dartnell lead the graduates into the gymnasium.



President of the Langara Faculty Association G.A. Bryenton congratulates 74 year old Bill Murray on receiving his Arts and Science diploma.



Langara Campus Principal J.J. Denholm Jr. and College Board Chairman J.C. Melvin Scott, chat with Governor General Medal winner Richard Side and his parents Mr. and Mrs. Al Side from Grand Prairie, Alta.

Following the playing of O' Canada, Langara principal Dr. J. J. Denholm welcomed the graduates and their families, then introduced special guests in attendance: Chief Executive Officer of the Pacific Vocational Institute, H.E. Justesen, Simon Fraser University's new president George Pedersen and Camosun's Principal Dr. Lloyd Morin.

Greetings from the College Board were delivered by Board Chairman J. C. Melvin Scott, who opened by saying, although it is the 13th graduation, he hoped it would be lucky for everyone present. "As soon as you graduate tonight, you're on holiday," he said, "and I hope what you've learned at Vancouver Community College will stand you in good stead. Congratulations to you all."

V.C.C. Principal Tony Manera also wished the graduates well and told them up till now they have been partners with the College. "You have acquired knowledge and certain attitudes

have been developed which will help you in future pursuits. There are two things which I would like you to take away with you," he said. "One, a desire to continue to learn, and two, a sense of responsibility to do more than your share."

Langara Faculty Association President Gordon Bryenton spoke to the graduates along the same lines, saying he wanted to talk to them about promises. You've all probably made some promises to yourselves, he said. "Live up to those promises to yourself because there are your goals. Tonight you have met some challenges and have achieved some goals. Keep it up and sincere good wishes from all the faculty."

The Dean's List was read by Dean G.A.R. Sylvester, then the graduates were presented by Assistant Dean R. F. Kerr, Dean A. L. Dartnell and Dean R. Cunningham, presenting the diplomas for the Music Program. Following the ceremony refreshments were served in the student cafeteria.

C.E. PROGRAM cont'd . . .

hygiene (a bomb out, she said); the use of the Canada Food Guide in food selection; immediate decision making, and ideas and practices of the working community - a vocabulary type course.

According to Belke, the program will offer 14 courses this summer, all day classes.

"Most of the courses are structured for 20 hours of instruction. They either leave the course after the 20 hours or do it a second time, starting where they left off," said Belke. "This is why we ran the money course three times."

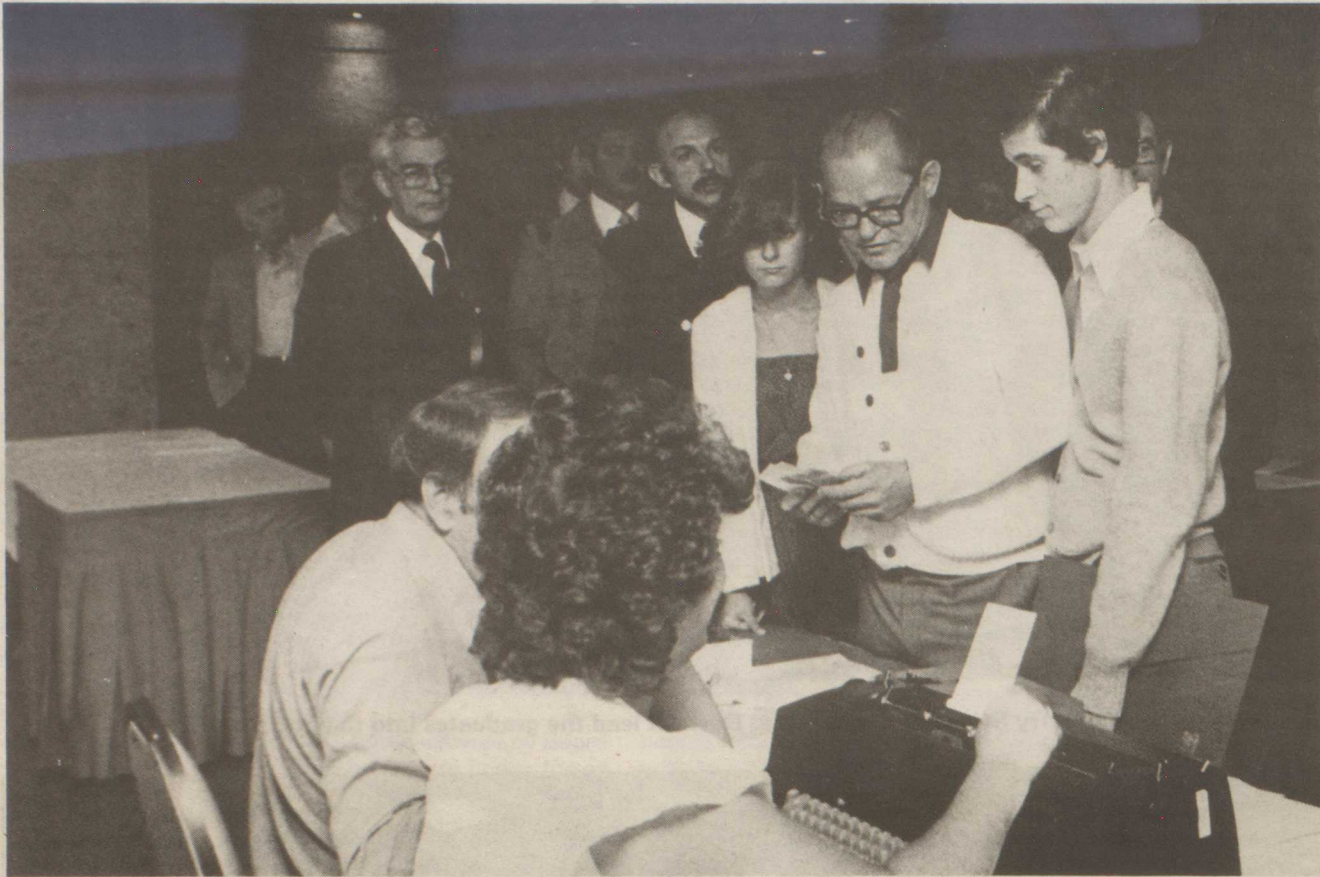
"Some of our students do have the basics," continued Belke, "but there are a few things all the students should know before choosing a particular course. For instance," she said, "students in the Telling Time course should be able to verbally give information such as name, address and phone number and follow simple directions such as 'Point to the short hand'."

"All our curriculum is aimed at enabling the student to function in the community. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to look at them as a total person. We are hoping someone else is doing that. There just isn't a good integration of services right now," she said. "We also have to deal with the student and parent motivation. If you can't practice a skill you can't really use it. We can teach them the skill but they have to go elsewhere to practice retention."

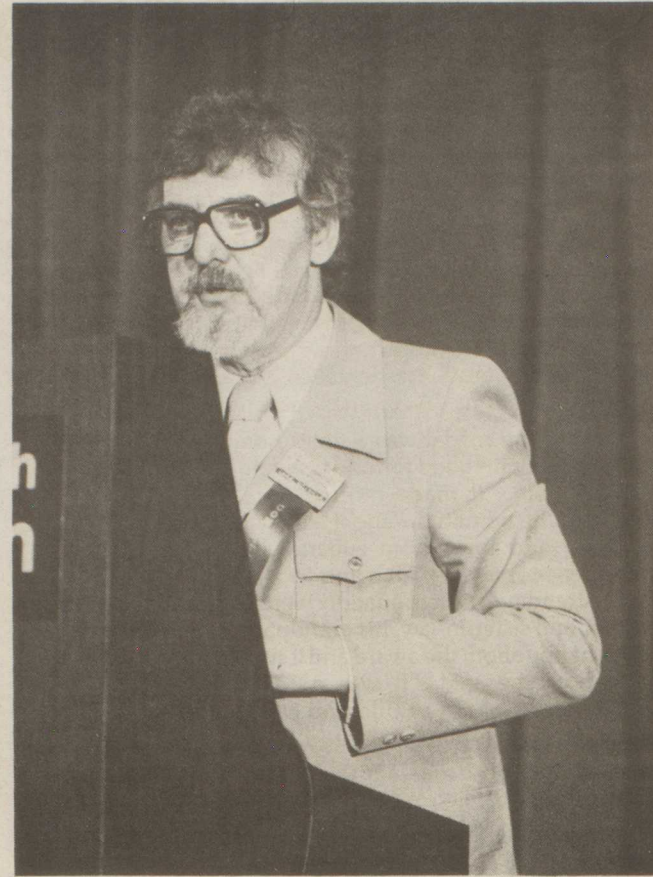
Continuing, Belke said that some of the students come to them with basic reading skills. "Some students can read essential words, but have been told they can't read, so they believe it. To them being able to pick up a book or magazine is reading. Yet they can identify a deposit slip or a can of peas. That's reading we tell them."

The program uses volunteer tutors which reduces the student/teacher ratio. The majority of instruction occurs in small groups where individuals can be matched according to needs.

According to Belke, other agencies feel pretty good about what is happening in the program, which will end this coming September. Before then, the program hopes to look at education for parents of mentally retarded adults.



Registration kept everyone hopping, but despite the large numbers, it ran very smoothly.



1978/79 President of the C.V.A. D.C. Dickson.

CVA's annual convention — a success!

Long hours of preparation and hard work by local and executive members of the Canadian Vocational Association (C.V.A.) and the V.V.I. went into making this year's C.V.A. annual convention a success.

Registration started Tuesday night, May 29, in the Holiday Inn, City Centre and went very smoothly, according to the V.V.I.'s Tony Wood. "There was a steady stream of people from 7 p.m. right up until 10," he said. Wood estimates that registration numbered around 200 the first night. Delegates were offered wine and cheese in the foyer and were entertained with a disco following registration. "Quite a few people took to the floor," said Wood, "and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves."

Registration resumed Wednesday morning and like the night before, it was very busy. At 9, V.V.I.'s Doug Kerr brought everyone together for a session called "Delegates Meeting Delegates"; the object being to unite people with the same or similar interests. Wood admitted it was hard at first to get it off the ground. People tended to stay with their own people, he said. "Once we got them into the groups, the idea worked very well. Their common interests kept many people together throughout the whole conference," said Wood.

Mayor Jack Volrich was scheduled to open the morning session, but due to other commitments, he sent Doug Little to do the honors. The first plenary session featured G. Suart from S.F.U., who spoke on Managing Post-secondary Institutions in a Period of Constraint. Following Suart's address, Jacques E. Ouelette from Canadair Ltd. discussed the Challenger and its impact in the area of specialized training within the aeronautical industry. Ouelette caught the interest of the media and was interviewed by the CBC following his presentation.

Ouelette said that although there was an average of 2.9 million unemployed young people in Canada in 1978, between the ages of 20 - 25, there simply are not enough experienced people on the job market nor can companies look to present numbers of graduating students to meet specialized needs.



Minister of Education, Science and Technology, the Hon. Patrick McGeer enjoys a brief chat with Captain Vancouver. Looking on is C.V.A. secretary Lillian Paige.



Pictured at the registration area are from left, V.V.I.'s Tony Wood, C.V.A. Vice-president J. Dube, guest speaker J. Ouelette from Canadair and Marie Tompko from M.T. College in New Westminster.

Ouelette talked about his company, its background and how it achieved the success it now has. He told the delegates how the company went about recruiting labour and ultimately started a program of on-the-job training, which has proven very successful. Ouelette said his company had no desire to get into the school business. "It would best serve the needs of both industry and the academic community if we could simply accept graduates of vocational courses and place them on the job, but unfortunately this cannot happen," he said.

"The primary problem, which is also the most obvious, is the demand for post-educational experience prior to letting a young person loose on production work."

Ouelette feels vocational schools are not in a position to provide the factory environment, the variety of work or materials, complexity of work nor sufficient actual hands-on-time necessary to qualify for the adjective "qualified". Secondary, he said, in many industries such as the aerospace industry, the pace of technological advance is so rapid that it is simply impossible for vocational courses to keep pace.

Ouelette said this is not intended in any way to be a criticism of our vocational training system. "They are doing an excellent job and we at Canadair go out of our way to seek out those young graduates."

Lunch was served following Ouelette's address. The convention sessions resumed at 1:30 p.m. when delegates split off into separate workshop groups. Conducting workshops from V.C.C. were: Director of Personnel and Labour Relations, Dale Jones - "Strategies and Tactics for Collective Bargaining", and C.E.'s Keith Dunbar and Marion Belke - "Educational Traps for the Handicapped". Cont'd on pg. 7

CVA continued from page 6

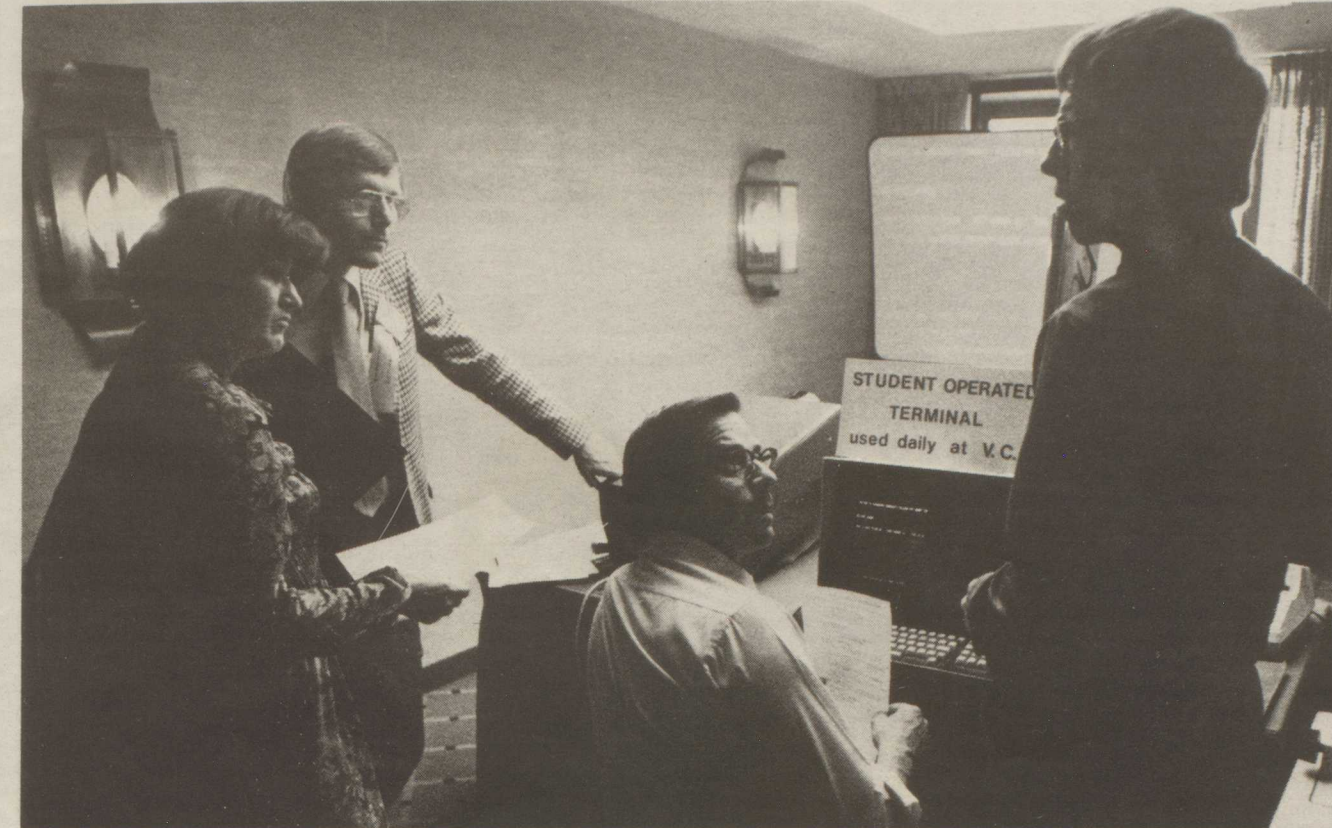
While the workshops were going on, delegates had the option to tour Crown Zellerbach's new veneer plant and sawmill. Wood said many people took advantage of the tours. "The weather was gorgeous and everyone quite enjoyed themselves," he said. "In fact," said Wood, "all three tours were well received." (The other two were the Burrard Dry Dock and Canadian Pacific Airlines Maintenance Base.)

Thursday morning dawned bright and sunny and as delegates helped themselves to coffee and Danish pastries, past C.V.A. presidents prepared for their plenary session. The title of the session was "Five C.V.A. Presidents Draw from the Past to Look at the Good Times 79". The session was to be led by Dean Goard Sr., but due to ill health, 1978 president Don Dickson stepped in to fill the gap. The rest of the group was

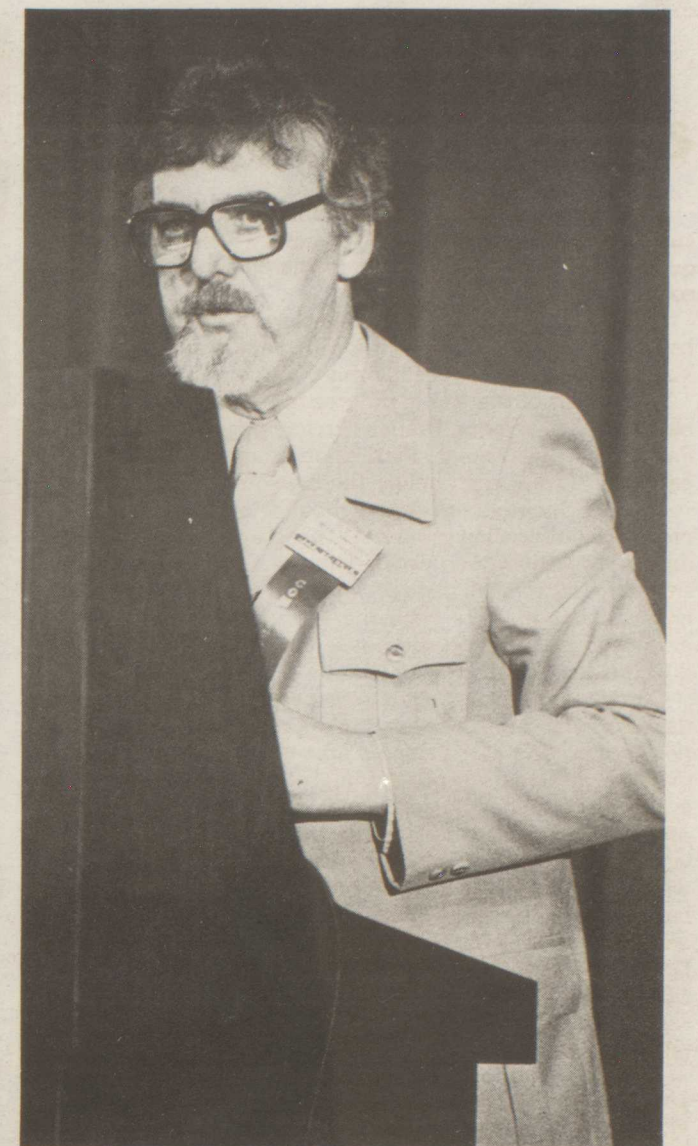
made up of Rene Boileau from Quebec, Don Glendenning from P.E.I., Walter Davy from Ontario and Ross Ford from Victoria.

More workshops were scheduled for the afternoon with K.E.C.'s Colin Casey leading one entitled "Alphabet Soup or Hot Water".

At 6 p.m. the bars opened and Captain Vancouver made his appearance and welcomed the delegates to Vancouver and the convention. The crowd were brought to their feet, a short time later, when the Police Band Pipers piped the head table guests into the ballroom. Included at the head table was Minister of Education, Science and Technology, the Hon. Dr. Patrick McGeer. McGeer spoke following the dinner on vocational education, ie apprenticeships and the length of programs and related the importance of trades training. Following his speech the ballroom was open for dancing.



Mike Randall, right, coordinator of V.V.I.'s Computer Assisted Instruction, and Bob Smith, far left, Curriculum Consultant in Program Development, show two delegates how the computer assisted instruction/education works.



V.V.I. Principal Jake McInnis addresses the crowd. He was named Vice-president for the C.V.A. B.C. and Northwest Territories regions.

The convention wound up Friday morning with a general meeting and election of officers. Elected president of the C.V.A. was Belle Nicholson from Holland College in Charlotte-town, P.E.I. V.V.I.'s Principal Jake McInnis was named Vice-president of the B.C. and Northwest Territories region.

VCC golf tournament results

V.C.C.'s first annual golf tournament was held May 27th at Delta Golf Course despite the threat of rain and the high winds.

Nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of the 26 participants as they prepared for the tournament. With golf clubs at the ready, the group watched (with bated breath) as a huge raincloud passed directly overhead without spilling one drop on their heads. Unfortunately, the cloud had to dump rain on somebody and that person was our own Bursar Max Fleming, who was lost somewhere on River Road looking for the golf course. Deciding enough was enough — Max turned his car around and went home.

The winds continued to blow at a brisk rate but the sun did come out as the participants prepared to tee off. According to Regional Office's Val Cahill the course was lousy. "It was like playing in a cow pasture," she said. "The greens were uneven and long grass surrounded the course." Val said many people had trouble finding their balls. Val's husband Tom lost at least 12 balls but was able to recover most of them, unlike Regional's Bob Koblenzky, who lost at least 20 balls. Despite the imperfect conditions, the participants had a great time.

The tournament prizes were presented at a special dinner held at the Lotus Gardens Restaurant. The low-gross winner was Langara's Keith Baggoo who was presented with the V.C.C. golf tournament trophy and a family membership to the Southslope Y.M.C.A. Low-net winner was V.V.I.'s Morris Defeyter who won the Labatts Trophy, which was presented by Labatts representative Gordie Wieber. Best woman golfer of the day was Gordie's wife Ellen, who won dinner for two at the Lotus Gardens Restaurant, courtesy of V.V.I. Services Division Chairman Tony Wood.

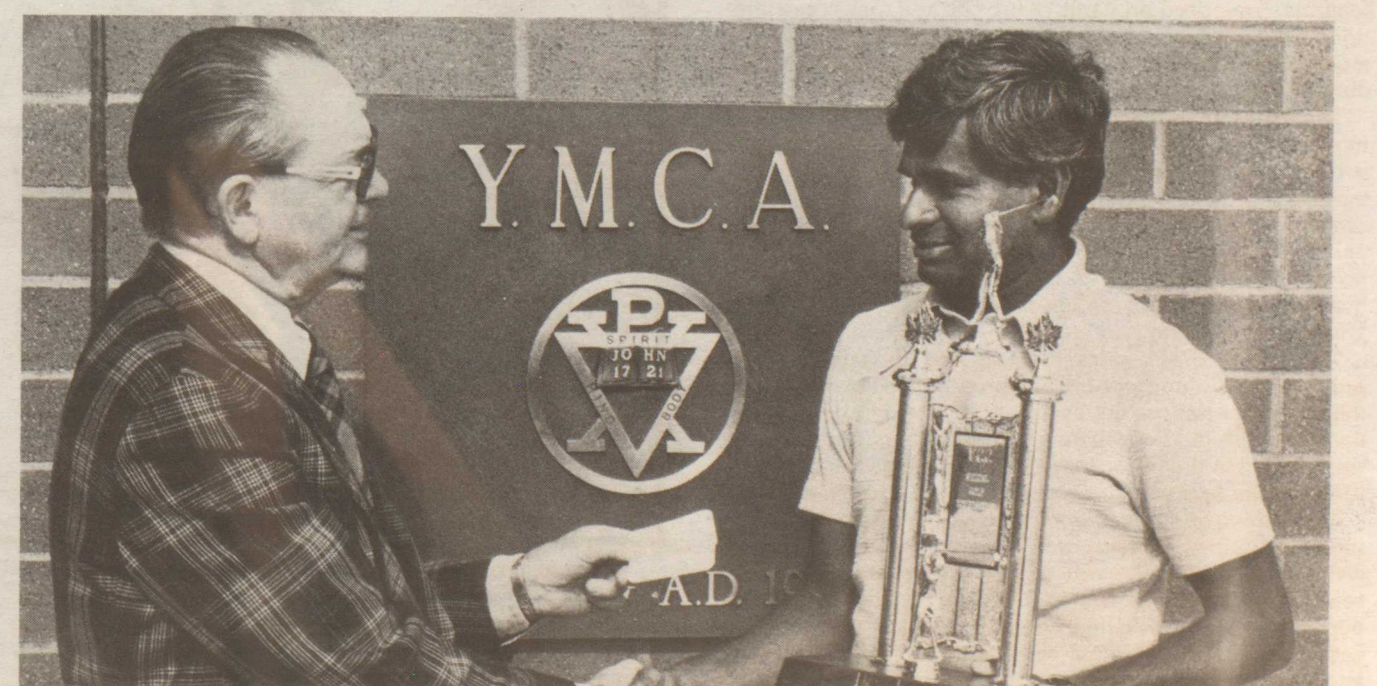
Other tournament winners were: Ashley Dermer for 2nd low gross, who won a Wilson's Pentel Pen; Ellen Defeyter, 3rd low gross, who won a Skyline Sports golf shirt; Al Ulridge, 2nd low net, who won a Sparlings Sporting Goods turtle-neck shirt, and Otto Both, 3rd low net, who was presented with a \$10 gift certificate from Olympic Sports.

Participation prizes included: Y.M.C.A. day passes for everyone, golf balls from both Western Golf Sales and Langara Golf Course and a case of Casabello wine.

Regional Office's Bob Koblenzky said he would like to thank the campus coordinators who made the tournament possible — George Moore of Langara Campus, Bob Brady from V.V.I. and Roger Ofield of K.E.C., who, despite trying very hard, was unable to find one golfing enthusiast at the campus.



V.V.I. Morris Defeyter, right, receives a special trophy from Labatts representative Gordie Wieber for winning low net at the golf tournament. With the two gentlemen is Regional Office golf tournament coordinator Bob Koblenzky.



YMCA representative Grahame Watt presents Langara Campus's Keith Baggoo with a family membership to the South Slope YMCA.

Archaeology dig attracts attention

Seven archaeology students from Langara campus are currently working on a dig in Tsawwassen which is attracting quite a bit of interest from the media and the surrounding community.

Entitled the Beach Grove Archaeology Project, the dig site has had visitors from both the newspapers and television. Vancouver Cable 10 recently ran a program on the dig.

Excavation of the site is progressing under permit to the Heritage Conservation Branch (Archaeology Division) of the Provincial Government. Permission from the local Indian band was also needed before the dig could begin.

The Beach Grove site, during the time of its occupation(s), probably commencing some 2,000 years ago, was surrounded on three sides by open water. The site consists primarily of shell deposits or shell midden. One end of the site, the south end, appears to have been the site of a winter village as evidenced by the probable house depressions, said project director Stan Copp.

Currently the site is split into two sections due to modern developments. Langara's excavations are concerned with the northern portion of the site, an area encompassing approximately eight acres. The primary goal of the dig, said Copp, is to evaluate the archaeological significance of this one section of the site. In order to do this, he said, they had to determine whether or not the cultural deposits in the site had been disturbed by earlier shell mining activities. Towards this end, a backhoe was used to rapidly excavate a series of trenches across the site deposits. The results of the cross trenching, said Copp, revealed that this northern section had not been significantly disturbed except for a relatively small area.

Backdirt from the backhoe excavations has been systematically screened through ¼ inch mesh screens in order to



Archaeology students continue with the systematic excavation of the northwest corner.

VVI students win dental award

Dental Assisting students Judy Holden and Frank Kowalishyn recently won the B.C. Dental Association's Student Clinic Award at the B.C. Dental Convention.

The trophy was presented to the V.V.I. students for their table clinic presentation entitled "Nutrition and Oral Health of the Pregnant Patient".

The Dental Assisting Department were thrilled with the win. Said Program Assistant Denise Rogers, "I can't remember the last time we won the award, it's been that long." Denise explained that the Dental Assisting Association did not award a trophy last year because no convention was held. "It's great to win it this year though," she said.

Judy, who along with Frank will be graduating this month, said she was shocked and very surprised when they were named the winners. The pair got the idea for doing something on pregnancy and dental health care following a talk on the subject. "The area has generally been left alone and is not often discussed," said Judy. Both students put together a written presentation and reported their findings to the class. It was very well received so they decided to do a clinic table for the convention using posters and various articles dealing with the subject.

Their worthwhile efforts have placed a nice trophy in dental assisting for one year.

Congratulations!

V.V.I. dental assisting students Frank Kowalishyn and Judy Holden pose with the trophy they won at the B.C. Dental Association Convention.



One of the backhoe trenches.

retrieve artifacts and other cultural materials. A smaller area of the site, the northwest corner, was selected for more intensive analysis and systematic excavation. A number of small hearth features, comprised primarily of fire cracked rock concentrations, plus the nature of artifacts recovered, reveal that this area was an open air occupation area rather than a refuse dump, said Copp.

The types of artifacts recovered include: land and sea mammal bones, fish vertebrae, shellfish valves, chipped stone projectile points and flakes, a number of bone artifacts including projectile points, bipointed objects, wedges and other tools, antler harpoon points and wedges, a lip ornament and a single ground stone projectile point. This partial list will no doubt be expanded as laboratory analysis of material begins, said Copp. And the age of the site? Between 1400 and 1800 years old," he said.

"Even with these dates though, it is difficult to know precisely which group of Indians presently living in the area may have had ancestors living at the site. However, since native Indians did deposit the cultural remains, and since the site falls within the historic territory of the Tsawwassen band, then the site falls within their jurisdiction," explained Copp.

In summing up some of their findings Copp said that at one time the southern portion of the site may have supported a winter village with the rest of the site representing other seasonal occupations. The size of the midden, depth of deposits and mostly shell content, indicate that shellfish gathering was an important activity, he said. However, land and sea mammal and fish remains have also been found indicating that these species were also exploited. In conclusion — the Beach Grove inhabitants were wholly adapted to a Northwest Coast pattern of life.

Attention AVS



The challenge is out.

We're not going to chicken out again.

We want to play ball with the big, bad wolves from Audio Visual. You've been wolfing down team after team, but you're not going to take us. We've been practicing diligently (sort of) over the past couple of months and we're ready for some action. Unfortunately our after game conferences tend to be better attended and slightly more popular than the game itself. So beware.

If we can't beat you on the field, our elbows are bent and ready to take you at the post-game session.

Signed: The R.O. Irregulars