

Bourassa have held Ontario-Quebec conferences for a couple of years at least.

May 29/76 Mail Star

provinces, we erred in describing Don Jamieson minister of regional economic expansion.

name of the minister.

ARK - PET

# Land-locked ark will be scientists' home

By JAMES SCOTT

The Financial Times, London

TORONTO — In a part of Canada where water-wheels and windmills are suddenly back in vogue again because of soaring energy costs, a group of Canadian and American scientists is building a land-locked ark.

Claimed to be the only one of its kind in the world, the \$345,000 ark or — “eco-house” — is being built by the the Cape Cod-based New Alchemy Institute Inc. on Prince Edward Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It has a 100 per cent grant from the Canadian Government's Department of Urban Affairs.

Proposed as an experiment in ecological

living, the 2,500 square-foot unit will become home this summer to a group of scientists who hope to prove that man can live comfortably, even lavishly, using only the sun and wind to sustain his energy needs.

It will have a greenhouse at one end and three fish-growing tanks. at the other and will be warmed with solar heated water and powered by four giant windmills Its greenhouse will be capable of providing a year-round feast of fresh vegetables and exotic tropical fruit. Its fish tanks will spawn fresh trout and salmon.

It is probably the most ambitious attempt yet in a northern climate to combine under one roof the functions of generating

energy, growing food, recycling wastes and providing shelter by natural renewable means, all in harmony with the ecology.

Its leading advocate is Dr. John Todd, a director of the New Alchemy Institute. Although he considers himself a marine biologist, he also has a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture, a Master of Science degree in parasitology and tropical medicine and a doctorate in comparative psychology and ethology (the scientific study of the behaviour patterns of animals).

“We will use all ecologically wise ways of working with land and sea and the elements,” says Dr. Todd. “Prince Edward Island is an ideal place to focus our experi-

mental project. The province's wind profile is one of the highest in North America and it has an average of 2,000 hours of sun each year.”

“There's a nice fusion of land and sea — providing freshwater fish like trout and salmon. The soil is not rocky, is fairly deep and grows a wide variety of plants and produce,” says the 35-year-old scientist. With his wife and three children he will live in “the ark” on a rotation basis with other New Alchemy personnel and their families.

In a few years the ark may become significant to small farmers since it opens the way for the use of solar energy in greenhouses and the solar drying of concentrated crops