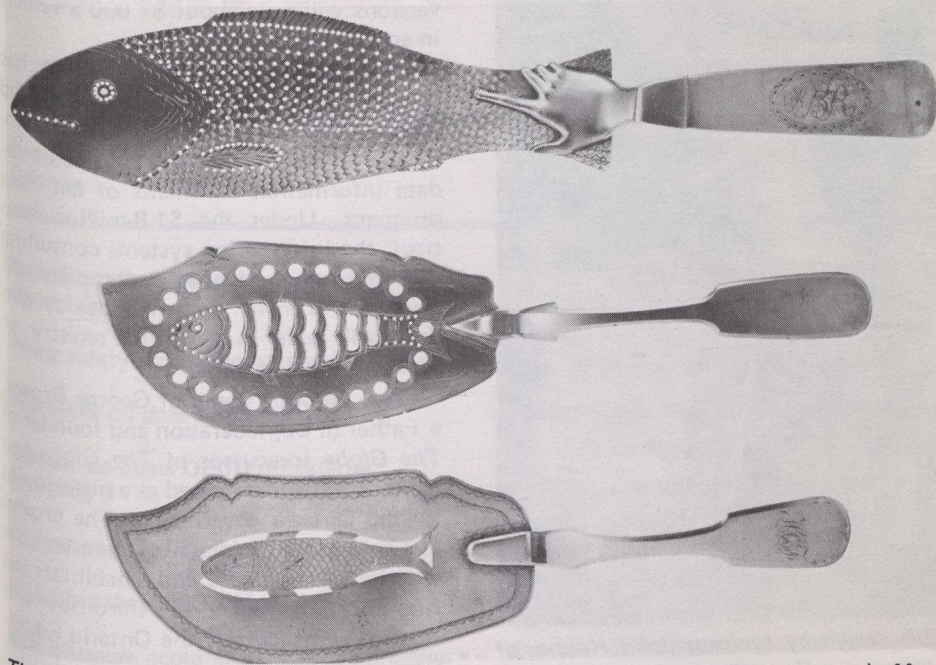


A collection of Canadian silver shines in exhibition



Three fish slices, pierced and engraved, made in various designs: (top to bottom): Mark of H.P. and Montreal is attributed to Henri Polonceau of Montreal; mark of F.D. indicates piece was done by François Delagrave; and mark of J.R. for Joseph Robinson & Company.

A collection of Canadian silver, comprising 500 pieces made by silversmiths during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, has been given to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

The John and Eustella Langdon Collection of Canadian Silver is representative of most of the silversmiths active in Canada during the two centuries and in-

cludes religious and domestic pieces as well as a large collection of flatware. The collection was formed by the late John E. Langdon, considered one of Canada's foremost authorities on silver and an author of four books on the subject.

Marks identify silversmiths

Mr. Langdon's particular interest was in

the identification of the marks of early silversmiths and silver dealers. The marks on the flatware, the largest category in the collection, provide an invaluable record of 150 different individuals who were active in Quebec, the Maritimes and Ontario.

The flatware also illustrates regional tastes and changing social customs. The works range from simple functional utensils to innovative forms, such as sugar tongs, butter knives, and elaborately engraved fish slices (servers), made for the Victorian table.

Church vessels in the collection include a handsome navette, or incense container, by François Ranvoyzé (1739-1819) and a pair of engraved burettes or cruets by François Sasseville (1797-1864), both of Quebec. Among the earliest domestic pieces are tumbler cups, including one by Jean-François Landron (1686-1762). Later items include wine tasters, snuff boxes, napkin rings and a mid-nineteenth century nutmeg grater.

A special exhibit of a selection of Langdon collection is currently on display at the Royal Ontario Museum.

New director named to head Canada Council

Timothy Porteous, associate director of the Canada Council since 1973 and acting director since January 1981, has been appointed the new director of the Canada Council.

The council is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary (see *Canada Weekly*, dated April 14, 1982) and has a \$71-million budget to subsidize the arts in Canada this year.

Born in Montreal in 1933, Timothy Porteous received his education in that city and also in France. He practised law in Montreal and from 1968 until 1973 served as executive assistant and speechwriter to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

Mr. Porteous has been associated in various capacities with the National Theatre School of Canada, the Dominion Drama Festival, Theatre Canada and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. He was co-author and associate producer of *My Fur Lady*, a musical satire that toured Canada. He is a member of the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada and is author of a book entitled *The Prime Ministers of Canada*.

Mr. Porteous took over from Charles Lussier who was named Clerk of the Senate.



Navette, or incense boat, in a traditional French style, embossed and chased with an acanthus leaf design on a matte ground.

Royal Ontario Museum photos