

policy objectives. The transformation of Rhodesia to the new Zimbabwe; the growing acceptance of women as full parties in economic and political life; the effort to move forward on North/South economic issues — in these and similar areas the Commonwealth has made significant contributions.

The success of the Commonwealth inspired much of the thinking which went into the hosting of the first-ever summit of francophone nations last month in Paris. We have great hopes that this forum too will become an instrument for international understanding and human progress....

Canada has invited Commonwealth leaders to convene in Vancouver in 1987 for their next meeting. The invitation demonstrates to Canadians the Commonwealth's attachment to and respect for Canada and the principles which guide this country in our activities around the world.

## Aid to Philippines and Haiti

External Relations Minister Monique Vézina has announced that Canada will provide over \$5 million in assistance to the Philippines and \$3.3 million in emergency aid to Haiti.

Funds for the programs will be provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

In the announcement outlining two aid programs for the Philippines, Mrs. Vézina said that the "\$5 million in assistance reflects our support for the new administration of President Corazon Aquino and confidence in the country's future".

In the first program, \$300 000 will be used for food for some 50 000 children suffering from malnutrition. The second program will dispense \$4.8 million over the next four years to support projects run by community-based Philipinos non-governmental organizations dedicated to improving living standards and employment opportunities especially among tenant farmers, squatters, landless rural workers, fishermen, urban poor, and cultural minorities.

For Haiti, emergency food aid in the form of wheat flour and vegetable oil valued at \$200 000 is to be sent immediately, while a more substantial food program valued at \$3 million will be established by CIDA during 1986-87. A further \$70 000 will be provided through the Canadian embassy in Port-au-Prince to purchase furniture for schools that were damaged during the recent popular uprising.

"The new administration in Haiti is facing some immense tasks," said Mrs. Vézina. "There are many challenges and we are prepared to help the Haitians with their most basic requirements."

## Decorative Nova Scotia folk art on tour

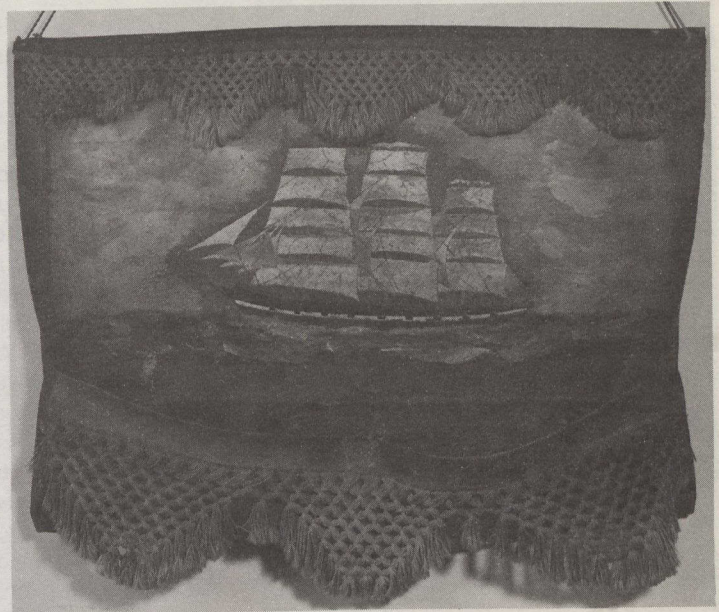
A unique collection, representing the most comprehensive survey of traditional decorative Nova Scotia folk art ever assembled, is currently on a two-year tour of major galleries and museums in Canada.

*The Spirit of Nova Scotia: Traditional Decorative Folk Art (1780-1930)*, opened at the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in January and will close at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia in Halifax in November 1987.

It will also be on view in Windsor, Winnipeg, Calgary, Victoria, Toronto and Charlottetown.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and sponsored by Mobil Oil Canada Limited, the exhibition spans 150 years from the late eighteenth century to the first quarter of the twentieth century. Drawn from public and private collections in Canada and the United States, about 75 per cent of the objects have not been exhibited before.

The 300 artifacts featured trace the ethnic and cultural development of Nova Scotia's



Early twentieth century sail-cloth wall hanging with two storage pouches.

decorative folk art tradition, reflecting the home and community life of the maritime men and women who created them. They were not usually considered art by their makers and owners but were objects used in daily living, decoratively embellished and conveying a special meaning to their owners and makers.

### From textiles to paintings

The exhibition examines four major categories of objects: textiles; decorated utilitarian objects; sculpture in stone, bone and wood; and oil paintings, watercolours and drawings.

Various types of coverings for the floor, bed or table are included in the textile category, while boxes and barrels designed for specific purposes, powder horns, mirrors, boardgames, canes and furniture are among the decorated utilitarian objects, the largest category in the exhibition.

Decoys, ship carvings and models, rocking horses, weather-vanes, whirligigs, animal carvings, trade figures and sailor's valentines form part of the sculpture section and in the painting, drawing category there are portraits, landscapes, signs and memorials.

A few of the highlights include a hand-forged copper weather-vane of a rooster, an intricately carved figurehead of a sea-faring boy, a painted sailcloth, a hooked rug from an Atlantic homestead and a hand-carved wooden head of a ventriloquist's dummy.

A book, compiled by exhibition curator Richard Henning Field in conjunction with the exhibition, describes the tradition of folk art in the province and provides a colourful, descriptive catalogue.



Small colourful portrait, made by reverse painting on glass in the second quarter of the nineteenth century.