

## BEEFED-UP WIENERS

Wieners that are not bigger but more nourishing will be on the Canadian market before the year ends. Federal Government nutritionists are currently drafting regulations to establish a minimum protein content for all wieners and sausage products made in Canada.



The federal department of National Health and Welfare will insist that wieners and sausages contain a certain amount of protein. There are no regulations now that determine how much protein they should contain. It was previously thought that by controlling cereal, moisture and fat content, protein content also would be controlled. This hasn't worked in some cases since the amount of protein sometimes fell below the amount that Government nutritionists thought adequate.

The regulations will require meat-packers and processors to put more protein into their products. The protein consists mainly of beef and pork. Government nutritionists are working under some handicap in writing the new regulations — they want the protein "minimum" set without giving the producers cause to beef up their prices which, no doubt, would be passed on to the customer.

## NAC ORCHESTRA TO VISIT ITALY

The National Arts Centre Orchestra will give four concerts in Italy in addition to its performances in Poland, the Soviet Union, Britain and France when it goes on its first transatlantic tour in May and June next year.

The orchestra's trip abroad will thus be extended to a full month. The ensemble will leave Montreal for Warsaw on May 9, 1973, and return from Milan on June 10. The tour was originally meant to last from May 14 to June 4. At the request of the Soviet Union, the number of concerts there has been increased from three to six, which means moving the Warsaw per-

formances to an earlier date. To enable the orchestra to leave Canada early enough to have a two-day rest period after the transatlantic flight, the concert of the new Family Series, originally scheduled for May 11, will be presented next March 27.

The following are the dates for the NAC Orchestra's concerts abroad: May 12, 13 — Warsaw; May 15, 16 — Leningrad; May 17, 18 — Riga; May 20 — Kiev; May 22 — Moscow; May 25 — Bath, England (opening of Bath Festival); May 29 — Bristol, England; June 1 — London; June 2 — Llandaff Festival; June 4 — Versailles Festival; June 6 — Rome; June 7 — Florence; June 8 — Bolzano; June 9 — Venice.

## ONTARIO SMALL-FARMS PROGRAM

The federal Agriculture Minister, H.A. Olson, and the Ontario Agriculture Minister, W.A. Stewart, recently signed an agreement to implement the Small Farms Development Program (SFDP) in Ontario. The aim of the program is to help farmers develop more profitable family holdings. It will also assist those farmers who wish to change to non-farm occupations or to retire.

"We want to give the small farmer a chance to realize his dreams," Mr. Olson said, "whether they be of building a profitable, business-like farm or getting out from under a farm that he doesn't want to run any more or that he can't keep going because of the work or intolerable debt load involved.

"This program, which has been developed by the Federal Government, will encourage the development of profitable family farms and prosperous rural communities," the Minister said.

The Small Farms Development Program, whose aim is to benefit the farmers of all provinces that wish to take part, consists of a land-transfer program, assistance to land buyers and sellers, and information, rural counselling and farm-management consulting services.

The aims of the Canada-Ontario agreement are to facilitate land transfers toward the development of economically viable family farms and to assist owner-operators of small farms in realizing on their equity in their farm holdings.

The Federal and Ontario Governments will form a joint committee to co-ordinate the SFDP with federal and provincial services.

The Federal Government will establish a National Small Farms Development Advisory Committee to recommend policy proposals to the federal Agriculture Minister and other appropriate authorities. The provincial government will provide rural counselling and farm-management services in the implementation of the program in Ontario. The Federal Government will provide a central information service.

Ontario is the second province to enter this agreement with the Federal Government. The first was Alberta, which entered last July.