

BORDUAS IN RETROSPECT

A retrospective exhibition of the work of the painter Paul-Emile Borduas (1905-1960) opened on March 8 at the National Gallery in Ottawa, where it will run until April 8. Organized by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in co-operation with the National Gallery and the Art Gallery of Toronto, the exhibition, which consists of 130 paintings and six pieces of sculpture, illustrates the development of his career from the time of his early studies with Ozias Leduc, a painter of religious subjects in Borduas' birthplace of St. Hilaire, Quebec, until his death in Paris in 1960.

The evolution of Borduas' style from representational to non-figurative painting can be traced through the works on display, which were borrowed from his estate, from members of his family, and from public and private collections in Montreal, New York, Ottawa, Toronto and Quebec City. A number of paintings in this exhibition have never been shown publicly in North America.

BORDUAS IN NATIONAL GALLERY

The first work of this painter to join the national collection was the canvas "Sous le Vent de l'Île", bought by the National Gallery in 1953. In 1956, "Sea-Gull", which is at present on exhibit in Poland with about 60 other Canadian paintings, was purchased for the nation. In 1955 and 1959, Borduas exhibited at the first and third Biennials of Canadian Paintings organized by the National Gallery.

TRAINING

In 1923, Borduas, who received little formal schooling in his early years, entered the Ecole des

NEIGHBOURING LEGISLATORS CONFER

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The Committee agreed that the policies of both Canada and the United States must be developed in the light of each country's long-range plans to counter the Communist threat.

UNITED NATIONS BOND ISSUE

The Committee was unanimous in its support of the United Nations at this difficult juncture in its history. In this connection the Committee discussed the method and extent of meeting the United Nations' financial obligations arising principally from its efforts to establish peace and security in the Congo. The Committee discussed and explored the United Nations' proposal to help meet these obligations through the sale of bonds. The failure of many members to meet their assessments has created a financial crisis.

The Committee was of the opinion that the United Nations fiscal machinery should be made more efficient and more stringent control should be exercised over financial matters.

Beaux Arts in Montreal, where he received his diploma in 1927.

He was the first pupil of the Ecole des Beaux Arts to be employed by the Catholic School Commission, where he taught drawing from 1927 to 1939, with several interruptions. From 1937 to 1939, he worked as a part-time professor of drawing, decoration and documentation at Montreal's Ecole du Meuble; from 1939 until 1948, he was a full-time member of the staff. Among his students was the now famous Jean-Paul Riopelle.

Though Borduas consistently refused to join groups of artists, he was a founder of the Contemporary Arts Society in 1939, an organization that exerted an important influence on the artists of the Montreal area.

"AUTOMATISTE" EXHIBITION

In 1947, with a number of his students, Borduas presented the first "Automatistes" exhibition. "Automatiste" was the term used for painting executed without premeditation. Next year he issued the now historic "Refus Global", which attacked the very roots of the tradition he and his followers were steeped in and caused his dismissal from the Ecole du Meuble.

In 1953, Borduas went to the United States, first to Provincetown, Massachusetts, and then to New York. In 1955, he went to Paris, where he lived until his death in 1960. The same year he was posthumously awarded the Guggenheim prize for the best painting executed in Canada in 1960.

ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

RELATIONS WITH THE COMMON MARKET

The Committee discussed the broad implications and the effects on Canada and the United States of European developments, with particular reference to the United Kingdom's application for membership in the Common Market. The Committee recognized that both Canada and the United States face special problems of trade arising from European regional arrangements. At the request of the Canadian delegation, the United States delegation outlined the purpose and scope of new trade legislation now before the United States Congress. The Canadian delegation expressed support for expansion of multilateral world trade by such measures as may be agreed upon and Canada's willingness to take a constructive part in this expansion.

Both delegations expressed the view that the commercial and agricultural policies of the Common Market following negotiation for their application to Canada and the United States should result in a fair and adequate access for the industrial materials, agricultural products and manufactured goods of both countries.

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