

OTTAWA-QUEBEC MOROCCAN PROJECT

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Marcel Masse, Quebec Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, announced recently that the Federal Government and the government of Quebec had agreed to work together on the implementation of an economic and social development project in Morocco in which Canada had undertaken to participate at the request of the Moroccan Government.

This new example of co-operation involving an international development project is regarded as a welcome event in the context of federal-provincial relations. It is a rural-development project in northern Morocco in the Province of Tétouan, part of a broad plan for rural economic development in the eastern Rif (Développement économique et rural de Rif occidental - DERRO) in which several countries are now participating. The Government of Canada will meet the costs of Canadian participation in this project, including the salaries of experts whom the Quebec government will assign to the undertaking. The arrangements agreed to between Ottawa and Quebec will allow the technical and professional skills of Quebec experts to be utilized.

When, in February 1968, the Government of Canada agreed to co-operate with the Government of Morocco in the realization of the DERRO-Tétouan project, a group of Canadian experts recruited by the federal and Quebec governments went to Morocco to

carry out a preliminary study of the project. Execution of the project will now be carried out on the basis of close co-operation between the two governments.

The Government of Canada has entrusted the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) with responsibility for implementation of the Canadian share in the project and for negotiation of the details of this implementation with the Moroccan authorities, through the Canadian Embassy accredited to the Kingdom of Morocco.

The Quebec Department of Intergovernmental Affairs will co-operate with CIDA in establishing in Quebec City a support group headed by a co-ordinator. This group, made up of experts in various scientific and technological fields, will participate in drawing up the agreement between Canada and Morocco, which will consist of a detailed plan of the works to be undertaken, an operational schedule and an estimate of the project costs. The support group, in concert with CIDA, will see to the recruitment of a director and of a working group who will be responsible for effecting project implementation in Morocco, in collaboration with the Moroccan authorities, and will supply the technical and professional support needed to determine the most effective means of realizing and supervising implementation of the project.



The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa

Woman with an Umbrella

GALLERY ACQUIRES DEGAS

The portrait *Woman with an Umbrella* by Edgar Degas (1843-1917) has been acquired for the National Gallery of Canada from an anonymous collector in Switzerland. This picture was part of the contents of the third sale in the artist's studio in 1918, since when it has been privately owned.

The Director of the National Gallery, Miss Jean Sutherland Boggs, author of the standard book on the portraits of Degas, says of this picture, which she believes to have been painted about 1886: "It has the subtlety and the understatement of Leonardo da Vinci, an artist Degas much admired. Although we may have lost Leonardo's *Ginevra de 'Benci* to Washington, we can console ourselves with this Degas."

The subject of the portrait has never been identified, but Miss Boggs believes that she may have been one of the dancers or pantomime artists who often posed for Degas after they had passed their prime as performers.

This is the second oil by Degas acquired for the Ottawa collection. In 1967, the National Gallery acquired from the Finlayson collection in Toronto a work that Degas, then in his twenties, had based on a drawing in the Uffizi, Florence, by the sixteenth-century Florentine Pontormo. This is also a portrait