

### Education in Canada – report of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development released

The publication by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) of the OECD report on the review of education policies in Canada was announced on August 17.

The OECD, of which Canada is a member, conducts from time to time comprehensive reviews of education policies in its member states. The purposes of the Canadian review were twofold: to acquaint others with educational developments in Canada and, by examining the objectives, structures and content of Canadian educational systems, to assist Canadian education authorities in planning more effectively for the future.

In their report the examiners found much to praise in the systems of education in Canada but also raised critical questions for consideration by Canadian education authorities. The report, and particularly the questions raised by the examiners, will be re-

viewed carefully and will no doubt be of interest to individuals and organizations concerned with education in Canada.

The completion of this comprehensive review, which was co-ordinated by the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, in close co-operation with the Government of Canada, is the culmination of over three years' work. The first stage was the preparation of a six-volume background report by Canadian authorities on education in Canada. It consisted of an introductory volume, a volume by the Government of Canada, and four regional volumes (Atlantic provinces, Quebec, Ontario and Western provinces). The second stage, following submission of the background reports to the OECD, was an "external" examination of education policies and systems across Canada by a team of five international education experts chosen by the

OECD. They toured the country and prepared a report based on first-hand observations. The third and final stage consisted of a "confrontation" meeting during which representatives of the Canadian educational authorities responded to questions raised by the examiners in their report. This meeting took place in Paris in December 1975.

The final report of the OECD review of education policies in Canada, just published, includes the introductory volume of the Canadian background report, the report of the external examiners and a summary of the proceedings of the December 1975 meeting.

The OECD report, published under the title *OECD Reviews of National Policies for Education: Canada*, ISBN 92-64-11545-5, is available by mail order from the Publishing Centre, Printing and Publishing, Department of Supply and Services, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0S9 at \$9 a copy.

### Master paintings from the U.S.S.R.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen, and Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner, announced recently that an agreement had been reached with the Ministry of Culture of the U.S.S.R. to bring to Canada a special exhibition of master paintings from The Hermitage and The State Russian Museum, Leningrad. The collection of Western European and Russian art from the two museums in the U.S.S.R. will be on view in Winnipeg and Montreal.

The National Museums of Canada, which brought the exhibition to Canada, also organized its presentation. Owing to restrictions of time and the fragility of many of the works, the paintings will be on display for 11 weeks in only two locations – the Winnipeg Art Gallery from August 13 to September 26, and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts from October 8 to November 14.

#### First time in W. Hemisphere

None of the 42 paintings has been seen in the Western Hemisphere prior to its current North American tour. From the seventeenth century Flemish and Dutch schools come paintings by Rubens, (*Landscape with a Wagon*),



The *Lute Player*, painted about 1596 by Caravaggio, is one of the rare masterpieces in the exhibition from The Hermitage and The State Russian Museum in Leningrad, now in Winnipeg

and scheduled for a showing in autumn in Montreal. The collection of 42 paintings, never before seen in the West, has been touring the U.S. as a Bicentennial gesture.