

News of the arts

U.S. distribution planned for film

A *Stroke of Luck*, a light-hearted suspense movie shot in Montreal this summer, has been acquired for distribution by Twentieth Century-Fox for distribution throughout the United States.

Directed by Roger Vadim, the \$4.5-million movie stars Wayne Rogers, Marie-France Pisier and Lloyd Bochner and takes place in the world of art connoisseurs and con artists. The movie is produced by Astral Bellevue Pathé Limited of Montreal and is scheduled for release in May or June.

Principal photography has been completed on another movie shot in the Montreal area. *Antoine's Angels*, a caper movie, is directed by Claude Castravelli. It introduces newcomers Johanne Morancy, Riva Spier and Claudia Uday as the angels.

Release of *Antoine's Angels* is slated for the spring in both English and French versions.

New prize for drama

The Canada Council has announced the creation of a separate prize for drama in the Governor General's literary awards.

The prize will recognize playwriting as a distinct art form and honour the distinguished achievement of Canadian playwrights. Creation of a separate prize was recommended by the Canada Council and approved by Governor-General Edward Schreyer.

The first of these prizes — one for a play in English, one for a play in French — will be awarded in 1982 for plays published during 1981.

Until now, there has been no separate prize for drama in the book awards. Drama and poetry competed for a single award and were judged by the same jury. In future, prizes will be given annually in four separate categories: drama, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. Jury members assessing published dramas will be chosen for their expertise in Canadian theatre.

The creation of the award for published plays has been requested by a large segment of the arts community.

In addition to the art of playwriting, the prize is expected to stimulate publication of an increasing number of high-quality plays.

Folksong subject of Quebec art

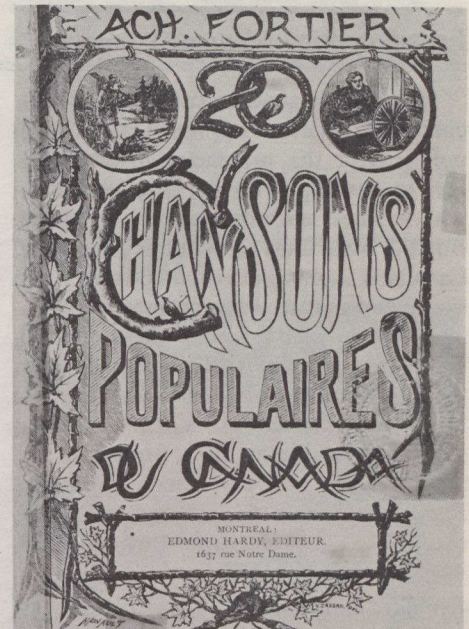
The Illustration of the Folksong in Quebec, an exhibition of drawings and illustrations from books about Quebec folksongs, was recently presented by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

The exhibition, which consisted of about 90 original drawings and illustrations inspired by Quebec folk traditions, covers the period from 1850 to 1940.

This was a period of intense collecting and recording of folksongs by scholars and intellectuals, who regarded this form of popular expression as a distinguishing feature of a people and its culture.

The exhibition presents material published in Quebec such as Arthur Lismer's notes and drawings for Marius Barbeau's *Aux armes Canadiens*, a songbook given to soldiers during the Second World War, and drawings by Marjorie Borden for two other of Barbeau's publications, *Chantons à la ronde* and *Les enfants disent*. Also included in the display are works by Ernest Gagnon, entitled *Chansons populaires du Canada*, illustrated by Power and Dawson and *La bonne chanson* albums by Charles-Emile Gadbois with illustrations by a number of contributors.

Another group of works, which was published abroad, also illustrates the folk-



song tradition of Quebec. It includes works published in England, such as *French Songs of Old Canada* (1904) by W.G. Robertson and French publications by Jean-Baptiste Weckerlin and Champfleury, illustrated by artists of that period.

One highlight of the exhibition is a presentation of photographs from 1928 documenting the Saint-Jean-Baptiste Parade of that year, when the theme of each float centered around one specific song.



Drawing by Jean-Baptiste Lagassé of a float for a parade.