

\$91,500,000 for the first quarter of 1961, against \$69,500,000 for the same period of last year. Imports advanced 5.2 per cent, increasing to \$50,500,000 from \$48 million for the periods under review. Thus Canada's export balance with the rest of the Commonwealth rose to \$41 million as compared with \$21,500,000 for the same quarter of 1960. The share of Canadian exports taken by Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom was 7.2 per cent in January-March 1961, as against 5.4 per cent for the same period of the previous year and 15.2 per cent of Canada's imports were derived from these countries in the first three months of this year as compared with 14.8 per cent in the similar quarter of 1960.

Exports to all the remaining countries increased 3.8 per cent to \$253,600,000 in the first quarter of this year, compared with \$244,300,000 for the same quarter of last year. Imports rose fractionally, 0.2 per cent, to \$196 million from \$195,700,000. As a result, Canada's export balance with these countries advanced to \$57,600,000 as compared with \$48,600,000 in the first three months of 1960. Over the two periods the proportion of Canada's exports going to this remaining group of countries rose to 20.0 per cent from 18.9 per cent and their share in Canada's total imports advanced to 15.2 per cent from 14.8 per cent.

TORONTO FLOOD CONTROL PLAN

An agreement providing for 75 per cent of the costs of the \$24-million Metropolitan Toronto and Region Flood Control Plan to be shared by the Federal and Ontario Governments was signed at Toronto on June 14, by Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale for the Federal Government and by Mr. W.M. Nickle, Minister of Commerce and Development, for the Ontario Government.

The agreement was negotiated under the Canada Water Conservation Assistance Act and provides that each of the governments contribute 37½ per cent of the estimated cost of constructing dams, reservoirs and channel improvements along the Don and Humber Rivers and Black Creek. The remaining 25 per cent of the costs will be borne by the municipalities represented in the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

This is the third agreement under the Canada Water Conservation Assistance Act to be signed this year by the Federal and Ontario Governments. Previous agreements provided federal and provincial financial contributions to flood control and water conservation works on the Upper Thames River and the Parkhill Dam and on the Ausable River.

FILMS AT STRATFORD

Seven more feature films have been added to the programme of the International Film Festival at Stratford this summer, which opens on August 21 and runs until September 2.

Julie Harris, star of last season's "Romeo and Juliet" at the Stratford Festival, will make a screen

appearance in a light comedy called "The Poacher's Daughter". Filmed in Ireland, this picture has a cast supporting Miss Harris composed of members of Dublin's famous Abbey Theatre.

Three full-length films have come from Japan. Last season much attention was drawn to the Japanese entry "Ikiru", when it won the commendation of the critics as the best entry of 1961. This year the country enters the highly-praised "Ningen No Joken" (No Greater Love). Set in Manchuria, the movie deals with the Japanese mistreatment of Chinese prisoners and of one man's conflict of conscience, which impels him to oppose his own people. "Robo No Ishi" (The Wayside Pebble) won the Catholic Prize at the International Festival in San Sebastien last year. It is the story of a young boy's struggle to assert himself in a small Japanese town. The third entry, in Eastman Color, is "Waga Ai" (When a Woman Loves), a tale of a girl's devotion.

OTHER FEATURES

"The Sand Castle", from the United States, is a fantasy. Produced, directed and designed by Jerome Hill and shot largely on Laguna Beach, it is the story of an afternoon in a boy's life. What occurs when he is awake is black and white; when he dreams the film is in colour.

The United Kingdom's entry is J. Arthur Rank's "The Singer Not the Song". Intrigue and violence in an isolated Mexican town provide the background to this picture, in which John Mills plays a priest and Dirk Bogarde the man he opposes.

Germany will be represented by "A Man Goes Through the Wall". The kernel of the film is in the title - the central character, a modest little revenue agent, suddenly discovers he has the ability to walk through walls.

Besides these seven new features, the Festival has already announced the Czech award-winner "Romeo, Juliet and Darkness", a Greek film "A Matter of Dignity"; Israel's "I Like Mike"; "The Missing Pencil" from Yugoslavia, and "Be Good Till Death" from Hungary. Unfortunately, the French entry "Games of Love" has had to be withdrawn, but the Festival expects France to be represented by another picture.

A large number of short subjects has been entered. The National Film Board of Canada has sent "Circle of the Sun," about the Sun Dance, an annual ritual of the Blood Indians of Western Canada, and "Morning on the Lièvre", filmed along the banks of a river in Southwestern Quebec. "Pow-Wow", from the United States, is a comic record of a university band rehearsing in the rain. Czechoslovakia has entered a whimsical cartoon "The Puppy and the Sun". Japan's cartoon entry is "Polon Guitar". Life on a sheep station is the subject of the Australian "The Jackeroo", while the German award-winning film is concerned with "Rhythms of the Port". Short subjects have also been received from India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Poland, Yugoslavia, Denmark, New Zealand and South Africa.