News of the arts

Literary manuscripts donated to National Library

Writer, journalist and businessman Roger Lemelin has donated a large collection of personal papers and manuscripts, reflecting almost 40 years of literary activity in Canada and abroad, to the National Library of Canada.

The collection includes the manuscripts of all his novels, both published and unpublished, as well as manuscripts of short stories, essays, works written for radio and television, screenplays, and articles which appeared in various French and English newspapers and magazines.

The collection also contains many samples of correspondence with writers, publishers, journalists and actors in Canada, France and the United States. In addition, there are several photographs, lecture notes and other papers saved by the author, including a poem illustrated by Alain Grandbois.

Author of Les Plouffe

As a writer Roger Lemelin has written extensively for radio, television and motion pictures. His books include Au pied de la pente douce (1944), Pierre lé magnifique (1952), and Les Plouffe (1948), a novel which inspired a television series for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's French and English networks and which was made into a film in 1980.

Mr. Lemelin has worked as a journalist for the American magazines *Time* (as a Canadian correspondent), *Life* and *Fortune* from 1948 to 1952, and published articles in various Canadian magazines. He was also president and publisher of the Montreal daily newspaper *La Presse* from 1972 to 1981.

Other awards

Among the many prizes Roger Lemelin has received are the Prix David, the Liberty Trophy for Best TV Dramatist, and a medal from the Académie française. Mr. Lemelin was a Guggenheim and Rockefeller Fellow in 1946 and 1947 and, at age 30, he became the youngest member of the Royal Society of Canada.

Mr. Lemelin was elected a member of the Académie Goncourt in 1974; he received an honorary doctorate in literature from Laurentian University, Sudbury in 1976; and he was admitted into the Canadian News Hall of Fame in 1978.



Roger Lemelin (right) and French author Hervé Bazin. Photo was taken during a visit of Mr. Bazin to Canada in 1972.

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Music awards

The 1981 Performing Rights Organization awards were presented recently recognizing outstanding performances by Canadians in pop music, jazz and country categories, with special awards being given for film, concert music and international songs.

The annual awards are sponsored by the licensing arm of the Canadian music industry.

Flutist and composer Robert Aitken was awarded the William Harold Moon Award for outstanding contributions to the international music scene.

In the pop music category, winning songwriters were Burton Cummings, Bruce Cockburn, Ray Roper of Stonebolt, Adam Mitchell, Paul Dean and Mike Reno of Loverboy, Eddie Schwartz, Skip Prokop, Robert Johnson and Marie-Claire Baillargeon. The French-language award winners were Serge Badeaux and Dwayne Ford, Kevin Gillespie and Richard Huet, and George Thurston.

Arts briefs

Robin Phillips, former artistic director of the Stratford Festival, has been appointed artistic director of Theatre London in London, Ontario. Mr. Phillips, who has signed a three-year contract, will form a 40-member repertory company, expand the season to eight plays – four of which will be adapted for television – and use the repertory company for film projects.

Nhat-Viet Phi, an 11-year-old pianist from Moncton, New Brunswick, has become the youngest musician ever to win a top award and a \$1 000 Bank of Commerce scholarship in the National Competitive Festival of Music in Toronto. A \$1 000 scholarship was also awarded to The Mount Royal Trio, with pianist John Gilbert of Montreal, flutist Cynthia Bartlett of Halifax and cellist Julian Armour of Ottawa.

Canadian producer Robert Carson has won the 1982 Carl Ebert Award, one of this year's Glyndebourne opera awards, for his work as associate producer in the festival's production of *L'Amour des Trois Oranges* and *Der Rosenkavalier*. This is the second year for this bursary, set up to assist young members of the Glyndebourne production staff to pursue their studies.