

News of the arts

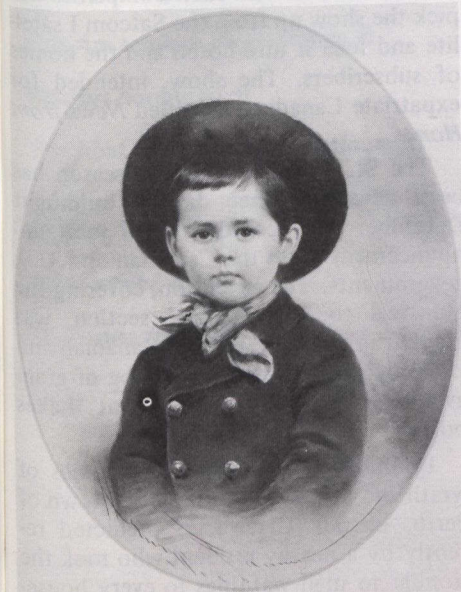
Grierson medal to Jacques Cousteau

Jacques Cousteau, scientist and oceanographer, was awarded the John Grierson International Gold Medal by the Society of Motion Picture Television Engineers at its Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The medal, to honour the recipient by recognizing technical achievements related to the production of documentary motion picture films, is sponsored by the National Film Board of Canada.

The award was given to Captain Cousteau "for his research, design and development of equipment which gave humanity the possibility of truly exploring the ocean. Through the use of film and video he has enabled us to see his undersea world".

Children of Yesterday



Young Boy in a Sailor Suit, 1865, a pastel by Henry Farmer.

Children of Yesterday, an exhibition marking the International Year of the Child, was recently on view at the Public Archives of Canada.

The exhibit comprises 75 paintings, prints and drawings, and 15 artifacts relating to various aspects of Canadian childhood, in the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

Works by such well-known artists as Hamel, Sawyer, Harris, Walker, Plamondon, Julien, Rindisbacher and Angelica Kauffman, were included in the exhibit.

Public Archives of Canada

Cultural advisory group

A committee, which will provide advice to the Government for its arts and culture policy review, has been appointed by the Secretary of State, David MacDonald.

The 15-member Advisory Committee on Cultural Policy is composed of prominent Canadians in the arts and culture community as well as officials from the Secretary of State Department and the Department of Communications. It will provide a major source of independent advice so that the arts and culture policy review now under way in the Secretary of State Department will reflect the needs of the artistic and cultural sector.

Committee to consider options

Advice from the committee, federal cultural agencies, provinces and other sources will be sought by the Government to develop a "blue paper" on arts and culture that will be considered by a Joint Parliamentary Committee next spring. This parliamentary inquiry will consider possible directions and options for arts and culture policy in the 1980s and it is hoped that the Joint Parliamentary Committee will report in the next session of Parliament.

The chairman of the advisory committee is Louis Applebaum of Toronto, Executive Director of the Ontario Arts Council and a composer. Other members are: Albert Breton, Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto and author; Alex Coleville, Wolfeville, Nova Scotia, painter and former professor of Fine Arts at Mount Allison University; Joy Cohnstaedt, Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Arts Board and former teacher; John Dayton, architect, patron of the arts in Vancouver; Shirley Gibson, poet, critic and Director of Playwrights Canada in Toronto; Denis Héroux, Montreal film producer; Betsie Lane of Vancouver, former chairperson of the Canadian Conference of the Arts; Guy Robert, Ste. Adèle, Quebec, writer, art critic, and speaker in the fields of art and culture; Alain Stanké, Montreal publisher, and Tom Symons, writer, Vanier Professor at Trent University, and chairman of the Commission on Canadian Studies; Pierre Juneau, Under-Secretary of State; Bernard Ostry, Deputy Minister of Communications; and Leo A. Dorais, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Arts and Culture.

Canadian wins top French prize

French-Canadian author Antonine Maillet has won France's most coveted literary prize, the Prix Goncourt, for her novel about the explosion of the Acadians.



Miss Maillet, 49, a native of Bouctouche, New Brunswick, and the first woman to win the prize in 13 years, won the award for her novel *Pelagie la Charrette* (Pelagie the Cart).

Pelagie la Charrette is the tale of French settlers forced to leave what now is New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in 1775 following the English conquest. The main character, Pelagie, buys a cart to help move her companions and becomes the leader of a movement to return to Acadia.

Exhibit honours Mary Pickford

Approval for an exhibition in Toronto to honour the late Mary Pickford was one of the last duties the actress assigned to her business director before her death.

Exhibition planners, however, did not receive word of her decision until June 5, five days after her death. In conveying her personal approval of the project Miss Pickford said, "I not only give my blessing for this thoughtful exhibit, but it will be a milestone in my memories of my fellow Torontonians who have always been dearest to my heart."

The Mary Pickford Exhibition, in honouring the actress, will also be a reminder that Toronto was her starting point in theatre.