

# News of the arts

## New Canadian production a lesson for young film-makers

Toronto film-maker Allan King has completed filming on a million-dollar feature *Who has seen the Wind*, based on the W.O. Mitchell classic of a boy growing up on the Prairies during the depression years. And, in an unprecedented move, the Department of Manpower and Immigration in association with the Department of Culture and Youth of the province of Saskatchewan invested \$35,000 in the film to organize workshops to upgrade the skills of Saskatchewan film-makers and to provide experience in the industry, which is still in its embryo in that province.

Jose Ferrer and Gordon Pinsent star in the film, with Brian Painchaud playing the nine-year-old central figure and Doug Junor as his 13-year-old friend Ben.

The town of Arcola (population 580) in southeastern Saskatchewan, was chosen as the location after a long search by art director Anne Pritchard to find a town that would match the architecture and general atmosphere of the location described in Mitchell's novel. In addition to the 30 members in the cast, many of the Arcola's inha-



Young film-makers learn on the job making film *Who has seen the Wind*.

bitants took part as extras.

Besides the contribution from the Department of Manpower and Immigration, the film was financed by the Saskatchewan Economic Development Corporation, the Canadian Film Development Corporation and Famous Players of Canada.

Some 33 young film-makers were

taught various aspects of film-making on the job, encompassing film production, script writing, directing, camera work, lighting, design, sound and editing. In co-operation with Souris Films, they were paid for their on-the-job training.

The film is scheduled for première in Arcola early in the spring.

## History of Scots in Canada published

*The Scottish Tradition In Canada*, an ethnic history edited by Dr. Stanford Reid of the history department at the University of Guelph, Ontario, was presented on November 20 in Halifax, Nova Scotia by John Munro, Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism at the Nova Scotia Provincial Multiculturalism Conference held in conjunction with the annual general meeting of the Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia.

The Scots, forming the third largest ethnic group in Canada, had their first large scale contact with this country in the eighteenth century, when Nova Scotia was founded and settled. Since then, they have been involved in every field of Canadian development, from religion to government to business and the labour movement.

Dr. Reid's book, which includes 16 pages of black-and-white photographs, is the product of contributions by 14 authors — historians, sociologists and

literary critics. The history concentrates on the period prior to 1900 with a final chapter outlining the role of Scots in Canadian society since 1900.

The work, published by McClelland and Stewart, is another in the series of ethnic histories commissioned by the Department of the Secretary of State in 1972. The Polish history, *A Member of a Distinguished Family, the Polish Group In Canada*, and *The Enemy That Never Was*, the history of the Japanese in Canada, are already available in bookstores.

## Canadian art in Italy

The Galeria d'Arte of Pescara, Italy, housed a showing of contemporary prints by Canadian artists during the summer.

Opened by D'Iberville Fortier, the Canadian Ambassador to Italy, the show included works by Fernand Leduc, Serge Tousignant, Jacques Hurtubise, Rita Letendre, David

Samila, Sheldon Cohen, Harry Kiyooka, Takao Tanabe and Gordon Smith.

The exhibition was a project of the Canadian Cultural Institute in Rome, a foundation established in 1960 as a result of war reparations paid by the Italian Government in Italian bonds. The interest is allocated annually to finance cultural activities involving the two countries.

## Ballet dream materialized

Ludmilla Chiriaeff, founding director of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, has had a 20-year-old dream come true with the establishment of a school, which, unlike L'Ecole Superieure des Grands Ballets Canadiens, would allow talented ballet students to receive a full, state-recognized education at no extra cost to their parents.

Such a school now exists, thanks to the determination of Chiriaeff and to a provision in the Quebec education law: if a school board anywhere in the pro-