

# News of the arts

## War museum marks centennial

Parades, concerts, special exhibits and old-fashioned military drills are some of the events planned to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa this year.

Since 1880 when it started as a small group of trophies and collectibles, the Canadian War Museum has grown to include exhibits ranging from the earliest North American Indian weaponry to modern twentieth-century missiles. While the museum had collected and stored books, records and artifacts since 1880, it was not until 1942 that the first permanent exhibit was opened to the public.



The Cross of Saint Louis instituted by Louis XIV in 1663 was awarded for distinguished service in the armies of France. The first native-born Canadian to receive the cross was Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville in 1699.

"Our goal," said Victor Suthren, historian at the museum, "is to portray the reality and significance of war without emphasizing the more morbid aspects."

This is accomplished through the use of display cases, pictures, dioramas, audio-visuals, airplanes suspended from ceilings, artwork and reconstructed scenes such as a World War I trench, complete with sandbags, battle sounds and shell flares, through which visitors can walk. All types of weaponry from muskets to huge tanks are also displayed. In addition, the staff car used by Herman Goering during the Second World War is exhibit-



View of first-floor display at Canadian War Museum.

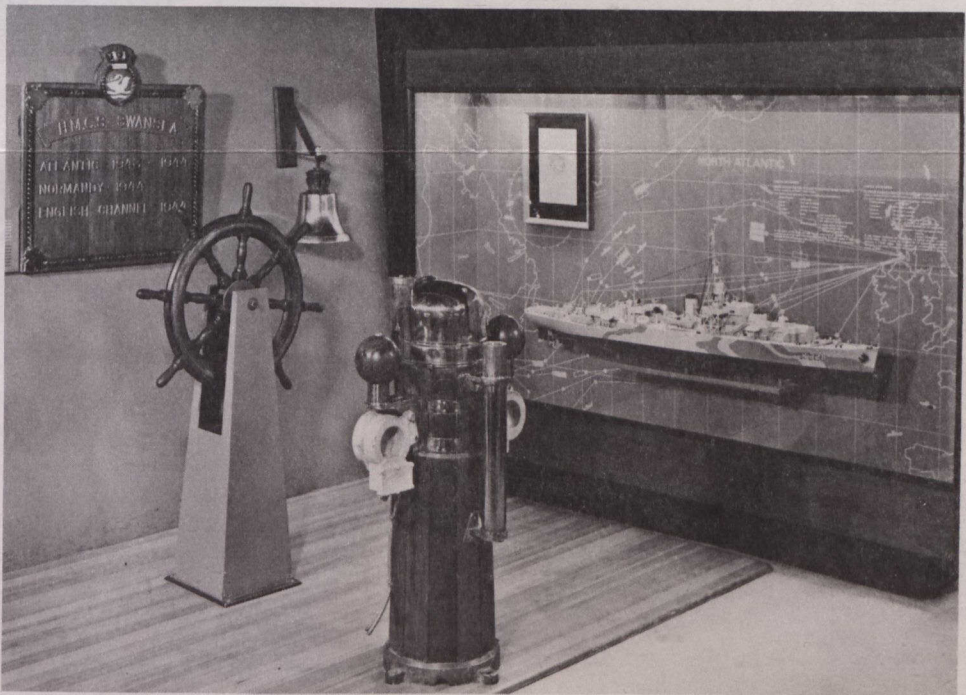
ed, as is a collection of medals.

This spring and summer there will be re-enactments of early military drills and encampments on the museum's grounds. Throughout the summer men, women and children, in authentic costumes and with genuine accoutrements will recreate what life was like during certain eras.

Indoor exhibits marking the museum's

centennial have been on display since December 1979 and will continue throughout 1980.

The climax of the anniversary celebrations takes place August 3 when a parade of military units, representing regiments from 1665 to the present, marches through Ottawa to Parliament Hill for a *feu de joie* and dignitary review.



The wheelhouse of HMCS Swansea, built at Esquimalt, British Columbia in 1943; her war record included a share in the sinking of three U-boats.

Photos: National Museums of Canada