

### International prize for inventor of new piano-teaching method

Georges Cournoyer, pianist, composer and engineer with Hydro Quebec, won the gold medal at the *Foire internationale des inventeurs*, held recently in Brussels, for having developed the "Règle musicale", an innovative method of teaching the piano. This honour, which is only bestowed every five years, and in truly exceptional cases, set off a chain reaction in the music world that quickly made the inventor well-known; in fact, the most famous institutions of music instruction have contacted Mr. Cournoyer for information concerning his method.

#### Method developed from choir work

"This invention came about almost by itself, as a result of musical contacts throughout my career," Mr. Cournoyer explains. "I suppose the beginnings of the method date back to the period when I was director of the choir of the *Mécanterie de Montarville*." Because the members of this choir knew very little about music, the director had to find a way of rapidly teaching them basic theory.

"In our modern society, people have to learn a great deal in a short time, and the method I developed provides an answer to this new need," Mr. Cournoyer said. "My method is a stimulus; it puts an end to the feelings of inadequacy often experienced by a new student of a musical instrument. Regardless of age, it becomes possible, using my method, to learn music very quickly, to advance from basic reading to musical arranging, and later on to composition. During the two years I have been testing this method, I have obtained results that greatly outdistance the so-called traditional method."

Perhaps you are wondering what this "revolutionary" method is. Mr. Cournoyer points out first of all that it is a completely new approach to music teaching compared with traditional teaching: "Musical ideas take from 300 to 400 years to be updated, and my method is part of this modernization process," he declares.

"Simply designed and easy to understand, this method measures and analyses the range of sounds," he claims. "It consists of four rules based on music theory used in teaching harmony.



*Georges Cournoyer teaches his daughter the new method.*

Using these rules, the sounds are 'seen' and 'touched'. The student need no longer rely on an act of faith, since he goes through a concrete experience. He learns the language of music at its most personal level."

#### General aims of Cournoyer's Règle musicale

##### For the student —

- . To simplify the study of music;
- . to facilitate understanding of the elements of harmony;
- . to stimulate the use of reasoning;
- . to illustrate sounds and encourage more thorough memorization;
- . to stimulate and facilitate self-correction.

##### For the teacher —

- . To assist in self-improvement;
- . to provide a means of more easily learning music theory;
- . to speed up correcting and checking work.

##### For the arranger —

- . To eliminate uncertain solutions;
- . to assist in checking work;
- . to guarantee certitude.

##### For the conductor —

- . To permit fast checking.

##### For the amateur musician

- . To show how the appropriate harmony to accompany a given melody can be found.

#### Specific aims

To allow the study of scales, intervals and chords by:

- (1) measuring the range of sounds;
- (2) indicating which notes make up elements of a composition;
- (3) qualifying the range of each element;
- (4) facilitating transposition.

### Extension of Canada/U.S. reciprocal fisheries pact

The Governments of Canada and United States extended their agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges for one year by an exchange of notes in Ottawa dated April 14 and 22. At the same time they agreed to continue consultations on a new agreement that would accommodate extended fisheries jurisdiction in both countries.

The reciprocal agreement, which was initially concluded in 1970 and renegotiated in 1973, is being extended to April 24, 1977. It provides for nations and vessels of each country to conduct commercial fishing for designated species on a reciprocal basis within certain defined areas in the waters over which each country currently exercises fisheries jurisdiction.

### Olympics arts and culture tickets

Some 270,000 admission tickets are on sale for 322 performances of 125 shows and concerts in Montreal, Kingston, Ottawa and Sherbrooke from July 1 to 30 in conjunction with the Olympic Games. A total of 300,000 tickets will be available, but 30,000 have been set aside to be put on sale on the day of the performance.

This is the first time in the history of the Olympics that an organizing committee has prepared a wholly national program at the special request of the International Olympic Committee. The budget for the festival of arts and culture is \$8 million.

As of April 13, tickets were being sold at TRS (Ticket Reservation System) outlets across Canada, and till May 22 they could be ordered by post from the COJO ticket office, C.P. 1976, Montreal H3C 3A6. After June 1, tickets will also be sold at the box offices of the 19 theatres and halls being used to stage the festival. United States residents may purchase tickets from all Ticketron outlets, starting June 1.

The program containing all the performing arts events is available from TRS outlets and COJO. This program leaflet is being sent to holders of Olympic sports tickets overseas, in the U.S. and in Canada.