

Since the program began in March 1972 until June 1974, about 858 groups had been funded. Grants have supported activities including traditional song and dance festivals, television programs, theatrical performances and art exhibitions. They have subsidized research, teaching aids for third language classes and cultural instruction, summer camps, literary publications and bibliographies of Canadian ethnic material.

Grants are also provided to establish multicultural centres where people of all cultures can meet, exchange ideas and carry out co-ordinated programs. Each centre differs according to the needs of local groups. It may provide space and facilities for language classes, workshops, exhibitions and performances; or it may distribute resource materials and provide referral services.

#### Publications

Under the multicultural studies program, 19 scholarly histories have been commissioned to provide, in some cases for the first time, an accurate historical account of the part played by ethnic groups in the opening up of Canada. These histories will be published in both official languages for use in schools and will eventually be published in popular versions.

Another program involves extensive use of Canada's vigorous ethnic press to ensure that people in Canada who do not have an adequate command of the official languages will not suffer from a lack of basic information about pensions, immigration regulations, consumer protection and many other federal programs.

#### Identities Program

A Canadian Identities Program was designed to foster an awareness of the cultural richness within Canadian society. The program spans most areas of cultural expression and includes a series of 12 regional folk festivals that culminate annually in a national folk arts festival in Ottawa. Thirty folkloric groups participated in the first national festival, "Multiculturalism Festival 74", which took place in July, augmenting Festival Canada activities. The Canadian Identities Program also sponsors playwriting competitions, touring exhibitions of crafts and the translation into English



and French of third language literature about the Canadian experience.

Five federal cultural agencies, apart from the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, are also involved in the implementation of the multiculturalism policy and have their own programs: the National Library and Public Archives, the National Film Board, the National Museum of Man and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

All programs were preceded by countless discussions and consultations between federal and provincial agencies, communities and groups they are to serve. Constant consultation is an integral part of multiculturalism policy. One of the most important instruments of this consultative process is the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism, appointed in May 1973. Its 102 members are representative of the many ethno-cultural groups and all regions of Canada. The first Canadian Conference on Multiculturalism attracted 350 people from across Canada who met in October 1973 to offer their views on the multiculturalism policy. The warm response of cultural groups to this conference and to all programs shows their awareness of the new dimensions of cultural freedom and many forms of assistance available to them....

#### Concern over U.S. beef import quotas

Canada has registered its "strong concern" with the United States following an announcement that the U.S. Government would hold a public hearing on the proposed restriction on the importation of certain livestock and meat products from Canada as a consequence of Canadian import quotas on beef, veal and live cattle on August 12.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen, in a statement on October 10, said that the object of Canada's import quotas on live cattle and beef from all countries was to ensure that the Canadian program of stabilization of returns to livestock producers was not adversely affected by declining world market conditions. "In the absence of the stabilization program the long-term future of the Canadian industry would have been jeopardized by short-term trends," Mr. MacEachen said.

"We were concerned," the statement continued, "that a fundamental disequilibrium in world beef production and consumption has resulted in serious problems for beef producers. This situation was accentuated when both Japan and the European Economic Community adopted policies that severely restrict beef imports. In addition, *per capita* consumption of beef in the United States declined sharply in 1973, largely as a consequence of United States Government actions. This has contributed to an over-supply situation there this year. A combination of these, plus other factors, has led to the current world beef situation.

"The quotas imposed by the Canadian Government were designed to ensure that in this period of disequilibrium shipments to Canada would not exceed volumes which the Canadian market has been traditionally able to absorb during normal market conditions. Therefore, the quotas were based on the average of imports over the last five years.

"The United States of America (along with our other trading partners) was advised in advance of the Canadian action. We offered to meet with the three trading partners principally involved. Consultations were held with the United States but it was not found possible to meet United States' concerns.