

# News of the arts

## Childhood in Canada, 1880-1922, a photographic exhibition



Public Archives

Children photographed at the Peabody brothers' farm in Woodstock, New Brunswick.

*Childhood in Canada, 1880-1922*, an exhibition of 22 photographs illustrating adult conceptions of childhood in Canada, is on display at the Public Archives until December 29.

Peter Robertson, archivist responsible for the exhibition, which was prepared on the occasion of the International Year of the Child, said that the photographs depicted both reality and "an ideal world in

which all children are healthy, happy, well-fed, well-clothed and well-educated". Moreover, he said, "adults became aware that many children did not have these rights, and worked to alleviate the welfare of children through such institutions as the Hospital for Sick Children of Toronto and the Children's Aid Society".

The works of professional and amateur photographers are included in the exhibit.

## Indian culture comes out of its shell at new theatre complex

A \$6.5-million turtle, a reptile that represents the beginning of the world in Iroquois legend, is becoming the symbol of a new growth for the Six Nations Indian culture.

The turtle, located in Niagara Falls, New York, is a concrete and aluminum theatre and resource centre designed by an Arapaho Indian architect, Dennis Sun Rhodes.

It has a broad theatre dome for a body, while its head and legs will contain offices, workshops, a restaurant and art gallery. A string of boutiques built into the tail will be rented to artists and business people to help make the centre self-supporting.

The centre is being paid for by New York State and the U.S. Government, but the project is being directed by a board of seven Six Nations Indians from the United States and Canada.

The secretary-treasurer of the board, Richard Hill of Niagara Falls, said the centre would help native artists and performers reach an estimated 12 million tourists who visit the area each year. After its opening, the centre is expected to stage regular theatrical productions and art shows, as well as carrying on a continuing education program.

The company controlling the project is the North American Centre for the Living Arts Inc. Started in 1970 by Canadian Cree singer Buffy Sainte Marie in New York City and moved to Niagara Falls in 1974, the centre concentrates on development of native artists and performers.

Many of the corporation's decisions are made with the advice of interpreters of ancient native law who sit on the board, said Mr. Hill. This is an attempt to make the operation reflect a continuity of native perspective.

## Rich Little show wins Emmy

A Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) production has won an international Emmy award presented by the International Council of the National Academy of the Television Arts and Sciences.

Rich Little's *Christmas Carol* was one of four CBC shows nominated. The other three were Toller Cranston, for *Dream Weaver*; Oscar Peterson's *Canadiana Suite*; and *The Medium*, starring Maureen Forrester, which was part of the *Musicamera* series seen on CBC last November.

Norman and Gayle Sedawie, producers of the Rich Little special, accepted the award at a banquet in New York.

The Rich Little special also received the Golden Rose of Montreux award last spring. It has been sold to Home Box Pay TV in the United States, and will be seen there three or four times in the week before Christmas. The CBC will also give a repeat performance on the last Sunday before Christmas.

## NFB joins "The Muppets Movie"

Two National Film Board (NFB) short films will open in Australia and New Zealand with *The Muppet Movie* during the Christmas holiday.

Hoyts Distributors of Australia has purchased 43 prints each of the NFB films *Little Big Top* and *The Story of Christmas* to accompany the feature. The sale represents one of the biggest single purchases of Film Board films by a foreign theatrical distributor outside North America.

*Little Big Top*, a 1978 Oscar nominee, also took awards in competitions in Los Angeles and Yorkton, Saskatchewan while *The Story of Christmas* won the Blue Ribbon Award of the American Film Festival in New York.

Pianist André Laplante has been named performer of the year by the Canadian Music Council. The prize is awarded to musicians who distinguish themselves in a special way. Previous recipients include Maureen Forrester and Kenneth Gilbert. Laplante received the award at a concert by the Quebec Symphony Orchestra October 30, during which he played Rachmaninov's *Concerto No. 2*.