



Montreal Museum of Fine Arts photo

Shown above are two of 36 objects from the permanent collection of The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts on loan to the National Gallery of Canada for two years during the Museum's \$6-million expansion program.

A fourteenth century Spanish armorial pricket candlestick (left) stands on a hexagonal foot of blue, green and red enamel; (right), a brilliantly-coloured stained glass panel, also fourteenth century, from Worcester Cathedral, England.

Directory of federally-supported research projects

The National Research Council of Canada has published a directory listing 9,779 federally-supported research projects in Canadian universities. The two-volume, 1,600 page document provides information on the granting procedures of 28 federal funding bodies amounting to \$100 million for the 1972-73 fiscal year. The listing covers university projects in science, technology, social sciences, humanities and the arts.

Recognizing the necessity for the availability of information on "who is doing what, where and how supported", the Cabinet directed NRC in 1970 to set up an Information Exchange Centre for Federally-Supported Research in Universities. Following a comprehensive survey of the granting agencies within the Federal Government, a system was created to provide an inventory of research funds as disbursed by fed-

eral departments and agencies. The new directory is the first result of the project.

The directory provides many types of information, including a listing of investigators with their on-going research projects, which will help identify competence in all areas of the sciences.

Helicopter purchase from the U.S.

Eight Boeing Vertol *Chinook* (CH 47C) medium transport helicopters have been purchased from the United States for the Canadian Armed Forces, at a cost of \$25.8 million, less spares and ancillary equipment.

The twin engine, turbine powered *Chinook*, made by Boeing Vertol of Philadelphia, has a cruising speed of 150 knots and a ferry range of 1,200 nautical miles. It can carry up to 14 tons of equipment.

Delivery will begin next summer.

Old age pensions to rise in October

"One of the key measures in the list of steps the Government will be taking to counteract the effect of rising prices on consumers will be a more rapid increase in old age pensions," Marc Lalonde, Minister of National Health and Welfare, stated recently. "Parliament will be asked in October to approve an amendment to the Old Age Security Act to provide for quarterly rather than annual escalation. This will mean that instead of waiting till next April for increased pensions, the 1.8 million people receiving old age security pensions will get a partial increase for October. If prices continue to rise in the next three months they will get another increase in January."

Since last October, Mr. Lalonde said, price levels had increased by 5.3 per cent over those in the previous ten-month period, and that therefore the basic old age security pension would be raised to \$105.30, effective October 1973. Price increases in August, September and October of this year would be reflected in the OAS pension rate for January. Price increases in the period November to January would be reflected in the April pension rates, and so on for each quarter. In this way, he said, pensions would become much more responsive to recent price increases.

Guaranteed Income Supplement

The Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) will also be increased for October, and each quarter after that if price levels continue to rise. A single person receiving the full supplement to the old age pension can expect to get \$179.16 for October in place of the \$170.14 received for September. A married couple, both getting full GIS and OAS, will find their \$324.60 monthly payment increased to \$341.80 for October.

This change would, estimated Mr. Lalonde, cost the federal Treasury about \$90 to \$95 million during the current fiscal year, depending on the rate at which prices rise in the next two months. He said that the additional costs were fully justified because "it's the people on fixed incomes, who are hardest hit by inflation".

Mr. Lalonde pointed out that in autumn