

News of the arts

Cultural review begins in March

The federal government's cultural policy review committee plans to hold public hearings in 18 Canadian cities from March to June 1981, Toronto composer Louis Applebaum, who heads the 14-member group, has announced.

Mr. Applebaum said the committee plans to present a consolidated statement to the government at the end of next year. This will contribute to a proposed government white paper on cultural policy scheduled for publication in 1982 (see *Canada Weekly* dated September 17).

A review of this nature has not been undertaken since the Massey Royal Commission of 1949-51.

"We can't, unfortunately, visit all the important communities across Canada because of the element of time," said Mr. Applebaum, adding that the committee still hopes to "invoke the whole country."

To help Canadians prepare their briefs, the committee has published a discussion guide entitled *Speaking of Our Culture*. Some 50,000 copies are to be distributed across the country.

The guide identifies a number of general issues and themes to which Canadians may wish to address themselves, such as funding, the role of federal cultural agencies, and the question of public access to culture.

The committee will not have the time to hear everyone who submits a brief, but will make a selection of groups or individuals to be heard.

Canadians win at film festival

A Canadian actress and film-maker have won first prizes at the sixteenth Chicago International Film Festival.

Bravery in the Field by Giles Walker of the National Film Board of Canada won a Silver Hugo award in the educational films category, while actress Marie Tifo received the award for the best actress (or actor) for her performance in Francis Mankiewicz's *Les Bons Débarras* (*Good Riddance*).

Last Days of Living, a Canadian film directed by Malca Gillson, received a Gold Plaque at the festival. The documentary was filmed in the Palliative Care Unit of the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal.

Three other Canadian films received

Certificates of Merit: *Black Ice, Nails* and *The National Scream*. *Black Ice*, directed by Peter Shatalow, is a short film on the sport and competition of ice sailing. *Nails*, a documentary short tracing the history of nail manufacturing, was directed by Phillip Borsos of Mercury Productions for the NFB. *The National Scream* directed by Robert Awad, is a short comedy about the day Canada's national symbol, the beaver, was stolen.

In *Les Bons Débarras*, Miss Tifo plays the impoverished mother of a 13-year-old girl, the sister of a mildly retarded man and the girl friend of a policeman. The movie is about her ability to meet (and manipulate) the demands of the people in her life. *Les Bons Débarras* opened in New York at the Cinema Studio theatre on Christmas Day.

Miss Tifo, 31, a native of Chicoutimi, Quebec, has studied acting in Quebec City, Montreal and Wrocław, Poland. She was active in the Trident Theatre Company where she performed leads in *Twelfth Night, The Threepenny Opera* and *The Seagull*, from 1975 to 1978. She is currently a member of Théâtre populaire du Québec.

Toronto-Amsterdam artist exchange

Toronto video artist Susan Britton has been named the recipient of the 1980 Toronto-Amsterdam Artist Exchange award.

Administered by the Toronto's Albert Franck Committee, in co-operation with the Toronto-Amsterdam Association, the award is given annually to enable a Toronto artist to live and work in Amsterdam for several weeks.

Miss Britton took up her residency in the Netherlands in early December, and will probably work on videotapes at Amsterdam's De Appel Gallery. The Dutch recipient of this year's award was Janneke van de Staaij, a watercolourist, who worked in Toronto last spring.

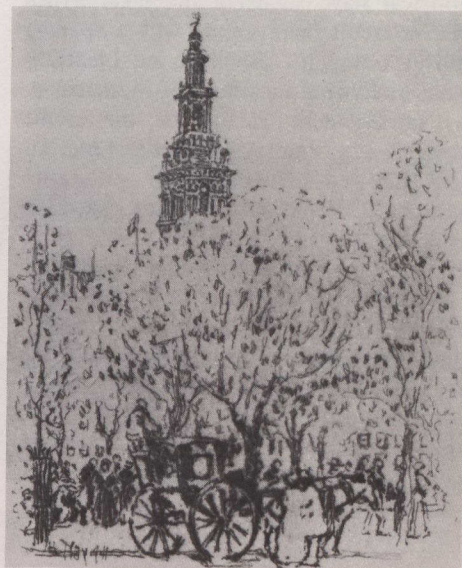
Toronto was twinned with Amsterdam by Toronto City Council in 1972. Since that time, the two cities have undertaken a number of cultural exchanges, including an appearance in Toronto of the Dutch National Ballet. The Albert Franck Committee has sponsored residencies in Amsterdam by two other Toronto artists.

National Gallery of Canada displays water colours

The art of David Milne (1882-1953), a Canadian painter, watercolourist and printmaker, is on view at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa until January 11, 1981.

The exhibition entitled *Reflections in a Quiet Pool: The Prints of David Milne* includes more than 170 prints and 29 related watercolours and paintings from public and private collections. Milne's earliest prints, a group of 22 etchings and drypoints made between 1909 and 1912, form the bridge between his careers as a commercial artist and a serious painter. The most important prints are the multiple plate colour drypoints, a technique invented by Milne. With this original technique the artist explored his colour theories and innovated freely: no two impressions of a colour drypoint are alike because he varied the colours used. The variations are exhibited to show the richness and variety of David Milne's unique approach to printmaking.

Milne's painting and printmaking interact with each other. One series of watercolours, paintings and prints of *House of*



Madison Square Spring by David Milne.

Mt. Riga, 1922 is being shown in its entirety. It includes three watercolours, a painting and three colour drypoints. The drypoints are Milne's very first, scratched with a darning needle and printed with a borrowed laundry wringer.