

### Increase in development aid

Canada's disbursements of Official Development Assistance (ODA) increased by 25.6 per cent in 1972 over those of 1971, Paul Gérin-Lajoie, President of the Canadian International Development Agency, announced recently.

The rise in ODA from \$391.9 million in 1971 to \$492.1 million in 1972 represents an increase from 0.42 per cent to 0.47 per cent of Canada's gross national product (GNP). Both the Pearson Commission and the United Nations set 0.7 per cent of GNP as a target for ODA disbursements by the developed nations. At 0.47 per cent of GNP, Canada ranks seventh as a donor country compared to the 15 other member countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This is well above the DAC average, which is 0.34 per cent. The bulk of the spending was in the bilateral program — \$338.3 million in 1972, compared to \$294.5 million in 1971.

Total multilateral disbursements rose by 59.1 per cent from \$96.6 million in 1971 to \$153.7 million in 1972. Of these disbursements, capital subscription payments and contributions to special funds of the World Bank and of the Regional Development Banks more than doubled from \$51.9 million to \$109.6 million, with the largest contribution going to the International Development Association (IDA), which is part of the World Bank group.

At the same time, Canada effectively reached the United Nations target of 1 per cent of GNP for total financial resource flows to the developing countries. This target includes not only official development assistance flows referred to above, but also official export credits and private resource transfers.

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These total flows from Canada in 1972 reached a record level of \$1,015 million, equivalent to 0.98 per cent of GNP.

The financial terms of Canada's total official development assistance remained highly concessionary in 1972. Grants and multilateral advances accounted for 67.7 per cent of the aid program. Canada's development loans were extended at the softest terms of any DAC member with 99.3 per cent of all development loans, amounting to \$179.6 million, having terms of 0 per cent interest, ten years grace and 50 years maturity.

### Stratford Theatre to tour Australia

The Stratford National Theatre of Canada will make a seven-week tour of Australia next spring performing Molière's *The Imaginary Invalid*. Artistic Director Jean Gascon, who announced the visit, will direct the production and Director William Hutt will play the title role.

Although details of the itinerary are still incomplete, the highlight of the tour will be a two-week appearance at the Adelaide Festival of Arts, a biennial event featuring drama, music, opera and the visual arts. Guest artists and performing companies from other countries are invited to participate and in past years such distinguished visitors as Britain's Royal Shakespeare Company and dancer Rudolf Nureyev have taken part. Adelaide, the capital of South Australia has a population of some 850,000 in the Metropolitan area.

The Canadian company was invited to participate in the 1972 Adelaide Festival but was unable to accept. Meantime, Adelaide has begun construction on its new Festival Centre, a four-stage complex that should be finished in 1975, which will include several auditoriums ranging in size from a small experimental theatre to a 2,000-seat larger one designed for a wide range of theatrical and musical activities. In 1974, Festival events will be housed in existing facilities, with Stratford appearing at Her Majesty's Theatre, an 1,127-seat house with a proscenium arch stage.

Stratford will also appear in three other Australian cities — Perth, Melbourne and Sydney.

With opening night scheduled for early

in February, the tour will continue to the first week of April, following which the Company will return to Stratford to restage the production for presentation at the Stratford Festival during the 1974 season.

### Other tours

The Australian visit marks Stratford's fourth overseas appearance. They performed at the Edinburgh and Chichester Festivals and, last year, the company was critically acclaimed throughout a major European tour with two Shakespeare plays, *King Lear* and *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The company has toured annually in the spring since 1967, appearing in several U.S. cities and across Canada. In addition to the annual tour there have been two out-of-town productions since 1967: *Hadrian VII*, directed by Jean Gascon, which set out on a 38-week U.S. tour following the Stratford production in 1969, and Feydeau's *There's One In Every Marriage*, also directed by Mr. Gascon, which was brought to Broadway by producer David Merrick in 1972 following its Festival production the preceding season.

*The Imaginary Invalid* concerns a hypochondriac who is so worried about his health that he wants his daughter to marry the nephew of a doctor (and thus obtain free medical advice). It was first presented in Paris in February 1673, with the playwright in the cast.

### Purchase program for fish meal

Fisheries Minister Jack Davis recently announced a \$10-million purchase program for fish meal under which the Fisheries Prices Support Board will offer to purchase fish meal from producers who may find themselves in difficulty owing to the recently-imposed export embargo on the product.

Companies who sell fish meal to the Board will have the right of first refusal to re-purchase for resale at a later date.

Canada exported 36,000 tons of fish meal in 1972, valued at some \$7 million. The chief markets are the United States and Britain.