

tation of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council on the Middle East. The close and friendly co-operation of the Canadian and Polish contingents in the United Nations Emergency Forces was noted.

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality he had enjoyed during his visit to Poland, and his satisfaction with his many productive contacts with Polish leaders. Mr. MacEachen extended an invitation to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Mr. Stefan Olszowski, to visit Canada at a mutually convenient time. The invitation was gratefully accepted.

Home-owner grants

More than 4,500 Canadians received \$2,292,000 in grants from the Federal Government to first-time buyers of new homes during the first six weeks of 1975.

The legislation, passed last December, provides that the housing must be new, not previously occupied, and must be the owner's principal residence; also the buyer must move into the house between November 1, 1974 and October 31, 1975; the house must meet provincial and municipal building standards; and the total purchase price or the cost price of someone building his or her own home, must not exceed the limit established by CMHC for the area in which the house is located.

Theatre history on computer

An interest in the staging of Shakespeare's works in early Canada lured an English professor at the University of Alberta into the labyrinth of Canadian theatre three years ago.

He has now emerged with strained eyesight, a wealth of anecdotes and a strong desire to record that history on computer.

During a sabbatical in 1972-73 in Montreal, Professor Gerald McCaughey studied stacks of withered newspapers, theatre playbills, letters to the editor and assorted documents to construct the foundation of theatre in Canada.

Professor McCaughey began the study with a \$4,800-grant from the Canada Council. He transferred the project to the University of Alberta last autumn and is now involved in storing the accumulated knowledge in a computer bank, the first undertaking of its kind in Canada.

Five undergraduate students assisted him during the summer by gleaning additional material from microfilm files.

Timing and flexibility are the reasons he chose the electronic medium over the print medium. "The computer provides fast, concise information and it's easy to adapt any subsequent findings. It scans and it doesn't make mistakes," he said emphatically. "Also, a book becomes fixed in time and amendments become meaningless."

The material includes titles of the plays, the site, the day, month and year that they were performed, the principal actors and the source of information.

"We're led to all sorts of speculation. What, for example, was the average cost of a theatre ticket in, say 1786 (the year of the first recorded play in Canada)? What about price trends? Were plays performed regularly on Sundays?"

Professor McCaughey thinks that the information will be useful to social historians as well as theatre historians. Theatre historians in the United States and Britain can also relate to the data because acting ensembles from those countries frequently toured eastern Canada.

The professor recently founded the Institute of Canadian Theatre History, an organization that will sell informa-

tion to the devotee and the casual observer at cost. Its members will ultimately contribute information to the data bank.

International poetry festival

Poets from many areas of the world will read their works at Canada's first International Festival of Poetry to be held at the University of Toronto from October 26 to November 1. Discussions, noon-hour readings by local poets, and a marathon poetry-reading, will be included in the event.

The Festival is presented by Hart House in collaboration with the University's Students' Administrative Council.

Participants will be some of the contemporary poets from a dozen countries: from Canada - Margaret Atwood, Earle Birney, Bill Bissett, Nicole Brossard, Cecile Cloutier, Raoul Duguay, Anne Hebert, Paulette Jiles, Irving Layton, Dennis Lee, Michael Ondaatje, Al Purdy, and Tom Wayman; the United States - Robert Creeley, Anthony Hecht, and Diane Wakoski; Britain - D.J. Enright and Thom Gunn; Ireland - Seamus Heaney; Australia - Alec Hope and Peter Porter; France - Michel Deguy and Eugene Guillevic; Belgium - Liliane Wouters; Mexico - Octavio Paz; Israel - Yehuda Amichai.

Canadian poetry in the non-official languages in the original (and in translation by poet John Robert Colombo) is to be given by Walter Bauer (German); George Faludy (Hungarian) and Waclaw Iwaniuk (Polish).

Israel imports Canadian Holsteins

Israel imported 2,000 Canadian Holstein calves, in September, to establish dairy herds in new settlements on the Golan Heights and in the Negev desert. The Israelis said they chose Canadian cattle because they were prolific producers, stood up well to hot, dry climates and came from disease-free herds.

Supervising the loading of 300 crated calves aboard an aircraft is Dr. Paul-Emile Gauthier (centre), Agriculture Canada's veterinarian at Montreal International Airport, Guy Bélanger (left), and Roméo Cormier (right) Air Canada cargo supervisors.

