

Supply—C.B.C.

called "Birds of the Forest" won the Italian press association prize for documentary radio programs at an exhibition festival in Europe. Several programs are mentioned that are examples of one of C.B.C.'s important functions, the development and recognition of talent. In television "The Concert Hour", as it appears on the English television network, provided an example of what one program can mean in terms of employment. During the 1955-56 season the program provided 1,405 individual engagements or jobs. The greater part of this, 1,004 engagements, represents the engagements required to provide an orchestra for the season. The orchestral performers were all Canadian residents, as well as 22 of the 27 conductors, 61 of the 74 singers, and 26 of the 38 instrumental soloists who appeared during the season.

The C.B.C.'s annual report begins its section on variety programs with the statement that variety continued to come into its own on Canadian television, and that the new opportunities opened up by the medium for this type of entertainment had begun to produce stars of national stature. This is followed by a comment to the effect that the fact some Canadian stars have left to accept work with networks in other countries is welcomed as an indication of this country's maturity in this field.

Later in the report on the variety programming the C.B.C. notes that "Music Hall" on the French television network, an hour-long Sunday night show, succeeded in enlarging its considerable audience despite the fact that it was on at the same time as another famous show, the Ed Sullivan show, on the English network.

The section of the report on drama pointed out the peculiar Canadian institution known as "The Plouffe Family". This is a television extension of the original radio series, written by that well-known author Roger Lemelin. The same cast presents the program on both the C.B.C.'s French and English television networks.

Drama contributed to the success of the Sunday evening series called "Folio", which won an award at the radio and television exhibition at Columbus for its "intelligent and skilful integration of education and entertainment values".

The parallel series in terms of drama on the French television network was "Téléthéâtre" which presented a season made up of such classical plays as "Le Barbier de Seville" by Beaumarchais and "La Double Inconstance" by Marivaux, mixed with outstanding contemporary works.

The C.B.C. reports that during 1955-56 it paid out approximately \$10,600,000 for

talent, more than 70 per cent of it in direct fees to artists, musicians, singers and actors and nearly \$3,000,000 for scripts, performing rights, music and musical arrangements. Of the total of \$10,600,000 paid out for talent by C.B.C. in 1955-56, about \$6,350,000 was for television talent, while radio talent cost about \$4,250,000, including some \$98,000 spent by the international service.

These figures do not include a wide range of other talented personnel on the C.B.C.'s regular staff, a range which takes in such creative workers as announcers, producers, program research editors, scenic, graphic and costume designers, news writers, film editors, cameramen and commentators.

Throughout the year a total of 11,135 performers of all types other than those employed regularly on the C.B.C. staff participated in the corporation's programming. Apart from the regular C.B.C. musical groups, the corporation paid more than \$150,000 to major Canadian symphony orchestras for broadcasting rights.

The C.B.C. explains that the script department, organized last year, devotes its efforts to the development of improved and continuing relationships with writers. Its section of the report points out that while just over 30 per cent of the C.B.C., produced television plays were written by Canadians in 1955, the situation has improved to the point where it seems likely that in 1956 well over 50 per cent of television dramas will be written by Canadians.

The script bureau of the French network, although it was organized only three months before the end of the fiscal year, reports that it analysed 56 scripts by Canadian authors, nearly all of them newcomers to the field, and drew the attention of producers to ten unpublished works scheduled for performance on television in future months. The French network script organization is receiving manuscripts at the rate of eight or ten a week.

Reporting on the Wednesday night series, one of the examples the report gives is "Architects of Modern Thought," which discussed the influence and ideas of men prominent among world thinkers. Response to this feature was such that C.B.C. published a booklet containing all the talks to fulfil requests from listeners. The report also notes a presentation on the life and times of Joseph Howe presented in two one-and-one-half hour broadcasts on consecutive Wednesday nights. A similar presentation about Sir John A. Macdonald was repeated from a previous season.

Under the heading "Special Programs", the report notes "Christmas Almanac", a five-and-three-quarter hours presentation on Christmas day of a type never before attempted. It