

### Arts and culture at the Olympic Games

The broad outlines of a festival of Canadian culture, to take place during the Olympic Games, was announced recently in Montreal. This will be the first time in the history of the Olympic Games, since the 1969 amendment to the Olympic regulations, that the Games have been accompanied by a national arts program. Canadian art will be presented in all its forms, from opera to weaving, from July 1 to 31. Many events will be free.

#### Federal/provincial sponsorship

Yvon DesRochers, director general of the Arts and Culture Program, stated that the program had been made possible through the co-operation of all provincial and territorial governments. He thanked the Federal Government for its participation and singled out the Quebec Department of Cultural Affairs for special praise.

#### Quebec opera

The Opéra du Québec will be reborn in time for the festival. In fact, as the lighting of the Olympic flame signals the start of the Games, a performance of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* by

the Opéra du Québec at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts, on July 1, will signal the start of the cultural festival.

#### Free events

Free events will take place regularly throughout July in Place Jacques-Cartier, Lafontaine Park, the Municipal Golf Course and along Sherbrooke Street. Many of the free shows are being produced specially for children.

#### Mosaicart

The ten provinces and two territories of Canada will sponsor a "mosaic of art", called *Mosaicart*, which will take place from July 15 to 31. Indian and Eskimo arts will be included.

#### Handicrafts

Eighty artisans from all parts of Canada will demonstrate techniques of various handicrafts: ceramics, weaving, batik, jewelry, etc. This display will be seen at the Municipal Golf Course, opposite the Olympic Stadium, from July 1 to 31, 1976.

During the month of July, on Sherbrooke Street, from Atwater to the Stadium, there will be an exhibition consisting of projects chosen by a special

jury from among hundreds of projects submitted to the contest *Corridart/Art in the Street*.

#### Film festival

The film festival has two themes: "Cinema and Sport" and "A Retrospective of Canadian Film". In addition, there will be a festival of animated film and a special program of 12 video-tape productions. Some 120 films will be shown in all.

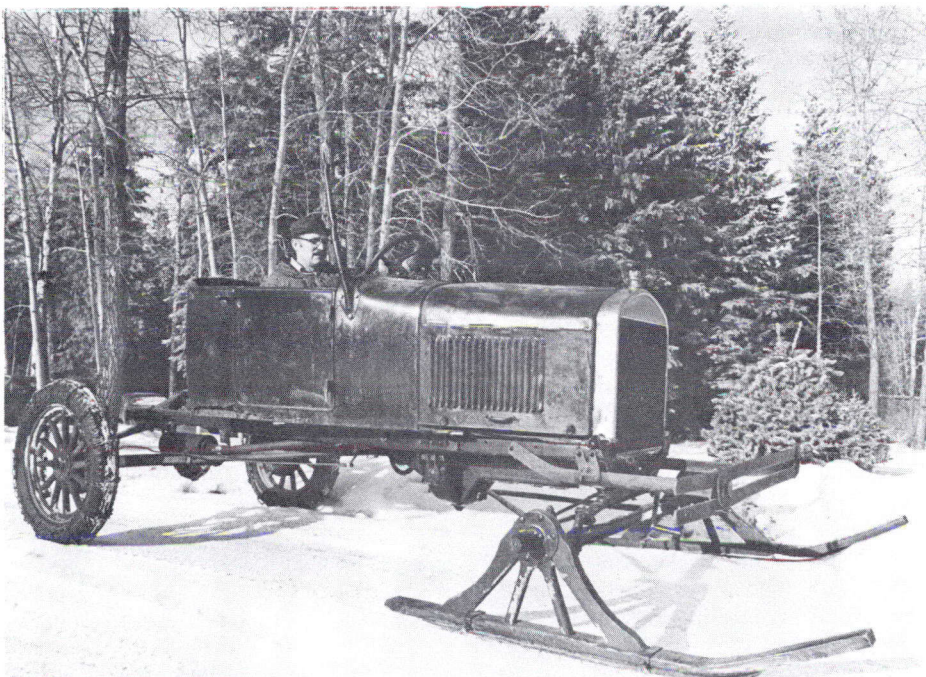
Other exhibitions will be presented covering all forms of the arts, including literature, engraving and "environmental arts".

### GNP annual review 1975

The gross national product in 1975 was \$154.8 billion, an increase of 9.9 per cent from 1974. However, this growth includes an increase in prices of over 9.5 per cent. The recession that began in 1974 "bottomed out" early in 1975 but, because the subsequent recovery proved to be relatively weak, the total level of real output in the economy increased by a mere 0.2 per cent. The performances of individual expenditure aggregates reflected the basic recessionary character of the year; investment in residential construction and exports of goods and services both declined in real terms in 1975, there was a dramatic swing in inventories of more than \$2.8 billion, and personal expenditure on consumer goods and services recorded its smallest real growth since 1970.

There was a modest increase in the current dollar value of exports, but this was outweighed by a substantial increase in imports and the balance of trade in goods and services worsened by \$3.3 billion. The slight increase in real gross national expenditure was accompanied by a significant deceleration in prices but the GNE implicit price index nevertheless increased by 9.7 per cent.

Current dollar expenditure on consumer goods and services grew 14.8 per cent in 1975, but this represents an increase of only 3.7 per cent in real terms. For the year, the largest real increase in both absolute and percentage terms was in expenditure on semi-durable goods, which grew 7.3 per cent. This increase was accompanied



Emile Hermary of Red Deer, Alberta, takes an outing in the unique snow

machine he built from parts of a Model T Ford.