

Telefis Eireann transmitted a special message of greeting to the Irish Government and people from Mr. Pearson and followed this message with a showing of two National Film Board films, *The Shape of Things* and *The Drylanders*. This was also unusual, since RTE normally does not mark national days.

### **A Peal of Greeting**

Canada's hundredth birthday began with peals of bells from many of the churches and cathedrals of this ancient land, as the Irish Association of Change Ringers had responded enthusiastically to the appeal by Paul Drolet and the Chamber of Commerce of St. Paul, Alberta, for special peals on January 1 to mark the beginning of Canada's centennial year. Recordings of some of the peals, including one from St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick (800 years old next year), were sent to St. Paul, and the Dean of St. Mary's, the Very Reverend M. J. Talbot, who lived in Winnipeg for many years, sent a personal message to the people of St. Paul.

The first of our special centennial occasions was, fittingly enough, a children's party at the Ambassador's residence in Killiney, just south of Dublin. The occasion was the distribution of centennial medallions to Canadian children in Ireland. About 60 boys and girls and 90 parents enjoyed refreshments in the sparkling afternoon sunshine in the spacious gardens after the presentation.

### **Religious Services**

Several centennial thanksgiving services were held in churches in and near Dublin. The Most Reverend John Charles McQuaid, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, presided over a solemn votive Mass of the Holy Spirit on July 6 in Dublin's pro-cathedral, at which special prayers for Canada were offered and the centennial hymn was sung. The celebrant of the mass was an Australian, Monsignor Edward Cassidy, of the papal nunciature. The Government was represented by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Frank Aiken. During the mass, the Kiss of Peace was bestowed upon Ambassador Gill. This is a very old rite, having its origins in the second or third century, and coming in its present form in a direct line from the thirteenth century in England. The celebrant of the mass kisses the "Pax-Brede", which is then kissed by those receiving the Kiss of Peace.

On July 9, an impressive commemorative service was also held at St. Patrick's Cathedral (Church of Ireland), which had some weeks before celebrated the tercentenary of Dean Jonathan Swift's birth. Dean John Armstrong preached a sermon on Charles Inglis, the first Anglican Bishop of Nova Scotia, who was born in Ireland and in whose memory there is an intricately-carved brass plaque mounted in the cathedral wall. The attendance at that ceremony, besides representatives of the President and the Government, and the diplomatic corps, included 40 tourists from Ontario. Their unexpected presence certainly added to the Canadian flavour of the occasion and was most welcome. The Irish