

FUNDS FOR QUEBEC UNIVERSITIES

As a result of budget provisions and new legislation, the universities of Quebec will receive provincial aid amounting to about \$20 million in 1960-61. One new act provides that loans incurred by universities for construction will be guaranteed by the province, which will pay the interest charges and all or part of the principal repayments. It also creates a sinking fund for this purpose, into which the universities have paid the amounts which were accumulated in trust for them by the Canadian Universities Foundation since 1956--a total of approximately \$25 million. A second act substitutes payment of provincial university grants at the rate of \$1.75 *per capita* of the population of the province for federal grants at the rate of \$1.50. A third raises the provincial tax on the income of corporations from 9 per cent to 10 per cent to provide funds for these university grants, on the understanding that the Federal Government will allow an equal abatement. Finally, statutory provision is made for basic grants, and grants based on enrolment, to classical colleges--these to be effective in the year 1959-60.

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RECITALS AT VANCOUVER FESTIVAL

Recitals featuring chamber-music groups as well as individual artists will take their place beside opera, drama, dance, and films in the Vancouver International Festival this summer.

Among the individual recitalists will be Canadian pianist Glenn Gould and Swedish mezzo-soprano Kerstin Meyer. These two will appear together with the Vancouver Quartet in an all-Schoenberg evening. In addition, both artists will appear in concerts of their own, Mr. Gould in a piano recital including "the four B's" (William Byrd, Bach, Beethoven, and Alban Berg) and Miss Meyer, accompanied by Marshall Sumner, in works by Debussy, Sibelius, Bartok and Wolf. Since her portrayal of Orpheus at last year's Festival, Miss Meyer has signed contracts to appear at Covent Garden and at the Metropolitan Opera, where she will sing Carmen next season.

Another individual recitalist is Jean Erdman, the American interpretative dancer, who will perform an evening of dance drama. This is Miss Erdman's second appearance in Vancouver. Last year she performed and lectured at the University of British Columbia.

There will be three chamber-music groups in the Vancouver International Festival. The Cassenti Players, under the direction of George Zukerman, were heard last year in two recitals that received unanimous critical praise. The Vancouver Quartet, comprising Jack Kessler, Arthur Polson, Smythe Humphreys and Ernst Friedlander, is a long-established group and has been heard nationally over the Cana-

dian Broadcasting Corporation on frequent occasions.

Coming to the Festival for the first time is the Claremont Quartet. Established in 1954, this group is now regarded as one of the leading chamber groups in the concert world. All four musicians - Marc Gottlieb, William Schoen, Vladimir Welsman and Irving Klein - are American citizens and received their musical training in the United States. They have been friends for years and this unusual *rapproch* helped them in their decision to form the Quartet six years ago. Their success was almost immediate. They have toured extensively, and will appear on two occasions at the Vancouver Festival. Their first recital will include works by Arriaga, Powell and Beethoven. Their second recital will include the Schubert Quintet Op. 163, with Vancouver cellist Ernst Friedlander.

The Cassenti Players, under the direction of bassoonist George Zukerman, performs chamber works for unusual combinations of wind instruments and wind and strings. The composition of this group changes in accordance with the requirements of the programme. Their festival recital will include works by Stravinsky and Mozart.

The Vancouver International Festival begins on July 22 and continues until August 16.

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HARBOURS BOARD REPORT

The National Harbours Board earned \$24, -206,000 from harbour operations in 1959, which was \$130,000 higher than gross operating income in 1958. Its twenty-fourth annual report, presented to Parliament by Mr. Hees, the Minister of Transport, showed a net operating income of \$8,608,000 and a net income deficit of \$595,000 in 1959, compared with a net operating income of \$9,289,000 and a net income surplus of \$1,072,000 in the previous year. Traffic statistics indicated an overall increase of 3 per cent in water-borne cargo tonnage at the national ports in 1959 compared with 1958.

Capital expenditures amounted to \$22,420, -000. A number of important new facilities were completed and put into operation, uncompleted work on major contracts at the year end amounting to \$10,805,000. In addition, \$4, -099,000 was spent on the maintenance of existing facilities.

The report states that major construction projects completed or in progress during 1959 included new or improved wharves at Chicoutimi (Quebec), Montreal and Vancouver, new transit sheds at Quebec, Montreal and Vancouver, and a transit shed extension at Montreal. Additions and improvements were made to the grain elevator systems at Halifax, Saint John, Quebec, Montreal, Prescott and Vancouver. At Montreal, improvements to the approaches and roadways of the Jacques Cartier Bridge con-