

REASONS FOR SPECIFIC CHANGES

Mr. Langham outlined some of the reasoning that lies behind the specific changes. "The two side stairway entrances have proved ineffectual for strong or dignified entrances," he explained. "They have seemed to have a 'backstairs' aura, and tended to propel characters down a narrow flight of stairs right into a pillar."

"The narrowness of the upstage-centre entrance, together with the many slender pillars all in close proximity to one another, has proved cramping for strong entries and for using the pillared space as a flexible acting area," he continued. "It is planned to widen this entrance, to lessen the number of pillars (as well as to change their size), to raise the balcony, and to place the whole of this area on an isolated island or rostrum."

Many of Shakespeare's plays, Mr. Langham noted, seemed to need an impression of at least two distinct houses; preferably three (e.g. "Romeo and Juliet"). As the stage stands now, only one is suggested. In the new plan, three separate "houses," each with its own protective canopy, will be apparent.

"A trap-door has seemed desirable in the floor of the stage balcony," he added. "For example, Prince Arthur, leaping from the wall in 'King John,' presents a feat impossible to achieve satisfactorily on the existing stage without the actor doing serious damage to himself. With a trap-door, the particular scene could be staged more realistically and with greater safety."

"Shakespeare's plays frequently require a clash of opposing forces or characters, a situation effectively exploited on the stage if there is a direct diagonal approach from opposing corners leading to the inevitable conflict in the centre," he said. "This is planned-for in the new stage by setting the rear side doors directly opposite the tunnels (the two ramps which lead under the auditorium floor into the understage and backstage area)."

Construction details, worked out in consultation with Robert Fairfield, Toronto architect who received the Governor-General's award for his design of the Festival Theatre, call for the use of white oak in the flooring, stage balcony and pillars. The back-wall panelling will be of korina and elm. The whole structure will be given the same muted colour treatment as the existing stage.

AWARD TO JAPANESE STUDENT

A Canadian company in Japan will help a student from that country to take post-graduate studies in Montreal this winter. Alcan Asia Ltd., a subsidiary of the Aluminum Ltd., Montreal, incorporated in Tokyo, has awarded a \$3,500 fellowship to Koichi Kubota for studies at McGill University. Mr. Kubota, a member of the Policy Planning Board of the Secretariat of the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry, will take an M.A. in economic planning.

Mr. Kubota's original application for assistance was submitted to the Canada Council. Because of limited Council funds, however, only two of the eight candidates from Japan could be accepted. On learning of Mr. Kubota's qualifications and of the Council's inability to assist him, Alcan Asia created a scholarship of its own. The award includes return air fare to Montreal, tuition at McGill and living expenses. At the request of the company, the Council has agreed to administer this new scholarship as part of its own non-resident programme for the academic year 1961-62.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION WELCOMED

In agreeing to act as trustee for the company, said Dr. A.W. Trueman, Director of the Council, "the Canada Council welcomes this generous move by Alcan Asia in the field of international exchange." "As Canada's graduate schools grow and develop," he added "our country will be under an increasing obligation to share her knowledge and technology, particularly in specialized areas. One way in which this can be done is through scholarships offered to students from abroad. The demand for such scholarships, as indeed for scholarships on all levels, will grow rapidly in the coming years. The Canada Council alone cannot hope to fill this need. There will be increasing scope for private initiative such as that of Alcan Asia".

The present scholarship is the second administered by the Canada Council for a private corporation. The Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship in the earth sciences commemorating the visit of Queen Elizabeth to the Sudbury mines of the International Nickel Company of Canada was awarded by the Council for INCO last year.

CANADIAN EDUCATION REVIEW

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has published a new report entitled "A Graphic Presentation of Canadian Education." Containing 20 pages of diagrams and 21 pages of text, the report reviews a number of selected features in the field of education in Canada.

Opening with a discussion of the role of education today, the report goes on to give an account of school organization and administration and to provide a "pocket history" of the growth of education since pioneer days.

Other sections pose such important questions as: "How well are we employing our student resources?", "What are we doing in special education?", "Is there a shortage of qualified teachers?", "Do we need more university graduates?". Text and graphs may conceivably help the reader to reach his own conclusions.

Vocational training, adult education and the financing of education are also discussed and, in fact, all levels and many aspects of education are illuminated.