

contributions to Canadian music, especially in the field of choral music.

Montreal composer John Rea was recently awarded the fourth annual Jules Léger Prize for his work *Com-possession*. The music was composed for pre-recorded tape, guitar and strings. The Léger prize — a golden sculpture by Louis Archambault and a \$5,000 cheque from the Canada Council — was instituted by the late former governor general to encourage composers of music for small ensembles, of which he was fond.

The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra has received a gold record for achieving sales of one million copies of a live recording with the British rock group *Procol Harum*. It is the only symphony orchestra in Canada with a gold record. The orchestra, which is in its thirtieth anniversary season, gives more than 60 concerts a year in its home concert hall in Edmonton and in Alberta communities such as Camrose, Red Deer, Sherwood Park, Banff and Fort McMurray.

Quebec author and playwright Michel Tremblay was awarded the 1981 France-Quebec literary prize for his book *Thérèse et Pierrette à l'École des Saint-Anges*. The book is the second in a trilogy dedicated to the working-class Plateau Mont-Royal district of Montreal. The first volume of the series, *La grosse femme d'à côté est enceinte (The Woman Next Door is Pregnant)* has just become available in English and the final French volume of the trilogy is slated for release next spring.

The Canada Council announced a pilot program in dance to support presenters of independent dancers and choreographers through alternate dance spaces, series or festivals. Under the program, grants of up to \$5,000 maximum are available to small-scale presenters of dance to cover the salary of an administrator or programmer and/or to help with publicity and promotion of dance events.

The Canada Council will renew and double the Peter Dwyer Scholarships it has granted for the last ten years to promising students of the National Theatre School in Montreal and the National Ballet School in Toronto. The prizes, named in memory of the late first executive director of the council, are administered by the schools, each offering six awards to its most promising senior students for living expenses and tuition. The scholarships to each school originally totalled \$5,000. The council has decided to increase the amount to \$10,000 for each school and has stipulated the number of prizes should remain the same.

News briefs

Davie Shipbuilding Limited of Lauzon, Quebec has sold four offshore drilling rigs to Global Marine Drilling Company of Houston, Texas for \$152 million (U.S.). The federal Export Development Corporation has signed a \$106-million loan agreement to support the sale, which brings to ten the number of drills sold by Davie to the Houston company.

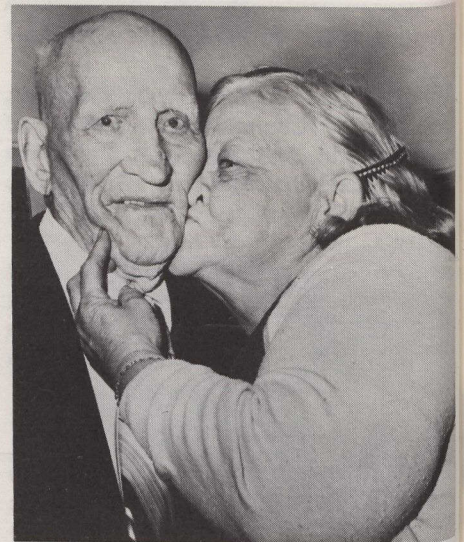
The Canadian Wheat Board said exports of Western grain in the five months to December 31, 1981 totalled a record 10.83 million metric tons. The rate for the first five months of the crop year compares with 9.8 million tons a year ago. The target for the crop year ending July 31 was 26 million tons.

The federal government has approved \$2.5 million to build a new meat processing laboratory at Agriculture Canada's Lacombe, Alberta research station. The new facilities will allow researchers to carry out studies on the meat processing industry, especially the effects of pre- and post-slaughter conditions on meat quality. There will also be research on methods of increasing the shelf life of pork and beef.

The Export Development Corporation has announced that 17 claims totalling \$435,487.97 were paid to Canadian exporters under its exports insurance programs during the quarter ending September 30, 1981. This brings claims paid during the first three-quarters of 1981 to 115 with a total value of \$6,228,640. The claims by country were: United States, eight and Algeria, Brazil, Costa Rica, France, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Sudan, Sweden and West Germany, one each.

A new animal quarantine station has been opened at Mirabel International Airport, near Montreal. The \$750,000 facility will help the federal government monitor imported livestock for diseases. The 1,000-square-metre station can accommodate one planeload of animals at a time. Cattle, sheep, goats, swine, horses, birds and zoo animals can be kept there. Livestock from countries free of foot and mouth disease must stay in the quarantine for a minimum of 30 days, at the discretion of the veterinarian in charge. Birds are quarantined for 28 to 45 days.

Figure skater Kay Thomson of Toronto won the gold medal in the women's singles competition of the Moscow Skate held last month. Thomson, 17, beat out 19 other skaters for the first place finish.



David Trumble (left) said to be Canada's oldest citizen, gets a kiss from his daughter at his one-hundredth and fourteenth birthday party held recently in Belleville, Ontario. "When you're 114, you're stepping on the gas to heaven," quipped Trumble at the party. The nursing home resident said his sight has declined in the last while and his memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

Steve Podborski of Don Mills, Ontario and Susan Natrass of Edmonton, Alberta have been named Canada's male and female athletes of the year for 1981 by the sports awards committee of the Sports Federation of Canada. Podborski won four World Cup downhill events last year and placed second or third in five others. Natrass, a trapshooter has won six world championships and was recently named Canadian athlete of the year. Swimmer Alex Baumann of Sudbury, Ontario and skier Gerry Sorenson of Kimberley, British Columbia were the runners-up.

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