

### NATIONAL GALLERY TRAINING

The National Gallery of Canada has inaugurated what is believed to be the first formal training programme conducted in Canada for museum preparators. The programme, which has almost reached the half-way mark in a six-month schedule of lectures and visits, is part of a career-planning programme for employees of the National Gallery.

The ten preparators on the Gallery's staff are all either artisans or craftsmen. They are involved in every phase of the handling of museum objects from the storage area to the display area. They are also responsible for the physical preparation of exhibitions, which includes the packing and unpacking of paintings, framing and matting, as well as the building of structural display units.

It is estimated that the National Gallery's preparators handle approximately \$20-million worth of paintings a year.

### HIGH STANDARDS ESSENTIAL

"The importance of high standards in preparation is becoming more and more recognized," says Charles F. Comfort, the Director. "In fact, a gallery's borrowing power may well depend on its ability to handle paintings and other precious objects."

It is hoped that the information compiled from this pilot project will result in a reference manual for preparators in other Canadian galleries and museums.

The goal of the training programme is to acquaint the preparators with every phase of gallery operation - design, extension service, administration, conservation - in addition to new methods in their own field. In the earlier part of the programme the preparators were taken to several artists' studios, as well as to the Exhibition Commission of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

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### FIRST AID HONOURS TO CANADA

The final results of the annual International Rescue and First Aid Association competitions at Roanoke, Virginia, November 2 to 4, gave Canadian teams eight of the 11 major trophies.

The Chicoutimi Civil Defence Rescue Squad, Chicoutimi, Quebec, competing in the IRFAA events for the first time, won the International Rescue Contest; the Dominion Bridge Emergency Squad, Montreal, winner in 1960, finished second. Eleven teams sought championship honors in this event.

The Mount Orford Ski Patrol, Magog, Quebec, was the winner of the International First Aid Contest, in which 34 teams competed. The Mount Orford Patrol, a member of the Canadian Ski Patrol System, which is an association member of the IRFAA, was second in the 1960 contest at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Second place was won by the Dominion Bridge Emergency Squad, third place going to the Metro

Toronto branch of the St. John Ambulance, winner of the 1960 contest.

A special trophy was won by the CSPS Central Zone Women's Team of Toronto. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Winchester (Virginia), Rescue Squad was second. This is the first ladies' auxiliary to become a unit member of the IRFAA.

The Greenville (North Carolina), Fire Department Rescue Squad won third place in the International Rescue Contest, with Rescue 1 of Toronto taking fourth place. The fifth place trophy was won by the Riviera Beach (Maryland), Volunteer Fire Department Rescue Squad. The Waterloo County Rescue Service team, Kitchener, Ontario, was sixth.

The CSPS Central Zone Men's Team of Toronto won fourth place in the International First Aid Contest.

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### BALLET SURVEY BY BALANCHINE

The artistic director of the New York City Ballet, George Balanchine, will visit Canada to act as adviser to the Canada Council. Mr. Balanchine, a choreographer of international repute, has agreed to conduct a survey of the problems and requirements of Canadian ballet companies and the schools attached to them.

The Council's decision to bring in consultants from abroad was prompted by its concern at the problems of ballet in this country and by the increasing demands made upon its resources. In announcing plans to study these problems, the Council expressed the hope that impartial, experienced experts might be able to point the way out of difficulties that seem almost insoluble.

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### NEW LAND-USE MAP

The first land-use map of the Dunnville region in southern Ontario has been issued by the Geographical Branch, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Acting Minister Walter Dinsdale announced recently. This sheet is the fifth to be published by the Geographical Branch since it began its land-use series in 1958. It is the first on a 1:50,000 scale; the earlier maps, three of areas in Nova Scotia and one of southern Ontario, are on smaller scales.

The physical, economic and historical factors influencing the area's development are explained in a report now in preparation.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the land-use surveys is to aid in development of a solid basis for forestry, agricultural and community planning. They are carried out in collaboration with the provinces concerned.

"Land-use mapping," says Dr. N.L. Nicholson, Branch Director, "provides a yardstick to measure

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