

ORCHESTRA SURVEY

In an effort to keep itself informed of the needs of Canada's fast-growing symphony orchestras, the Canada Council announced that it will conduct a survey of the artistic and financial requirements of these organizations early in 1960. The Council has invited the eminent Australian conductor and Director of the Conservatorium of New South Wales, Sir Bernard Heinze, to act as artistic consultant. During a three month visit to this country, Sir Bernard will conduct as many Canadian orchestras as possible and hold consultations with the permanent conductors. It is hoped that from these discussions will emerge a policy which can guide the Council in its activities in the field of orchestral music.

Continuing its policy of bringing outstanding lecturers to this country, the Council announced that the noted French novelist and Director of Archives in France, André Chamson, would visit Canada, for the month of April next year. Under the auspices of the Canada Council, M. Chamson will lecture to interested groups on French Literature and the contemporary scene in that country.

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FRENCH ATLAS OF CANADA

The announcement by Mines Minister Comtois of the publication of the new French Atlas of Canada marks the completion of a cartographic feat, considered to be the largest of its kind ever carried out in Canada.

Starting with the publication of the English edition of the Atlas, over a million map sheets had to be printed to make up the 8,000 copies required in the first run of the French and English editions of the new Atlas.

This outstanding printing project was produced entirely by the Map Compilation and Reproduction Division of the Surveys and Mapping Branch of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. The preparation of the hard cover of the Atlas and the binding of the copies were the responsibility of the Queen's Printer.

The new Atlas is a story, in maps, of Canada's growth and development from pioneer to modern times, in all its aspects: economic, political, social, physical, human, etc. The preparation of the material for the Atlas was done by the Department's Geographical Branch, assisted by various federal, provincial, and municipal agencies, private corporations, and numerous individuals across Canada. These data are presented to the reader in 450 maps on 112 double sheets.

The resultant large-scale compiling and printing operation had to be handled by the Map Compilation Division in addition to keeping abreast of its normal annual production of over five million copies of urgently needed topographic maps and nautical charts.

From February 1954, when the production of the Atlas began, until November 1959 when the last sheet of the French edition rolled off the presses, specially selected draftsmen, map editors, camera operators, plate makers, provers, compositors, and printers worked together with the co-ordinated teamwork of long experience.

The special problems posed by the requirements of the new Atlas brought into play a high degree of inventiveness on the part of the staff, individually and collectively, and resulted in the development of a number of new techniques in cartography--techniques which will be of great value to the Division in future work. Probably the most useful of these enabled the adaption of the English base plate for use in the preparation of the French edition. It won a Government Suggestion Award of \$340 and is believed to have advanced the production of the edition by as much as two years. It has not only effected a considerable saving in time but the use of the same negative bases for both editions has assured strict similarity in topography and detail and the avoidance of errors. It has also allowed the use of the same color plates for both French and English atlases.

The transliteration of place names constituted another major part of the task. Where translation produced longer words than had been used previously care had to be taken that important map details were not obscured.

The finished French Atlas is similar to the English edition. It has hard covers measuring 20 by 16 inches, and is contained in a loose-leaf post binder. The cost of the Atlas, French or English, is \$25 in Canada, and \$30 in Canadian funds outside of Canada. The complete Atlas is obtainable from the Queen's Printer, and individual sheets which are fifty cents each, may be obtained from the Geographical Branch, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

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UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE LIBRARIES

University and college libraries reported an average expenditure of \$48.80 per full-time student during the academic year 1958-59 as compared with \$46.77 in the preceding year, according to preliminary figures from a survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The survey covers 32 libraries in universities and colleges with full-time enrolments of 500 and over, representing 89.5 per cent of the estimated total enrolment of all universities and colleges in Canada.

During the year under survey more than 274,000 volumes were added by these libraries and the total bookstocks at the end of the year amounted to more than 6,046,000 volumes, or approximately 73 volumes per full-time student.

(Over)