

"The fact that one out of five business firms which attended the National Export Trade Promotion Conference last December were new in the field of export trade convinced me we should pursue our promotional effort in full co-operation with provincial governments and trade associations in a co-operative effort to bring the services of government closer to business. We are gratified with the response from Canadian businessmen in the four provincial business conferences already held, and by the efforts of many Canadian firms to explore new or expand existing markets for their products in other countries."

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## SMALL-BOAT SAFETY

Fourteen delegates representing the ten provincial governments met Department of Transport officials on September 7 to discuss problems of water safety and enforcement of laws governing small-boat operations. The meeting was mainly exploratory, for discussion of possible means of dealing with the problems and to find out the extent to which the provinces might be prepared to co-operate in reaching solutions to them.

As a result of the session, Transport Department officials said they were in a position to formulate proposals which could be submitted at an early date for consideration by provincial governments.

Because it was the first meeting on water safety at which several provinces had been represented, no attempt was made to reach decisions on points discussed, which included:

- (a) present regulations regarding licensing of small boats;
- (b) value of and need for boat-operator licensing;
- (c) enforcement of existing regulations.

There was also discussion as to the possible restriction of small-boat operations in certain designated areas, particularly for the protection of swimmers or others to whom unrestricted operation might present a hazard.

All delegates endorsed the need for an all-out effort in the interest of safety, but there were varied views as to the best methods to be adopted.

The delegates were welcomed at the opening of the session by Deputy Minister John Baldwin; C.S. Booth, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister was chairman.

Representatives of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Department of Fisheries and the Customs Branch of the Department of National Revenue attended the meeting.

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## SUCCESSFUL FILM FESTIVALS

With the recent conclusion of the Montreal and Vancouver International Film Festivals, it appears that 1961 will go down on record as the most successful festival year to date.

### MONTREAL

Statistics are not yet available on the Montreal Festival, but the sold-out houses and the crush at the box-office point towards extraordinarily high attendance records. Undoubtedly the most spectacular indication of the enthusiasm of Montreal audiences

was their response to the Japanese feature film.

Because of the intense interest aroused by a special preview of this film at the National Film Board, "Soldier's Prayer" was presented as an unscheduled midnight feature without benefit of any publicity except by word of mouth. Despite the fact that the film had no English or French sub-titles (an English narration was presented live) and that the show ran till after 3.00 a.m., about 1200 paying customers responded to the opportunity of seeing this obscure masterpiece.

Enthusiastic audiences packed every evening performance. All other showings enjoyed large attendances in the 2,800 seat Loew's Theatre. The Scientific and Educational Film Festival opened with an audience of approximately 1,200.

### VANCOUVER

Not even the heat of mid-July could stop Vancouver's ardent moviegoers from flocking to the fourth International Film Festival. For two weeks, the feature films, shorts and documentaries played to capacity or near-capacity houses, and on occasion many were turned away from the door. Total attendance for the two weeks was 21,501.

An international jury including Herman Weinberg, Mrs. Kashiko Kawakita, and Norman McLaren presented West Coast Indian design plaques to the winning films. The major award went to the Canadian documentary film "Rickshaw", made by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and directed by Allan King, a former Vancouver resident. Shot in Calcutta, the film employed a muted style of understatement to tell the story of men whose lives run out into nothing. Winner of a diploma for feature-length documentary was "Jazz on a Summer's Day", Bert Stern's colourful record of the Newport Jazz Festival.

Poland repeated its success of the past four years by carrying off the plaque in the short-fictional category for "The Portrait of a Man". The judges presented an additional award in this category to Yugoslavia's "La Peau de Chagrin" for its outstanding animation technique.

A special plaque was given to Norman McLaren of Canada's National Film Board for his experimental film "Lines Horizontal." Two additional Canadian films received honorable mention: "Cattle Ranch" (Science, Agriculture) and "The Days of Whiskey Gap" (Sociology).

Other countries with successful entries this year were France, Czechoslovakia, Holland, U.S.A., Japan and Great Britain. In particular, the British Broadcasting Corporation, the National Film Board of Canada and the Shell Oil Company were commended for the continued calibre of their productions.

The International Critics' Jury award went to the Italian film "L'Avventura," directed by Michelangelo Antonioni "for its visual eloquence and directional imagination". The British film "Saturday Night and Sunday Morning," directed by Karel Reisz, was given honourable mention.

The film Festival is part of the Vancouver International Festival, which also embraces a giant military searchlight tattoo and festival of the arts, including ballet, opera and major drama performances, art exhibits and concert performances by some of the world's great artists.