

Maurice Chevalier, Duke Ellington, Al Hirt, Petula Clark, Sandler and Young, Rowan and Martin, Liberace and Tony Bennett have headlined variety shows of their own.

NEW SEASON

The 1971-72 season, which began on September 17, with the opening of the Canadian Opera's twenty-third season, is now lining up new attractions. The Subscription Series began on October 25 with *The Chalk Garden*, starring Gladys Cooper and Joan Greenwood, following a successful London run. It will continue with *Light up the Sky*, starring Vivian Blaine and Kitty Carlisle, a new edition of the London Palladium Show, and *Mary*, a musical based on the life of Mary, Queen of Scots. Other bright prospects are the Broadway musical, *The Rothschilds*; a musical version of *Gone With The Wind* (prior to New York), a new production of the *The Great Waltz*, direct from London, and a farce, also from London, called *Move Over, Mrs. Markham*.

Other attractions will include the Osipov Balalaika Orchestra, the National Ballet of Canada (presenting its traditional Christmas presentation of *The Nutcracker*, as well as a spring season of repertory), and a Brahms Festival by the Toronto Symphony. There will also be personal appearances by Liza Minelli, Charles Aznavour, Liberace, and others.

The O'Keefe Centre, built by the O'Keefe Brewing Company in 1960 at a cost of \$12 million, was presented as a gift to the Metropolitan Toronto Council during the summer of 1968. By the terms of the transaction Metro was to purchase the land on which the building stands over a ten-year period at the same price that the Brewery had paid for it ten years previously (\$2,750,000). Since then the Centre has been operated by a board of management as a public venture.

FIRST TELEPHONE OFFICE

"Canada's First Telephone Office, 1887" reads the inscription on a brand new plaque in front of the Henderson home at Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ontario.

More than 100 persons gathered at the Bell homestead recently for the plaque unveiling by Mr. James W. Snow, Ontario minister without portfolio. "This simple frame structure, less than 100 years ago, was the cradle of our telephone business," Mr. Snow said.

The Henderson home, a two-storey white-frame building, was moved to the Bell homestead site three years ago. It was the home of the Reverend Thomas Philip Henderson, who retired from the ministry at the age of 62 in 1877 to help Professor Melville Bell establish the telephone business in Canada.

One of the first telephone men in the world, he became general agent for the Dominion of Canada; his home, a combined residence and religious library,

became Canada's first telephone office. The first telephone line was a direct connection with the Bell homestead.

The unveiling ceremony coincided with the official opening of a three-room display in the Henderson home depicting the evolution of telephone manufacture.



The Henderson home. The Reverend Thomas Henderson was the first general agent for the telephone. His home became the first telephone office in Canada.

The first two rooms of the museum house a copy of the original office and an early telephone exchange.

In the original kitchen and pantry is a display of telephone manufacturing development from the James Cowherd telephone factory (Canada's first manufacturer of telephones) to satellite communication systems. Included in this display is a section of the first wood-encased cable laid in Montreal. In the pantry is a model of the old Bell factory of 1882. There is a display of telephone sets from the original to a CONTEMPRAPHONE.

THREE GREAT TESTS

In the summer of 1876, in Brantford, young Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, conducted three telephone tests.

In the first, on August 3, 1876, Alexander Graham Bell received the first successful telephone call between two communities, in the store of A. Wallace Ellis, Mount Pleasant, Ontario. Mr. Bell heard the words "To be or not to be", spoken by his uncle, Professor David Charles Bell, at the Brantford telegraph office.

The second test was made on August 4, 1876, when a large dinner party at the Bell homestead heard speech, recitations, songs and instrumental music from the telegraph office in Brantford over a line three and one-half miles long.

The third test is hailed as the first long-distance call ever made. The telephone inventor received it in