

## CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA

Subject to approval by Parliament, Canada will make a contribution for 1969 of a total value of \$1,200,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. This contribution will consist of \$500,000 in cash and \$700,000 in wheat, or wheat flour.

Mr. J.P. Goyer, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who made the announcement at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, said that this contribution was indicative of the continued support by the Government and the people of Canada for the United Nations and its social, economic and humanitarian activities. It showed their appreciation, he said, of the Agency's invaluable efforts to help relieve the plight of the Palestine refugees.

## McLAREN FILMS AT QUEBEC MUSEUM

Some 15 films by Norman McLaren of the National Film Board were shown at the Quebec Museum, in late November.

One of McLaren's pupils observed that the films demonstrated the evolution of McLaren's techniques and illustrated the periods of his greatest activity.

Norman McLaren was born in Stirling, Scotland, where, at the age of 18, he first turned to the film art as a means of self-expression. Since he could not afford a camera or projector, he began his work by painstakingly removing the emulsion from a used copy of a commercial film and by applying coloured inks directly to the transparent surface with a paintbrush. The result was an abstract film of rhythmic coloured designs.

With the help of the School of Fine Arts, which he attended, McLaren made his first film on current events, *Seven Till Five*. The success of this film at an amateur festival won him a modest contribution for his next production, *Camera Makes Whoopee*. He was shortly invited to work for the Film Division of the General Post Office in London, where he developed his skill under the guidance of Alberto Cavalcanti and Evelyn Cherry and directed four films: *News for the Navy*, *Book Bargain*, *Money a Pickle*, and *Love on the Wing*. In the last film, which was the first serious attempt at using the techniques of animation without a camera, McLaren created synthetic sound, "drawing it" on the film by means of pen and ink. During the course of these experiments, he developed a remarkable scale of semi-musical sound effects, mainly percussive.

All his films after 1939, at which time he had gone to live in New York, are examples of animation without the use of a camera, in which the drawings are traced directly on the 35 mm. celluloid with a tubular pen and india ink. The perfection of this technique enabled McLaren to obtain a chromatic scale extending over five octaves, with the effect of about a dozen percussion instruments and ten degrees of force.

Among his productions, the shorts *Scherzo*, *Allegro* and *Loops* are the only examples of films the image and sound of which were produced without any dramatic, mechanical or optical means. They were made solely by means of pen and ink.

Since he joined the NFB in 1941, McLaren has produced numerous colour and black-and-white films, including *Là-haut sur ces montagnes*, *La poulette grise*, *Chairy Tale*, *Neighbours*, and *Begone Dull Care*.

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PAYS OFF

Dr. M.F. Clarke, director of the Canada Department of Agriculture's Agassiz Research Station in British Columbia, has compiled figures on the past ten years of research at the station, which show that the staff of 11 scientists saves farmers in the Fraser Valley over \$3.5 million a year. The cost of running the station, including equipment, is about \$260,000.

The breakdown he gave in a recent report was as follows: research on fruit-rot control saved farmers \$800,000; station recommendations on the use of chemicals for weed control contributed another \$1,200,000; station recommendations on the use of fertilizers for corn and peas saved \$400,000; research on forage production and nutrition added another \$280,000; and experiments on force moulting of laying birds saved farmers another \$75,000.

A station experiment demonstrated that dairy calves could be raised for beef, resulting in price increases for calves. A conservative estimate places this increase at \$750,000 in the Fraser Valley alone.

## NATIONAL HOCKEY TEAM NEW DEAL

The future of Canada's national hockey team has been the subject of several meetings in the past few weeks between officials of the Federal Government and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

As a result of the discussions, a meeting was held recently between Mr. John Munro, the Minister responsible for the development of amateur sports activity, and Mr. Earl Dawson, President of the CAHA, at which it was agreed that the Federal Government should make available to the CAHA the funds necessary to operate the national team during the 1968-69 season.

Mr. Dawson agreed to recommend to the executive board of the CAHA that control and operation of the national team be turned over to a new corporation, tentatively named "Hockey Canada". This body would begin to handle the affairs of the national team with the 1969-70 season; its board would be composed of representatives of the CAHA, the public and the Canadian professional hockey teams.

Mr. Munro noted that the CAHA would continue to hold the international affiliation that entitles Canada to participate in international tournaments, while the new corporation would provide the team that was to participate in tournaments requiring national representation.