

10. Mr. Stikker will be accompanied by his wife and Mr. George Vest, his Executive Assistant.

While in Ottawa, Mr. Stikker will have talks with Canadian ministers and will meet senior government officials.

The visitors will be guests of honour at a dinner given by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and Mrs. Green.

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### TRADE MISSION TO MIDDLE EAST

An 11-man appliances and commercial machinery trade mission from Canada is visiting the Middle East to explore markets in that area. The mission will visit the United Arab Republic, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran before returning to Canada on October 21.

Its purpose is to examine current and long-term market opportunities, to obtain information regarding trade practices, preferences and requirements, and to stimulate the interest of prospective purchasers of Canadian machinery, appliances and equipment generally. To assist the mission in accomplishing its purpose, Canadian trade commissioners in the countries visited have arranged meetings with importers, wholesalers and retailers so that mission members may familiarize themselves with specific needs, discuss actual commodity requirements, and make known to the trade the wide range of products available in Canada.

The members of this mission include representatives of the domestic-appliance, commercial-refrigeration, heating and air-conditioning, plumbing-equipment, stationery, X-ray equipment and camping-equipment industries. They represent firms producing a variety of commodities, including oil and gas furnaces and heaters, cooking and camp stoves, automatic humidifiers, coolers, refrigerators, freezers and blood banks, boilers, domestic water pumps, circulators and water treatment equipment, stationery of all kinds, X-ray equipment, washing machines, and pots, pans and enamelware.

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### GRANT TO WILDLIFE GROUP

A grant of \$20,000 has been made to the Canadian Wildlife Federation under the National Fitness Programme, to support the establishment of the Federation's national headquarters in Ottawa. Approval of the grant was announced by Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare, and Mr. Walter Dinsdale, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

The Federation is the national co-ordinating body for wildlife-conservation agencies and for rod-and-gun clubs in Canada. Its principal aim is the furtherance of conservation measures. It is expected that it will work closely in this field with the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and the Department of National Health and Welfare. Through the Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme, the Department of National Health and Welfare is concerned with conservation matters related to camping, hiking and other outdoor activities.

The grant will assist the organization in hiring an executive director and maintaining its new headquarters for the first year of operation. It was made on the recommendation of the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport, the main advisory body to the Department of National Health and Welfare on the Fitness Programme.

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### TENTH STRATFORD SEASON ENDS

At 11.30 p.m. on Saturday, September 29, the Stratford Festival's tenth season came to a close with the final performance of "Cyrano de Bergerac." Victor C. Polley, administrative director, said that, in attendance and revenue, it had been the Festival's most successful season; for the first time the box office had passed the million-dollar mark. About 323,500 people paid \$1,100,000 to see four plays, 13 concerts and an operetta. For the plays, the 2,258-seat Festival Theatre was filled to 94.5 per cent of its capacity during the 15-week season. The musical events, presented during a six-week period, were patronized to 86.2 per cent of capacity.

Mr. Polley pointed out that these figures were approximate and that the official ones must await the final audit, to be completed at the end of October. But it appeared, he said, that the season would show a profit in spite of rising production costs.

There were 123 performances of the four plays - "Macbeth," "The Taming of the Shrew," "The Tempest" and "Cyrano de Bergerac" - between the opening of the Festival on June 18 and the close. Two of these were benefit matinees, one for the Tyrone Guthrie Award fund and the other for the Actors' Fund of Canada.

### RELATIVE POPULARITY

Of the four, "Cyrano," directed by Michael Langham with Christopher Plummer and Toby Robins in the leads, was the most popular. Although it had only 19 performances, it played to packed houses. At most performances it received a standing ovation.

"Macbeth," directed by Peter Coe, with Christopher Plummer and Kate Reid in the leading roles, was presented 38 times to audiences 95.9 per cent of capacity. "The Taming of the Shrew," directed by Michael Langham, with John Colicos and Kate Reid, had 31 performances to 95.5 per cent of capacity. "The Tempest", directed by George McCowan, with William Hutt, John Colicos and Bruno Gerussi, was presented 35 times to 90.7 per cent of capacity.

Of the total attendance, Mr. Polley noted that approximately 262,500 admissions were for the plays. The remaining 61,000 were for the music season, which consisted of six Sunday-afternoon, five Saturday-morning and two Friday-afternoon concerts, as well as 45 performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Gondoliers" in the Avon Theatre. For the drama, the box office total was \$915,000; for the music \$185,000.

Plans are already under way for the eleventh season next year. Dates and details are not yet available, but Michael Langham, the artistic director, expects to announce these within the next few weeks.