

co-producer may vary between 20 and 80 per cent for each film. Moreover, one of the provisions of the agreement states that a French version of a film produced only in English must necessarily be made, either in Canada or in France.

Any film in which there is majority Canadian participation must be produced by a Canadian director or by a landed immigrant with more than one year's residence in Canada.

Housing in March

Housing starts for all areas were at an annual rate of 275,100 during March, according to preliminary figures released by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The rate exceeded both the February rate of 263,900 and last year's record production level of 268,529 units.

Actual starts in March in the urban centres numbered 13,257, virtually unchanged from the 13,300 figure for the same month a year ago. However, construction in March brought total starts for the first quarter of 1974 to 35,792, a gain of 7 per cent from the 1973 total of 33,367 for the same period.

The increase in the January-to-March total reflected a rise of 10 per cent in single-family housing activity and a 5 percent gain in the volume of multiples.

Ancient medical books at Toronto U.

A valuable collection of 3,000 ancient tomes, some dating back to the early sixteenth century, was recently displayed in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the University of Toronto.

Known as the Jason A. Hannah Collection, after Dr. J.A. Hannah, founder of Associated Medical Services, Inc., Canada's first non-profit prepaid health-care scheme, the books comprise part of the library of the Medical Society of London, England, founded in 1773. They were acquired by Dr. Hannah on behalf of AMS in 1971 and were subsequently presented to the University of Toronto.

Works by Hippocrates (460-375 B.C.) – popularly known as the "Father of Medicine" – and Albucasis (936-

1013), who compiled the leading textbook on surgery in the Middle Ages, are included in the Hannah collection as well as some by Vesalius (1514-1564) who, states the catalogue, "in one giant step brought the study of anatomy into the light of modern science".

Of Thomas Cogan (1545?-1607), whose book *The Haven of Health* is also included in the collection, the catalogue says in part: ... "In his *Short Treatise of the Plague* Cogan, after counselling 'recourse unto God by prayer', suggests that the inhabitants of an area visited by plague 'fly quickly from the place infected: abide farre off, and returne not soon againe'."

Hannah's contribution to Ontario Dr. Hannah was a neuropathologist in the employ of the Province of Ontario when, in 1937, he persuaded the Ontario Medical Association to co-operate with him in the establishment of a non-profit plan that would alleviate the financial burden of persons confronted with serious and prolonged illness. On the basis of statistical analysis, he showed that it would be possible to run such a plan if the first member of the family paid only \$2 a month, with progressively lower contributions for each additional member of a family. Furthermore, AMS, unlike most commercial schemes at the time, continued to insure persons who later contracted chronic illness or recurrent symptoms.

Despite the fact that AMS did not raise its fees for the next 12 years, it possessed reserves of more than \$12 million when on July 1, 1971, the Province of Ontario assumed exclusive responsibility for basic health insurance. The board of AMS, headed by Dr. Hannah, decided to spend the income from this money on the promotion of medical education in Ontario.

Dr. Hannah announced in March that, in line with this decision, the board of AMS had also decided to allot \$50,000 a year for at least five years to each of the five medical schools in Ontario: the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario, the University of Ottawa, Queen's University and McMaster University, for the financial support of professorial chairs for the History of Medicine in each of the five. In addition, a sum of \$50,000 would be made available annually for a minimum of five years, renewable under satis-

factory and suitable circumstances, to establish a province-wide Institute for the History of Medicine, with headquarters in Massey College.

Conference on women in sport

The National Conference on Women in Sport from May 24-26 in Toronto, will bring together educators, researchers, administrators, coaches and athletes in the areas of sport, fitness and recreation, "to discuss the unique situation of women in Canadian sport". It will be a three-day working meeting with keynote addresses and workshop sessions. One hundred delegates are expected.

The Fitness and Amateur Sport Branch of the Department of National and Welfare is concerned with investigating the area of sport for girls and women and with developing programs to increase opportunities for participation.

Conference aims

Over the past few years, there has been a growing interest and concern in Canada for women in sport. Lack of female administrators and head coaches, research revealing the low fitness of Canadian women, concerns of the Royal Commission report on the Status of Women in Canada, and the growing involvement of government at all levels promoting research and programs dealing with specific issues concerning women in sports, are some of the reasons for the conference.

The conference aims:

- (1) To identify specific problems and issues;
- (2) to discuss the issues and problems of women and sport;
- (3) to formulate recommendations directed toward solutions to problems and issues for presentation to the Federal Government, provincial governments, municipal sport and recreational organizations;
- (4) to suggest needed national, provincial and municipal policies and programs directed toward increased participation of women in all levels of sport; and
- (5) to publish recommendations and circulate them to sport and recreational organizations, women's groups, educational institutions and governments at all levels.