

space shuttle. The contracts are valued at \$5.2 million and \$14.5 million respectively.

The space shuttle is a reusable, manned space transportation system which will not only reduce the cost of launching satellites and manned laboratories, but will also be capable of servicing and returning spacecraft to earth.

Spar has over-all systems engineering responsibility and will design and build the Shuttle's manipulator arm.

Teamed with Spar are CAE Electronics Ltd, Montreal, responsible for major elements of the simulation facility and for the Shuttle RMC controls and displays; RCA Limited Montreal, responsible for the scene generation in the simulation facility and the electrical, video and servo systems for

the Shuttle RMS; and the Toronto-based consulting firm of Dilworth, Secord, Meagher & Associates Ltd, who will be working on the design of Shuttle RMS mechanical subsystems and test equipment.

The simulation facility is a computer-controlled complex capable of predicting and testing, under simulated conditions, the performance of remote manipulator systems in space, the Arctic, underwater and nuclear environments.

The shuttle's remote manipulator system consists of a 50-foot long mechanical arm with joints similar to the human shoulder, elbow and wrist and will be used to deploy satellites in space from the shuttle orbiter cargo bay and to retrieve orbiting satellites for on-board servicing or return to earth.

French-language training in Alberta

The Federal Government will contribute \$1 million towards the purchase of Edmonton's Collège St-Jean in order to ensure the continued existence of a French-language training institution for teachers who will either work in the minority language or teach French as a second language, announced Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner, recently.

An additional amount equal to 25 per cent of the operating costs of the faculty of education of the college will also be provided, in addition to the 10 percent payment currently being made with respect to the program providing assistance to post-secondary minority language institutions.

The \$1-million contribution towards the total purchase price, which has not yet been finalized, is in line with other federal-provincial cost-sharing arrangements that have already been established with other provinces where similar federal support has been provided to Collège St. Boniface in Winnipeg and Collège Ste-Anne in Church Point, Nova Scotia. The province of Alberta will pay the balance of the purchase price.

Collège St-Jean is the only post-secondary French language institution west of Winnipeg. It has an enrolment of over 150 students. University of Alberta students taking French courses also attend Collège St-Jean.

Calixa-Lavallée prize to Félix Leclerc

Félix Leclerc, the Canadian *chansonnier* who has captured the hearts of people in both Quebec and France, was recently awarded the 1975 Calixa-Lavallée prize by the Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste de Montréal, which has acknowledged him to be the originator of popular songwriting in Quebec and to have played an influential role in this field.

The award, established in 1959, and named in honour of the composer of the national anthem, is given for the work of a Quebecer whose talent and influence in music serve the interests of the Quebec people. It consists of a grant of \$500 and the Bene Merenti de Patria medal.

In its press release, the society stated that Félix Leclerc has been for Quebec popular songs what Charles Trenet was for the French — a revolutionary, a turning point. "Although he did not create the Canadian popular song, he has awakened the public and the market to it, and has in a way been father to the current generation of young *chansonniers*."

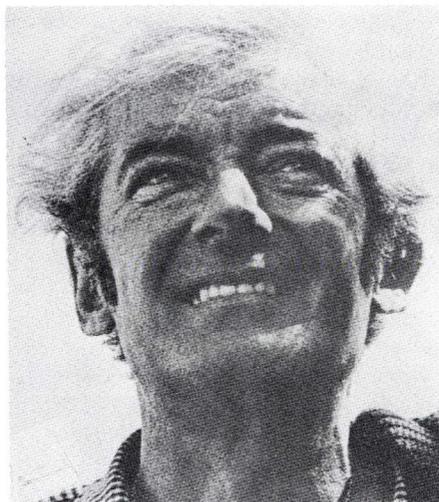
The influence of the SSJB prize winner has also been expressed by music critic Alain Sylvain: "Someday the world will realize Leclerc's influence on the development of French popular songs. Without him or the first breakthrough he made, would a Brassens have been possible? And without

Brassens, could we imagine Béart and Brel? Perhaps the future historian of French popular songs will, write '1938: Charles Trenet; 1950: Félix Leclerc'."

Recent success in Paris

Still as much loved and admired in France as he was in 1950, Félix Leclerc recently sang to sell-out crowds in Paris for several weeks running, and his long-playing record *Tour de l'île* has had extraordinary success.

Although a number of young Quebec *chansonniers* have made their mark in Paris, the public abroad is still faithful to the one who paved the way for them almost 30 years ago.



Félix Leclerc

Community education in Quebec and Latin America

At an international meeting held in Montreal in 1974, about 25 practising community educators from Latin America and Quebec were able to "exchange experiences, define current trends, and make more systematic a common promotion of educational strategies".

The report on this international project organized jointly by ICEA and the Canadian Commission for Unesco is available without charge. The bilingual publication (French and Spanish) may be obtained on request from the Canadian Commission for Unesco, 222 Queen Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5V9. The English version will appear in the very near future.