

## Canadian heroes honoured at National Library

Laura Secord's hat and an early edition of the Bible translated into Mohawk by Joseph Brant are among the items displayed at the National Library in a major exhibition dedicated to heroic Canadians.



Tekahionwake (Emily Pauline Johnson) was a Mohawk princess who thrilled audiences across Canada with dramatic readings of her poetry.

*Heroes of Lore and Yore: Canadian Heroes in Fact and Fiction* attests to greatness in a country that has all too rarely recognized the heroic stature of its own people. At the same time, it provides a glimpse into the mythical creatures, such as Kiviok and Sasquatch, that have captured the imagination of native peoples and Europeans alike.

*Heroes of Lore and Yore* is more than an exhibit about Canadians who performed superhuman deeds. By pointing to

models of excellence in many fields, it encourages national pride in the figures who have played a role in advancing Canada's cultural heritage. Visitors will rediscover pioneers and explorers who overcame natural obstacles; strongmen and sports stars; artists, writers, inventors and reformers who helped shape the image of Canada.

A major focus of the exhibition deals with characters who have become heroes within a single region, or among a particular group of Canadians. Alongside personalities whose stature has been acknowledged across the country are others who represent factions in the social and political conflicts that have strengthened regional identification in Canada. The exhibition also includes a number of characters who were recognized elsewhere before their countrymen knew about them.



Samuel de Champlain had a dream of colonizing a continent. He became known as the Father of New France.

Many aspects of the exhibition are designed to appeal especially to young Canadians. One feature is a display of 24 dolls from two Ontario collections, representing about one third of the characters honoured. In another area, visitors are invited to add the names, and to draw pictures of heroes of their choice not included in the exhibition.

*Heroes of Lore and Yore: Canadian Heroes in Fact and Fiction* runs until January 22, 1984, in the main exhibition room of the National Library, Ottawa.

## Toronto filmmaker wins award

Experimental filmmaker Ross McLaren has been selected as the Toronto recipient of the 1983 Toronto-Amsterdam Exchange Award. Established in 1976, the award provides an opportunity for talented artists from Toronto and Amsterdam to live and work in each other's cities.

Mr. McLaren is founder of the Funnel film centre which provides a permanent forum for discussion, production and exhibition of experimental film and related video arts. He will visit Amsterdam during December and January.

The Dutch recipient of the award was Amsterdam filmmaker Christine Koenigs who came to Toronto in September for six weeks.

## CanLit companion released

The first *Oxford Companion* devoted exclusively to Canadian literature was published recently by Oxford University Press in Toronto. The 843-page work contains 750 entries: biographies of writers; descriptions of publishing houses and magazines; surveys on English and French literature; and coverage of the genres of science fiction and fantasy, humour, children's books, Indian legends and writing, and drama.

It begins with Acadian literature and ends with contemporary Manitoba-born poet Dale Zieroth, the work of 192 contributors, writers and university scholars from across the country.

The book, planned more than four years ago, expands on the range of the literature covered by Norah Story's *Oxford Companion to Canadian History and Literature* published in 1967 and now out of print.

## Art uses ranch as backdrop

Alan Wood, a Vancouver artist, plans to use a ranch southwest of Calgary as a backdrop for a giant, \$500 000 three-dimensional art work.

Scheduled to open in July the work will stretch across an area roughly equivalent to 38 city blocks.

Wood will use 150 000 board feet of lumber, almost 55 000 metres of canvas and about 5 500 litres of paint to create fences, bridges and buildings.



Norman Bethune was a hero and martyr during the Chinese revolution.