

## PUBLIC SERVICE HONOURS MCLAREN

Norman McLaren, artist and pioneer in the development of film-making, will receive the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service of Canada for 1971. Prime Minister Trudeau has announced that the 57-year-old National Film Board producer has been chosen by a five-member selection committee to receive this year's award, the highest honour the public service can bestow on an employee.

The award consists of a citation signed by the Governor General and the Prime Minister and an honorarium of \$5,000. An awarding ceremony will be held at Government House at a later date.

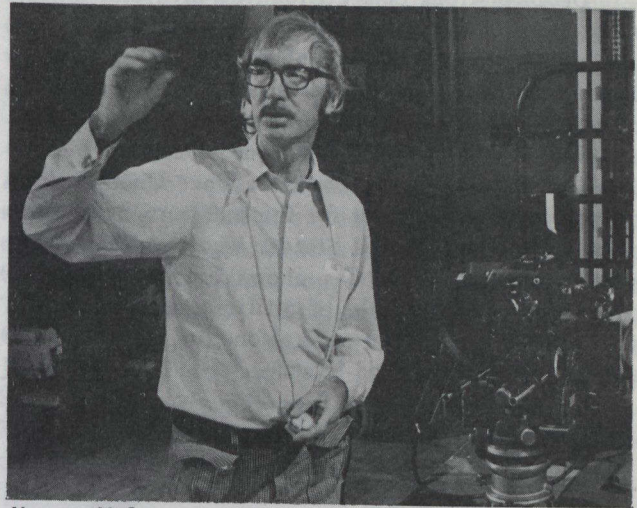
The Scottish-born film-maker, who has been with NFB since 1941, is known round the world for films that have won more than 500 awards and mentions in festivals.

The Outstanding Achievement Award was first made in 1966 to Dr. W.B. Lewis of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. Other recipients have been R.B. Bryce, then Deputy Minister of Finance; Louis Rasminsky, Governor of the Bank of Canada; Marcel Cadieux, then Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; and Dr. James M. Harrison, Assistant Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

### CAREER

Norman McLaren, a native of Stirling, Scotland, produced his first actuality film while a student at the Glasgow School of Art, where his work attracted the attention of John Grierson, then chief of the Film Unit of the British General Post Office. From 1937 to 1939, Mr. McLaren worked with the Film Unit, one of his films being his first serious attempt to use the direct-drawing-on-film technique of animation for which he has since become famous. In 1939 he moved to New York, where he produced a film for NBC television and did freelance work before joining Canada's National Film Board in 1941.

His first work with NFB was on a series of short animated films to publicize various Government programs. In 1943 he was given the job of establishing



Norman McLaren at work.

an animation unit for the Board, an area in which he has done much of the pioneering work in animation and sound techniques for which he and the Board have become famous.

Mr. McLaren has twice taken leave of absence to work for UNESCO to develop projects in basic education, in China in 1949 and in India in 1953.

His award-winning productions, which include the Oscar-winning *Neighbours*, adjudged the best short film of 1952, have been seen round the world and have played a large part in creating the impression of Canada held in other countries. Among his more recent works, *Pas de deux* (1968) has received recognition at 15 major international festivals. In 1969, the Guggenheim Museum in New York honoured him in a retrospective festival of his films.

Mr. McLaren has received many honours, including the first Medal of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1963, the Canada Council Medal in 1966 and honorary doctorates from McMaster University and the University of Montreal. He is a member of the Order of Canada, having received the Medal of Service in 1968.

## NO FALLOUT FROM AMCHITKA

No radioactivity attributable to the underground test by the United States of a 5-megaton device at Amchitka Island on November 6 has been detected by the Canadian fallout-surveillance program.

Before the test, the 24 air-sampling stations in the national network were placed on special alert and subsequently daily samples were collected for analysis at the Radiation Protection Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The Department conducts a regular monitoring program of radioactivity in air, water and milk. The

air-sampling network is the first line of detection and can measure minute traces of airborne radioactivity originating from nuclear-device testing. For example, the minor release from a U.S. test carried out in Nevada in December 1970 produced traces of fission products which were quickly observed in samples from the Toronto and Windsor areas. The increase, however, was so small that it was considered to be of no significance to health.

The recent test at Amchitka resulted in no change in the normal background levels of radioactivity in the air.