

MAUREEN FORRESTER IN PARIS

At a concert in Paris on June 16 of music by such Canadian composers as Jean Papineau-Couture, Otto Joachim, Alexander Brott, Jacques Hétu and Harry Somers, the Canadian contralto Maureen Forrester will sing Somers' *Five Songs for Dark Voice*; on June 19, she will perform the Handel oratorio *Dixit Dominus*. At both concerts the orchestra will be conducted by Jacques Beaudry, another Canadian who lives in Paris. Mr. Beaudry has had much success at the Opéra de Paris during the past two seasons.

The External Affairs Department granted \$7,000 for the two recitals under its programme of cultural exchanges with France. They form part of an annual festival held in the Marais Quarter of the French capital.

SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS

A stepped-up programme to provide summer jobs for students in the public service has been announced by Manpower and Immigration Minister Allan J. MacEachen. The Government's aim this year is to hire 10 percent more students than were hired last summer, Mr. MacEachen said.

The Cabinet has instructed Government departments and agencies and their regional officers to rearrange their priorities within existing manpower and budget allocations to increase their employment of students by at least 10 per cent.

The programme will include the hiring of at least 1,000 more students than were taken on in the summer of 1968. To make this possible, a survey is under way to determine the exact number hired last year. It is estimated that 2,000 jobs were provided last year through the Student Assistant Programme of the Public Service Commission, besides many others who were employed across the country by federal departments and agencies on a casual or contract basis.

The number of students out of work last summer at the college and university levels is estimated to have reached 40,000 at the peak period; a total of 317,000 did find summer jobs. This year it is expected that an additional 10,000 students graduating from high school or attending college or university will be seeking summer jobs.

FILM ON CANADIAN EXPORTS

Canada exports Chinese food to Hong Kong, toys to Japan, fashions to France, computers to the United States, watches to Switzerland, electro-medical equipment to Germany, whisky to Britain, potatoes to Ireland — and even brassières to Italy.

These facts are intriguing, and so is *I am a Country*, the Department of Trade and Commerce's

new 25-minute colour film, made for international showing.

I am a Country concentrates on industries that rely on human skills and up-to-date industrial and technological organization. It shows that, because of its nature, geographical location and area, Canada has developed modern techniques of world-wide importance.

The 16-mm. film available in English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Dutch and Japanese, was made by Crawley Films Limited of Ottawa.

HEALTH AND WELFARE JUBILEE

The Department of National Health and Welfare is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. In a recent statement marking the jubilee, National Health and Welfare Minister John Munro noted how much the Department influences the lives of Canadians. "It is, in fact," he declared, "a cradle-to-the-grave influence, starting with programmes in child and maternal health and family allowances and running full cycle to old age security pensions and death benefits payable under the Canada Pension Plan."

Before 1919, activities of the Federal Government in the areas of public health and welfare had been limited and scattered among several departments. In that year a Department of Health (Canada) was formed. By 1920, its jurisdiction extended to quarantine, medical services to immigrants and sick mariners, food and drug control, public health and sanitation, and child welfare. In 1929 the name was changed to the Department of Pensions and National Health, with veterans' pensions added to its responsibilities.

During the Department's first 25 years, its activity was of a curative nature, devoted to attempts to solve problems that had outgrown the capacity of separate provincial and private organizations. In 1944, the Department was renamed the Department of National Health and Welfare. With the new name came new responsibilities. Much more effort was devoted to allaying the causes of ill health, and much new legislation provided security and health benefits for the young, the old and the infirm.

Health and welfare services have been made available in more recent years through such legislation as Family Allowances (1944), National Health Grants (1948), Old Age Security Pensions (1952), Hospital Insurance (1957), Canada Pension Plan (1965), Health Resources Fund (1966), Canada Assistance Plan (1966) and the more recent Medical Care Act.

"In celebrating 50 years of service, we can be proud of our achievements," Mr. Munro said. "However, there is still much to be done. As this country grows, so will our concern for the medical and social needs of our people continue, and so must standards improve."