

News of the arts

International interest in Canadian children's books

Over half a million dollars is the estimated value of business negotiated by eight Canadian publishers of children's literature who attended the fourteenth Annual Children's Book Fair in Bologna, Italy, in April. Participating firms were Gage Educational Publishing, Greey de Pencier, Hold Rinehard & Winston, Editions Lemeac, McClelland & Stewart, Methuen Publications, Les Editions Paulines and Scholastic - TAB.

The event, which is held in Bologna's International Fair Grounds, was housed in six large pavillions with exhibits by over 500 publishers from 47 countries. Publishers of children's books, school texts and comic strips were the main participants.

The Canadian group negotiated well over 100 options for foreign translations of Canadian books for children. They also made valuable contacts with film producers, such as Walt Disney Productions, who were seeking new subjects.



Fourteenth Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy, April 1-4, 1977.

The keen business at the Bologna Fair is indicative of a revival of interest in children's books. In Canada several children's magazines and children's bookshops have appeared recently. The Canadian Book Publishers Council has created a special committee to give direction to publishing and promotion of children's and juvenile literature.

The Canada Council, which is responsible for awarding grants to encourage the arts and humanities, has funded a prize for children's literature. The winners for the first year (1976), recently announced, were Bernadette Renaud for *Emilie, la baignoire à pattes* and Myra Paperny for *The Wooden People*. They each received \$5,000.

First Canadian director for Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

Jean Trudel, until recently curator of early Canadian art of the National Gallery of Canada, took office as director of The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts on June 20. Although he is the fifth director in the Museum's 117-year history he is the first who is Canadian-born.

Mr. Trudel, a specialist in the traditional arts of Quebec, had been associated with the National Gallery since 1971. He earlier served with the Museum of Quebec in his native Quebec City.

He has also been active in the educational field, first with the Quebec School of Fine Arts and later with Laval University.

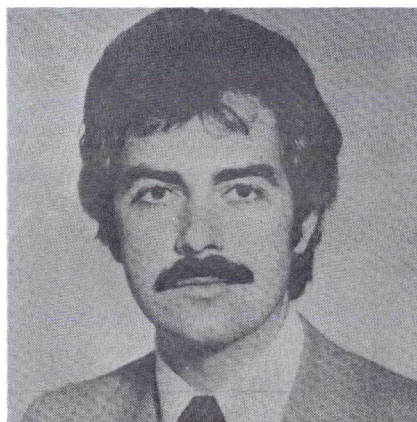
Since the Museum hired its first professional director in 1947, three Americans - Robert T. Davis, Evan H. Turner and David Giles Carter - and one Briton, John Steegman, have held the post.

In 1964, Mr. Trudel was awarded a Canada Council grant and undertook work for his doctorate in art history,

completing his studies under Professor René Jullian at the University of Paris.

From 1965 to 1966, he studied museology at the Louvre school in Paris and underwent a training period in the department of painting of the Louvre.

Theatre association appointment



Toronto lawyer Curtis Barlow has been appointed first executive director of the Association of Canadian Theatres, an organization which represents 44 theatres across the country.

Sport study group in E. Germany

Thirty Canadian physical education specialists are visiting East Germany this month to study that country's sports and recreation systems.

The delegation is a study group formed by Concordia University in Montreal to examine sports and recreation systems in other countries. Study programs have already been conducted by Concordia in Sweden and the Soviet Union.

The group will be in Germany from July 12 to August 1. Stays of several days are scheduled for East Berlin, Dresden and Leipzig. Of particular interest to the delegation will be the Spartakiade, the East German equivalent of the Canada Games. The Canadians will attend the opening and closing ceremonies and several of the individual events.

East Germany had one of the strongest delegations at the 1976 summer Olympic Games, where its athletes set many Olympic and world records. The country, with 18 million people, surpassed all expectations by winning 40 gold medals, 25 silver medals and 25 bronze.