

MONTREAL THEATRE GROUP IN ROME

Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mitchell Sharp, has announced that Le Rideau Vert a theatre company from Montreal, will take part in the international festival, Prix de Rome, which will be held in the Italian capital in May. The company will receive a grant from the Canadian Government to help defray expenses of the trip which is under the programme of cultural exchanges with foreign countries.

Le Rideau Vert will perform *Hedda Gabler*, by the Norwegian author Henrik Ibsen, on May 15 and 16. The cast will include several leading Canadian actors: Yvette Brind'Amour, Marthe Thiery, Françoise Faucher, Gilles Pelletier, Benoît Girard, Hubert Noël and Rose Rey-Duzil. The stage-setting is by Guy Hoffmann.

The Minister noted with pleasure that Le Théâtre du Rideau Vert was invited to participate in this important international festival along with several other well-known theatrical groups of international reputation, such as those led by Jean-Louis Barrault and Roger Planchon. It will be the first time a Canadian theatrical group has appeared in Italy and this initiative will undoubtedly contribute to further development of cultural exchanges between the two countries.

TRADE WITH YUGOSLAVIA

Dr. Vasil Grivcev, Federal Secretary of Foreign Trade of Yugoslavia, visited Canada during the last week of March at the invitation of Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Dr. Grivcev was accompanied by Mr. Stojan Milenkovic, Vice-Chairman, Federal Chamber of Economy, Dr. Petar Tomic, Assistant Secretary of Foreign Trade, and Mr. Aleksandar Bisevic, Counsellor in the Federal Secretariat of Foreign Trade.

During their one-week stay in Canada, members of the delegation discussed with Mr. Pepin and other federal ministers the expansion and diversification of trade and other exchanges between the two countries. They also visited representatives of provincial governments, research establishments, associations and private firms.

Yugoslavia and Canada have exchanged most-favoured-nation treatment since 1928, and Yugoslavia became a full member of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade in 1966. The establishment in 1967 of a resident Canadian Trade Commissioner in Belgrade has further enhanced the assistance available from the Trade and Commerce Department to Canadian exporters exploring sales prospects in Yugoslavia.

Canadian imports from Yugoslavia amounted to \$4.7 million in 1968, compared to \$3.7 million in 1967, with cotton yarn and fabrics, mercury, magnesia and outerwear heading the list. At \$6.5 million, Canada's sales to Yugoslavia in 1968 were almost

double those of the previous year. The increase was mainly in industrial materials — copper in various forms, asbestos and aluminium. Canadian exports also included manufactured items such as aircraft engines and construction maintenance machinery.

TRADE FAIRS

Yugoslavia's system of foreign trade has been largely decentralized in recent years, facilitating greater trade opportunities for Canadian exports. The Canadian companies which exhibited in the 1968 Zagreb International Trade Fair reported on-the-spot sales of \$125,000, and an estimated potential for the next 18 months of more than \$3 million. Fourteen Canadian companies displayed industrial and commercial machinery, and a composite sporting-goods section featured products of 40 other companies. Space in the Canadian exhibit for the 1969 Zagreb Fair is completely booked.

NRC IDEA FOR NEW INDUSTRY

Canadian Patents and Developments Limited is gambling \$100,000 that a Toronto engineering firm can take a National Research Council of Canada invention and turn it into a major industry.

CPDL, a Crown corporation, whose responsibility it is to license for commercial exploitation the inventions of Government scientists, has given Devtek Limited the right to manufacture a "family" of microwave drying systems developed by the Antenna Engineering Section of NRC's Radio and Electrical Engineering Division. The co-inventors are W.J. Bleackley, a member of the Section, and W.A. Cumming, Head of the Section and also Director of the Radio and Electrical Engineering Division.

CPDL has backed up its choice of licensee with \$100,000 in development contracts for industrial research and marketing of microwave dryers capable of extracting unwanted water from everything from glue to leather to plastic sheeting for films.

"We believe that, today, the NRC is pre-eminent in the field of microwave dryer technology," a CPDL official explains. "And we feel that, by aiding Devtek at the initial stage of industrial development, we are fostering the development of a new area of industrial competence for Canada."

Through NRC, Mr. Bleackley, and Mr. Cumming hold patents on inventions covering three types of unit using microwaves for high-speed drying. One of these, the edgeline glue dryer, is designed for use as part of the production process for business forms. The prototype was developed in co-operation with R.L. Crain Limited, Ottawa.

This dryer is expected to be a major source of sales, since it is able to dry multi-part business-form bindings faster than existing collating equipment can assemble and glue-bind them.