

OTTAWA'S FINAL CENTENNIAL CEREMONIES

Canada's capital is bringing the centennial year to a fitting close with a series of ceremonies on Parliament Hill. The first event, the launching, in co-operation with the provinces, of a "Help-a-Child" programme, took place on December 8. Young Canadians are being encouraged, through their schools, to make a special contribution to the welfare of less fortunate children in other parts of the world. The December 8 ceremony included a fireworks display, the lighting of two huge Christmas-trees by the Prime Minister, the singing of carols and the appearance of several hockey stars and leading theatrical figures. From December 15 to 30, bands and choirs from the Ottawa area will give regular open-air performances.

FORMAL CLOSING

An impressive programme of events on the evening of December 31 will formally close the festivities of the centennial year. According to Miss Judy LaMarsh, the Secretary of State, this final salute to 1967 will feature a television address to the nation by Governor-General Roland Michener, an appropriate religious ceremony, choral singing and, as before, a display of fireworks. The closing exercise will, in the words of Miss LaMarsh, "provide a final focus on the centennial flame, which has shone so brightly as a beacon of our celebrations throughout the year".

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POLISH MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS GIFT

Four ancient Polish musical instruments were presented recently to the National Museum of Canada by the Canadian Polish Women's Federation. In a ceremony at the Museum in Ottawa, Dr. Krystyna Zurowska, President of the Federation, made the presentation to Mr. Albert Béchard, Parliamentary Secretary to Miss Judy LaMarsh, Secretary of State, as a centennial gift.

Three of the instruments (the *siesienki*, *dudy* and *koziol*) are types of bagpipe. The fourth, a *gesle*, is a primitive stringed instrument somewhat resembling a violin.

Almost a year elapsed before suitable instruments could be found in Poland and brought to Canada. Some of them, once popular throughout Poland, are now played only in isolated highland communities or in folklore clubs in the larger cities.

"We wanted to get good instruments," said Mrs. Veronica Ramik, President of the Ottawa women's branch; "so we asked a music expert in Poland to locate and buy them for us." One of the Federation members was sent to Poland to bring the new acquisitions back to Canada.

INSTRUMENTS

The four ancient instruments have long been connected with Polish folk music. Some of them date back to the day of the pagan Slavic tribes.

The *siesienki*, oldest of the group, has not been in general use in its native country for a great many

years. It is a primitive instrument, made originally by shepherds and used by them to pass away the time while tending their flocks. It is basically a pipe, to which an air bag has been added. The pipe has seven holes, a reed mouthpiece and a bent bell at the end.

The *dudy* and *koziol* were widely used throughout the country in village bands until about 50 years ago. The *dudy* has a small bellows held under the player's right arm, from which air is pumped into a big air bag, and two or three pipes. The sound of the *dudy* is shrill and penetrating.

The *koziol* is a larger form of the *dudy*, with a lower pitch. The bellows is made from a goatskin, with the fur on the outside. It was more popular in southern Poland, while the *dudy* was more popular in western Poland and the highlands.

The *gesle* is still used in the highlands.

The Canadian Polish Women's Federation is made up of women of Polish origin in eight Canadian cities. It stresses activities that touch on the education and development of its individual members.

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UK TROOPS TO TRAIN IN CANADA

Troops from two British units will carry out winter-warfare training in Canada from January 27 to March 3 next year. Air-portable operations will also be practised when the Royal Air Force transports the men and their weapons and equipment from England to Canada and back again.

Taking part in the annual winter exercise will be about 125 gunners of "A" Battery (The Chestnut Troop) 1st Royal Horse Artillery and about 170 all ranks from "A" Company, 1st Battalion, Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry. The artillerymen will train at the Royal Canadian School of Artillery, Canadian Forces Base Snilo, Manitoba, while the infantrymen will go to Camp Wainwright, Alberta. About 36 members of both units will attend instructors' courses at CFB Borden.

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MAN OF THE MONTH

A Department of Transport landscape architect has been named man of the month by the American Institute of Landscape Architects.

William P. Wetherell, officer-in-charge of properties, zoning and landscape planning with the Construction Engineering and Architectural Branch of the Department, won the honour for his work at Edmonton International Airport.

Mr. Wetherell is responsible for the determination of the extent of land to be acquired for airport construction purposes, initiates airport zoning requirements and also plans and implements landscape projects for the Department's new air-terminal buildings throughout Canada.