News of the arts

Youth orchestra festival planned

The first Ontario Festival of Youth Orchestras will be held at Queen's University in Kingston from February 19-21.

Four hundred young musicians from the London, Kingston, Kitchener-Waterloo, Guelph, Hamilton and Sudbury Youth Orchestras will participate at the festival. Members of the Huronia Youth Symphony (Barrie) and Sheridan Symphony (Mississauga) will also attend.

Guest conductors will be Mario Duschenes of Montreal, a renowned flute and recorder vituoso, and conductor of the Youth Concerts of the Toronto Symphony and l'Orchestre Symphonique de Québec; and John Barnum, music director of the Mississauga Symphony, the Orpheus choir of Toronto and former conductor of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra.

The festival provides an opportunity for members of Ontario's Youth Orchestras to work with professional conductors and coaches, and to perform in concerts with their peers. The Ontario Federation of Symphony Orchestras is the provincial service organization whose membership includes all 45 symphony and chamber orchestras and the 37 youth orchestras in the province.

Exhibit honours Canadian pioneer in anthropological research

Anthropologist, folklorist, art historian, collector, researcher and writer, Marius Barbeau made a tremendous contribution to Canadian research. In recognition of his tireless field work and scholarship, the National Museum of Man is commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of Barbeau's birth with a special exhibition in Ottawa.

Entitled *I Was a Pioneer*, the exhibition, which will be on view until May 1, highlights the formative influences on the young Barbeau and follows his multifaceted career by means of photographs, manuscripts and some of the many artifacts he collected.

First interest

Marius Barbeau's first research interest was the Indian people of eastern Canada, especially the Hurons, but he quickly expanded his studies to include the songs, customs, legends, art and social organization of tribes in the western and prairie regions. Next he turned to French Canada,



Anthropologist Marius Barbeau transcribing a recorded melody.

popularizing the songs, folk legends, and popular and traditional art through numerous books and articles. His interest in native and French-Canadian art led Mr. Barbeau to work with such artists as A.Y. Jackson, Emily Carr and Ernest MacMillan.

Whatever his research Mr. Barbeau remained an inveterate collector – from French Canada some 400 folk tales and 7 000 songs, and 2 000 artifacts from across Canada. His writings total over 1 000 books and articles and he has left 40 linear feet of manuscripts and more than 100 linear feet of research notes.

Born in Quebec

Mr. Barbeau was born in 1883 in Ste-Marie de Beauce, obtained a law degree from Laval University and won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford where he received his diploma in anthropology. In 1911 he joined the National Museum (at that time a part of the Geological Survey of Canada) and worked there until his retirement in 1948. He was a three-time winner of Quebec's prestigious Prix David, the recipient of a doctorate (honoris causa) from the University of Montreal and Oxford University, and was named a Companion of the Order of Canada. Mr. Barbeau's long career and many honours won international acclaim for the selfproclaimed pioneer in the fields of anthropology and folk culture.

Of his study of anthropology Mr. Barbeau once said: "Canada is a very rich country from the point of view of its traditions of the past. It has inherited, it's inheriting still at present, the traditions of Siberia, of Mongolia, of China that have Volume 11, No. 7 February 16, 1983

come with the Indians over Bering Strait or over the sea into our continent and are now preserved in our country. Or they are the traditions of Europe that have come from the other side across the Atlantic with the settlers and are to be found everywhere here. And not only the materials themselves but the talents, the ability to think or to feel, inherited in each household is of very considerable importance. It will be the wealth of the country. They are indispensable if Canada is to survive!"

Carr sketches acquired

A book of poems by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, containing small, previouslyunknown sketches by the Canadian West Coast painter, Emily Carr, has been acquired by the Vancouver Art Gallery. The 482 page hard-cover volume bearing the handwritten inscription, "M. Emily Carr January 1905", is heavily annotated, many of its passages relating to themes of love, divinity, loneliness, death, and the condition of the poet/artist. Small sketches of male and female figures and head and shoulder portraits appear on the book's endpapers and flyleaves.

Evidently, Emily Carr acquired the book in Canada not long after she returned from a five-year period in England where she went to study art. These studies were curtailed by a serious illness which confined her to a Suffolk sanitarium for 18 months. She returned to Victoria, British Colombia in October 1904.

The Vancouver Art Gallery at present owns 174 oil paintings, watercolours and drawings by Emily Carr, most of them acquired through a trust that she established as a gift to the people of B.C. prior to her death in 1945.

Robin Phillips, former artistic director of Canada's Stratford Festival, has taken over as artistic director of Theatre London, in London, Ontario, Mr. Phillips, who has signed a three-year contract with the 800-seat theatre located in the western Ontario city, will form a 40member repertory company; expand the season to eight plays - four of which will be adapted for television - and use the repertory company for film projects. Mr. Phillips who directed the soon-to-be released feature film The Wars, has long been interested in using a repertory company as an artistic springboard to other media.