

Electrical Engineering Division which has a program of developing aids for the physically handicapped.

The game is operated by a single switch included with the unit. Inputs are supplied so that many different types of switch can be used, making it possible to select the switch best suited to a specific child. CMOS (complimentary metal oxide semi-conductors) integrated circuit design is used throughout and the display utilizes light-emitting diodes, thereby ensuring lower power consumption and long life. The game is complete in one box (11 by 18 inches) and operates on rechargeable batteries, making it completely portable.

A prototype is undergoing evaluation in tests with cerebral palsy victims in Ottawa. Checktronics is the first in a projected series of recreational aids for the handicapped.

**Hamilton Southam leaving National Arts Centre next year**

The chairman of the board of trustees of the National Arts Centre, François Mercier, announced recently that G. Hamilton Southam had informed the board he would not seek a renewal of his mandate as director general of the National Arts Centre (NAC) when his term expired on March 31, 1977. Mr. Southam would, he said, be prepared to leave at the board's convenience any time from next October to that date. A committee under Mr. Mercier's chairmanship, will be established immediately to look for a replacement.

Hamilton Southam has been NAC director general since April 1, 1967, two years before it opened in 1969. Prior to his appointment, he was instrumental in the establishment of the NAC, having served as president of the National Capital Arts Alliance which, in 1962, initiated a feasibility study for a national centre for the performing arts, and as co-ordinator of the project after it had been accepted by the Government in December 1963.

**NAC attendance 1974-75**

During the 1974-75 season, the three halls of the National Arts Centre received a total of 795,931 paying cus-

**Museum plane courtesy of Afghanistan**

*An ancient British Hawker Hind aircraft, believed to be one of only four still in existence, arrived at Uplands Airport, Ottawa, recently aboard a Canadian Forces Hercules. The plane, which was given to Canada by Afghanistan, will be restored and*

*put on display at the aeronautical museum at Canadian Forces Base, Ottawa. It was first used by the Royal Air Force from 1934 to 36, then it was flown by the Royal Afghanistan Air Force for about 25 years, following which it was used for training. One Hawker Hind is in New Zealand and two more are in Britain.*



Canadian Forces photo

tomers — 80 per cent of its capacity — up from 78 percent capacity during the preceding season.

From July 1974 to June 1975 a total of 901 performances were seen there. The NAC Orchestra gave 45 concerts on tour during the same period in cities from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Tepozotlan, Mexico, while the Hexagon and L'Hexagone touring companies entertained a combined total of 77,000 students in communities throughout eastern Canada. In other NAC projects, the Student Young Company and le Théâtre Etudiant du CNA toured schools in the capital area performing for some 10,000 local youngsters.

In total, the National Arts Centre, at home and on tour, entertained well over a million people this past season. The deficit for the season, on a gross operating budget of \$11 million was \$20,025.

**McGill University's novel approach to cancer research**

Even the most optimistic of researchers long ago abandoned the hope of finding one single cure for cancer. Not only are there innumerable types of cancer occurring in almost every organ and tissue of the body, but no particular type of cancer will necessarily exhibit the same characteristics in one person as in another — that is, each cancer is "patient-specific", never having a truly common pattern. Cancer research has been approached in a number of ways and members of the medical profession now universally acknowledge that it is only through the combined efforts of researchers with different attitudes to the study of cancer that any significant breakthroughs are likely to be made. There has, however, been a tendency to isolate work