

Canadian theatre group tours Britain and the Netherlands

The Toronto Workshop Productions is on a nine-week tour of Europe as part of the cultural relations program of the Department of External Affairs.

From May 3 to July 3, the company, under the artistic direction of its founder George Luscomb, will be seen in Britain and in the Netherlands. They will perform two plays: *Ten Lost Years*, a piece about the depression years in Canada dramatized from Barry Broadfoot's novel, by Cedric Smith and Jack Winter; and a new work by Jack Winter, *Olympics '76*.

The company, which opened at the Young Vic theatre in London for four weeks, will be there until May 29. From June 4 to 9 they appear in Amsterdam, the Hague, Rotterdam and Eindhoven as part of the Holland Festival. The last three weeks of their tour will be spent back in Britain with performances at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield (June 14 to 19); the Arts Theatre in Cambridge (June 21 to 26);

and the Theatre Clwyd, in Mold, North Wales (June 23 to July 3).

Toronto Workshop Productions have long been devoted to the production of Canadian works. The company, founded in 1959 by George Luscomb, has represented Canada in a number of important international theatre festivals. Their 1970 production of *Chicago '70*, based on the Chicago Eight conspiracy trials, ran for eight weeks in New York and a film was made of the production.

Ten Lost Years was first performed in Toronto in February 1974. It has since been performed across Canada and was seen on a special CBC television broadcast last autumn.

Olympics '76 a development of *Summer '76* which was first presented in April 1975, is a whimsical comment on the Games.

The Toronto Workshop tour is a project of the External Affairs Department in co-operation with the Touring Office of Canada Council.

Literary awards

At a ceremony in Ottawa on April 29, Governor-General Jules Léger presented the Governor General's Literary Awards for 1975 to the authors of the following six works: *The Island Means Minago* (NC Press), by Milton Acorn; *Hallowed Walls* (Clarke, Irwin), by Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson; *The Great Victorian Collection* (McClelland & Stewart), by Brian Moore; *Nordicité canadienne* (Hurtubise HMH), by Louis-Edmond Hamelin; *Les enfants du sabbat* (Seuil), by Anne Hébert; and *Chouennes* (Hexagone), by Pierre Perrault.

Winners were chosen by an 18-member committee which examined over 475 works published by Canadians in 1975. Malcolm Ross, of the Department of English at Dalhousie University, and Léon Dion, of the Department of Social Sciences at Laval University, co-chaired the committee.

The books

The name "Minago", for Prince Edward Island, is used by the Micmac people, and was aptly chosen by Milton Acorn for the title of his "unofficial" folk

history of the Island. *The Island Means Minago* is a collection of lyrics, photographs, dialogues and histories in which Acorn pays tribute to the island's inhabitants, both past and present.

Hallowed Walls, by Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, is a scholarly work on the pre-Confederation architecture of places of worship in Upper Canada. It is also a social history about the evolution of religious beliefs and practices which played a major role in the development of the nineteenth century Canadian community.

Brian Moore's *The Great Victorian Collection* is a fantasy. The central character's dream about a collection of Victorian artifacts is a vehicle for a humorous and cynical look at how a man's life is altered by a dream which he relives.

Two of Brian Moore's novels have been made into films: *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*, in 1963, and *Catholics*, in 1973. All his works have been published in the United States and Britain, as well as Canada, and several have been published in translation.

Nordicité canadienne, by Louis-Edmond Hamelin, is the culmination of

many years of research and a vast amount of travel by one of Canada's foremost geographers. It deals with the human and physical geography of the circumpolar North.

Professor Hamelin was the first director of Laval's Institut de géographie and director-founder of the University's Centre d'études nordiques.

Les enfants du sabbat is the third novel of one of Quebec's foremost writers, Anne Hébert. The theme is witchcraft and the setting is a cloistered Quebec convent in 1944. A best-seller, it has been critically acclaimed as "a fascinating and beautiful book... making its appeal not to the heart, the mind or to reason, but to the senses".

Anne Hébert's most famous novel, *Kamouraska* (1970), based on a murder-case in nineteenth century Quebec, was acclaimed internationally and won Belgium's Prix de l'Académie royale and France's Prix des libraires. It was also made into a successful movie by Claude Jutra, starring Geneviève Bujold.

Chouennes is a collection of poems written by Pierre Perrault between 1961 and 1971 and has been described by one critic as "one of the most imposing works of poetry in Quebec". His other works include three collections of poetry, a play, several narratives, and a number of scripts for cinema, radio and television.

Nova Scotia signs anti-inflation pact

The provincial government of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada have signed an agreement applying the federal Anti-Inflation Act and the national guidelines to the public sector of Nova Scotia, Finance Minister Donald S. Macdonald announced recently.

Similar agreements have been signed previously by the other Atlantic provinces and with Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta.

Under a federal-provincial agreement, the province of Quebec has established its own machinery to apply the national guidelines to its public sector. Discussions are continuing with Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

The Nova Scotia agreement covers all government departments and agencies, Crown corporations, municipal