

## Films

The documentary films produced by Canada's National Film Board are known and appreciated the world over. Distribution abroad is arranged through representatives of the Canadian government. In Canada, the circulation of the Board's films—of cultural, national and international subjects—is made possible in the most remote communities by mobile projection units which regularly visit outlying centres lacking permanent moving-picture equipment. High awards were given National Film Board Pictures in the Canadian Film Award Competition established in 1949, and international recognition has recently been won in Venice and Brussels.

The private production of films in Canada has undoubtedly been stimulated by the leadership of this energetic and prolific institution. The film, *The Loon's Necklace*, produced by Crawley Films of Ottawa, won recognition at the international film festivals in Locarno and Edinburgh, and in Canada was judged the best Canadian film of 1948.

## Ballet

The development of the art of the ballet in Canada is recent but flourishing. A Ballet Festival, organized by Gweneth Lloyd of the Winnipeg Ballet, was held in that city in 1948. This enterprise was very successfully repeated in Toronto the following year on a much larger scale. Ten dance groups from six cities across Canada participated, and a genuinely national interest in this art form is apparent.

"Visages", produced by the Winnipeg Ballet Company.



"The Taming of the Shrew", produced by the Peterborough (Ont.) Little Theatre Group.

## Theatre

There is a vigorous amateur Canadian theatre organized in cities and towns across the country. This activity has undoubtedly been stimulated by the fact that the visits of professional theatrical companies are somewhat inhibited by the distances separating Canada's larger population centres, although the great French-speaking actor, Gélinas, is able to maintain a professional theatre in Montreal, and professional summer theatre has become increasingly important in recent years. The annual Dominion Drama Festival is the climax of months of local and provincial amateur competition. Prominent Canadian drama groups include Montreal's Les Compagnons de St. Laurent and Repertory Theatre, Hart House Theatre of Toronto, the Peterborough (Ontario) Little Theatre, the Vagabond Players of New Westminster (British Columbia), and the London (Ontario) Little Theatre. The Ottawa Drama League was invited to perform Robertson Davies' *Eros at Breakfast* at the Edinburgh Festival in 1949.

A second play by Davies, *Fortune, My Foe*, and Morley Callaghan's *To Tell the Truth* are works of Canadian playwrights which have been produced in the past two years. Lister Sinclair has recently had published a volume of his radio plays, and John Coulter and Dr. Healey Willan have collaborated in two operas produced by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.