

Canada/U.S.S.R. general exchanges agreement 1974-75 program

On December 8, 1973, Canada and the Soviet Union signed a two-year program of scientific, academic and cultural exchanges for the period 1974-75 at the conclusion of the second session of the Canada/U.S.S.R. Mixed Commission on General Exchanges held in Ottawa from December 6 to 8. Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, J.G.H. Halstead, signed on behalf of Canada and Mr. I.N. Zemskov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed on behalf of the Soviet Union.

The Mixed Commission, which was established by the General Exchanges Agreement, was signed by Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Kosygin in October 1971 in Ottawa. Its first session was held in Moscow in June 1972, when it worked out the program of exchanges that expired at the end of December 1973. The Mixed Commission meets alternately in Moscow and Ottawa.

Seven major areas of co-operation are included in the program: science, education, the arts, cinematography,

television and radio, sports and tourism. Mutual benefit and reciprocity are the guiding principles.

A number of major new features in the 1974-75 year, include an agreement to develop sports exchanges.

The program provides for further work in the Arctic sciences. It envisages the conclusion of an agreement on medicine and public health and includes a new round of exchanges in social sciences.

In education, the program provides for continued exchanges of students, professors and translators as well as delegations of educational officials and specialists.

In arts, it provides for exchanges in the performing arts and art exhibitions, the loan of works of art, the exchange of writers and poets and the visits of theatre directors and designers, choreographers and teachers of the arts. It also includes an exchange of publishers, editors and journalists and a new program of co-operation between libraries and archives in Canada and the Soviet Union.

Chinese families to join relatives in Canada

The processing of immigration applications from Chinese residents sponsored or nominated by relatives in Canada is under way, Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced recently.

The agreement between Canada and the People's Republic of China to facilitate the reunion of families was signed on October 24. The first applications were examined in November after consultations among the Canadian Embassy in Peking, the Chinese authorities and two Canadian immigration officers to establish the necessary mechanisms. Consultations began two days after the signing of the agreement negotiated during Prime Minister Trudeau's recent visit to China.

The first task was the processing of some 3,000 applications, covering approximately 6,000 relatives, submitted since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and the People's Republic of China.

Priority will be given to applica-

tions for immediate family members, said Mr. Andras.

Such factors as the place of residence of immigrants in China, the accuracy of their addresses, their distance from points where interviews or medical examinations could be held, and even the time required for mail to reach them and be returned to the Canadian Embassy in Peking made it difficult to make a useful estimate of the time required to complete their processing.

Mr. Andras said that any person in Canada who was either a Canadian citizen or who had been legally admitted to Canada for permanent residence may sponsor or nominate relatives residing in the People's Republic of China on the same basis as nominators or sponsors or relatives residing in any other part of the world.

Ethnic group well established

The Chinese ethnic group, which was one of the first established in Canada

now totals more than 50,000; some studies show that the first Chinese came to Canada more than 115 years ago as miners and settled in the West. Many also came under contract to help build the western line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, thus making a major contribution to the development of this part of Canada. Most of the Chinese workers remained in British Columbia when this project was completed, while others made their way to the Prairie provinces and eastern Canada.

Chinese immigration slowed down by the turn of the century, but changes made in Canada's immigration policy in 1962 and 1967 stimulated an upswing in the movement. More than half of all the immigrants from China were admitted during the last ten years.

Marcel Dubé wins Quebec literary prize

The Quebec Minister of Cultural Affairs, F. Cloutier, announced recently that the *prix David* for 1973, the highest literary honour awarded by the Quebec Government, had been awarded to French-Canadian playwright, Marcel Dubé. The *prix David*, which was established in 1922, is awarded annually to a French-speaking Canadian writer.

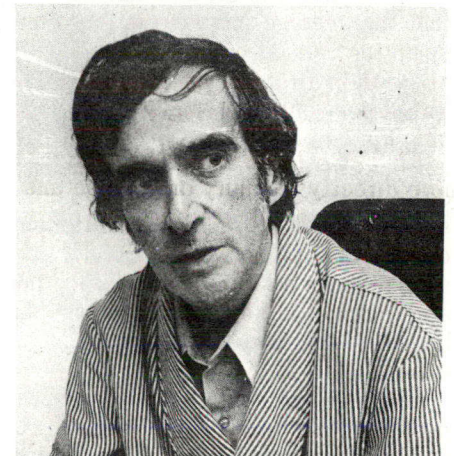


Photo Alain Renaud

Literary prizewinner Marcel Dubé.

The Minister said that since the 1950s, Marcel Dubé had been the most prolific Quebec dramatist. He has been producing work continuously for radio, television and theatre, and still occupies a foremost position in contemporary Quebec letters. The Minister added that the *prix David* was being awarded to Marcel Dubé in recognition