

GIFT OF UKRAINIAN ART

The Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, of the National Museum of Man, has acquired the major collection of Ukrainian folk art and craft of Dr. Micheal Huculak of Vancouver, British Columbia.

The collection, valued by museum officials at more than \$20,000, represents a lifetime of work. It includes costume pieces from three ethnographic areas of the Ukraine - Hutsulia, Bukovina and Snjatyn - as well as numerous household textile items such as hand-woven wall hangings and towels, ceramics, wood decorative articles, trinket boxes, musical instruments and other attractive material. The ceramic items are made up of folk pottery such as large vases, figurines and containers; some of the trinket boxes are inlaid with pearl and ivory.

Dr. Carmen Roy, chief of the Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, said the collection would be shown as an entity when the National Museum of Man reopens. It is now closed for extensive renovations.

Following the Ottawa showing, the collection will be available for loan to other museums across Canada.

Dr. Roy has also announced the acquisition of another gift, this one from the Women's Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee of Hamilton - a woman's costume of the Poltava area of the Ukraine, which will also be displayed when the Museum reopens.

NRC APPOINTS WOMEN DIRECTORS

For the first time in its 54-year history, the National Research Council of Canada will include women on its governing body. Dr. W.G. Schneider, President of NRC, announced recently that the Canadian Government had appointed two female scientists to the 21-member Council. They are Dr. Thérèse Gouin Décarie, a research consultant in psychology at the St. Justine Hospital for Children in Montreal, and Dr. Mary Spencer, a plant biochemist in the Plant Science Department of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Dr. Décarie has been engaged for a number of years in research associated with thalidomide children. Her main work has been studies of the intellectual and emotional potentials of thalidomide children and the psychic reactions of parents to their children's handicaps.

Dr. Spencer is engaged in research directed towards gaining an understanding of some of the factors that control the occurrence of chemical reactions in living organisms. Factors being studied are cellular organization and its changes with age, and the production and effects of the hormone ethylene. A second research project in which she is engaged involves an investigation of the mechanism whereby energy of sunlight is transformed to chemical energy in photosynthetic organisms.

NIGER ROAD-BUILDING LOAN

A \$13,200,000-development loan to finance the construction of Unity Road in Niger was announced recently by the Canadian International Development Agency. The loan is interest free and is repayable in 50 years, including a ten-year period of grace.

Unity Road, which will serve the southeast part of Niger, will follow the border between Niger and Nigeria for 265 miles, linking Goure to the areas around Lake Chad. This region is now isolated because the existing road is almost impassible in the rainy season.

By easing access to markets in the cities, the road, which will take four years to build, will stimulate the growth of agriculture, fisheries, mining and the production of arabic gum.

The possibility of Canadian participation in the project was discussed during the visit of President Hamani Diori to Canada last September and was the subject of a feasibility study.

During the visit, Canadian Government representatives reiterated their desire to increase participation in the economic development of Niger, where Canada has had a development assistance program for six years.

CATTLE IMPORT PERMITS

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. H.A. Olson, has announced that import permits have been granted to 446 applicants to import 612 cattle from Europe this year. Permit-holders are entitled to purchase cattle in France and Switzerland, the only approved European countries, and import them through the Grosse Ile and St. Pierre maximum-security quarantine stations.

The Canada Department of Agriculture received about 1,300 applications to import about 7,000 head of cattle this year. The capacity at the two quarantine stations is slightly over 600 head. The maximum number of cattle allowed for each permit-holder this year is four.

All applications were assessed by a genetic committee and permits were issued according to priorities established by this committee.

Import permits this year restrict the holder to purchasing the breed of animal from the country of origin designated on the application form.

"Because applications for permits are assessed on the basis of project proposals for a particular breed, we feel it is a fair policy to restrict permit-holders to their stated intentions," Mr. Olson said.

In future, imports may be allowed from other European countries and talks are progressing aimed at establishing satisfactory veterinary agreements.

The cattle will undergo preliminary quarantine in Europe and arrive at the maximum security quarantine stations in the autumn. Providing they meet health requirements, they will be released from quarantine next spring.