speed over roughly cleared track with obstacles is about 30 miles an hour, while on water it has a maximum speed of six miles an hour.

ARTS GRANTS

Two major training-centres are among the recipients of assistance to the performing arts announced recently by the Canada Council. The National Theatre School of Canada (Montreal) receives $215,000 and the National Ballet School of Toronto $100,000 for their continued operation in 1968-69. Both schools provide training to candidates chosen from across the country on the basis of merit.

These subsidies, totalling $876,685, are part of a total of $6.5 million that is expected to be granted by the Council to the performing arts next year.

Theatre companies receiving grants for 1968-69 are: Theatre Toronto ($125,000); the Comédie Canadienne, Montreal ($70,000); the Citadel Theatre, Edmonton ($45,000); Theatre Calgary ($30,000); Instant Theatre Montreal ($20,000); and the Montreal International Theatre ($15,000). The Toronto Arts Foundation receives a grant of $15,000 for advance programme planning for the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, which is expected to be in full operation at the end of 1969.

MUSIC

Grants for the 1968-69 season go to the Théâtre Lyrique du Québec, Quebec City ($60,000); the Festival Singers of Toronto ($37,000); the Calgary Philharmonic Society ($20,000); and the Saskatoon Symphony Society ($10,000). The Canadian Music Council receives a total of $12,000 for operating expenses in 1968-69, for publishing a report of its 1968 conference and for a Conference on Contemporary Music and Audiences to be held in Montreal next March. A grant of $7,585 goes to the Toronto Repertory Ensemble for a series of four concerts of contemporary music. The Ottawa Choral Society receives $2,500 for the presentation of Handel's *Psalm 112* and a work by the contemporary British composer, Gerald Finzi, *Intimations of Immortality;* and the Vancouver Bach Choir receives $2,000 for presentation of the Watkins-Shaw version of Handel's *Messiah.*

In addition, the Council has set aside $90,600 for its 1968-69 Theatre Arts Development Programme, designed to meet some of the problems of training people for the more technical fields common to theatre, opera and ballet companies. Under this scheme, funds are allotted to professional arts organizations to train technical apprentices, press officers and potential directors.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

Canada's Mortgage and Housing Corporation, through Section 16A of the National Housing Act, provides for loans to non-profit corporations for the construction or acquisition of housing for individuals and families of low income. Such loans carry a low interest rate and can be for a period of up to 50 years. The amount of the loan available from CMHC may be up to 90 per cent of the lending value of the project, and in many cases the province or the municipality may provide additional financial assistance in both the capital cost and in the cost of maintaining and operating a project.

These facilities are being used extensively in all parts of the country to provide much-needed housing for the elderly for whom accommodation is being provided in self-contained apartment projects, in hostels and in special-care homes. Projects of this kind are sponsored by service clubs, church groups, religious organizations, municipalities and sometimes by a group of persons drawn together by their mutual desire to provide decent living quarters for the aged.

Section 16A of the NHA is also used to finance housing for many other groups such as physically, mentally or emotionally handicapped children, wards of the children's aid societies, unwed mothers, etc.