

### NHB CONTAINER MEETING

Further study will be given to "containerization"\* in Canada when experts from key Canadian trade and transportation groups and associations attend a meeting in Montreal convened by the National Harbours Board.

The meeting will be held on May 29 and is an outcome of the first Canadian Containerization Conference held by the Board in Toronto last November. At that time, the NHB undertook to consult Canadian trade associations and other groups principally concerned with freight handling and to investigate the possibility of forming a permanent committee to deal with the use of containers in Canadian trade.

The basic purpose of the meeting will be to decide if a Permanent Container Co-ordinating Committee is a necessity in Canada and, if so, under what conditions it should be formed.

The Board will again call upon the services of Mr. A.B. Clavir of Allen B. Clavir and Associates, Toronto, who served as their technical adviser at the November conference and who has had wide experience in freight handling.

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### PATRONAGE OF ART IN CANADA

The May-June issue of *Canadian Art* is devoted to the responsibilities and consequences of art patronage in Canada today. "The Patrons", as this number is called, also looks at some of the decisions and mistakes of the recent past.

#### CORPORATE PATRONS

"The Patrons" is a collection of opinions by artists, architects, art historians, educators and critics, who relate their experience to the hazardous aspects of buying art for business or commissioning art for Canada's public buildings and institutions. "If Corporations wish to receive credit as patrons of the arts, they must assume the responsibilities of the patron," states Evan H. Turner, director of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, in an article on the responsibility of the "corporate" patron.

#### THE NEW PATRONS

According to Ian MacLennan, chief architect, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the tax-paying public constitutes a new group of patrons not, however, directly involved in the decision-making process. Those who make the decisions are presidents, tycoons, public servants and managers who act on behalf of the groups they represent. They are, the author asserts, often misguided. The Toronto artist Harold Town, a contributor to the issue, suggests that business needs advice: "Any corporation with a genuine concern for murals, pictures or sculpture should consult an artist during the planning of the building."

#### ART AND POLITICS

Do art and politics go together? The Ottawa writer Sandra Gwyn, in an article entitled "Why Ottawa is Afraid of Art," seeks to show that government patronage of the arts is subject to the "haphazards" of

\* Jargon for "use of containers"

politics. Elizabeth Kilbourn, art critic and arts commentator, throws light on the dramatic events that threw art out Hamilton's new City Hall.

#### ART AND RELIGION

Another patron of the arts, the Church, is singled out for a share of praise and blame. Gerald Trottier, Ottawa artist and sculptor, who recently designed the bronze figure of Christ on the Cross for Blessed Sacrament Church in Ottawa, says, in an article "Sacred Art and Architecture", that sacred art today has its inspiration in sentimentality and emotionalism: "...The Church has not exercised its God-given duty to direct, guide and nurture a living sacred architecture in this country..."

#### UNIVERSITY AS PATRON

What about the university as a buyer and collector of works of art? The ten-year expansion programme of the University of Toronto is the subject of criticism. Pointed out as one of its serious planning failures is the reluctance on the part of the Board of Governors and the city to do something about St. George Street, which splits the Toronto campus in half.

#### QUEBEC ATTITUDE POSITIVE

As a contrast to lethargy in certain areas of art patronage, Jean-Paul Morisset, liaison officer in Eastern Canada for the National Gallery, cites the positive attitude Quebec has adopted in its support of the arts. A list of museums, libraries and services to the public, schools of art and architecture, competitions and scholarships as well as commissions, show their origins, functions and, in some cases, budgets.

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#### BORDER CROSSINGS

Vehicles entering Canada from the United States in February numbered 927,600, a decrease of 1.6 per cent from last year's February total of 943,100. This brought the January-February total to 1,904,700, compared to 1,931,700 a year ago, a decline of 1.4 per cent. February entries comprised 396,700 foreign vehicles versus 406,600 a year earlier and 530,900 returning Canadian vehicles versus 536,500. January-February entries were made up of 810,400 vehicles of foreign registry, compared to 836,500 a year ago and 1,094,300 vehicles of Canadian registry versus 1,095,200.

Persons entering Canada from the United States by rail, bus, boat and plane numbered 131,500 in February, against 129,100 a year earlier, a rise of 1.9 per cent. January-February entries by these means of transportation rose 0.9 per cent to 277,900 persons from 275,500 a year ago. Foreign travellers entering Canada from the United States by long-distance common carrier decreased in February to 55,300 from 56,400 a year earlier and in the January-February period to 110,800 from 113,100, while Canadians returning by these means increased in the month to 76,200 from 72,700 and in the two months to 167,100 from 162,400.