

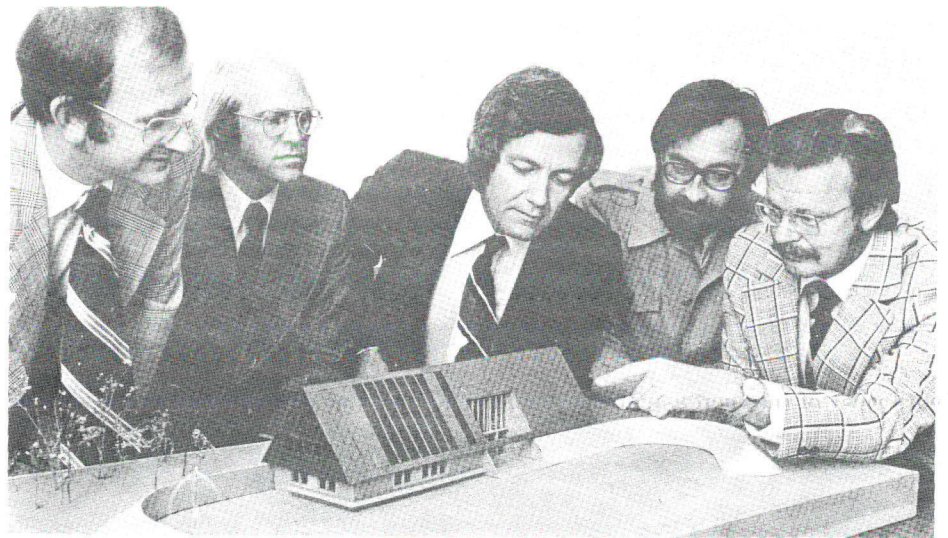
Solar heated house

Canada's first house to be heated solely by the sun's energy is scheduled for completion on January 15, according to Toronto builder Robert McClintock. The experimental home, known as Provident House, will be located in Carrying Place Estates, King Township, north of metropolitan Toronto.

The house, a one-family dwelling with a floor space of 2,793 square feet, is on two storeys with four bedrooms. It was designed by Professor Frank Hooper of the University of Toronto.

Provident House is a co-operative enterprise involving several ministries of the federal and provincial governments. It will be closely monitored for five years to determine if residential homes can economically use solar energy under Canadian climatic conditions.

The project is being aided by grants from the federal Ministry of Urban Affairs and by the Ontario Ministry of Energy. The latter is co-ordinating the



Viewing a completed model of Provident House are (left to right): Roger Higgin, technical studies adviser, Ontario Ministry of Energy; John Hix, architect of experimental house; build-

work of all Ontario ministries in ways to conserve energy.

The Ontario Ministry of Housing is directly concerned with solar heating

er Bill McClintock; Andy Zdanowicz, manager, research and development, Ontario Ministry of Housing; and Professor Frank Hooper, a pioneer researcher in solar energy.

as applied to residential housing and is currently involved in a projected senior citizen building, a first in large-scale use of solar heat.

Canada exhibits at Prague theatre design competition

Theatre designers Murray Laufer and François Barbeau are among delegates chosen to represent Canada at the Prague Quadrennial, the international exhibition and competition of stage design and theatre architecture to be held in January. The Department of External Affairs has appointed Yvon Sanche, technical director of le Grand Théâtre in Quebec as commissioner general of the delegation attending both the Quadrennial, and meetings of the International Organization of Stage Designers and Technicians, which takes place at the same time.

The delegation also includes David Peacock, head of the theatre section for the Canada Council, and Paul Bussièrès, director of the design department of the Quebec Conservatory of Dramatic Art.

Canada will be exhibiting in all four categories of the Quadrennial competition: set design, costume design, theatre architecture and student design. Photographs and models of over 20 productions designed by Murray Laufer will be shown in the stage de-

sign display. Among them are illustrations of sets for *The Flying Dutchman*, *Louis Riel*, and *Bluebeard's Castle*, produced by the Canadian Opera Company; and of *The Plough and the Stars* and *Question Time*, presented by the Toronto Arts Production Company at the St. Lawrence Centre.

Costume design

Costume design in Canada will be represented by the work of Montreal designer François Barbeau, whose designs are familiar from productions by le Théâtre du Rideau vert, the National Arts Centre, le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and la Nouvelle Compagnie théâtrale. Eleven costumes from productions of *Le deuil sied à Electre*, *Andromac* and *Beckett* will be shown along with 81 sketches and photographs from his many other stage presentations.

The Canadian entry in the theatre architecture category is the new Shaw Festival Theatre at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Plans and photographs by Roland J. Thom and Peter Smith architects of Toronto will be displayed.

Finally, to represent the work being done by students in Canada, Mr. Sanche has obtained the best examples of student design from the National Theatre School in Montreal; the Quebec Conservatory of Dramatic Art; and the theatre departments of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and the University of Alberta in Edmonton. Set and costume sketches by some 25 young designers have been assembled.

The Prague Quadrennial is a major event as an international showcase of theatre design. During the three-week conference, delegates will see the work of over 30 contributing countries and will participate in seminars on problems in contemporary theatre.

Electronic checkers

"Checktronics", an electronic checkers game developed for children so crippled by accident, disease or birth defect as to be physically incapable of playing the conventional checkers game, is a product of the Medical Engineering Section of National Research Council's Radio and