

was requisitioned as a troopship, and her connection with Canada was maintained when she joined a convoy from Halifax to carry the Third Canadian Division overseas. When Canadian troops raided Spitzbergen in 1941, the *Empress of Canada* was the sole transport.

Canadian officers were aboard her in the South Atlantic when she successfully eluded the German pocket-battleship *Graf Spee* in February 1941, after three days of dodging. Two years later the first *Empress of Canada*, again in the South Atlantic, was torpedoed by a German U-boat and sunk on March 13, 1943. Of the 1,076 on board 1,034 were saved.

The name *Empress of Canada* was not ship-borne again until the former *Duchess of Richmond* was re-named when she resumed passenger sailings between Montreal and Liverpool after six years in war service.

STRATFORD 1972

The Stratford Shakespearean Festival will present *King Lear* and *As You Like It* in 1972, Artistic Director Jean Gascon announced recently. Alternating with the Shakespearean dramas on the Festival Theatre stage will be Alfred de Musset's *Lorenzaccio* and Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*.

King Lear, thought by many to be the greatest of Shakespeare's tragedies, will reunite director David William and actor William Hutt, who will be featured in the title role. The two worked together at Stratford this past season on Ben Jonson's *Volpone*. One of Canada's leading actors, Mr. Hutt's association with Stratford dates back to the first season in 1953, since which time he has portrayed more than a score of memorable characters in Festival productions. A Companion of the Order of Canada and an Associate Director at Stratford, he is highly respected both at home and abroad as a major talent of the English-speaking stage. Since completing *Volpone*, his fourth Stratford assignment, Mr. William has directed *The Magistrate* for the Nottingham Playhouse and also worked on *Swan Song*, which opened at the New Sheffield Theatre in November. Before coming to Stratford he will direct a production of *Richard II* for the National Theatre of Great Britain.

Alfred de Musset's *Lorenzaccio* written in 1834, is a moving romance-tragedy based on the historical character of Lorenzino de Medici, an ill-fated member of one of the Renaissance's most powerful and influential families. Often compared to Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, de Musset's *Lorenzaccio* is a multi-levelled character deeply enmeshed in the larger-than-life sized intrigues of the Florentine court. It will be directed by Jean Gascon.

Pat Galloway, who scored a personal triumph at Stratford this season as John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*, embarks on her eighth season with the Festival in the role of *Lorenzaccio*. Casting a woman in

the lead role of the play carries on a tradition started in 1896, when Sarah Bernhardt played the Medici nobleman. The celebrated French actress Marguerite Jamois was seen as *Lorenzaccio* in 1945. Miss Galloway was also featured as *Lady Macbeth* at Stratford this year and she has previously been lauded for her performances as *Dorine* in Moliere's *Tartuffe*, which she played both in 1968 and 1969, the queen in *Cymbeline* and *Lady Sneerwell* in Sheridan's *The School for Scandal*, both presented during the 1970 season.

William Hutt will direct the production of *As You Like It*, with design by Alan Barlow. This will be Mr. Barlow's third assignment for Stratford. Formerly head of design at the National Theatre School in Montreal, he has been resident designer with the Bristol Old Vic and has designed extensively for the Old Vic in London, the Abbey Theatre in Dublin and the Royal Opera at Covent Garden.

Making her first appearance at Stratford in the role of *Rosalind* will be Carole Shelley, who was featured at the Shaw Festival during the 1971 season in Noel Coward's *Tonight at 8.30* and in Shaw's *Press Cuttings*. English born, Miss Shelley replaced Maggie Smith in the long-running West End hit *Mary, Mary* before moving to New York six years ago. Since then she has been featured in several highly successful Broadway productions, among them *The Odd Couple* and, more recently, the 1970-71 season revival of Coward's *Hay Fever*, in which she played *Jacqueline*.

Oliver Goldsmith wrote only two plays but one of them earned him the reputation of having written the best play of his age. Constantly revived since it was first presented at Covent Garden in 1773, *She Stoops to Conquer* is a satirical comedy of a situation that pokes fun at the syrupy sentimentality that had infected English comedy in the late eighteenth century. Goldsmith blew a fresh breath of realism into comedy, injecting intrinsically funny situations with brilliant wit and a fine sense of character. The production will be directed by Michael Bawtree, who this year staged *The Red Convertible* at Stratford's Third Stage, and directed *Summer Days* for the Shaw Festival. Now assistant to the artistic director and workshop director at Stratford, Mr. Bawtree is also a playwright whose drama *The Last of the Tsars* had its premiere at the Avon Theatre in 1966.

AID FOR CYCLONE VICTIMS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, announced recently that the Government of Canada had contributed \$50,000 in cash to the League of Red Cross Societies for assistance for the victims of the November 5 cyclone in the state of Orissa in Eastern India. This contribution, which has been made available through the Canadian Red Cross, will be used for the purchase of medical supplies, shelter and other emergency relief material.