

Son-et-lumière for Parliament Hill

Next summer, Ottawa will join the ranks of such places as Cairo, Athens and France's Loire Valley with a sound-and-light extravaganza on Parliament Hill.



Ottawa's Parliament Buildings

Starting in July, a spectacular evening show of light interacting with sound will be projected onto the faces of the East, West and Centre Blocks, bringing to life great moments in Canadian history, says a director at the National Capital Commission (NCC).

Two 30-minute shows, one in English and one in French, are being produced by the NCC, according to Rhéal Leroux.

"The Hill buildings are certainly one of the most interesting things to visit when you come to the nation's capital," says Mr. Leroux. "We're hoping people will learn a bit more about their country and have a better feeling about their capital because of the show."

Various colours and intensities of light, accompanied by symphonic music and narration, will dance across the three historic buildings, but only an atmosphere will be created, says Mr. Leroux. No real image is projected — that is left to the audience's imagination.

Similar shows are held at the pyramids near Cairo, the Acropolis in Athens and some of the famous chateaux in the Loire Valley in France.

Experts toast Canadian wine

Wine experts in ten cities and three continents recently toasted what is believed to be the best Canadian wine ever produced, the 1983 Château des Charmes Gamay Beaujolais Nouveau.

The 1983 vintage of the wine, which was successfully received in France a year ago, was brought to Toronto recently, where its quality was hailed by international experts.

The wine, produced in St. David's in the Niagara, Ontario region, was made with grapes originally brought to Canada from France.

The fresh, full-bodied taste of the Gamay-Beaujolais grape is ascribed to the carbonic maceration process, initially observed in 1872 by Louis Pasteur, who discovered uncrushed grapes steeped in liquid — macerated — under carbon dioxide produce softer wines.

Simultaneous wine-testings were held in ten cities and these opinions came in *via* phone lines to about 200 assembled guests at a Toronto hotel.

Hi-tech produces instant market

Prospective buyers visiting Canadian exhibits at international trade fairs can now obtain up-to-the-minute detailed information on all aspects of the relevant Canadian industry at the touch of a selector button. The new computer terminal installed at national exhibits gives exporters a significant advantage in the quest for new markets.

The terminal developed by Avcor Info Display Systems of Toronto, Ontario integrates microcomputer technology with Telidon, the world's most advanced videotex information retrieval system. Each unit consists of a full colour video display, a standard computer keyboard, a high quality printer and an electronic link to a Telidon terminal.

The interested buyer accesses the stored data through the keyboard and information flashes on the screen in up to five languages. By pressing another button, the buyer receives instant high quality print-outs of the text on the screen. If additional details about a product or source are required, the computer retrieves the information through the Telidon link and prints out the data in letter format minutes later.

Telidon has instant access to large amounts of information stored in com-

puter data banks. It retrieves the information on command *via* telephone lines, radio and cable TV signals relayed by geostationary communication satellites such as Canada's *Anik C-2* which was recently positioned in space.

Accurate information is the key to the decision whether to buy or not to buy. Through the Avcor Info Display System, the buyer can obtain within minutes all essential details about a particular Canadian company, its exporting capabilities and its products.

Molson Prize

The second 1983 Molson Prize, with a value of \$50 000, has been awarded to editor and scholar Frances Halpenny of the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto Press.

The Canada Council Molson Prizes recognize outstanding contributions to the arts, humanities and social sciences.

Dr. Halpenny's significant contributions to publishing, scholarship and in particular *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, are well known. Associated with the University of Toronto Press since 1941, she was appointed general editor of the *Dictionary* in 1969. Continuing her association with the *Dictionary*, Dr. Halpenny was appointed dean of the faculty of Library Science at the University of Toronto in 1972, a position she held until 1978.



Molson award winner Frances Halpenny.