

sented *The Hollow Crown*, with Dame Peggy Ashcroft. The season up to now has played to 97.1 percent capacity, with two more productions to come: B.C. Playhouse Theatre presenting Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, and Citadel Theatre, Edmonton, bringing two plays *The Tricks of Scapin* by Molière and Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*.

The Comédie-Française, which had a weekly attendance of 99.5 per cent during the opening of its Canadian tour in February, concluded its triumphant conquest of Canadian audiences at the NAC during the first week of April.

La Compagnie du Centre national des Arts, the theatre's French-language company, will mark 1973/74 as both a productive and an impressive season. It has already received high acclaim for three plays, and has another this month — *Woyzeck*, by Georg Büchner. *La Fausse Suivante* featured André Brassard's first direction of a classical play. *L'Hexagone*, the theatre's school touring company, presented *Evangéline...qui donc?* to both students and the general public at the NAC, and then took it on tour to New Brunswick, playing to audiences numbering over 23,000.

#### General programming

The general programming year has had more diversity in its attractions than ever before, bringing to Ottawa both old favourites and performers new to the Canadian stage, including Liberace, Nana Mouskouri, Tony Bennett, Gordon Lightfoot, Dave Broadfoot and Guy Lombardo. In addition, the Centre continued to expand its programming appeal and scope to include perhaps lesser-known performers and attractions such as Catherine Lara, Cleo Laine, Los Indios Tabajáras, the World Festival of Magic and Occult and Traditional Buddhist Music of Japan. The Centre

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hosted dance companies from across Canada and a variety of international groups. The National Ballet of Canada featured Rudolf Nureyev; the Royal Winnipeg Ballet the première of a work by John Neumeier; and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, their interpretation of *Giselle*. The Opera staged a display of international culture with dance groups from Yugoslavia, Pakistan, Siberia, Trinidad, Spain, Tahiti and Brazil.

Opera was represented during the season by the Canadian Opera Company, which performed Beethoven's *Fidelio* and a new work by Canadian composer Charles Wilson, *Eloise and Abelard*.

#### Dental tool into massage device

An automated massaging device has been developed by a fluid-control expert at Montreal's Sir George Williams University who says the work it does is as good as any human's. The invention (a jet-action showerhead) by mechanical engineering professor Clyde Kwok comes as an offshoot to work done for a Toronto company interested in better ways to clean teeth.

A group of Toronto consultants were looking for ways to reduce the bulk and inconvenience of the 'water pic' or dental syringe, a device used to clean teeth with a steady, high pressure stream of water to dislodge food particles. The machine existed but was too expensive and required more electrical power than standard bathroom outlets could provide.

Instead of squirting water in a continuous stream like most conventional showerheads, Kwok's device is fitted with a gasket-like diaphragm which causes a high-pressure pulsing effect. And, Kwok insists, this jet action doesn't only tone the muscles and relax the mind, it cleans better too.

The company wondered if it might not be possible to power the water pic by water pressure, rather than electricity. Actually, says Kwok, that part was easy, "it only took about two weeks". By allowing the water to build up behind the diaphragm until there is sufficient pressure to push it aside, it is relatively easy to compensate for the lack of direct pressure. Kwok expects the device to go into production "very soon".

#### Statistics on drug use

A total of 2,266 new illicit narcotic drug-users became known to the Department of National Health and Welfare in 1973. Of these, 1,973 used heroin and the balance used other opiates, cocaine, synthetic narcotics. A large percentage of narcotic-users are known through criminal records, but information on drug-users is also received from other sources such as physicians and pharmacy reports and specialized treatment centres.

The Department recorded 23,251 new cannabis (marihuana and hashish) users in 1973 compared to 12,695 in 1972. In 1973 there were 19,929 persons convicted of cannabis offences. Of these 18,603 were related to simple possession; comparable figures for 1972 were 11,713 and 10,695, respectively.

In 1973, 2,992 persons became known to the Department as new users of hallucinogens, compared to 2,411 in 1972. Of 1,764 persons convicted in 1973 for offences relating to hallucinogens, 970 were involved with LSD, and 792 with MDA (an amphetamine derivative).

#### Stanley Cup and World Hockey Association results (at May 10)

National Hockey League  
Stanley Cup finals

May 7, Boston 3, Philadelphia 2  
May 9, Philadelphia 3, Boston 2

Tied one game each in best-of-seven series.

World Hockey Association semi-finals

May 4, Chicago 9, Toronto 2  
May 6, Chicago 5, Toronto 2

Chicago wins 4-3 in best-of-seven series.