CHRISTMAS DINNER December 28th, 1961

A vast quantity of members gathered at the Club on Thursday, December 28th to do honor to the Yuletide festivities in a manner true to the traditions set long long ago. The Hall was decked in holly and looked more like a Christmas Card come to life than previous efforts of the past. One question asked weeks before was, "What is the theme this Christmas?" Well, it was a question soon answered. A series of skilfully executed designs depicted Christmas events THEN and NOW. These had been coordinated by Stan Cooper and painted by Don Anderson, Al Collier, Don Sexton, "Mac" Houstoun and Fred Finley. Valuable assistance was given Stan by Jack Prior, Roy Austin and Oxford McNeill.

Following the usual libations served by members with a generosity that must have caused our Treasurer to wince, we gathered at the truly festive board. The processional entrance of the Executive led by Jester Geoffrey Hatton (as nimble as ever) and the Boar's Head, sung with gusto by the choir under Fred Silvester with George Lambert in the solo part, really got the feast under way.

The President, Ian Cameron, then addressed the multitude, read greetings from the Arts Club of Montreal and the Savage Club of London and proposed a toast to the St. George's Society. Mr. Onions, the President of the St. George's Society (our landlord), replied. He was greeted with the usual groans. Mr. Onions was equal to the occasion and with much bravery made the suggestion that there would really be no difficulty if all the members of the Arts and Letters Club became members of the St. George's Society and vice versa. Just when the formal part of proceedings was being concluded a Scotsman mounted the stage and in rich Aberdeen proposed a toast to the St. Andrews Society - The roof nearly fell in!

The Christmas entertainment was under the charge of Robert Christie. It consisted of well-chosen extracts of letters, diaries and books relating to early Christmases in Canada with one or two modern touches. The following readers did justice to the selections: John Wevers, Bill Sheldon, Alan Collier, Oz Stacey, Robin Strachan, Don Byers and John Yocom. The Choir, again under the direction of Fred Silvester, sang carols between the numbers.

Finally Sir Ernest MacMillan led us all in the magnificent NOËL with his inimitable between-verse improvisations. He congratulated Fred's efforts with what must be "the most unruly choir in all Toronto". Good wishes for the New Year were exchanged by all descending the steps as we once again entered the other world in which we exist until we escape to the light fancy of the good old A. and L. C.
MONTHLY DINNER November 25th, 1961

A loyal crowd of admirers turned out to hear Robert Christie's evening of readings - a most fortunate return to a Victorian pastime and quite in keeping with the Club's purpose. Among those specially honoured by the President were Percy Schutte (who was brought by Frank Prendergast), Dr. E. J. Pratt and Harold Dyment.

Preceding the readings, Chuck Matthews showed some moving pictures of early Club plays featuring Ivor Lewis, Geoffrey Hatton, Percy Schutte, Edgar Stone and even Bob Christie as he was 27 years ago.

Bob stood at a lectern and read selections from Shakespeare, Longfellow, Ogden Nash and Ned Pratt's "Silence of the Sea" - all interpreted with wonderful feeling and understanding. It was a different evening and was so much liked by everyone privileged to be present. It was noted that one half expected a commercial after each piece - it was indeed a treat to go through the whole programme without such interruptions.

Our sympathy is extended to Chuck Matthews whose wife died quite suddenly shortly before Christmas.

The Christmas number of Varsity Graduate contains articles by and about many members of the Club. There is Dr. Bissell's fine review of Ned Corbett's book Sidney Earle Smith. Dr. Bissell had this to say, in conclusion - "It is idle to speculate on what might have been, but Corbett indicates very clearly that Sidney Smith was fast approaching the position of confident mastery (as Secretary of State for External Affairs) that he had long since attained in the academic world ..."

There is a splendid article by Dr. Moffat Woodside describing the dinner given in honour of Dr. W. E. Blatz as he stepped down as Director of the Institute of Child Study.

There are also some lines written by J. D. Ketchum (and sung by him) on the occasion of the Blatz dinner.

We learn with regret that our Steward, Henry Nichols, suffered a coronary attack on New Year's Eve. He is making satisfactory progress at the Toronto General Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Dr. Ettore Mazzoleni recently opened a Frederic Chopin exhibition of first editions of music and books at the Theatre and Drama section of the Toronto Central Library.

Bob Fairfield whose name often confuses some newspaper columnists and critics, is in the news again. He has exerted his talents, again in the theatrical scene, by redesigning the stage of the old Casino Theatre - temple of burlesque for the bygone generation - so that, under its new name - Civic Square Theatre - it will flourish as a place of legitimate entertainment. Harvey Hart's production of Eugene Ionesco's Rhinoceros christened the boards on January 2nd.
From the Maclean-Hunter News Weekly we learn of the travels of Floyd S. Chalmers who with his wife attended the Quinquennial Conference of the Commonwealth Press Union in India.

On November 1 they arrived in New Delhi, a beautiful city, some of it so modern and contemporary as to give you a shock. There the Indian sessions of the Conference were opened by Prime Minister Nehru. “The speech had a touch of poetry; a touch of mysticism; a great deal of quiet emotion.”

In various conversations with the Indian people they noted that “the friendliness to Britain — now that the British have gone — is profound.”

The next ten days were spent being shepherded around cities and villages, power dams and steel mills with only two nights in hotels, the rest on the train, finally to arrive in Chandigarh, the new capital of the Indian division of Punjab designed by Le Corbusier. Though not yet completed, “it is the ideal city. The basic plan is rectangular and there are 30 large city blocks (¾ mile by ¾ mile), each self-contained with a school, park, small shopping centre, etc.” At the time there were thousands of people swarming about carrying off baskets of dirt doing what two or three bulldozers could do — "'make work' policy at its most extreme and maddest".

From there they went to Nangal and then on to Agra and the Taj Mahal. “It is so exquisitely beautiful as to be quite beyond description; the lyrical expression of artistic enchantment.”

The trip is only half over. Before the Chalmerses return to Toronto, they will have visited Bombay, Madras, Bangalore, and Calcutta. From there they will fly to Ceylon where they will board the SS Canberra and sail to Southampton, England where they will spend Christmas; and then back to Canada.

An interesting article in the Globe and Mail issue of December 9th, 1961 by Charles Peaker - the organist-choirmaster of St. Paul's Anglican Church - recounts the excitement and enthusiasm with which everyone from Cememee to Nakusp displays in "putting on" Handel's Messiah. He described the first performances and noted that gentlemen were to come without their swords so that more people could get in. It is a sad commentary on our times but we note that rarely is a performance of The Messiah given that pleases our Toronto critics. They must hold some mystical communion with Handel himself who gives the nod or thumbs down on a strictly personal basis.
Dr. Wallace Graham while in Rome this summer on a medical mission had an audience with the Pope. This will, in part, explain his seraphic countenance as he sang in the Club Choir at Christmas.

Overheard as we were mounting the steps from the Dundas Subway on the 28th. "You'll see them both there ..." Later on, following an interruption, we again heard one of the speakers (a club member) say - "0! yes - he knows all the right people." We have been racking our brain to guess who is the lucky one.

An incident of the Christmas Dinner: Fred Silvester, a bit annoyed at the slowness of the audience getting seated, called out (quite firmly) - "Come in - the rest stay out!"

Joseph Barfoot has added honours to his reputation - he is the uncle of the newly appointed President of the University of British Columbia, Dr. John Barfoot Macdonald of the Forsyth Foundation, Harvard University, Professor of Micro Biology, who will take office in July.

Robin Strachan has been appointed Secretary of The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited. He would like to emphasize that he is not open for typewriting engagements but he wields a corporate seal with dexterity.

Dr. J. Tuzo Wilson's book IGY - The Year of the New Moons was reviewed extensively in the Globe and Mail before Christmas. As a speaker, Dr. Wilson is well known, the reviewer stated, he has the same happy faculty of adroitness with the written as with the spoken word.

For the greater part of the month of December the Club was privileged through the generosity of M. F. Feheley, to see a collection of important works by Rico Lebrun - an American artist of considerable distinction. Several portraits bore distinct resemblances to some of our well known Club members - a fact that caused considerable merriment at lunch time. A book jacket kindly lent by Dr. Wallace Graham had this to say about the artist -

"Lebrun does not assess the ugliness, tragedy, brutality, and beauty of the "tangible world"; he simply expresses it. The grotesque and the glorious cannot be separated.

He is best known, perhaps, for the superb series of drawings and paintings of the Crucifixion - centurions, the Magdalen, roosters, mob scenes, even the materials of the Cross - culminating in the magnificent triptych now at Syracuse University.

Lebrun has also carefully studied the work of Goya. One of the finest draftsmen of our age has carried forward the spirit of the great Spaniard in a group of strikingly original paintings and drawings.

In 1958-59 Rico Lebrun was Visiting Professor of Art at Yale
University; in 1959-60 he was Painter in Residence at the American Academy in Rome. His home and studio are in Los Angeles."

OBITUARIES

We all mourned the passing on November 27th, 1961 of Dr. Lorne Pierce. We are indebted to Walter Bowles who let us have his script of his CJBC Newscast the following day.

"Friends of Dr. Lorne Pierce, who for nearly 40 years was Chief Editor of the Ryerson Press in Toronto, will be sorry to hear of his death yesterday in Toronto General Hospital, at the age of 71. He succumbed to a heart ailment, from which he had suffered since his retirement two years ago.

Author, editor and philanthropist, Lorne Pierce devoted his life and energies to the promotion of Canadian literature. Among other things, he was fond of bringing out the works of young and unknown authors, and of republishing the books of dead and almost forgotten writers.

He had a strong belief in Canada, and he illustrated that belief in many of his books, such as A CANADIAN PEOPLE, and A CANADIAN NATION. Dr. Pierce founded several scholarships and endowments to stimulate Canadian writing. He was a past president of the Canadian Writers' Foundation, a group that comes to the aid of distinguished authors who find themselves in financial difficulties.

We do not yet realize our debt to Lorne Pierce!"

Professor George H. Needler who joined the Club in 1912 died on New Year's Day, aged 95. Dr. Needler, a veteran of the Riel Rebellion and the First World War had 79 years' service with his regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles. He was a great exponent of working after the age of 65 - his activity in this connection produced books on the Riel Rebellion and the Otonabee Pioneers. He was emeritus Professor of German at University College, University of Toronto since 1936. He won high honours at the University of Leipzig. - His surviving daughters and son occupy positions of academic distinction.

THE LIBRARY

A truly handsome and sumptuously illustrated book has been recently added to the New Additions shelf; it is The Horizon Book Of The Renaissance. Termed a comprehensive picture-history of almost every facet of Renaissance life, the book is arranged in ten chapters, nine of which contain biographical essays by well-qualified authorities. Both the illustrations and the text maintain the high quality expected of the publishers of Horizon magazine.

For the Literature shelf there has been obtained a copy of Illustrated
History of English Literature. This is volume three in a series written by A. C. Ward; it covers rather more than a century and a half, from the death of Samuel Johnson in 1784 to the death of Bernard Shaw in 1950. In addition to numerous line drawings in the text, there are four colour plates and 62 monochrome plates.

Africa - The Art Of The Negro People is the third book in a series of regional histories of the visual arts published under the general heading Art Of The World. This book can be highly recommended both as a reference tool and as a collection of beautifully coloured illustrations. There are chapters devoted to all aspects of African art, as well as sections dealing with style associated with eight geographical regions. The appendices list: Maps, Table of Cultures, Bibliography, Glossary, and Index. There are 63 coloured plates and 144 drawings.

The third volume of the catalogue which covers the holdings of the National Gallery of Canada is to be found in the library; the title is Paintings And Sculpture: Canadian School. As with the former two volumes the text was prepared by the Gallery's Chief Curator, Dr. R. H. Hubbard. This catalogue runs to 463 pages; it contains hundreds of illustrations, as well as biographical data, six indices, and two check lists.

* * *

J. Tuzo Wilson has given - for the Members shelf - a signed copy of his new book titled IGY: The Year Of The New Moons. The author possesses the rare ability to interpret for the layman - in a most entertaining manner - the many scientific discoveries of the International Geophysical Year.

Jim Wardropper has generously contributed to the library the first four numbers of Canadian Literature. This is a quarterly of criticism and review published by the University of British Columbia.
MONTHLY DINNER January 27, 1962

The first members' dinner of the New Year brought out an enthusiastic crowd to see Vincent da Vita's very special photographs and to hear about circumstances surrounding each of the pictures. Vincent offered some preliminary observations on his special techniques whereby the pictures were not merely a record of the camera eye. By means of skilfully underexposing Vincent achieved a sort of fine art treatment emphasizing certain parts in highlights rather like Rembrandt. If Vincent will excuse us this all sounds too utterly simple. If we underexposed our negatives the wretched camera shop would probably say, "Sorry, I can't print those - underexposed, you know." The President drew to our attention the fact that it was Frank Pendergast who sponsored Vincent when he first joined the Club.

In masterly style John Fleetwood-Morrow thanked the speaker for a very fine exhibition. Camera enthusiasts crowded round Vincent after to learn more about the art of painting with a camera.

One of the pleasant features of the Club of yesteryear (we sound like an old fogy) was the frequent visit to the Club of interesting and distinguished people. We were reminded of this on hearing Sir Basil Spence (the architect) on "701" recently. How nice it would have been to have shared his delightful conversation or better still to have asked him to say a few words to the luncheoners. It would be a really worthwhile effort for you to bring your distinguished guests to meet your friends at the Club. After all, the lounge is far more presentable now than it used to be but look in the archives book and see for yourself the names of the great who in the past were glad to join us.

Although Christmas is past we are glad to share this poetic communication to Fred Shaw.

FROM A LONELY WAIF ... TO THOSE WHO WOULD MAKE MERRY

Mr. Shaw,
I'd adore
To come to the dinner,
But, being a sinner
And the family bread winner,
No kind of a shirker
This nocturnal worker,
It's my duty, I feel,
To keep nose to the wheel.
Please wish me good cheer
While you're guzzeling beer.
While you're stuffing in food,
Don't think of me rude.
As the fun you enjoy
Would you be my envoy,
Pass on my good cheer
For a Happy New Year
To one and to all
Who are enjoying the brawl.

John Fleetwood-Morrow
Christmas 1961

P.S. The Westminster dictionary: WAIF: ... a homeless wretch.

The editorial board held a meeting the other day to see what improvements might be made to make the Monthly Letter of more use to members and more representative of the many activities indulged in by the members. Suggestions came thick and fast - so fast indeed that the Editor felt he had to take a couple of aspirins and a few tranquillizers to stem the mounting blood pressure. Among some of the brighter remarks were that the Editor should get around more (there was some quip about elevating the fanny) and see what our more articulate members are doing. It was a splendid idea. We shall hold ourself in readiness to climb the steelwork of some brain child of one of our architects. We shall gladly visit the studios of our "very expensive" artists. We shall accept a block of seats, say, at Massey Hall, O'Keefe Centre, Crest and the Royal Alexandra. Once there we shall be able to comment on the Thespian quality of our members. We are willing to come to a closer grip with our more argumentative characters at CBC's Fighting Words.

In order to examine the exploits of the judiciary (of which the Club has a fair number) we hesitate to appear before them in the witness box, although we are open to suggestions.

In the summer time we are looking forward to some good beef at Barney Sandwell's place, a dish of raspberries (not forgetting the cream) at the Cuchterlony's, a tasty cherry pie from one of Dick Lucas' dwarf trees and a quiet siesta in front of 'Gene Butt's restoration house.

BUT HONESTLY, it would be far less wear and tear on the Editor if you will keep him supplied with your doings for the Letter.

We record with pride the addition of a shoe box among the amenities being provided by the house committee for the more effete members. No doubt this committee has other things in mind such as an electric iron and ironing board for the preservation of knife-like creases and a washer and dryer to help us compete with the sartorial splendour of Robin Strachan, Cleeve Horne and Ian Cameron.

Our good wishes go to Dr. Ruggles George as he takes it easy for awhile at home. Lunch is not quite the same without his contributions of literary pot pourri - always in the highest classical style. May he return soon.
Reg Heal has returned after what must have been an argument with his doctor. Anyway, the mineralogical collection of the Royal Ontario Museum is the richer by 6 carats.

Advance Notice

The Spring Revue will be held on the four nights of April 25th to 28th incl. Bob Christie, who is directing this opus has supplied the Editor with some interesting background material which has already whetted our appetite for it as it undoubtedly will our loyal readers. The theme of the Show is the Song and Supper Rooms that flourished in London in the 1860's. It all started when some enterprising public house proprietor provided a bit of entertainment for the saloon - strictly amateur at first - added a bit of solid refreshment and kept the all-male audience applauding, eating and drinking. Soon this evolved into professional artists being hired - a general clean-up of the subject matter and an enlargement of the dinner menu. The most famous Song and Supper Room was EVANS - situated at the corner of Covent Garden and King Street. It catered to over twelve hundred people at one time. One of the features of these places was the manner of payment. Participants on leaving were asked "What did you eat?" Soup? - yes, that's 1/6, chops? - 10/6 - Madeira? - 2/6 - etc. The cashier always charged enough to cover the occasional (?) dishonest patron. Bob's research at depth will add realism to this re-creation of - "The good old days" - for, mark you there will be singing of songs of that period. All of which reminds the Editor that the potential talent wealth of our members, if laid end to end, would reach - well down to 1¼ Elm in April.

We have been treated for the past month to an exhibition of F. H. Varley's drawings and oil portraits provided by the collector par excellence C.S. Band from his copious stock of Canadia. The picture committee is to be congratulated first for their imagination and secondly on the luck they are having in finding suitable donors.

We have heard with real pleasure that Mayor Moore's production of Antony and Cleopatra at the Crest has been one of the highlights of this winter's unusually sparkling theatrical season.

Fred Shaw's efforts at introducing strangers at the Club does warrant a mention here - if he were not a member of the EXECUTIVE we might be inclined to think there is an election in the offing. Keep it up Fred - we wish we had your courage.

Floyd Chalmers whose journey to India was mentioned in last month's letter telephoned us too late for inclusion then that he had visited His Excellency James George in Ceylon and brought back with him good wishes to Club members from the High Commissioner.

The absence of Horace Lapp's contribution to the letter of last month was, we have been informed, due to the over inhaling of paint fumes in his home. Thus, a tribute to our musical friends and what they did to embellish the Christmas scene must remain a mystery. We are sure that Horace will make suitable amends.
The Club is indebted to Woody Ackroyd and his guest at a recent dinner for providing a brass clasp to hold the gong that summons the tiplers to the repast. A worthy addition to the Club's collection of useful furniture.

LAPP'S LITERARY LAPSES

Having spent two weeks battling the flu and looking after the rest of the family who caught the same complaint, I am rather behind with my musical notes. John Adaskin sent me the following note from Healey Willan which I am glad to share with the members.

"My dear John,

The following is a verse which was sung enthusiastically by choir boys (of which I was one!) circa 1890:-

Kings Solomon and David
Lived very naughty lives;
They did all sorts of naughty things,
They married lots of wives.
But as it chanced in later years
Their conscience gave them qualms,
Solomon wrote the Proverbs
And David wrote the Psalms.

After listening to the performance of Liszt's Concerto in A several weeks ago, and the introductory remarks concerning the association of Liszt and Wagner, I feel inspired (,:) to write the following:-

Though Liszt and Wagner ne'er excelled
In writing oratorios,
They both achieved real eminence,
When young, as gay Lotharios.
But later on, to make amends
For doings somewhat shabby,
Wagner wrote his Parsifal
And Liszt became an Abbe.

I believe it is the privilege of the aged to bore his friends by quotations of the past, and I can only plead in extenuation that the second stanza was provoked by a recollection of the first stanza.

Yours as ever,

'Healey Willan'

The opera association are doing two new works this season, I believe they will be conducted by Mazzoleni but I will tell you more when I know more, probably next month.

The Maid of the Mountains was on view for six days at Eaton's Auditorium starting the 5th of February, and judging by the capacity house along with enthusiastic applause must be considered a success. Some talent was unveiled at the same time which I am pretty sure will be heard with distinction later on.

And that is all I can glean this month. A couple of shots and at least a thousand flu pills later, I may be in condition to relay a lot more.

"sick transit"
OBITUARY

To the millions of his friends, radio, television, and personal, the death of our member Dr. Leslie Bell, came as a sudden staggering shock.

An enumeration of his many talents, his untiring efforts in the advancement of all kinds of music, especially his beloved world of the symphony, would be a superfluous reiteration at this time.

What he has done amongst us shall not soon fade away.

John Parsons Kidd, assistant director of the University of Toronto, department of extension, died on February 12th of a heart seizure while bowling.

An uncle of Toronto runner Bruce Kidd, Mr. Kidd was born in Wapella, Sask. He was educated there, in Vancouver and at Sir George Williams University in Montreal.

After graduation, he was general secretary of the Brantford Young Men's Christian Association, and during the Second World War was supervisor of YMCA war services work in England and Italy.

He was appointed executive director of the Canadian Citizenship Council in 1947, a post he held until 1960 when he joined the University of Toronto department of extension.

At the time of his death he was a member of the national council of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, and a former member of the board of directors of the Canadian Educational Association.

THE LIBRARY

Several years ago the Museum of Modern Art held an exhibition of the photographs of Alexander Liberman; these photographs - which were of the leading artists who now work in France, or of the studios of men who had worked there - originally appeared in Vogue magazine. Essays and notes were subsequently written, and these and the photographs were reproduced in a book entitled The Artist In His Studio. Liberman, himself an estimable painter and sculptor, has spent several months of each of the past 15 years in recording with a camera the personalities and the work areas of most major artists who have lived in France during the last 80 years. This fascinating book takes one from the studio at Giverny of the impressionist Monet to the studio in Paris of the modernist Manessier.

Three publications, each obtained for a different shelf section in the library, have to do with a Canadian theme. Canada On Stage (for the shelf labelled "Plays") is a collection of ten one-act plays by as many Canadian playwrights. The editor, Stanley Richards, points out that the recent increase in quantity and quality is not to go unrewarded, for the Canada Council is presenting each zone of the Dominion Drama Festival with cash awards for the best production
of a play by a Canadian, which the D.D.F. has set as an objective for the Jubilee Year of 1967 a festival finals in which all plays must be written by Canadians. On the Reference shelf will be found a copy of Canadian Annual Review For 1960. This is the first volume of a new annual; it was edited by John Saywell and published as part of the diamond anniversary output of the University of Toronto Press. The preface states that it is the only comprehensive guide to recent events and issues of national significance. The book is divided into four main sections: Parliament & Politics, External Affairs & Defence, The National Economy, Life & Leisure; there is also a Canadian Calendar and ten pages of brief obituaries. On the Canadiana shelf there is located a copy of a publication entitled Early Toronto Newspapers, 1793-1867. From the Upper Canada Gazette (the first newspaper published in Toronto) until The Canadian Monetary Times began in the year of Confederation a total of 82 different newspapers appeared in Toronto. Many items of this collection have formed part of the unique resources of the Toronto Public Library.

Recently there has been on display four exhibition catalogues; the titles of the catalogues, and the galleries where the exhibitions were first shown, are as follows: Heritage de France (Montreal Museum of Fine Arts), Massey Medals for Architecture 1961 (National Gallery of Canada), 15 Polish Painters (Museum of Modern Art), 7 West Coast Painters (Fine Arts Gallery, University of British Columbia).

* * * * *

John Wevers has very kindly given to the Club library a copy of his recent book entitled The Way of The Righteous. This book is one of a series known as the Westminster Guides To The Bible, and contains an analysis of the Psalms and the Books of Wisdom.

H.B.
MONTHLY DINNER February 14th

Members were treated to a spectacular show of whimsical patter by Sid Lorraine (Johnson) when he outdid himself in recreating his FRASNIA extravaganza. "Move up a little closer, gentlemen" he urged at the beginning. But he needed no urging; we were all impelled to attend carefully as he introduced to us weird and wonderful noisemakers from his capacious suitcase. Mixing in the quasi-medical lecture, he performed breathtaking tricks with the greatest of ease. We can hardly wait for a repeat. A hearty 'thank you' to this versatile member.

MONTHLY DINNER March 31st

Announced as a "Double Scoop" the final Monthly Dinner of the season surely outdid itself. Such a large crowd attended that the drinks ran out. Loud were the lamentations at one bar!

The President introduced the new steward, Fred Ward, and the Club, and bade farewell to Henry Nichols a faithful and efficient servant of the Club for some years. Members stood to show their appreciation.

Dave Ouchterlony, introduced by Reg Heal, quickly set the pace for some spirited community singing, daring members to abstain with threats of making them soloists. Starting with Frere Jacques the augmented choir were soon tackling the tongue twisting ballad "My dame hath a lame tame crane" with not too happy results as it went on. "Silly Liesl" - a German folk song proved more amenable although it must be admitted that Dave sustained the melody and made the choir act as puppets. It was all most enjoyable. Actually this part of the programme demonstrated the true artistry of the conductor and underlined his uncanny gift of empathy.

Arthur Ament next introduced Dr. John Tuzo Wilson listing a few pages of academic honours. Dr. Wilson was supposed to talk about the Aftermath of the International Geophysical Year - this indeed he did do. - He told us that the South African scientist Dr. Dutoit who once declared that North America and Europe are moving away from each other at the rate of half an inch a year, was proved to be right by the IGY teams (or are they getting closer? - never mind).

It was refreshing to hear that scientists of both the Western and Iron Curtain world pooled their knowledge and their discoveries without the usual "nyet".

The next IGY will be known as the IGY of the Quiet Sun - when solar activity is
relatively calm - this to be in some 10 years.

Dr. Wilson then showed pictures of his recent trip to India - actually he has just returned. The pictures in beautiful colour brought loud applause from the audience - they were very beautiful with their contrasts of light and shade. The authority with which the speaker vested his remarks made this a memorable event in Club life.

*****

A programme of Lenten Organ Recitals to be held in St. Paul's Church, Bloor Street East, shows that Frederick Silvester plays on April 7th and Charles Peaker on April 14. Both recitals are on Saturday afternoons 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*****

Norman Alexander found time to send us an enticing card from Daytona Beach, Florida. However, as it arrived on the day when the temperature reached 70°, the distance didn't seem so great. He thought members interested in heraldry would like the following story. "A plumber, very rich, asked to have a coat of arms and motto designed for him. The suggested design was - Crossed pipe wrenches on a field of white tile. The motto - APRES MOI LE DELUGE."

*****

The Editor received an appeal from the York Concert Society with the plea "Your generous support is needed as a patron of the arts". Because there are so many Club members listed as patrons of this Society we are glad to make their wishes known to others who may be wondering what to do with their income tax refunds.

*****

J.R.K. Taylor (Jim) had quite a piece in the Globe and Mail on February 19th about the teaching of French in the schools. Jim doubts that any large percentage of our population can be persuaded to learn French for purely cultural reasons. Monsieur Chaput to the contrary.

*****

We sat next to Sid Bersudsky the other day but he didn't reveal a most interesting fact to us - too modest. It took a column in the Star to disclose that his design for a metal crutch was the only Canadian exhibit at the World Rehabilitation Conference in New York last year. His great ambition is to design a Canadian car ... and he probably will.

*****

Robert Fairfield our famous Stratford "tent" designer and his associates have done it again. This time they have designed an Art Centre to be built on the grounds of Central Technical School. As the Telegram put it, "The result should do much to sustain the school's high position as one of the finest technical art departments on the continent."

*****

Frank Pidgeon comes out of retirement two or three days a week in Newcastle to act as village clerk. The Bowmanville Statesman says that with his experience Frank should be able to handle the administration of the village without difficulty. We agree. But don't get too ambitious, Frank, and back a hockey team to the Olympics!
Recently it was our pleasure to read that ten Canadians who have contributed uniquely to the cultural enrichment of their country were presented in Ottawa recently with the Canada Council medal. The recipients included A.Y. Jackson, the Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, Lawren Harris, Dr. E.J. Pratt, Dr. Healey Willan, Dr. Claude Bissell. Chairman of the Canada Council made the presentations.

*****

Dr. Thomas Howarth has been appointed Chairman of the Standing Committee on Audio-Visual Arts to teaching and re-elected to the Standing Committee for the Advancement of Architectural Education of the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

*****

Five Canadian archeologists, among them Dr. A.D. Tushingham and Professor John Wevers, will join eminent British and French colleagues for a dig in Jerusalem shortly. These lucky scholars of Middle Eastern history will attempt to shed light on the secrets of the biblical city. We wish them every success in what must surely be a dusty occupation. Is it "finders keepers"?

*****

CBC Times (February 24 - March 2) devoted several pages to a profile of our Bob Christie (including a most interesting portrait study). Because some of the members do not regularly read the Times we unblushingly filch some extracts:

"After leaving university Christie joined the John Holden Players. After two years, realizing he needed broader experience, he decided to try his luck in Britain. He set himself a deadline. If he couldn't establish himself firmly in the theatre or radio in 10 years, he'd give up acting. He landed in England with less than £25, and within days had a job in repertory. He appeared in London and on tour with The Zeal of Thy House and Desire Under the Elms. Then after persistently knocking on the Old Vic's door, he signed a contract which took him to the Buxton Festival with the Old Vic Company, and on a Mediterranean tour, doing Shakespeare, Shaw and Sheridan. He also worked for BBC tv.

"When the Second World War broke out, Christie joined the Canadian Army and spent five years in Britain and on the Continent. When he returned to Toronto in 1945 and walked into the CBC studios, still in uniform, a producer called out: 'He's it! He's the returned husband of Soldier's Wife!' Within minutes he was signed to play the male lead in that popular daytime serial.

"I was delighted", he recalls, "to find that for the first time it was possible for an actor to make a living in Canada. Some actors were even buying homes, which was unheard of when I left to go to England. The CBC had made this possible. But I found that Canada hadn't changed in one respect. Performers here still tended to think of themselves as slackers if they hadn't tried their luck in Hollywood, New York or London. And audiences believed this too, and still do. I remember going into a theatre lobby in Toronto where my picture was displayed on the wall, and overhearing a woman ask: 'Who's that?' To which her companion replied: 'Bob Christie. He's a fellow who went away and failed.' Because I'd come home, they had the idea I was no good. Most Canadian performers have experienced the same thing. It's just part of the national adolescence. And this applies outside the theatrical field. You'll find it in
every business. Canadians have the greatest respect for the guy who goes to work for American General Electric. Canadians always think more highly of us performers when we leave the country - respect our 'courage' in going. It's crazy. As a nation we've reached about age 12 level in the course of a century. Right now we're nambie-pambie, like a youngster in the first form of high school. What's going to happen to us when we get to the toughie age of 16? When we become an enfant terrible, I'm afraid we'll be really terrible!"

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Club members chosen to advise the Federal Department of Works on sculptures and murals for the new Toronto (née Malton) Airport include Eric Arthur, Charles F. Comfort, Thomas Howarth and William Withrow. We wish them well and hope that the result of their work will compensate for delayed flights.

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Colin Campbell in a letter to the Secretary of the Club says, in part -

"... You may publicly proclaim and record on your list of members and addresses of the Arts and Letters Club that the undersigned is once again to reside at his old address in Whitby - and urges that all future mail sent from the Club for his edification should be so addressed, and no longer sent to California, where the soft breezes of the Pacific and the gentle wash of the surf lulls one off to quiet and happy repose."

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Before leaving for South Africa and other parts, C.S. Band sent us his itinerary which read something like the magic carpet. He flew to Kenya - to Nairobi to see big game - to Bulawayo - Victoria Falls and then to Johannesburg. By now, if he is not already home, he has visited the Kruger National Park and also Cape Town by car - thence by air to Nigeria the latest member of the Commonwealth. All this information was gleaned from a breath-taking memo in answer to our plea last month - "It would be far less wear and tear on the Editor if you will keep him supplied with your doings for the Letter." Many thanks C.S. and a safe return. (C.S.B. returned safely.)

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A very kind note from Mrs. J.D. Ketchum told us that Professor Ketchum, who is seriously ill in the Toronto General Hospital, has enjoyed reading the Monthly Letter and learning about the doings of his many Club friends.

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**OBITUARIES**

As long as we can remember P. O'D. were the initials of Peter Donovan who contributed a weekly column to Saturday Night from London. His insight and good humour brought a picture of the old land vividly and accurately. He was a former member of the Club. We learn that he died in Rye, Sussex early in March.
Dr. Arnold Mason, dean emeritus of the Faculty of Dentistry died in Toronto on March 25th, at the age of 83. After his retirement in 1948 he visited Australia. Dr. Mason was a past president of the St. George's Society and as such represented them at the Club Christmas Dinner. Members will recall his great interest at lunch time when he joined in conversation on any subject with relish. Few of the newer members knew of his high professional standing. He had been a board member of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons since 1915, a past-president of the Toronto Academy of Dentists and a past-president of the Dominion Dental Council. The Club has lost greatly by his passing.

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THE LIBRARY

In very recent years there has been a real renaissance of interest in the work of contemporary sculptors; sculpture is now considered as a great art of the future. The latest library acquisition in this field is titled Sculpture Of This Century. The author, Michel Seuphor, compares contemporary painting and sculpture, gives an historical survey of 20th century sculpture, and discusses the problem of relief as well as the relationship between sculpture and architecture. This valuable reference work contains a comprehensive bibliographical dictionary of more than 400 sculptors of this century and 411 carefully selected pictures.

Members who are planning a trip to Britain should remember that the Club library contains a number of items that may be of use to them. Recent acquisitions related to this type of reference material include the following: a 128-page publication of Her Majesty’s Stationery Office titled A Guide To London Museums And Galleries; a revised introduction to British and Modern Foreign Art titled A Guide To The Tate Gallery; a booklet, containing a representative selection of pictures, titled A Brief History Of The National Gallery; a booklet titled The Courtauld Institute Of Art; an up-to-date pair of companion volumes titled Museums And Galleries In Great Britain And Ireland, and Historic Houses And Castles In Great Britain And Ireland.

Those who were present at the last monthly dinner will recall that Professor Wilson showed a number of fine coloured slides of the cave temples of India. As a follow-up to this there currently may be found just inside the library an illustrated exhibition catalogue titled Mural Paintings From Ajanta And Other Cave Temples Of India And Ceylon. Other exhibition catalogues in the library include two of shows produced by the Arts Council of Great Britain; these are entitled Monet and Manet. There was recently on display a catalogue for the coming exhibition of the work of Paul Emile Borduas.

John Layng has thoughtfully given, for the "Members" shelf of our Library, a copy of Outdoor Rambles by the late Stuart Thompson. The text is illustrated by 30 delightful scratchboard drawings.

H.B.

WANTED

From now until the opening night of the Spring Show - The Elm Street Song & Supper Club - on Tuesdays and Thursdays the following artisans are required for a few hours in the evening. Sew hands, hammerers, carryers, nailers, scene painters, curtain hangers and just plain garbage collectors.

See Roy Austin for contracts.
The Arts and Letters Club Spring Cabaret

April 25-28 - 1962

known as

ELM STREET SONG AND SUPPER CLUB

Lavishly produced, painstakingly rehearsed, meticulously researched - The Spring Cabaret of 1962 will go down in history as one of the most successful ventures of the Club. But we shall let the programme notes compiled through the prodigious efforts of Robin Strachan and George Prokos paint the scenery for us. By the way the design and typography of the programme was the work of Carl Dair.

"Our garden is modelled on that which surrounded the Grecian Saloon. Here the proprietor arranged for two intrepid aeronauts to make daily ascents in what was hailed as "ah-bah-loon". In the famous Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, Julian von Joel, "the celebrated sif-fluer from Hamburgh" gave his imitations of bird songs. Later he became a regular performer at Evans'. Such was his success that "in consideration of his zealous assistance" he was retained upon the establishment until his death. When not ventriloquizing on stage, he would peddle tickets for his "benefit performance" which never materialized. He sold many tickets all the same! Do you hear those birds singing in our gardens? They are the ghostly whistles of Julian von Joel."

The Master of Ceremonies was the incomparable Sid Johnson whose wit and chatter kept the show moving fast the whole evening.

The opening number rendered by the entire ensemble was the bright and breezy Slap Bang and this was followed by a succession of numbers as follows:

Frank Dowsett dressed as a sailor, sang "Married To A Mermaid".
Harry Ward brought tears to the audience with "Woodman Spare That Tree".
W. S. Milne offered "Refined Selections".
Reg Heal conjured up "The Fine Old Irish Gentleman" in a series of stirring episodes.
The M.C. stepped out of character and gave a demonstration of TROUBLEWIT—a form of entertainment popular in the Song and Supper Clubs in the '60's. This consisted of a number of folds of paper that could be made to portray anything from a dumbell to an umbrella—yes, it was authentic, was most skilfully executed.

Geoffrey Hatton melted all with his "One Of The Olden Time". Brenton Rowe and again Frank Dowsett went "Up In A Balloon". Bill Shelden enacted "Sam Hall". Jim Hubbard lectured on The Scenic Wonders of The World. Jay Manning, with great éclat recreated The Galloping Major.

The ensemble again made the rafters ring Bem-Boo-Zle'em, while the finale, we'll never forget, was Excelsior sung so movingly and with such tenacity that none wanted it finished. Here William Thompson and Harry Maude excelled. We must not forget the Piano renditions of John Yocom, John Sedgwick, the organ strains of Meredith Glassco and the stupendous instrumental obbligato of Jack Prior.

Messrs. Carrington, Dowsett, Hatton, Heal, Hubbard, Manning, Milne, Rowe and Shelden comprised the ensemble.

The lounge had been turned into a Victorian garden with grass, flowers and birds, tastefully arranged by Jack Prior and Oswald Stacey. At its end was a balloon into the basket of which numerous gaily dressed people had their pictures skilfully taken by Yvon Doucet. The prints were delivered in ten seconds—a piece of anachronism one joyfully accepted.

Credits for the outstanding show as Bob Christie, the producer, would be the first to admit, go to a loyal crew of set builders under the leadership of Roy Austin. However, the satisfaction for the success of the 1962 show goes to those who were participants. Ticket selling was under the vigilance of Fred Shaw and Joe Barfoot. Ticket takers and Bar stewards, too numerous to mention, under the watchful eye of Newson, were necessary adjuncts to the whole caste.

Thus the 1962 Spring Show goes into History.

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Epilogue to Spring Show

Dear Joe

What happened, friend, where's old Fred Shaw,
He did the Saturday of yore
Has the old dog received promotion
Or, more rightly so, a quick de-motion.
With Fred I had a cushy time
For Shaw's an easy name to rhyme,
Now Barfoot, I fear, is for the birds,
It just don't fit with other words.
This must be faced with courage, though
I am thankful that your first name's Joe
And so to you, on bended knee
I humbly make my annual plea.
Please, oh please, most handsome Joe
Please send me seven for the show.
Would you ever hear it said
That you were not as kind as Fred.
"The cash for same" I hear you bid
A few odd pence and seven quid.
Enough's enclosed, enough and plenty.
A cheque for one good buck and twenty.

John Fleetwood-Morrow

Dear John

To write your answer all in rhyme
Is lots of fun - but it takes time.
Here you'll find your seven-up
And a place reserved for you to sup.
Your name will be placed upon the table.
Find it yourself if you are able.
Fred through years of loyal devotion
Has changed his job it was his notion.
I think he found it quite a sorrow
To try and rhyme with Fleetwood-Morrow.
Sign your tickets in the place
I'm glad you're early in this case.
I hope that you all enjoy the show.
Yours sincerely Barfoot Joe.

Dr. G. E. Reaman our Kitchener non-resident member reports that he will be in England and will go as far east as Istanbul. In England he is to give some lectures for the Royal Overseas League and will attend the annual meeting of the Huguenot Society of which he is a Fellow. He tells us that his new book "The Trail of the Huguenot Cross" will be published by McClelland and Steward this summer.

Adrian "Ace" Williams of New York, in sending his dues, tells us that he has signed a contract with General Motors for a documentary film that will just about get him all over the world. He concludes by saying: "I still think the A & L has a charm and friendliness that takes some beating . . ." 

Frank Prendergast left for Greece a few weeks ago. Whether he hoped to attend the royal wedding we shall only know when he returns. In the meantime we shall scan the society columns to see if we can see his courtly face amongst the epaulets.

Percival Biggar, our Florida non-resident member, dropped into the Club the other day while on his way to his Muskoka cottage. It seems that one man at least has learned something from the migratory birds.

Harvey Perrin, Director of Music for the Toronto Board of Education, conducted a 700 voice children's choir recently. It must have been quite an experience.
Frank Carrington has retired from his teaching job at the Ontario College of Art after seventeen years of service.

Willson Woodside, following an extensive tour of Africa, reported on his return to Canada that colonial Africa is headed for tragedy and that those African states in the eastern part of the continent which already have self-government are mishandling their affairs in many ways. He praised Nigeria as an African hope.

Allan Sangster, non-resident (and seldom appearing) member reports that his long-lived CBC series "The Music of ...." (currently The Music of Haydn) has now been transferred from The Trans-Canada to the FM Network, and from Wednesdays to Fridays. There, at eleven p.m. he can be heard, for a change, speaking his own opinions about the music. In, as he says, "his own diffident and sometimes fumbling voice, instead of the gloriously assured ones which you have been hearing".

Lack of space prevents us quoting from another interesting bulletin received from Herman Voaden, who is spending a year in the south of France, at Menton. He wishes to correct us for stating that he had won a Canada Council award - we apologize: - it seems to us that all distinguished playwrights who are able to spend such happy days must be there at the request of the C.C.!! We shall file the bulletin with the Librarian.

The Annual Meeting--May 12, 1962

Like most annual meetings of the Club the 1962 variety was noisy and enthusiastic. Whether it was because some members of the Executive were about to be relieved of their onerous duties or others were jubilant at the prospect of assuming them, we'll never know. Sufficient be it to state that President Cameron had to wield the gavel repeatedly.

The singing of the Healey Willan's Constitution of the A&L with Fred Silvester conducting the choir with George Lambert got things away to a good start. Walter Moorhouse then read the list of fellow members who died during the past year.

Stuart L. Thompson, June 23/61
Stuart was a born naturalist who for sixty years spent all his leisure hours studying wild life on our pleasant countryside, and stimulating by his lectures, writings and outings an enthusiastic interest in natural history. To his many friends his memory still haunts our woods and river valleys.

Allan George, July 25/61
Son of the late Sir Ernest George, RA, well known British architect, etcher and water-colourist, Allan was one of the last of the traditionalists in Canadian Architecture, and one who found it hard to accept the more uninhibited contemporary pattern. As a man, he was an outstanding example of English Public School training whose quality was discerned and appreciated by those who knew him, from the highest to the most humble station.

Gordon M. West, Aug. 6/61
A practising architect for many years, Gordon developed a talent for organization and was active on committees of the Ontario Association and the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada of which he was a past president. He was largely responsible for the organization of the National Construction Council and served on many important committees on matters of public interest.
W. Knight Wilson, Sept. 10/61

We miss a lot through lack of contact with Non-Resident members. Knight Wilson was a rare visitor to the Club, and being a quiet, unassuming Scotsman, may not have been appreciated at his true worth. Besides being a fine violinist he had a wide knowledge of music and all components of a modern orchestra. During World War II he organized and led one of our finest military and concert bands at the Ordnance Depot at Barriefield. For some years he conducted the Regina Symphony and later was on the staff of Mount Royal College, Calgary. Music in the middle west owes much to this modest, friendly Scotsman.

Irwin H. Forster, Nov 6/61

Irwin's special interests were sportsmanship, photography and the Arts and Letters Club. He was incessantly active in all he did, and the interests of the Club were vital to him. His willingness to take on any job at any time made his sudden passing a serious and heartfelt loss to the Club.

Dr. Lorne Pierce, Nov. 27/61

Author, editor and historian, Lorne Pierce was first and foremost a Canadian. He, more than any one man, by his encouragement of young authors, was responsible for much fine work that otherwise would never have been written. By searching out and re-publishing forgotten Canadian work, he saved much that otherwise would have been lost. He received much honour in his lifetime, but his greatest honour lies in the influence of his tireless work on the future of Canadian literature.

Prof. George H. Needler, Jan. 1/62

It is not often given to man to live a useful and happy life for a span of ninety-five years. Yet Dr. Needler, soldier, teacher and historian was, I think, the happiest of men. He seemed always the same, calm, unhurried and interested. His mind, voice and upright carriage bespoke his character. I think of him as "The Happy Warrior" and picture him, taller even than in life, standing at 'Attention', fearless and serene, as 'Last Post' sounded.

Dr. Leslie Bell, Jan. 19/62

Dr. Leslie Bell started in the career of teaching but soon abandoned it for one of music. His ability as a composer and arranger, his insistence on clarity of tone and diction produced one of the finest and most famous of Canadian choirs. His sudden passing was a great blow to his many friends and admirers.

John Parsons Kidd, Feb. 10/62

A noted educationalist, John Parsons Kidd was assistant director of extension services at the University of Toronto and member of the Canadian Association for Adult Education. A valued and congenial member, he had many close friends in the Club which he had joined only a few months ago.

Dr. Arnold Mason, March 25/62

Quiet in manner and unfailing in courtesy, Arnold Mason rose to the peak of his profession without fanfare and served in many capacities in the Faculty of Dentistry. He was also a past president of St. George's Society.

Arnold had instinctive good taste in pictorial art and could recognize the vital spark in an artist's work. A great admirer of Canada's Group of Seven, he was responsible for much unadvertised assistance to needy artists.

The Club has lost a loved and valued member.
Peter Donovan, March/62

P.O.D. was outstanding in print or in person wherever he went. (Notice how he stands out in Ernie Sampson's "Portrait of the Club"). He chose to live in England but his fellow members remained faithful readers of his column in Saturday Night, and all old timers regret his passing.

John Davidson Ketchum, April 24/62
Like his fellow-member Sir Ernest MacMillan, Davidson Ketchum was studying music in Germany when World War I broke out. They spent the duration as prisoners of war and both continued their musical studies and cultivated their well-known sense of humour.

Dr. Ketchum was later master of music at Trinity College School, Port Hope, and organist and choir-master at St. Simon's Church, Toronto. He continued his academic studies, majoring in psychology, became professor in that field at the University of Toronto and in 1960 a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Like his four well-known brothers he had a natural gift as a teacher. His versatile conversation carried a vein of satire that will be well remembered in the Club.

George Coutts, April 28/62
George Coutts was well-known as a teacher and conductor in Western Canada and locally as a church organist and choir-master.
He latter served faithfully in the piano, theory and organ faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music.
The Club has had many quiet and conscientious types who shunned publicity, and George was one of these. His professional standing and his genial Scottish sense of humour assured him at all times a hearty welcome in the Club.

Henry Button, May 4/62
Henry was one of those irreplaceable characters that stand out in the Club's history.
He seemed to qualify as the "Compleat Extravert", and when he joined any group it always became cheerful and at times noisy.
It is hard to realize that his voice has been silenced, and it is with deep feeling that we recall Hamlet's tribute to the immortal jester: - "Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio, a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy."

Elsie Nichols, Feb 14/62
Lastly there was one who though not of us was at one with us, Elsie Nichols, a constant example to us all of faithfulness and loyalty.

"So, one by one, Time took them to his keeping,
"Those broken lanterns that had held his fire."

Let us rise now and pay them tribute.

Stan Cooper, Chairman of the Pictures Committee reported what now must be considered a lively group of paintings shown during the year---Harry Ross' A.Y.Jackson's sketches, Feheley's Le Bruns, C.S. Band's Varleys, the L.A.C. Panton's. It was quite evident that Cooper does not like amateur paintings and therefore the show of small paintings only covered our empty walls better than wallpaper.
Tony Muntzer's report of Fred Shaw's House Committee disclosed that we still eat more than we pay for to the tune of $1307 - although the bar again comes to the rescue here.

He was able to divulge the news that the dishes containing olives, onions and potato chips that adorn the bar have been the means of increasing the thirst of members by 3.5%. By IBM computers (& probably closed television) 139 onions contributed to this remarkable feat.

Colin Campbell asked if a glass could be installed in the washroom - he was advised to drink in the bar and be a man.

Arthur Ament reported for the Maintenance Committee the fact that a new boiler had been purchased during the year for which the Club had been partially reimbursed by the St. George's Society. He was glad to report that a 10-year lease on the property had been recently executed. He also revealed that maintenance had been directed to certain plumbing items - too intimate to name in this family journal.

Oz Stacey - Membership Committee disclosed that the Club numbers 471 members - the same as last year. As fast as they come in, they get moved to other cities or die. Stacey paid tribute to the exacting work undertaken by Dr. Ruggles George who keeps records better than Doomsday.

Bill Duthie who has been obviously fighting a losing battle with the moths headed the Costume Committee. He reported on the shocking state of some of the old costumes - we rather think that he would like to toss the whole lot out.

Hunter Bishop proposed an ingenious method of getting members to patronize the Library. He dangled in front of the members a copy of EROS - quasi-pornographic periodical which will be open to members' inspection on a first-come first-served basis. All this was by way of an introduction to his real report - 1961/62 was the year of Periodicals - the display in the lounge has proved to be most useful.

There but remained for the President to name the successful candidates for places on the Executive Committee.

Officers and Executive Committee, 1962-63

President Ian Cameron  Treasurer Philip T. Clark
Vice President Walter Coucill  Secretary Fred Kemp, Q.C.

* * * * * * *

A.R.G. Ament  E.A.R. Newson
Roy Austin  J.B. Prior
Alan C. Collier  Fred Shaw
A. Gresley Elton  H. Oswald Stacey
Reg Heal  John W. Wevers
Oxford McNeill  D. Carl Williams
The following have recently been received . . .

"In case anyone should ever ask, the A & L Monthly Letter is the most interesting publication that we have discovered in France -- or for that matter in all of Europe. We think that the Club is fortunate to find a member who can write as brilliantly about the visual arts as Horace Lapp does about music. It hurts to miss so many terrific soirées also. Warmest regards.

York " (Wilson, that is)

"I enjoy very much the Monthly Letters and I wish I were retired at home in Toronto where I could participate in some of the activities of the Club.

Several years back when I used to go sketching at York Mills with C.W. Jeffries, who lived across the road from Manley McDonald and me, Uncle Charlie would tell me that he was going to ask my Dad to bring me to the Club as there was some work to do on the stage. Almost every month there was something for me to do and there was so much fun.

Roy Austin's ending to the April Monthly Letter makes me think back to many of the old-time members.

Yours very truly,

William A. Drake."

Dear Ian and fellow members:
I left Toronto on Wednesday April 18 and arrived in Jerusalem on Good Friday morning after a night in Beirut. I've been here almost 3 weeks now and was assigned a site to excavate almost immediately on arrival. I have been given a choice location right on the top of Mt. Aphel the ancient city of David at the crest of the East slope overlooking the Wadi Kidron. We've been at it for over two weeks and are about two meters down where I hit a puzzling but most interesting stone pavement. This covers practically the whole of my trench which is 2 m x 8 m. The ceramic date is certainly Roman but what it really is is not certain and won't be until I dig a sectional trench to see what's under it. Personally I'm inclined to think it a pavement though Père de Vaux suggests the top of a defense tower. I'll undoubtedly be able to clarify it as I go down. Two levels above this I found a lovely (plastered) bath which everyone has been admiring. This too was apparently Roman, but it's now disappeared forever -- we dismantled it on Saturday.

There are about 25 to 30 of us living in the "Watson House", the old St. John's Hospital right near the Jaffa Gate inside the Old City. It's rather thrilling to step outside into a narrow street whereupon you either climb or descend into the city. We're only about one short block from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Erlöserkirche. Of course, the Dome of the Rock and the Aqsa Mosque dominate the view towards the East. It's most impressive just before sundown to see the sun's rays reflecting off the golden dome and to know that you are seeing one of the architectural gems of all time just a couple of blocks away.
Since my site is not far down Ophel the noon and mid-afternoon muezzin's call from Aqsa's minaret (over an atrociouis loudspeaker) is unavoidably distinct.

On Sundays we usually arrange some kind of trip to some site. Yesterday Père de Vaux invited us all to Quaran and gave us one of the finest tours I've ever had. I took about 30 pictures in colour, so I should be able to give a lecture on that.

Our regular day begins at 5 a.m. Pre-breakfast tea and ghastly dried out jam sandwiches at 5:30, and we start work at 6. Breakfast is served at the dig house 8:30 to 9:15, and lunch 12:30 to 1:30. Quitting time is 3:45. Tea at Watson House at 4:05 and dinner at 7:00. Most of us use 6 to 7 for a cocktail hour. It's quite a full day.

It's now 8:30 and time for bed. I think it's probably wise to have left my wife at home--she would never get over the shock of my holding to such an abnormal schedule.

I plan to be back in Toronto for about a week early in July and then on to Texas.

Cordially, John W.

Another Club member, Dr. A.D. Tushingham, head of Art and Archaeology Division, Royal Ontario Museum, will be joining Dr. Wevers shortly on this important dig.

O B I T U A R I E S

GEORGE COUTTS

Organist and Choirmaster at St. Stephen's Anglican Church and teacher at the Royal Conservatory of Music, George Coutts died on April 28th. He was born in Scotland and came to Canada in 1911. He joined the Canadian Academy of Music and later taught and conducted in Regina and Vancouver. At the Conservatory he was a member of the piano, theory and organ faculty. John Beckwith writing in the Star of May 5 said of Coutts: "He was a man of quiet integrity. Only close associates were conscious in late years of the stoicism with which he accepted what must have been a painful blow to a musician, a partial loss of his hearing ... Musically he had high standards .. his French-Canadian folk songs are as adroitly done as anything in their field and a pleasure to play or sing."

Dr. John Davidson Ketchum, recently retired professor of psychology, died on April 24th after a long illness. He will be remembered by some members for this clever satire "Free Enterprise" which he sang at Monthly dinners on more than one occasion. He spent the war years 1914-18 as a prisoner of war in Germany, but like his friend Sir Ernest MacMillan he utilized that time to study. Exceedingly versatile, he was, in addition to being a professor of psychology, a musician of distinction having been master of music at Trinity College School, Port Hope, and organist and choirmaster at St. Simon's Church, Toronto. One of the five famed Ketchum brothers, Dr. Ketchum had a great sense of humour that made him an ideal Club member.

Hanging on the wall to the left of the fireplace in the Arts & Letters Club is a coat of arms, the chief device of which is a large and unmistakable button, with the name Button inscribed beneath it.

An old-timer, seeing this bit of zany heraldry, is reminded of the good old days when the Club enjoyed plenty of fun and uproarious hilarity. Henry Button was one of the traditional fun-makers in the Club. His unique endowment was a gnomish sort of light-hearted buffoonery that was captivating and entertaining because it was so
natural and spontaneous. Along with it, fortunately, Henry displayed a readiness, under discreet pressure, to play the classic fool whenever one was needed at Club affairs. As jester and mountebank, he filled the role to the king's taste, striking exactly the right note, with no lamentable lapses into pointless vulgarity. And he did it with a genuine and amiable abandon that marked him for all time as an endearing clown.

It is a pleasure to record that Henry's stature was not diminished when he doffed his cap-and-bells and went about his daily affairs. Always there emerged the friendly, interested, intelligent, voluble, considerate, polite and exceedingly pleasant gentleman who attracted friends as honey attracts bees. That he was so popular was the tribute paid to him by all who learned to appreciate his whole-hearted humanity, and to recognize the humility that underlay his lively quips and sallies, and that gave body and meaning to his more serious conversations. It was that diffidence, too, that made him a matchlessly patient listener.

How does one best remember a friend? In Henry's case, perhaps, by certain revealing idiosyncrasies that, in a less genuine and more self-conscious person, might have seemed odd. For instance, those who sat with him at lunch will remember fondly that, while they were searching through their pockets for pen or pencil with which to sign the post-prandial chit, there was Henry, hovering about, offering the stub of pencil that he always carried. No highly-polished or embellished ball-point, not even an old-fashioned fountain pen such as a man of his parts might have treasured. Just the short, well-pointed end of pencil that somehow bespoke this man's great simplicity and kindliness, his concern for the well-being of others.

God rest his gentle soul!  

W.F.B.

THE LIBRARY

Mid-Century Architecture In America is an important recent addition to the Architecture shelf. It contains photographs, drawings, and descriptions of the Honor Awards of the American Institute of Architects from 1949 - 1961. This is a truly representative collection of the best American work that has been done in the past 12 years; some 200 prize-winning structures are divided between nine main types of buildings. For the Music shelf there has been obtained a copy of The Modern Composer And His World, edited by John Beckwith and Udo Kasemets. This book was published in association with the Canadian League of Composers, and is a report from the International Conference of Composers which was held at the Stratford Festival during August 1960.

Three books are soon to be added to the Members shelf. A Painter's Country is the autobiography of A.Y. Jackson. Canadians And Their Commonwealth is the text of the Romanes Lecture delivered a year ago by Vincent Massey. Canadian Portraits is a narration of the lives of Ernest MacMillan, Edward Johnson, Healey Willan, and Wilfrid Pelletier. The Canadiana shelf will contain Indian Days On The Western Prairies by Marius Barbeau, Reading In Toronto (the 78th annual report of the Toronto Public Library Board), Finding New Homes In Canada by E. C. Guillet and J. E. McEwen, and the Canada Council's Fourth Annual Report. The Literature shelf
will shortly receive two works with a Canadian theme: the revised edition of *Creative Writing In Canada* edited by Desmond Pacey, and *The Mask Of Fiction* edited by A.J.M. Smith; this latter book is a selection of the writings of Canadian critics on Canadian prose.

Book *Design And Production* is an excellent British quarterly; anyone interested in typography should look up the number which is in the Graphic Art section of our library. The Council of Industrial Design of Britain publish a periodical entitled *Design*; the August 1961 number is in the library, as is a booklet of the Council's entitled *The Design Centre Awards 1961*. The quarterly review published by the International Theatre Institute is entitled *World Theatre*; the Spring 1961 issue is devoted to the use of the mask in the 20th century. *The Theatre In Our Times*, by John Gassner, is a truly comprehensive survey of the men, materials, and movements in the modern theatre.

** * * * * **

W. E. Greening, author of *The Ottawa*, has kindly sent a copy of his book to the library of this Club. The story is the colourful one of the valley of the Ottawa from the days of the voyageurs to the present.

H. B.
Once again we are issuing a summer number of the Club Letter. We are able to do so only because of the generosity of our contributors whose efforts we would not like to keep in cold storage until September.

As the season draws to a close we wish to acknowledge with deep appreciation the continued co-operation of the following members:


We would have included Ruggles George who was indefatigable in scanning the papers for mention of Club members, but alas, he has left us.

A pleasant summer vacation. See you at the Club soon.

The Editor

Moliere's TARTUFE came to life at the Club for three evenings, May 30, 31 and June 1st due to the energy and ambition of Actors' Equity. Quite a number of Club members enjoyed an extremely bright performance of this 17th century comedy and satire.

Actors' Equity is, of course, a union. In Toronto it operates Showcase Theatre the purpose of which is to display its members to possible producers and entrepreneurs. In the case of Tartufe it was the Director, just back from a year in France - thanks to a Canada Council Grant - who was introduced. Tartufe was played by Robert Christie - to the obvious delight both of himself and the audience.

Somehow there was a double reward for those who attended. There were the Club members, noticeable for their quiet, austere mien, and the Equity types - gay, uninhibited and nonchalant who brought a breath of freshness to the Halls. What made it even more enjoyable was the Intermission when the bar was opened - just
like a European theatre. It was noticed by one of our guests that one of the prints was upside down on the wall. At first we attributed this comment to our generosity in treating at the bar - but no - it WAS upside down.

We learned with mixed feelings that the Art Show at the C.N.E. is to be discontinued this year. We noted that C. S. Band has been the power behind the scenes these many years and with the enterprising Women's Committee has been responsible for raising substantial funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Our bet is that Charlie Band will soon gather together another collection that will wow the crowds again.

It was indeed a pleasure to see our esteemed President Ian Cameron back in the Club after the serious operation to his eyes.

Reg Heal's activities are apparently poles apart. On one day in June he was appointed a Director of the Metropolitan Property Owners' Association and also a Director of the Canadian Opera Association. He tells us that he is planning for next year, two Ladies Nights and one afternoon programme for children.

Dr. Wallace Graham, in addition to his other professional honours was elected President of the Toronto Academy of Medicine last month.

We note that His Honour John de Neville Kennedy, O.B.E., recently celebrated his 74th birthday at Peterborough. Congratulations.

There are few members of the Club who have taken as much interest in the development of the Arts in Canada as John Coulter. We are therefore grateful to him for the following:

SOME EXTRACTS from old diaries concerning once-controversial "extra-mural activities" of the Club - activities which were to have an important part in Canada's cultural development since the second World War.

(A.) Concerning Canada Council and the Canadian Conference of the Arts, via Canada Arts Council, the "Artists' Brief", the Massey Commission and Report.

Saturday, May 29. At lunch, A and L. Lively discussion on shameful lack of government support for the arts in Canada. General agreement Club should sponsor a drive for setting up in Canada a body analogous to British Council and Arts Council in Britain.

Monday, May 31. George Pepall (President) and Harry Tedman (Secretary) at lunch in Club. Told them of Saturday's discussion. Asked leave to put the proposal to the executive committee.

Monday, June 7. Outlined idea to executive committee. Some sharp opposition, but Pepall firmly for it. Proposal regarded as such a departure that special meeting of executive called to consider it carefully.
1943  cont’d
Monday, June 14. Special meeting of executive committee decided that only a Special General Meeting of the Club could sanction such action.

Wednesday, June 23. At 8:30 Special General Meeting of Club. Stiff opposition to any kind of extra-mural activities by Club, even on behalf of the Arts. Determination of many older and senior members that Club activities must remain strictly private. Opposition also to idea of government funds being used to spoon-feed the arts. "Let them stand on their own legs or stay in the gutter." Eventually, after hard tussle, compromise reached: proposal referred to an Advisory Committee who should explore the problem during the summer and report in the fall.

Monday, October 25. Report of Advisory Committee tabled at executive committee meeting. Report recommended certain "extra-mural activities".

Monday, November 15. Special meeting at Pepall's house in evening to debate the recommendations. Hard debating till 12:30 a.m.

1944.

Wednesday, April 19. With Club deputation to Canada Foundation in Ottawa. Spent day discussing with Walter Herbert possibility of implementing recommendations of Club's Advisory Committee, i.e. a drive for the setting up of a Canadian Ministry of Fine Arts, or for alternative means to provide financial support for the arts in Canada - such as the setting up of a body analogous with the British Council and Arts Council. And for the provision of community centres - to house arts as well as sports - throughout Canada. Pepall led the deputation - which dined well at Madam B's in Hull and was joined there by Ed. Corbett and Chuck Matthews.

Saturday, May 6. Ottawa deputation's work vigorously discussed at lunch in the Club. Lawren Harris joining in and in strong support.

Saturday, May 17. Meeting at Toronto Art Gallery of representatives of professional artists' organisations to set up a Canadian Arts Council. A and L Club, the only non-professional body taking part. Represented the President of Club (Pepall) at his request. (This was the origin of what is now the Canadian Conference of the Arts. Club's activity helped to bring it into being.)

Sunday, May 21. At Pepall's house. Special meeting of Club's executive committee and members of Advisory Committee. Crucial vote to be taken on whether Club should continue "extra-mural activities". Pepall himself absent. Of eleven present, after strenuous argument, five voted for, five against. One abstained. This stalemate ended by Pepall arriving and casting his vote for.

Saturday, May 27. (And Saturday June 3, and Friday June 9). Meetings concerning preparation of A and L contribution to "Artists' Brief" for submission to the Turgeon Committee of the House of Commons.

Wednesday, June 21. Club's representatives with other members of deputation from Canadian Arts Council to Ottawa. "Artists' Brief", tabled and argued before the Turgeon Committee of the House. Read the report to Committee at request of Ernest Fosberry, P.R.C.A. Politicians clearly astonished at concise and thoroughly detailed character of proposals in the Brief- an Artists' brief! For the Club, Ernest MacMillan, Forsey Page, Garnard Kettle, Herman
Voadeen, Marcus Adeney also. Ernest's interventions specially authoritative and impressive.

This Artists' Brief was germ from which sprang the Massey Commission and Report, and finally, the Canada Council.

(B.) Concerning revival of Canadian theatre after shut-down during the War. Club sponsorship of public discussion of Canadian National Theatre. Indirect influence on successful launching of Stratford Shakespearean Festival Theatre.

1945. Tuesday, March 6. Executive committee requested to sponsor a get-together of all local drama groups to promote revival of theatre. Request made by Club's drama committee. Consent given.

Saturday, April 14. (Club having sent out invitations to all local theatre groups to send deputation of two each, to meeting in the Club.) Club lounge packed by deputations. Overflow into hall. Resolution passed, setting up committee to explore idea of Canadian National Theatre.

(Members of Club's drama committee prepared manifesto on Canadian National Theatre)

Friday, April 20. Wrote, telling Tyrone Guthrie. (See entry Monday, November 5.)

Tuesday, May 15. Club sent out National Theatre Manifesto to theatre groups all over Canada.

Saturday, May 26. A and L board-room. Deputation of drama groups set up a steering and exploratory committee, to work through the summer and report in fall.

Friday, June 29. In Club lounge. Press conference invited by Club. Club presented idea of Canadian National Theatre. (Roly Young - then drama critic of Globe and Mail - was present. See following comment.)

Left Toronto for summer. Letter from Earle Grey brought astonishing information that Roly Young had duplicated the Club's action: had invited to a meeting at the Royal York the same representatives of drama groups, and had actually persuaded them to give priority attention to the setting up of a Toronto Civic Theatre, a project with no purpose beyond the usual venture of commercial showbiz. Such a naive sabotaging of effort toward serious promotion of a national theatre project meant that those who supported it were not yet ready for anything else. A and L rightly withdrew till ideas about theatre development should have time to mature. Too bad, because:

Monday, November 5. Word from Tyrone Guthrie. If Canadian National Theatre idea went ahead, he offered to come to Canada - for transportation and maintenance - and bring Ralph Richardson to open in Pier Gynt as first show, to be directed by T.G.

Seven years passed before there was a significant development. Meanwhile:

1951. Tuesday, March 20. Back in London. Reunion with Guthrie at Lyric Theatre,
Hammersmith. Told of state of theatre in Canada.

Friday, April 6. With the Bertie Scotts to dine with the Guthries at their flat in Lincoln's Inn. Again, discussion of theatre in Canada - about which Bertie had much to say. (Bertie was Guthrie's voice-production expert at the Old Vic. He had been brought to Canada by the CBC in conjunction with the Royal Conservatory of Music, and came frequently to the Club. He was brought here as the outcome of lunchtime talks at the Club, when a remedy for the poor voice-production standard of top Canadian actors was sought by Andrew Allen, Mazzoleni and myself. Andrew, like Guthrie and me, was a former pupil of Scott - who died in my presence of a heart attack on April 15, nine days later. Practically every actor of note then working in Toronto had taken advantage of these Scott coachings, initiated in the Club.)

1952. Monday, May 5. Letter and cable to me in London from Dora Mavor Moore - seeking Tyrone Guthrie's help with an unlikely theatre project in Stratford, Ontario. (Would he help? It was the sort of thing he was apt to do. Recalled his offer of November 5, 1945)

Tuesday, May 8. Judith Guthrie (Tony's wife) sent on the letter and cable to Tony, who was in Edinburgh.

Wednesday, June 4. Had note from T.G. Off to Ireland, to be back in London June 16.

Tom Patterson telephoned from Canada to Guthrie in Ireland.

Tuesday, July 8. Had note informing me Tony arriving in Toronto to consult about Shakespearean Theatre in Stratford.

These former Club activities and their sequels on behalf of the arts in our community seem worth recalling for the information of many recently-joined members.

J.C.
June 1962

The pictures on the wall of the Hall for the month of June were some of the works that made up the annual show of The Society of The Canadian Painter Etchers and Engravers. Because techniques change so quickly in the graphic arts, we are powerless to describe them; so we asked Nick Hornyansky to comment on the show.

Here is Nick speaking:

"The "Etchers" are thankful to the Club for a renewed invitation and that the "rumble" of empty walls, the now fashionable hush-silence given to this season's fine shows, was extended to us too.

The print collection is a small one; new names on one hand, controversial pages on the other. It will be obvious to all that two veterans, Lou Rowe and Nick Hornyansky only figure because they are old Club members.

Claire Pratt uses the petal garb pen of our poet-laureate, nestling in her veins,
to interprete her "Flowers in Summer Wind". Another new name is Tom Dorsett of Vancouver, whose print won the Sterling Trusts Award with his first exhibit. Guillermo Silva, new member from Mexico, bearded six-footer resembling a Spanish Grande, delves into his ancestral resources to bring jewel like, high embossed prints made with mobile metal montages.

The controversials: Anna Baker's "Bird in Flight" is here because it far excels any delicate precision or the willful obscurity of present day abstract lithographs. Valius' "Summer" is the perfect contrast to the former work with the very firm idiom of its message. With these same elements talent goes on the rampage in Brickus' "Winter Impressions", a serigraph of two handfuls of hues thrown up in the air and brought down into comprehensive montages.

At times even the professional eye rests in uncertain contemplation, like on "Omphalos #2" by Ella Marcus. Are the mossgreen patches, imbedded into the rich etching and aquatint graphics of this page, done with humble stencils?

Some say that intercontinental fame can be reached now with a markedly new technical invention in printmaking. Hard to know. We hope that this CPE collection brought the taste of these problems right into the Club's central piazza to see, fight over and digest.

N.H.

A TRIBUTE TO REG HEAL

As Chairman of the Entertainment Committee for the 1961-62 Club Year, Reg Heal has turned in magnificent performances that future chairmen will find it hard to emulate. The Editor herewith apologises to Reg for his lack of mention in the May letter of the cornerstone, the sine qua non of the entertainment for the past season.

The truth is that Reg has been so successful in finding virtuosi to do his bidding that the maestro himself has been relegated to the background. This should never be. We bite the dust, sweep our hat to the ground and point with pride to a long-suffering member of the Club Executive. We give you Reg Heal - indefatigable worker, performer - par excellence.

IAPP'S LITERARY LAPSES

This ought to rock the nation - even more than our dehydrated dollar. Lapp has written a pageant to be performed at the C.N.E. Bandshell at 8:00 p.m. on the evening of July 1st.

This is what is vulgarly called "a plug".

The pageant, which began life two months ago with a modest cast and a budget of fifty, has now reached the bursting point with 250 people including 8 real Indians, who when they let loose, would scare the hell out of Custer and Sitting Bull to boot.

There is everything in this opus except the kitchen sink and if you look real hard you might - - - oh well . . .

I gave it over to the producers, who I swear are nuts and will have me there before
it is over.

I ask for 6 soldiers. They turn up with a platoon (20). 6 sailors suddenly become 20. We have a complete built-in ballet. (My dear, they are so good they don't even speak to us.) Kate Aitken is not built-in but we've got her just the same with her 25 UNICEF kids. We dug up Pat Rafferty of The Dumbells. I know you won't see this in time to come - but thought you'd like to know the score.

Nicholas Goldschmidt's hard at work right now on the Vancouver Festival and he can jolly well stay there with the tea and crumpets for all I care.

I think you might like the series of concerts at The Bandshell (C.N.E.) every Sunday night beginning July 8. There are 75 musicians plus assisting artists. You can't call this a plug because it's a symphony, my dear. However - I'll meet you at the free cakes and tea at the Salada Tea House nearby.

Oh, I forgot to tell you about the girls. The pageant is just reeking with them. (July 1st, Sunday night. Plug 2.) We have almost 200 of them and all nationalities. Even Oz would be impressed.

Well, this seems to be all the news I can gather about li'l ol' me (who else matters?) so I'll stagger back to the jungle and drop you a line while the 48th Highlanders are skirling around in their unmentionables.

H. L.

Editor's note to Horace Lapp's contribution: John Kragland deigned to comment on Lapp's show. It could have been better but 12,000 Toronto residents can't be wrong.

OBITUARY

There are few members of the Club who have endeared themselves to their associates as did Dr. Ruggles George, who died on June 19 at the age of 73.

Since his retirement from the medical profession he took great interest in keeping Club membership records in order. This job he tackled with amazing pertinacity and although he was always in the background, his contribution to the Club's archives has been considerable.

For those who sat with him at table over the years, his brilliant wit and wide knowledge on a score of subjects provided a never ending source of delight.

Ruggles Kerr George was born in Toronto on August 22, 1889, the son of James George, chartered accountant, and grandson of the Rev. Dr. James George, one-time Principal of Queen's University.

He was educated at Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto. He entered University College in 1907 and graduated with B.A. degree in 1911. He then took up the study of medicine. After completing three years, he enlisted and went overseas with the 1st Canadian contingent. He was wounded in May, 1915, and after being in hospital first in Rouen, then in Boulogne and finally in Lady Carnarvon's convalescent...
home, was invalided home. He then continued his medical studies and graduated with M.D. degree in 1916.

From 1927 to 1932 he was Demonstrator in the Department of Anatomy at the University here; from 1932 to 1935, Lecturer, and from 1935 to 1948 Assistant Professor. In the latter year he went on part time and in 1951 resigned.

THE LIBRARY

A truly fascinating book - entitled Europe From The Air - has been obtained for the Miscellaneous shelf. Some of the 184 aerial photographs are almost breath-taking in their beauty, but it is not only the photographer who will be pleased with this book, for the two thought-provoking introductory essays should hold the attention of all those interested in history and geography. The presentation is not a regionally arranged sequence of pictures, but a general conspectus which outlines the origin and development of European life and civilization on the basis of geological and topographical conditions.

Typographica is a periodical published in Britain by Lund Humphries. The fourth issue of the New Series was recently acquired; this issue is devoted to signs and lettering in the street: signs which guide, inform, amuse, stimulate, or confuse the general public. There is an article on Mile A Minute Typography, one on Road Signs In Holland, and one on Street Level Signs For Pedestrians.

Last summer Claude Bissell established "The President's Lectures"; these lectures are to be given each year for students enrolled in the summer courses run by the University's Department of Extension. The 1961 series was entitled The Arts In Communication, and three speakers contributed to this theme. Dr. A. W. Trueman, Director of the Canada Council, outlined the Council's role in encouraging high standards of artistic achievement and analysed and evaluated the mass media as an art form; Robertson Davies, Master-designate of Massey College, surveyed contemporary Canadian drama; Pierre Berton, journalist, discussed newspapers and magazines past and present. Carl Williams, who currently holds the triple distinction of being a member of the Executive Committee of this Club, the Director of the Department of Extension, and a member of the University's Department of Psychology, acted as editor in the preparation of these lectures for publication in book form.

A good deal of scholarly work went into the compilation of The Canadian Dictionary at the Lexicographic Research Centre of the University of Montreal. A copy of the concise edition of this French-English English-French Dictionary has been obtained for the Reference shelf. It is a practical working tool emphasizing correct usage by example, and includes in both languages those words, phrases, and concepts that are uniquely Canadian. It establishes for the first time a Canadian standard of spelling and pronunciation in both English and French.

John Coulter's play Riel has just been published by the Ryerson Press, and a copy will be added to the Members shelf. The history of production, as listed on the dust jacket, is as follows: the premiere was given by the New Play Society in 1950; it had a successful stage revival in 1960 in Regina; it has been broadcast by the CBC; in 1961 a two-part CBC television adaptation was made which will be seen throughout the United States and England. This epic work - in two parts and thirty scenes - is stated to be more than an historical play, for it is a meticulously researched character study of that enigmatic man, Louis Riel. The book's very pleasing and useful design, with inset stage directions, is the work of Carl Dair.

H. B.
September 1962

Monthly Dinner - September 29, 1962

A record crowd of over a hundred greeted the guest speaker, Dr. Claude Bissell when he addressed the Club on his recent visit to China. He was introduced by Reg Heal in his inimitable way - causing considerable merriment when, in listing some of the speaker's accomplishments, he said dramatically, "He is a great lover ...." pause (we never got what followed).

Dr. Bissell read extracts from his diary which was filled with colour and charm. He was invited to visit China following the successful visit of the Peking Opera to Toronto last winter. Indeed he met many of the actors, actresses and administrators again on this trip. He attended many formal dinners with their inevitable toasts. Canton he found dreary, completely lacking in vivacity. - Peking was much more alive but underneath everything was a sort of iron curtain reserve. Shanghai, once the Paris of the East, is but a shadow of its former self. The guest hotel which once was filled with gaiety is now partitioned - lounges deserted and everywhere an emptiness. He noticed the little children with their bright clothes and smiling faces and acknowledged that he could not help admiring their melting charm.

He attended a state dinner in Peking, saw the May Day parades in the great square - a masterpiece of organization. Before the journey back his hosts tendered him and his fellow Canadian friend a farewell dinner. A speaker referred in verse to the visit. Dr. Bissell immediately composed a verse in reply thanking his hosts for their kindness which

"Have made these days a harbinger of heaven".

Later we were treated to hearing the entire verses set to music by Keith Bissell and magnificently sung by tenor Ernest Atkinson.

The speaker then showed a few colour slides of his trip which served to emphasize remarks he had made earlier. Reg Heal on behalf of the audience - augmented by some who couldn't make the dinner - thanked Club Member Claude for his wonderful presentation.

Z. S. Phimister, Director, Toronto Board of Education, returned to Toronto just in time to get the schools opened this fall after a 9-week trip to Australia as the guest of the Australian Commonwealth Education Office. "Zack" ventured to tell the Canadian people that it's a pity we don't have a Federal Education Department. Alas that BNA again rears its ugly head!
Eric Heathcote has kindly consented to act as liaison for the Monthly Letter with the Artists (Painters, that is). The following communications have reached us. We hasten to thank the writers.

Harold James

On a sketching trip visiting Cape Cod, Maine and New Brunswick, etc. - travelling along as excess baggage with two women and a boy - stopped off at regular intervals to splash some colour on the sketch boards - first two hour stay the sand dunes of Cape Cod together with coloured parasol and equipment. Just nicely situated, perspiration dripping on the palette, when an officer of the Conservation Board drove up, asked permission to take a couple of colour shots of artist at work. Paid not too much attention at the time, but he asked me to sign a publication release for a brochure they were making as the government planned on making this a national park.

After going to Peggy's Cove and Lunenburg arrived home. The pay-off -- one month after arriving home received a very official document from the Department of the Interior U.S.A. - marked OFFICIAL BUSINESS - with my heart beating very rapidly and trying to think what crime I had committed - and I thought of some very drastic ones - opened the envelope to find a colour transparency of me sketching and many thanks from J.F.K. himself. What a relief.

Eric Heathcote

Together with my wife we took off for a five week holiday and sketching trip in August. I have always been fascinated by the N.S. coast. Particularly the South Shore between Halifax and Lunenburg.

Despite the days of rain and fog we did manage a few days of sunshine, during which time I managed about twelve sketches - good material for future paintings, which, I hope, will materialize in the not too distant future.

We covered about 3500 miles, via Canada both coming and going, and I am sure covered hundreds of miles of the Trans Canada Highway, still uncompleted in both Quebec and New Brunswick. A wonderful trip and well worth while!

Alan Collier

We returned to the Yukon this summer with our car and trailer, not only because we enjoy the country and its people but because Dawson City was holding its Klondike Festival. Having had some experience with the last minute mad frenzy of a Club show, I was able to lend a hand in Dawson before their Opening.

There have been many unfortunate rumours about the Festival, some saying that it was not a success. They lost many thousands of dollars on the Broadway musical comedy, "Foxy" based on Ben Johnson's "Volpone", but in every other way the Festival was a smashing success. There is little doubt that it will carry on next year but will not be burdened by having such a theatrical production imposed on it.

After seventeen days in Dawson City, where I did considerable sketching,
Alan Collier cont'd

we went on to spend two weeks in Alaska before returning again to the Yukon. We worked our way down the Alaska Highway very slowly, stopping off in many areas in the Territory and in Northern B.C. while I painted and drew as actively as possible. We tapered off with another sketching period in Southern Alberta before heading for home.

In reviewing the current Exhibition, one is pleasantly surprised at the versatility expressed by both Pro, and non Pro members. Shown is a large collection of summer sketches in a variety of mediums, which together with a few portraits go to make up a very worthwhile Exhibition.

Without naming the individuals concerned I was much impressed with the aptitude of some of the non Pro exhibitors. They have a charm of their own. Completely uninhibited as to colour and in some cases composition, they show a worthy knowledge of colour and handling.

The Pros have as usual made an excellent contribution from large water-colours to the most delightful and excellent on-the-spot outdoor sketches. Altogether a most creditable and worthy effort on the part of our Painter-Members, both Pro and Non Pro.

The Picture Committee is to be congratulated on the present Exhibition. Exhibition members:

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E. H.

We are glad to report that Dr. Dave Pratt is making remarkable progress. He expects to be back at the Club soon.

Hunter Bishop's story is that some members asked him to subscribe to Playboy to round out the periodicals on the lounge table. Hunter failed to come across but subscribed to Eros instead. This has proved to be an unqualified success - already dog-eared, the two copies now on the table will hardly last out the year. We have news for you Hunter - there's a new publication coming on the market in the form of "Liaison - The bweekly Newsletter of Love" whose direct-mail opener easily eliminated us from the lists with the chilling query "Are you a member of the sexual elite?" According to Printers' Ink - Madison Avenue's own "Liaison" Pat Wells, Subscriber Service says: "Why not subscribe now? Haven't your most memorable liaisons been the result of an impetuous act?"

John M. Hodgins has left for England on a Canada Council grant to study English Choir Schools. He has had great success with the Bishop Strachan School in England, the Welsh Eisteddfod and this past summer in the West including the Seattle World's Fair. We wish him well and shall look forward to future reports.
G.E. Reaman of the University of Waterloo uncovered some interesting facts about Governor John Graves Simcoe (not Lord Simcoe) in the Globe the other day. Perhaps the little chapel in Devonshire, the burial place of Simcoe, will become a shrine for visitors to England.

Nicholas Hornyansky continues to make news wherever he goes. His preparations for the Glenhyrst Arts Council project at Brantford were the subject of an interesting article in the Saturday Globe and Mail of July 21st. "In recent years", the writer said, "he has found too little challenge in landscape ... and has veered off to translate into etching more philosophic concepts of order and form ... He feels strongly the existence of natural order; it is partly mystical, partly scientific approach to the universe."

A year ago we congratulated A. Gresley Elton on becoming a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. This spring we congratulated him on his election to the A and L Executive. Again we congratulate him on the splendid face lifting he has done to the Club premises. He has transformed our basement into a miniature Lincoln Centre (or should we say Center?). His colour schemes, panel doors, taps that turn but don't spring back - actors' dressing rooms that would flatter the most vivid and temperamental actor - all these minor details that add up to a major work deserve an accolade. He has truly gilded the Elm.

A visit to J. B. "Dick" Lucas' home in Markdale was an experience we'll never forget. The old English garden which he has contrived (out of practically nothing - bricks, the side of an old stable) resembles a mediaeval trysting spot and has to be seen. Dick's present preoccupation - and he has about half a dozen on the go all the time - is his preparation for a four month amble through the shores of the Mediterranean - no Cook's Tour will this be but a completely unrehearsed hopping by sailing boats to and from obscure harbours. By the way, Dick's summer preoccupation was his digging with huge caterpillar tractors of a vast pond in the midst of his Markdale farm - for future trout fishing.

Stan Cooper's Vacation

Left for the Bahamas, on the morning of July 29th, temperature 46°, and arrived at Nassau 3 p.m. (their time) temperature 95°, humidity? 99.9° !!!!

After two quick refreshers (doubles) left on Bahamas Airways for Andros Island and a small lodge (Small Hope Bay) about 20 minutes flight from Nassau. (Temperature still 95 and humidity ! ? !)

However, after about 3 or 4 days became acclimatized or just plain beat stupid. Didn't feel it too much. Started in fishing (my main reason for going) and managed to get a 35 lb Barracuda and a 75-80 lb shark the first day. Second day out I caught a 10 lb 1 oz Bonefish (which at that time was the largest entered in the Bahamas Tournament. If anyone doubts, I will be happy to show them my Bronze Medalion!) I also did a bit of skin-diving (snorkeling) and this is something I would really like to try on a more serious scale. The water there is incredibly clear (up to 40 and 50 feet) with great coral formations of most fascinating shapes and sizes. The fish, too, must be seen to be believed, of all sizes, shapes and colours. And in such abundance!

But the nights are, I think, the most fascinating of all the island features. Clear, crystal clear skies, with stars so bright and numerous that
completely (to me) new patterns were set up.

And the moonlight - bright enough to stroll around without a flash and yet soft and luminous. Each night of the full moon, the island was ringed by tall, cumulous clouds, lighted as it were from inside and casting their long silvery reflections across the waters. It became a ritual to walk the beach and cool off each midnight.

Unfortunately, Andros Island is not particularly good for painting, rather flat and bearing dwarf pitch-pine and scrub, so I neither painted nor took a great many pictures.

However, as a spot to just laze and swim and fish it filled completely my particular needs. In the winter-time I should imagine it to be ideal.

Brief notes about members, gleaned around the table.

Frank Prendergast spent some time in Greece this summer. W.A. Craick did a Durham County tour to visit Club members Tobin and Ouchterloney among others. Bill Howard's marriage this summer was celebrated by a choral procession led by Ian Cameron bearing on high a cake complete with candles. Willson Woodside back from Africa with pungent observations. C.S. Band's pictures are going on display at The Art Gallery of Toronto next February. Mayor Moore still up to his ears in Drama, as actor, director and now as administrator. R.York Wilson still in love with Paris, last heard of holidaying in Turkey. John Wevers back from his archaeological studies in Jerusalem - we hope to get some details about his "dig" this summer for a later letter.

A marriage of interest to Club members took place in England recently. Jennifer Grey, daughter of Earle Grey became the bride of John Van Vleit Snell, son of Dr. P. Van Vleit Snell.

A grandson of C. W. Jeffreys, Bob Stacey, aged 13 years, took up his pen to write to the Telegram to complain that Stefansson's death this summer didn't rate a headline. He complained that his grandfather in his lifetime never got the publicity he deserved. Ah well, Jeffreys' A Pictorial History of Canada will live longer than the passing fame of movie stars.

Our Seattle non-resident member Vernon McKenzie addressed a letter to the Editor in August:-

Please pardon me, for not from this distance - in miles and years - for not being able to identify you. The last editor I recall was W. A. Craick.

I read the "Letter" with keen interest though almost every issue saddens me. Within the past year, passing of Gordon West, Ruggles George and Henry Button, especially, puts a lump in my throat.

Henry Button, what memories! Of many occasions, I recall, after I gave a talk during luncheon period, in 1927, about my editorial "scouting" adventures in Europe, Henry piped up:
"Pretty soft! Vernon, do they pay you for that?" Henry, for 40 years, claimed that I once tried to throw him into the fireplace, after some outrageous crack.

May I ask: In the July letter there is reference to John de Neville Kennedy. Is this the "Jack" Kennedy who wrote a couple of whodunits; played good tennis despite loss of arm in WW I? I knew him as a lawyer; did not know he'd become a judge.

I assume Walter Bowles did Henry's obit. notice. If I don't hurry up, there will be no one left to do same for me.

Nostalgically.

P.S. I am emeritus these four years at University of Washington, but continue weekly broadcasting on Contemporary Affairs; and lecture at Seattle (Jesuit) University.

A few days ago we read of the death of Professor McKenzie's wife - our deep sympathy to Vernon.

OBITUARIES

An old member of the Club, Reginald William Capel, died in Toronto on September 14th. He had been in poor health for some time. He was Art Director of Rapid Grip and Batten for 15 years having worked in his younger days as a cartoonist for the old Toronto News.

We were saddened to learn of the death on Saturday, September 29th of P.M. Richards, for so long a faithful member of the Club. Of late years he was in poor health but he seldom failed to bring charm and wit to his luncheon companions. - Pat was with Saturday Night from 1927 until 1949. He had edited the Gold and Dross column for more than 20 years.

Following retirement from the magazine, he was with Walsh Advertising Co. Ltd. for several years, and was security analyst for J.R. Timmins and Co. until two years ago.

A native of England, Pat was working on a Florida newspaper when the First World War began. He joined the Canadian Army and served overseas during the war. On his return he worked with the Montreal Gazette until coming to Toronto.

Fred MacKelcan, born July 23rd 1882, was elected to membership in the Arts and Letters Club in 1911 and made an Honorary Life Member in 1958. He died on August 16th, 1962.

Fred was an extraordinary man, rather more than life-size, I always thought. He was a Renaissance man with a lively interest in all the arts and an unbounded capacity and enthusiasm for living. He read widely and had an incredible memory for all that had stirred his imagination and aroused his sympathies. He was warm hearted and generous to a fault; he loved good company and good food and had a passion for his island in the Georgian Bay. To this island he went each summer since he was a boy of ten, seventy years. This singleness of purpose, this sticking to a good thing, showed in
his professional life. He was a lawyer and, save for a few early years when he was an assistant City Solicitor, he was counsel for corporate trusts with the National Trust Company for almost fifty years.

Among so many interests his devotion to music went deepest and perhaps lasted longest. In 1956 Fred MacKelcan recalled in the T.S.O. News a few of what he considered highlights of his connection with the musical life in Toronto.

A few years after Dr. A. S. Vogt founded the Mendelssohn Choir, Fred joined the chorus and here began a friendship with the conductor which lasted until Dr. Vogt's death in 1926. Later, as a member of the Choir Committee, he was able to bring about that wonderful collaboration which existed in the 1920's between the Mendelssohn Choir and the Philadelphia Orchestra under Stokowski. This was not only an exciting experience for Toronto audiences but brought considerable renown to Canada when the Choir and the Philadelphia Orchestra visited the United States.

In 1923 Dr. Vogt asked Fred to accompany him to a performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion to be conducted by a young Toronto musician, Dr. Ernest MacMillan. Fred was so overwhelmed with this performance of J. S. Bach's mighty work which he, and a very large part of the audience, were hearing for the first time, that he determined that this presentation in Holy Week should be an annual event. I am sure that Sir Ernest MacMillan would agree that the fact that the St. Matthew Passion was performed annually during the next thirty-eight years was largely due to the support in the early years and always the drive and single minded enthusiasm of Fred MacKelcan.

In 1961 Fred MacKelcan was presented with an "Award of Merit" medal by the City of Toronto. The citation reads:-

"Mr. MacKelcan is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Massey Hall; a member of the Council of the Toronto Art Gallery. For many years he was connected in various capacities with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, the annual Bach St. Matthew Passion presentations, the Royal Conservatory of Music and the Music Committee of Hart House."

I.P.C.

Paul Hahn, a member of a distinguished Toronto family of artists and an authority on extinct and vanishing birds, died on July 20th, at his summer cottage at Balsam Lake.

Mr. Hahn, the musical member, was a brother of Emanuel Otto Hahn, artist, sculptor and designer of coins and stamps, who died in 1957, and of Gustav Hahn, 96, one of the oldest members of the Ontario Society of Artists.

A former cello soloist, he performed professionally in Toronto for many years and also made a career in the piano business.

Mr. Hahn had spent many summers in Northern Ontario as a member of the Toronto Federation of Naturalists. He made a special study of birds. After donating specimens of 60 passenger pigeons, extinct since 1914, to the Royal Ontario Museum, as well as a very fine collection of stamps, he became active in the museum's work.

He had been giving lectures for the museum on extinct and vanishing birds for the past five years.
THE LIBRARY

Stage Design Throughout The World Since 1935 is lavishly illustrated, extremely informative, and represents the enthusiastic and untiring work of a great many people. The idea of this remarkable book was conceived at the 4th Congress of the International Theatre Institute, held in Oslo in 1951. After voluminous correspondence over a period of years, the contents of the book were selected from about 2,000 designs submitted from 23 countries. The book covers plays, operas, musical comedies, and ballets, and the illustrations are indexed separately under authors, composers, and choreographers.

One of the items in the New Canadian Library series, published by McLelland & Stewart, is entitled The Masks Of Fiction; the sub-title, Canadian Critics On Canadian Prose, indicates the nature of the contents. Malcolm Ross is General Editor for the series, and A.J.M. Smith edited this book. There are twelve critical or explanatory essays in the compilation. The Canada Council Annual Report 1961-62 has been received. The Report is by no means made up solely of a dry account of grants and balance sheets; the first 21 pages in particular should be read by anyone interested in an informal review of the arts in Canada.

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A donor who wishes to remain anonymous has kindly sent to the Club copies of three of the published works of "Member No. 1", Gus Bridle. These are: Sons Of Canada (described as short studies of characteristic Canadians), Hansen (a novel), and The Masques Of Ottawa (a collection of critical studies of 24 prominent public men). The first two of these books contain the signature of the author, while the third book was written under the nom de plume Domino.

Nicholas Hornyansky has given to the library a copy of the Newdigate Prize Poem for 1951. The title of this work is The Queen Of Sheba, and the author is Nicky's son Michael.

THE NEW GREEN LOOK

The New Look in the library is the Green Room Look, for, in addition to the archives book, the reading room now contains framed items and memorabilia from the Club's not undistinguished past. Of particular interest are the old photographs and caricatures of some of the early members who contributed so much to the establishment of this distinction. The Executive Committee approved the Librarian's suggestion that the Reading Room be used for the display of items from the storage cupboard. This suggestion arose in part from visits made to our sister organizations - the Savage, Salmagundi, and Arts Clubs - and from Mrs. Russell Murray's gift of an important group photograph of distinguished artists. The undertaking is being done on a trial basis; its continuation is contingent upon expressed interest and donations of suitable material. We appeal to all those who have photographs of charter members, or of members who have served the Club well, to pass them to the librarian.

H. B.
Following the fine exhibit of members' sketches which graced the walls during the month of October, it was only fair that camera enthusiasts be given a chance to show their work. John Fleetwood-Morrow in his usual sauvy manner showed slides of members' work, calling on the perpetrators thereof to explain. John added here and there a few well chosen words of encouragement and suggestions but the group shown needed very few words. At the risk of leaving names out we hasten to add that among those pictures shown there were the works of Harry Ross, Norman Alexander, Jay Manning, Harry Ward, Alan Collier, Stan Cooper, Walter Coucill, Bill Duthie, Roy Austin and the maestro himself.

The second offering of the evening was a showing of the humour of Tony Hancock - we noticed the BBC label. It was all very jolly. Hancock's type of humour in The Blood Donor brings him out best. -- Many stayed for a second helping. We were indebted to Keith A. Morrow for this part of the show.

E. and O.E.

Our apologies to Arthur Ament for not including his name in the list of contributors to the showing of summer sketches last month.

LADIES NIGHT - October 24th

A most interesting evening designed for the enjoyment of members and their ladies - arranged by the Entertainment Committee - attracted a large crowd on Wednesday, Oct. 24th. The Chairman of Entertainment introduced none other than his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Heal, who spoke of her late summer visit to arctic regions - Cape Dorset in particular. Mrs. Heal emphasized the work being done by Government officials to foster native handicrafts and to channel work into cooperatives. She also described the health programme being undertaken. By means of coloured slides we saw the arrival of the party, which included photogenic Thor Hansen, by train at Moosonee. The transfer to the amphibious Canso must have been quite an operation. Flying at an elevation of 350 feet provided the tourists with a real bird's eye view of the northern countryside consisting mostly of lakes and rocky land. We saw greeting Eskimos clothed in vivid parkas waving to the newcomers - we saw pictures of dedicated officials who labour in the silences
of the far north and Eskimos taking pictures of the "Tourists" as curiosities!

Mrs. Heal did mention problems of living in isolated settlements, but it was evident that there are many compensations for isolation, chief of which must surely be the good natured and jolly temperment of the Eskimo people.

Ian Cameron in thanking Mrs. Heal for her talk noted that it was probably the first time that a member's wife had addressed the Club - indeed, for the wife of the Entertainment Committee Chairman to address the Club was deemed to be a record breaking achievement.

Tea, coffee, sandwiches, cakes and conversation terminated a splendid evening.

* * * *

Jack Prior who is President Ring 17 - International Brotherhood of Magicians - passed along a programme of the 27th Annual New York State and Canada Conclave of Magicians held in Toronto, October 11th - 13th. Of interest to our members was the dedication of the Convention to Sid Johnson (Lorraine) who was presented with a silver cigarette case with the following words: "... whose wisdom and ability, friendliness and generosity over the years has enriched the history, the art and enjoyment of magic and magicians, all over the world."

Because the Club has received on many occasions examples of Sid's generosity, we are glad to note that his confrères also appreciate his sterling qualities.

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IS IT OR ISN'T IT? Among all the talk about Art forgeries now going the rounds, Pearl McCarthy had this to say in the Globe & Mail the other day -

"Fortunately, criminals are hardly ever humorous. The people who laugh are ethical men like the late and loved Fred Challener who died rather poorly off after turning down a fortune to paint just a few fake Corots."

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EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM PAUL BRIDLE, AT PRESENT WITH THE CANADIAN DELEGATION, LAOS. TO HARRY MILLS. BRIDLE IS THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY AND HE WILL RETURN TO ANKARA NEXT SUMMER.

"Our job, essentially, is to create the conditions in which the nations can more fully resolve their internal differences and get their normal life onto a more normal basis. So far we have been concerned mainly with the withdrawal of foreign forces, mostly the North Vietnamese on the one hand, and the Americans on the other. The Americans have withdrawn inconspicuously and under supervision. The Vietnamese have withdrawn inconspicuously and without supervision, but we believe quite a few remain."

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A nice verse from John Fleetwood-Morrow softened our Treasurer apparently, but it mustn't be taken as a precedent we are told.

- 2 -
NOW HERE'S A FIX I FIND I'M IN.
IT SEEMS THAT I AM FULL OF SIN.
THIS MORNING CAME THE AWFUL NEWS
"YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR ANNUAL DUES."
MY HUMBLE WORLD HAS BEEN UPENDED
FOR I AM AUTOMATICALLY SUSPENDED.
AND LET IT HERE BE PLAINLY SAID
THAT MORROW'S FACE WAS NE'er SO RED.
IF, IN THE SKY THERE'S AN ORANGE GLOW,
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.
FOR THIS IS NO GLOW FROM A MAN-MADE BOMB,
BUT THE FLAMING FACE OF "HONEST JOHN".

With humble apologies -
John F-M.

IAPP'S LITERARY LAPSES

I'm sure it was a matter of great pride to all of us that the three operatic conductors this opera season were members of the Club. It was with even greater pride that we listened to the music performances sounding so expertly beautiful under their direction. Barbini conducted Madame Butterfly and Rigoletto; Mazzoleni conducted Hansel and Gretel. Mr. Susskind led his party over all that risky, rocky scenery in Die Walkure and nobody even stumbled. Under the overall direction of Herman Geiger-Torrel, the season this year was quite something to be excited about. For pure unqualified enjoyment and pleasure the whole four operas were unbeatable.

I enjoyed the Bedsheet Ballet emanating from the Santa Claus Parade float in Hansel and Gretel. I loved the one set idea for the same show. Some unkind and disgruntled patron behind me said it looked as if it had been executed by the pupils of Mrs. Brown's Nursery school, so I just turned around and told them I was Mr. Brown which shut them up in a hurry. I admit it did look a bit like a setup for a crucifixion with possibly Herr Humperdinck in the title role, but it grew less gruesome as Mazzoleni kept getting such lovely sounds from the orchestra.

I'll never get used to the "orchestra in the hole" idea. I'm sure Verdi and Puccini never would have gone for it, especially when the action on the stage became a little impossible. We all had to laugh a little when Mazzoleni had the orchestra stand for a well-deserved bow and all you could see was four bald heads and smiling faces over the railing. Why we can't see the orchestra during the preludes and entr'actes at least is beyond me, especially when a conductor looks so odd conducting nobody (in sight at least).

Die Walküre was very thrilling. Mr. Susskind knew what Wagner was after and most successfully passed it on to us. The sound that came from the orchestra was big and beautiful. All except the last 43 bars. Mr. Susskind rushed the Fire Music, but I forgave him when I found out he had a pressing engagement after the show.

I thought the Walküre were wonderful. I guess they'd had some "herd ridin'" the week before, and were a little saddle sore, so what do you think they did? "Les Girls" left their horses at home, threw on a few yards of green chiffon, grabbed up their swords and spears and chased each other all over the stage during the "Ride Music". They had more fun than an overpaid bevy of belles in a Jarvis bordello.
However, nobody got prodded in the wrong places, the audience didn't know the difference and a very difficult technical problem was handled very well. Gosh, how those gals could run! They wowed Wodan, and I'm sure, they would have wowed Wagner as well.

My powers of description, being as inadequate as they are, do not permit me to do full justice to these performances. However in spite of the aforesaid nonsense I had a wonderful time at the operas and enjoyed everything, especially the singers and the orchestra.

Nicholas Goldschmitt, having put Vancouver on the map musically, is back in town "out of a job", as he says. "Quote!" With his ability and talent, I'd like to make a bet as to how long.

John Adaskin was in Europe in connection with his new (old now) job, this summer. John is turning in a wonderful performance as was to be expected, and many Canadian composers have profited greatly thereby.

Healey Willan is busy putting a few new furbelows on his "Deirdre" for performance on stage shortly. This will also be a new feather in John Coulter's cap which is getting quite thick with feathers these days.

I heard David "O" on the air last week telling me how to appreciate music. He has a wonderful Hi-Fi-side manner and should win a lot of converts. Under his able guidance, I believe that even I will shortly be able to tell God Save The Queen from Old MacDonald Had a Farm.

Any day now we may expect to hear Fred Shaw rendering that old masterpiece, Dedication of the House (committee of course) overture.

I have more to tell you but I'm getting tired and John Galilee is screaming for copy. See you (if all goes well) next month. H. L.

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Reginald Stewart who is head of the piano department of the Music Academy of the West, is giving a twelve-week series of historical recitals covering the literature from pre-Bach times to the modern day. The series was undertaken at the request of citizens who were enthusiastic about Mr. Stewart's master classes during the summer.

Stewart is also appearing as soloist in San Francisco, Sacramento, and in many other cities of the west and mid-west. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart now live in Santa Barbara, California where they have a beautiful house overlooking the Pacific and where they are enjoying themselves immensely.

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The City Hall, Toronto, one bright October day saw three more Club members decorated by His Worship the Mayor of all the People with the City's Award of Merit - they were F. H. Varley, John Tuzo Wilson and Dr. Claude Bissell. Congratulations!

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We were glad to see George Patton sipping a mulled ale the other day fresh home from the Old Country. He has been transferred from the Ontario Government London Office to Toronto for a few months.
We were all saddened to hear that Napier Moore lost his wife recently. However, we learn from George Patton that Napier will be returning to Canada some time next year. We shall all be delighted to have him in our midst again. Who knows but he will revive one of those Variety nights that he put together some years ago. Our deepest sympathy goes out to him at this time.

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OBITUARY

George Douglas Pepper, a member of the Royal Canadian Academy, vice principal Ontario College of Art, died suddenly at the Toronto General Hospital on September 30th.

"An official Canadian war artist with the rank of captain during the Second World War, he served in Britain, and France. On one occasion he was missing 10 days behind the German lines.

His painting trips took him to the West Coast Indian territory and to Quebec where he did a number of illustrations for books written by Dr. Marius Barbeau of the National Museum. He also journeyed to the Laurentians and Newfoundland.

In 1955-56 he spent a year in Spain and Morocco and returned with many paintings and drawings. For a number of summers he taught at the Banff School of Fine Arts.

In 1960, he and his wife were authorized by the Canadian Government to visit the Eskimos and prepare a report on Eskimo art. They travelled by the government steamer C. D. Howe to the Arctic Archipelago as far north as Elesmere Island and within 700 miles of the North Pole. The following year Mr. Pepper spent seven weeks in Puvungnuit with the Eskimos and three summers with them on the Labrador coast."

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THE LIBRARY

A copy of Facilities For Study In The Arts In Canada is now in the Canadiana section of the library. The prime purpose of this outline is to inform prospective students or observers from abroad of the scope and concentration of schools and institutions giving instruction in the arts in Canada. Another item obtained for the Canadiana shelf is entitled Eskimo Graphic Art 1961. This is a catalogue of stone cuts and seal skin prints from the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative in Cape Dorset. The library has received a copy of a booklet entitled Royal Architectural Institute of Canada - College Of Fellows. This history of the College will be found on the members shelf, as it was prepared by Thomas Howarth. The first convocation of the College was held at the Arts & Letters Club on February 21st, 1941.

The first two books from the series known as the Life World Library have been obtained; one is entitled Japan, the other Russia. These are uniform volumes of approximately 170 pages, divided into 10 chapters dealing with such topics as history, politics, economy, arts and letters, etc. The end-papers present political or relief maps; there are a great many pictures, a number of which are in colour.

In spite of recent consternation of the National Gallery about some of the pictures
Currently on exhibition, it may be said that at least the catalogue for the show is a very impressive one. The exhibition is made up of the paintings from the collection of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., and the catalogue is entitled *1850 - The Controversial Century - 1950*. There are 150 pages of illustrations, and 43 pages of double-column, small-print references about the paintings; these references cover such information as where and when the paintings were exhibited, reproduced, and recorded.

European Paintings In Canadian Collections is a catalogue from a show that was at the National Gallery from February 9 to March 3. Although sub-titled *Corot To Picasso*, in fact the exhibition comprised works by European painters born between 1800 and 1900.

H. B.