

There are also Schools of Art, both English and French, not requiring any fixed academic standing for admission, which concern themselves more exclusively with the technical development of the artist. The most widely known of these are:—

Nova Scotia College of Art, Halifax, N.S.

Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec, Que.

Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal, Que.

Ontario College of Art, Toronto, Ont.

Winnipeg School of Art, Winnipeg, Man.

School of Decorative and Applied Art, Vancouver, B.C.

Courses in these schools vary in length with the requirements of the individual student, but may extend over as many as four years.

The Role of the National Gallery of Canada.*—The opening words of the 1945 National Gallery Report are an indication of the importance attached by the National Gallery to its educational work. These read: "...The art gallery of to-day is no mere repository of dead civilizations. It functions not for the sake of a small minority but for the whole people. It must be a vital organization, aware of its time, seizing upon every opportunity to participate in public education".

The work of the National Gallery has many facets. Gradually having widened the scope of its activities, the Gallery to-day plays a vital role in the complex system of adult education and at the same time acts as a valuable adjunct to primary, secondary and even to college systems of instruction.

Founded in 1880 by the Marquis of Lorne, the National Gallery at first served as an exhibition gallery. Provided with an Advisory Arts Council in 1907 and incorporated under a Board of Trustees in 1913, the Gallery has been assembling its permanent collection largely during the past 40 years. Though this was only the beginning, a collection of pictures and sculpture representing the styles of past and present of various parts of the world was recognized as invaluable in terms both of the public's enjoyment and of study for the improvement of arts and industrial products. More than that, however, it was a necessary basis for any program of education. The collection of the National Gallery to-day is of international fame. It is, moreover, accessible to the whole nation by means of the published catalogue, and the sale of photographs and colour reproductions. The Canadian section, naturally the most inclusive, is the best available source for the study of Canadian art.

Meanwhile the newer function of general education has grown up. The National Gallery has pioneered in the assembling and circulation of exhibitions over a very large territory. To-day travelling exhibitions of the arts of Canada and other countries are shipped throughout Canada under the auspices of the National Gallery. Fifteen such exhibitions, including those of the several chartered art societies, are now being circulated. Art galleries, schools and other responsible organizations in various regions draw annually upon the services of the Gallery as the source of most of their offerings to the public. Recent developments have led to the fitting of new community centres into this scheme, and these in turn send exhibits (their own and those from the National Gallery) to smaller communities in their districts. An instance is at London, Ont., where the regional circuit includes Kitchener, St. Thomas, Ingersoll, Chatham and other centres. Loans of pictures from the National Gallery to small or new museums have had much the same beneficial effect as the travelling exhibitions. In these ways actual works of art are constantly being brought to the

* Prepared under the direction of H. O. McCurry, Director, National Gallery of Canada.