

establishment of "a government body to promote a national cultural program and provide music, drama, art, and film services for all our people" Other proposals have in view the improvement of industrial design, and housing and town planning.

To list the names of the sixteen bodies constituting the Council is to give some indication of the range of professional organization in the field of the Arts in Canada:—

The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts
 The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
 The Sculptors' Society of Canada
 The Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour
 The Canadian Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers
 The Canadian Group of Painters
 The Canadian Society of Graphic Arts
 The Federation of Canadian Artists
 The Canadian Authors' Association
 La Société des Écrivains Canadiens
 The Music Committee
 The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects and Townplanners
 The Dominion Drama Festival
 The Canadian Handicrafts Guild
 The Canadian Guild of Potters
 The Arts and Letters Club.

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 repute. It is, moreover, accessible to the whole nation by means of a published catalogue, photographs and colour reproductions. The Canadian section, naturally the most inclusive, is the best available source for the study of Canadian art.

In 1946, the Massey Collection of English Painting was presented by the Right Hon. Vincent Massey, C.H., and Mrs. Massey as trustees of the Massey Foundation. Comprising 75 pictures, the collection makes the National Gallery a leading centre for the study of modern British art, and is the largest gift in the history of the Gallery.

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