

Other Art Organizations.—The leading art organizations of national scope, exclusive of museums and art galleries, include the following:—

Association of Canadian Industrial Designers
 Canadian Arts Council*
 Canadian Group of Painters
 Canadian Guild of Potters
 Canadian Handicrafts Guild
 Canadian Museums Association†
 Canadian Society of Graphic Arts
 Canadian Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers
 Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour
 Canadian Society of Landscape Architects and Townplanners
 Community Planning Association of Canada
 Federation of Canadian Artists
 Royal Canadian Academy of Arts
 Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
 Sculptors Society of Canada.

Section 2.—The Educational and Cultural Functions of the National Film Board‡

The National Film Board, an agency of the Federal Government, was established by Act of Parliament in 1939 and reconstituted by the National Film Act in 1950. In the years since its beginning the Board has grown from a supervisory body over Canadian Government motion picture activities to a national documentary film producing and distributing organization whose films about Canada are seen wherever people may freely assemble. The Board also produces and distributes filmstrips and still photos on Canadian themes in accordance with its primary function outlined in the Act, "to initiate and promote the production and distribution of films in the national interest."

Films and filmstrips are being more widely employed as adjuncts to formal teaching in schools and universities. In the fiscal year 1954-55 there were 86,077 showings in schools of films made or distributed by the National Film Board.

Films produced by the Board are also shown in commercial theatres and on television in Canada and abroad. Items particularly designed for theatre use include the *Canada Carries On* and *Eye Witness* series in English (*En avant Canada* and *Vigie* in French) as well as newsreel features. Distribution of these usually is arranged through the major film distributing organizations, whose facilities are worldwide.

The non-theatre program in Canada is based on a nationwide system of film circuits, film councils and libraries and is deeply rooted in community activities. In the year ended Mar. 31, 1955 no less than 462 film councils—voluntary groups promoting wider use of documentary films—were in existence and 420 film libraries and depots, assisted in the circulation of thousands of prints.

Canada's story on film is also being told abroad. In addition to commercial distribution through theatres and television, non-commercial circulation is carried on through posts of the Departments of External Affairs and Trade and Commerce, through National Film Board offices in London, New York and Chicago, and through libraries operated by various educational agencies. Hundreds of prints of National Film Board films are also sold in other countries each year. Exchange agreements are in effect between the Board and government film-producing organizations in other lands; this means that films of various nations are freely exchanged with Canada, aiding better international understanding.

The National Film Board maintains a library of more than 100,000 still pictures, which are available to magazines, newspapers and other periodicals to present current information about Canada.

* An account of the Canadian Arts Council and a list of its constituent bodies appears in the 1951 Year Book, p. 308.

† Formed in 1947 with the object of improving the services of museums as educational institutions by promoting co-operation among themselves, by exchange with other countries and by the training and securing of expert staffs.

‡ Prepared, under the direction of the Government Film Commissioner, in the Information and Promotion Division, National Film Board, Ottawa.