

# Arts and Ideas

## Bateman addresses students

Robert Bateman, the great Canadian artist, scientist and environmentalist, addressed about 400 students and non-students in the auditorium of the E.C. Drury High School in Milton last Wednesday, January 30. The Grade 4 to Grade 3 students came from all schools within the Halton Board of Education. For some deaf students present, Robert Bateman's words got translated into sign language.

Robert Bateman lived in Halton until a few years ago, when he moved to B.C. From 1958 to 1976 he taught at Nelson and Lord Elgin High Schools in Burlington. For 11 years he was a member of the Niagara Escarpment Commission. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, the highest civilian award that the Canadian nation honours its most outstanding citizens with.

Robert Bateman donates great amounts of his time, and his income as a world-renowned painter, to environmental causes, and this more than 2-hour talk and slide presentation in Burlington was very much an impassioned battle cry to engage his young listeners in the huge fight to preserve the rich and varied life of this planet for us and our descendants.

I could not possibly pass on to you everything Robert Bateman said during his riveting lecture, but I wrote down some of his remarks and I will now quote a selection of them:

"It took about 1 million years, from the beginning of mankind to 1930, to make the human population of the world grow to 2 billion people. It took only another 45 years, from 1930 to 1975, to make the human population of the world grow to 4 billion. Every species that is that fertile,



Ideas and The Arts by John Sommer

becomes a threat to itself and to the health of the planet. Therefore, population control has to become our prime goal."

"We have to put values before technology. Waste and exploitation of natural resources has to be opposed. Preservation and wise management of natural resources has to be encouraged."

"Steady growth is the creed of the cancer cell. We can not go on living beyond our resources, as we do today. Canada, for instance, is using more energy per capita, than any other country in the world."

"An advanced technology and small, energy efficient enterprises, go well together. Small is beautiful, as it enables us to live within nature without doing damage to it. All mega projects are bad and should be opposed."

"North Americans have adopted the mentality of gamblers. Everything is for sale and nothing is respected. No wonder that the most popular show on TV is 'The Wheel of Fortune.'"

"What are our priorities? We spend 8 billion dollars a year in video arcades in North America. The prison population on this con-

tinental has doubled between 1980 and 1990. We abuse the environment and, increasingly, children. We have lost respect for our history and our traditions. Or do you feel that respect is expressed by the way the City of Toronto has spread over farmland and nature reserves, without regard to anything but short term profit?"

"Our modern world is like the mighty ship 'Titanic'. The builders of the ship thought it unsinkable. In their pride they raced the ship across the Atlantic without proper caution. The ship collided with an iceberg. Within hours the 'Titanic' sank with a great loss of life."

"Promise me to do a good environmental deed every day, because man did not weave the web of life, man is only one small thread in the web of life."

A charming exhibition of mostly small pictures by members of the Palette and Pencil Club opened at the Gallery of the Halton Hills Cultural Centre in Georgetown. In almost all exhibitions I go to, I find some artworks that give me pleasure. Here are my choices from this exhibition, if you care to know:

Camille Egan's monoprints, a watercolour titled "Seashell-Seashore" by Shirley Brambley, Bev Didur's monoprints, a watercolour of flowers by Una O'Callaghan, a portrait of a strange, little girl called "Olga" by Frank Anthony, a watercolour of stuffed bears staring out a window by Mary Willis, Marion Jonassen's acrylic "Green Frog," and last, but not least, "Blue on Blue," a mixed media painting by Ruth Gibson. The exhibition will continue to February 24th.

## Open Mint design competition

"If you have ever dreamed of having your image of Canada or any of its provinces and territories immortalized on a Canadian coin, you will soon get your opportunity!" With these opening words, the Honourable Paul Dick, Minister of Supply and Services and Minister responsible for the Royal Canadian Mint today announced that the Mint will organize and conduct an open design competition to solicit designs for a special coin program to mark the 125th anniversary of Canadian Confederation in 1992.

Once a month during 1992 the Government will issue a different 25 cent coin, each bearing a unique design to represent one of the 12 provinces and territories. Each coin will be launched at a special event organized in the capital city of the province or territory concerned. In July, however, there will be two coins issued, the second being a special one dollar coin to commemorate Canada as a nation and which will be launched during Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill. The circulation 25 cent and one dollar coins have been chosen for this program in order that the maximum number of Canadians have access to a unique souvenir of this anniversary.

During his remarks Mr. Dick spoke of the appropriateness of a coin program on this occasion. "Throughout history coins have commemorated important events in the history of nations. Many of us can recall the tremendous public enthusiasm toward the centennial coins in 1967 and the special 25 cent piece for the RCMP in 1973. Today as we bear in mind the process now underway to redefine our confederation, the significance and appropriateness of a coin program are very obvious indeed."

The sequence or order in which the 12 twenty-five cent coins will be issued was determined at the end of the announcement by a draw. The Secretary of State, the Hon. Gerry Weiner, and two local

students aspiring to be artists, Miss Anne-Marie Byrnes of L'ecole Saint-Pie X in Gatineau and Mr. Marco Deyasi of St. Paul's High School in Nepean, joined Minister Dick in making the draw. In introducing the students, Mr. Dick emphasized the Canada 125's focus on Canada's youth. "I am delighted that Anne-Marie and Marco could join us here today as one of Canada's developing artists and graphic designers." The participants then drew the names of the provinces and territories.

All Canadians are eligible to submit designs for the coins - a maximum of three in the provincial/territorial category and no more than one for the Canada coin category. By contacting the Mint in Ottawa each competing designer will receive a complete package of information which will help in the preparation of their entry. In order to provide sufficient time to select the winning designs, engrave, produce and distribute the coins, designs should be received by the Mint no later than 15 March 1991.

To recommend the designs to be considered by the government for production, Minister Dick announced that a Coin Design Selection Committee is being formed and he provided the names of its members.

Drawn from all parts of

## Lifestyles show

"Lifestyles of Halton Hills: Rich in Resources ... Famous for Fun" is the upcoming community organization showcase rescheduled from last September to Saturday, April 6th, 1991. This fourth edition of the popular exposition will again be held in the Georgetown District High School.

This year's theme of "Healthy Lifestyle Alternatives" builds on an initiative from the Ontario Ministry of Health. Special events and demonstrations will focus on the subjects of adopting a low-fat diet, moderating alcohol

consumption, smoking cessation and increasing physical activity and community participation.

A family "Health Safari" game will be part of the day's activities and participants who successfully stalk the clues and collect the correct "game bag" will be eligible to win a variety of exciting and valuable prizes.

Organizations interested in this opportunity to present themselves to the community who do not receive a form should call Joy Thompson, 873-2600, ext. 263.

## GEORGETOWN CINEMAS

235 GUELPH STREET - 873-1999

CINEMA 1

LAST 2 DAYS

### Schwarzenegger is Kindergarten COP



As an undercover cop... he's in a class by himself.

IMAGINE UNIVERSAL PICTURES

ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT

Warning: Violence

Evenings at 7:00 p.m. Only  
Saturday & Sunday Matinees at 2:00 p.m.

ONE WEEK ONLY

The only thing they can count on is each other.

### Flight of the Intruder



PARENTAL GUIDANCE

MATURE THEME

Evenings at 9:15 p.m. Only

CINEMA 2

NOW PLAYING

### RUN RUN RUN IN RUN IN RUN RUN RUN IN RUN RUN RUN

ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT

Evenings at 7:00 & 9:15 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday Matinees at 2:00 p.m.

CINEMA 3

LAST 2 DAYS

In the wilderness the greatest adventure of all is survival.



PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Walt Disney PICTURES  
Jack London's

### WHITE FANG

Warning: Frightening Scenes

Evenings at 7:00 & 9:15 p.m.  
Matinees Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

— COMING THIS FRIDAY —

### SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY LIONHEART L.A. STORY

ADMISSION: General \$7.00  
Children & Seniors \$3.75  
Tues. & Password Thurs. \$3.75  
THIS WEEK'S PASSWORD: L.A. STORY