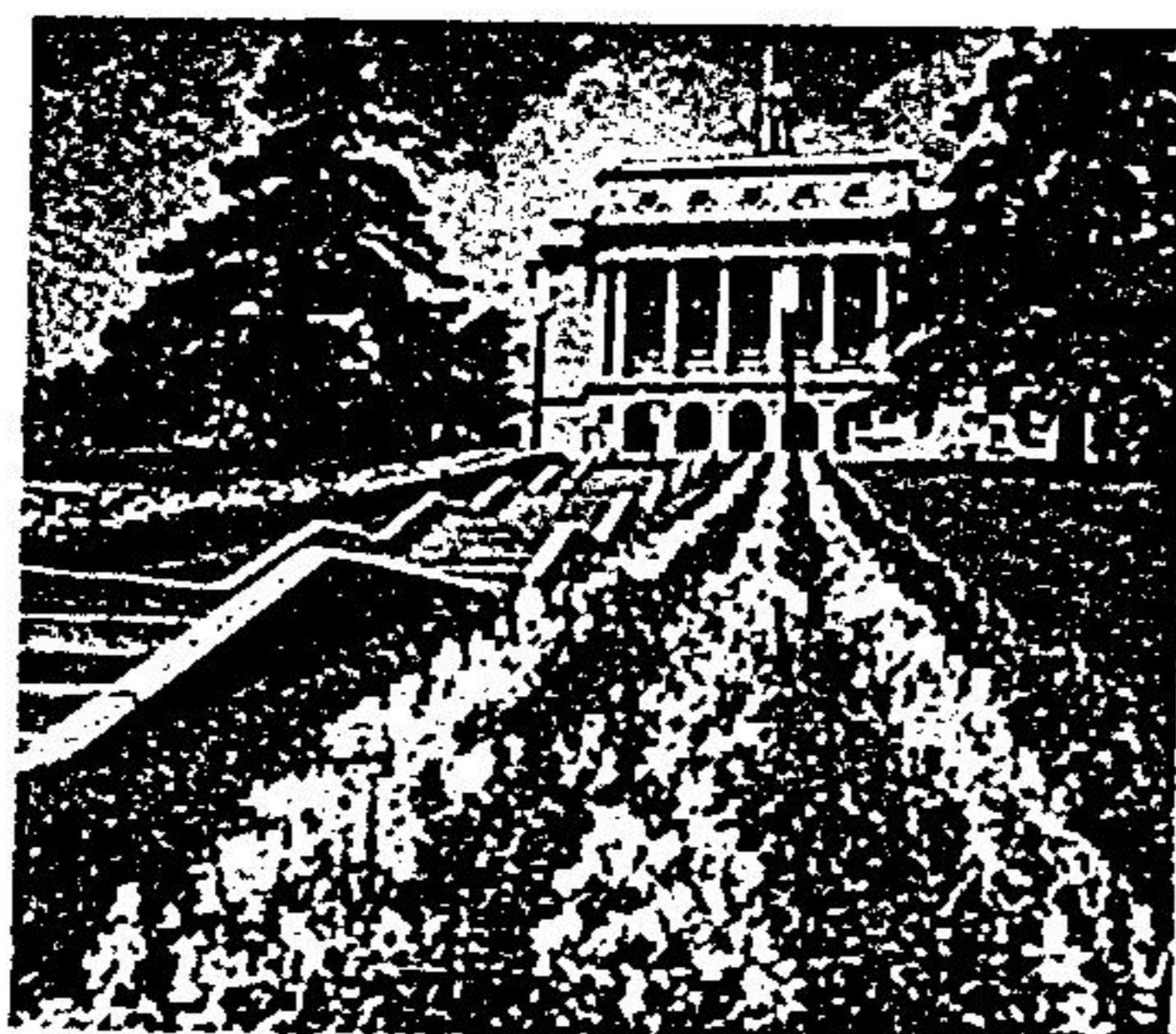


and prints subsidizes other services that the co-op provides such as garbage pick-up, water delivery and grocery sales.

But the art boom has benefitted the native people in more than just an economic sense. Art is an expression of a fascinating culture. Through colorful prints, soapstone carvings and embroidered wall-hangings, the Inuit record their mythology and legends. Through art, the



older generation passes on its memories of a traditional lifestyle to the young people growing up in a changing northland. The subject matter in Inuit art is usually based on the people's experience as hunters in a vast wilderness. Figures of animals — bears, seals, caribou — are popular as are images of people hunting, fishing, sewing and caring for children. Other pieces are more symbolic depicting visions of the



spirit world.

The soapstone used for carvings varies in density and color — from black, to green, to grey to reddish brown. Genuine pieces have the weight and feel of real stone and bear a Canadian Government trademark tag with the name of the artist and the village he or she comes from. Other favorite materials are ivory and weathered whalebone, some of it more than 100 years old. □



ALBERTA

1978 is bigger than ever



by Phil O'Reilly

Calgary and Edmonton are rivals, but every year they hold the biggest party in North America. It begins on July 7th with the world famous Calgary Stampede. This is followed on July 19th by Edmonton's Klondike Days. This year, it will be followed by that great international athletic contest, The Commonwealth Games which will run from August 3rd to 12th.

A little planning and you can take in all three.

The Stampede in Calgary has the greatest outdoor show on earth. It's the main event of the rodeo circuit with bronc-busting, calf-roping, bull-riding and the famous chuckwagon races, guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat. Exciting as these feature events are, they are only part of the picture. Festivities begin with a parade featuring floats, cowboys and Indians and marching bands. Then the cowboys take over every afternoon and do their thing at the grandstand and just as the sun is beginning to set, the thunder of four-horse teams and their outriders

means that the chuckwagon races have begun.

Let's move north now to the thriving city of Edmonton, provincial capital and host city for the 11th Commonwealth Games. But first there's Klondike Days when virtually the entire town steps back to the Gay Nineties. Store fronts are dressed up and people strut about in their finery.

The range of attractions is wide, everything from a night at the Citadel Theatre watching a genuine old-fashioned melodrama to the Sourdough Raft Race down the twisting North Saskatchewan River. There was a time when rafting down the swift river was serious business, but now it's just fun, with all manner of weird and colorful craft and crews wearing flamboyant garb floating, paddling, or rowing their way down the "Mighty Muddy."

If you have the stamina here's a sampling of other things to see and do: Every day top marching bands converge in the centre of town for a half-hour performance. Strange craft

piloted by assistants of questionable skill race down Jasper Avenue in a daily exercise known as the Fun Tub Derby. There's an open air Klondike breakfast where you mingle with the people and savor genuine western hospitality.

The Sunday Promenade has Albertans meeting downtown in their finery. Streets are blocked off creating one huge mall and a dozen stages alive with entertainment, everything from rock bands to barbershop quartets. Add a huge midway complete with all the rides and games youngsters thrive on, thoroughbred racing and a gambling casino.

Then, before you know it, it's time for the Commonwealth Games. The finest athletes from 48 nations will be competing in the Games in 10 sports including track and field, gymnastics, badminton, boxing, cycling, lawn bowling, shooting, swimming and diving, weightlifting and wrestling. This major competition attracts many of the best Olympic athletes. The construction of new facilities ahead of schedule