

Following year the mission became an embassy.

Co-operation between the two countries covers many areas. Cultural and commercial exchanges, especially the latter, are numerous and constantly growing in quantity and scope. Immigration has traditionally played an important role. In fact, there are today some 500,000 Canadians of Dutch origin, many of whom attach importance to maintaining links with the mother country.

In various international forums such as the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, an excellent spirit of co-operation has always existed between the Dutch and Canadian delegations. The Dutch are often seen as privileged interlocutors, and furthermore have been very receptive to Canada's desire for discussions and a contractual link with the European Communities.

In May 1975, Prime Minister Joop den Uyl visited Canada. The most recent visits of Dutch dignitaries occurred in May 1976 when Prime Minister Andreas A.M. van Agt (then Minister of Justice) was in Canada, and in July 1976 when Minister of Foreign Affairs van der Stoep came to Canada for the signing of the contractual link between Canada and the European Communities. Prime Minister Trudeau visited the Netherlands in March 1975 during his tour of western European capitals. In April 1971 Canadian Governor-General Roland Michener and Mrs. Michener went to the Netherlands with Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp. Queen Juliana has made a number of private visits to Canada in recent years, and in 1967 officially attended Expo '67, in Montreal.

Trade and economic relations

Total trade between Canada and the Netherlands was \$702 million in 1977, over twice as much as the \$349 million level reached in 1972.

Traditionally this trade has resulted in a Canadian surplus with the Netherlands for well over a decade. This surplus has increased from \$266 million in 1976 to \$323 million in 1977, reflecting an increase in Canadian exports to the Netherlands.

Exports

Canadian exports to the Netherlands reached \$510.8 million in 1977, an increase of almost \$65 million over the 1976 level. Canadian exports to the



Max Koot

Princess Margriet, Pieter van Vollenhoven and their four sons, Prince Maurits, Prince Bernhard, Prince Pieter-Christiaan and Prince Floris.

Netherlands consist mainly of agricultural products (wheat, rapeseed), industrial materials (iron ores, primary iron and steel, asbestos), forest products (wood-pulp, lumber, plywood) and chemicals. Transit shipments through the port of Rotterdam to other countries, mainly in Europe, account for part of this trade.

Exports of fully manufactured goods to the Netherlands in 1977 amounted to almost \$41 million and accounted for 7.9 per cent of total Canadian exports to that country. Leading items include: aircraft parts, office machines, chain saws, automobiles, telecommunication equipment, apparel and footwear.

Imports

Canadian imports from the Netherlands reached \$191 million in 1977, an increase

Canada/Netherlands trade (in millions of dollars)		
	Canadian exports	Canadian imports
1968	178.8	69.1
1969	185.0	78.7
1970	277.2	78.9
1971	234.0	76.4
1972	257.5	91.7
1973	281.6	118.1
1974	383.7	163.1
1975	471.5	158.3
1976	446.9	181.3
1977	511.8 (+14.5%)	190.5 (+5.0%)

of \$10 million over the figure in 1976. They consisted mainly of food and agricultural products (cocoa and chocolate preparations, cheese, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, trees and plants), chemicals (herbicides, alcohol and their derivatives) and end products (office machines, electrical equipment, parts and accessories for ships and boats).

Bilateral investment

Netherlands direct investments in Canada amounted to \$678 million at the end of 1975. The Netherlands had the third largest direct investments in Canada, after the U.S.A. and Britain. These investments are in food products, tobacco, mining and petroleum operations, construction materials, electrical and electronics, etc.

The value of Canadian direct investments in the Netherlands is by comparison relatively small - \$72 million (end of 1975). Major Canadian investors in the Netherlands are: MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., Massey-Ferguson Ltd., Polysar Ltd., Campeau Corporation Ltd., Captain Int'l Industries Ltd., Dustbane Enterprises Ltd.

Princess Margriet's first official public appearance was on June 14, 1955, when she laid the foundation stone of the new Canadian Embassy in The Hague. She was 12 years old.

Cultural relations

While there are no formal cultural agreements between Canada and the Netherlands, cultural relations have continued to thrive, a highlight being the visit this month of the National Ballet of Canada during the Holland Festival. Performances were planned in Utrecht, The Hague and Amsterdam. (The Dutch National Ballet has made two visits to Canada since 1975.) Princess Margriet and her husband were scheduled to attend the opening performance in The Hague.

Another important occasion is the visit to Canada in late June of a Dutch delegation for discussions with their Canadian counterparts on cultural matters of interest to the two countries.

Several Canadian exhibitions have been mounted during the past year or so, including the "Hard Edge" exhibition of Canadian paintings at several major Dutch centres, and the Bata Eskimo Art Exhibition, attended by Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard, which was held at the Ambassador's residence. Next year there will be an exhibit of West Coast Indian art and artifacts in Rotterdam and Zwolle.