

In the sphere of academic exchanges with France, the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of External Affairs, in co-operation with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, introduced in 1968 a teaching-assistant exchange program through which young Canadians studying French and French students of English might visit France and Canada respectively to assist French teachers in Canada and English teachers in France, at the same time improving their knowledge of the other language. In 1969 the Department sent two teaching assistants from Ontario to France for one year.

Pursuant to the Canada-France Agreement of 1956 on the admission of trainees, three vocational trainees from France came to apprentice in Canada.

#### International Organizations and Conferences Section

This Section ensures Canada's participation in UNESCO activities and in general conferences. On occasion, it also organizes Canadian delegations in liaison with the Science Secretariat of the Privy Council, the National Research Council, and scientific quarters, within the framework of scientific exchange programs.

In 1969 Canada's contribution to the UNESCO budget was \$990,969 (U.S.).

In accordance with the wishes of the fifteenth conference, UNESCO intends to devote increasing attention to the following problems: permanent education; practical literacy; the preservation of traditional, cultural and moral values in the technological age; the future role of youth; and the use of communications methods for the development of cultural exchanges.

The Government of Canada continued its participation in the work of the International Hydrological Decade and of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

Canada took part in the eighty-second and the eighty-third sessions of the Executive Board of UNESCO in Paris. Mr. Graham McInnes, Canadian Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, led the Canadian delegation to the former session held in April and May and Mr. R.G. Blackburn of the Department of External Affairs led the Canadian delegation to the latter session held in September and October.

Canada was represented at a meeting of non-governmental experts on the role of communications in society held in May in Montreal. Mr. Alphonse Ouimet, former President of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, chaired the meeting, and the Honorable Eric Kierans, Minister of Communications, delivered a keynote speech.

Canada participated in a meeting of governmental experts on international arrangements to promote the use of space communications, held in December in Paris. Mr. Kierans led the Canadian delegation. Canada also took part in a Satellite Communications Conference held in December in Paris. Mr. Kierans led the Canadian delegation and chaired the Conference.