

# *The Franco-Canadian Joint Commission*

## FOURTH SESSION, OTTAWA, 1970

THE cultural agreement between France and Canada signed in November 19<sup>65</sup> provided for a Franco-Canadian Joint Commission to meet alternately in Ottawa and Paris to examine questions concerning the implementation of the agreement and in particular to study a program of activities and to submit it for the approval of the two governments.

The Commission held its fourth session in Ottawa on June 29 and 30, 1970, to study progress in artistic, cultural, university, scientific and technical exchanges between the two countries. The session was presided over by Mr. P.-André Bissonnette, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, who also led the Canadian delegation. The French delegation was led by Mr. Paul Fouchet, Minister Plenipotentiary and Director-General of Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France.

The Commission noted that, on the whole, the cultural, scientific and technical relations between the two countries had developed in a satisfactory manner since the third session, and it decided to strive to strengthen these relations. At the conclusion of its work, the Commission issued the following statement on the results of the session:

"Various measures were arranged in connection with the current development of bilingualism in Canada, particularly increased assistance from France in the matter of language training.

"In the traditional area of artistic exchanges (plastic arts, theatre and music), the two parties put forward a variety of suggestions, among which were a projected Canadian tour of the Jean-Louis Barrault-Madeleine Renaud Troupe, a showing in France of the exhibition 'Borduas and the Automatist', and a tour by the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde.

"Flexible procedures have been designed for exchanges of individuals, especially those involving young people, and these should permit fulfilment of the increasing variety of demands in this field. The scholarship program was considered satisfactory and will be maintained.

"Finally, the Joint Commission noted with satisfaction the development of scientific exchanges, and has indicated that, wherever this seems appropriate, efforts will be made to direct them towards genuine cooperation in fields of common interest.

"The talks have led to concrete results and took place in a most friendly atmosphere."