The Department of External Affairs presented a gift of Canadian books to Zambia to mark the occasion of that country's independence. Moreover, the Department continued its program of presenting Canadian books to foreign institutions of national significance and donated in 1969 book collections to the National Library, Tunis; the Free University of the Congo, Kinshasa; the University of Papua and New Guinea; Makerere University, Nairobi; the University of Umea, Sweden; the Catholic University of Santa Maria, Brazil; the University of Geneva, and the University of Geneva.

The Department sponsored the visit to Canada of a number of foreign journalists to attend the grand opening of the National Arts Centre and part of the Stratford Festival.

Educational Liaison Section

This Section provides liaison between national and provincial organizations in educational matters arising from Canada's relations with other countries and its membership in international organizations, such as those of Canada's participation in the Commonwealth Foundation in London, the Commonwealth Education Liaison Committee (CELC) in London, the NATO Cultural Program (research fellowships and visiting professorships), and the ICETEX (Instituto Colombiano de Especializacion Técnica en el Exterior) Scholarship Program with Colombia. The Section also takes part in negotiations on educational exchanges and, since there is no federal department of education, directs to the proper authorities the frequent inquiries received at Canadian embassies about education in Canada. In carrying out its functions, the Section maintains the requisite liaison with the Council of Ministers of Education of the Provinces, the Canadian Education Association, and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

The Department of External Affairs, on behalf of the Government, awarded grants to the Commonwealth Foundation in London, the Canadian House in Paris, and the Association of Partially or Entirely French-Language Universities in Montreal. The Department also awarded a grant, for the fifth consecutive year, to the German-Canadian Society of Hanover-Cologne, which facilitates the visit of some 50 German university students to Canada during the summer; this program was developed in cooperation with the Department of Manpower and Immigration as a reciprocal gesture for the yearly visit to West Germany of some 400 Canadian students at the invitation of the Government of West Germany.

Within the framework of bilateral exchange programs, Canada makes available each year to certain European countries some scholarships administered by the Canada Council. In 1969, 127 students came to study in Canada from France, 14 from West Germany, 12 from Switzerland, 11 from Belgium, ten from Italy, and eight from the Netherlands.

The Department granted travel subsidies to a number of Canadians invited to visit Britain, France, Belgium and Switzerland to participate in meetings of international cultural interest.