The Department of External Affairs announced today that Canada will participate officially in the month of theatrical, artistic and other activities organized by the Belgian city of Liège under the title "Liège Receives the French Speaking Countries". Several countries in which French is a working language will participate in these activities which will take place between the 15th of September and the 19th of October.

During this period the main commercial streets of Liège will be named after one of the participating countries or provinces and will be devoted to presenting their economic and cultural life.

The 25th, 26th and 27th of September have been named "Canadian Days". The Minister of Communications, Mr. Gérard Pelletier, will represent the Canadian Covernment on "Canada Day" the 25th of September. September 26th will be devoted to Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba. "Quebec Day" is scheduled for September 27th.

Grants from the Department of External Affairs will permit various theatrical and dance groups and several individual artists to present differing aspects of Canada's cultural life.

The group "Les jeunes comédiens du Théâtre du Nouveau Monde" from Montreal will present "Quichotte", the adaptation of Cervantès' novel at the Cultural Centre "Les Chiroux" of Liège. A modern dance presentation will be given by "le Groupe de la Place royale" from Montreal.

Important activities are also being organized by the Quebec government.

The singers Edith Butler and Donat Lacroix from New Brunswick, Robert Paquette from Ontario and Suzanne Jeanson from Manitoba will appear before Liège audiences.

The Art Bank of the Canada Council will also present a preview of engravings and drawings which will subsequently be exhibited throughout Canada.

The Canadian participation will be capped by a special presentation of Information Canada designed to show all aspects of Canada's economic life. This presentation is part of a general exposition open to all the participating countries under the title "Horizon 1980".

- 30 -