

...tions, su...
...n Tariffs...
...Bank for...
...ment. N...
...re repres...
...others, su...
...FTA, the...
...vity repo...
...the Leader of the New Democratic
...and other figures.
...Senator Vedovato also met the Speak...
...both Houses of Parliament, and as
...of these meetings it was agreed
...Canadian Parliamentarians should
...th be invited to all plenary ses...
...the Assembly, and should have
...to speak and submit memoranda
...tions of common interest. This
...announced agreement on the par...
...of Canadian Parliamentarians in
...of the Parliamentary Assembly
...an extremely important stage in
...between Canada and the Council
...e. It provides for observer status
...but name, because, in its present
...the Council Statute does not permit
...g more. The Speakers of both
...confirmed the agreement by send...
...delegation of Parliamentarians to the
...ll session, which was devoted in
...the OECD report of its activities.
...ly as the delegation was led by Senator Maurice
...ichel Gauthier, and included G. W. Baldwin,
...omat. Be. P. and M. Prud'homme, M.P. It should
...dian deleg... that Mr. Baldwin was involved in
...ertain con... official exchanges prior to the establish...
... Organiz... of formal arrangements, having been
...submitted member of the 1969 and 1971 delegations.
...ch cor tact... recently, other Parliamentarians, in...
...January... Senator Lamontagne, played an
...diplomati... part in the Council's parliamentary
...y of the E... scientific conference, held in Florence
...liaison... November. The theme of the confer...
...es Léger... "Science and the Future of Euro...
...eux, work... an Man" — is the kind of topic that could
...Strasbour... fail to interest Canada. Plans for
...were being... council parliamentarians to visit Canada
...Canacian... 1976 are being studied.
...the initiati... While relations between Canadian
...with the... parliamentarians and their counterparts in
...69, a larg... the Eighteen are now well-established and
...Parliamen... some extent institutionalized, contacts
...chain man... ating to the Council's intergovern...
...Martin... antal activities are more recent and less
...donal, m... vanced. It is interesting to note, in this
...rg; parlia... ard, that, during the October 1975 ses...
...Europ... from the Assembly adopted a recommen...
...sit to Can... tion — directed to the Committee of
...g that led... nisters — inviting Canada to become
...ereby dele... re closely involved in those Council
...Assem... vities that were of mutual interest.
...from the... e might almost say, indeed, that Europe
...e visit... s being offered to us on a plate! Thus,
...Strasbour... the years to come, Canada will presu...
...ovato, the... y be invited to sit as an observer on a
...ry As... mber of expert committees and take part
...tawa in P... nferences and other activities of com...
...ith the C... n interest. Moreover, if one reads the
...me Minis... Council's work program for the next few
...external... s, one realizes that such areas are not
...der of the... king. Last October, in fact, the Secreta-

riat drew up an interesting provisional list of them for Canadian Parliamentarians.

A senior official at the Secretariat thought that Canada should be invited to Strasbourg whenever it felt that European experience in a particular area was likely to concern it directly and whenever Canadian experience in a given sector would be of help to the Europeans of the Council of Europe in their work. This is a relatively simple and flexible principle, upon which Canada and the Council could base future intergovernmental relations in a systematic way, each side in turn using it to considerable advantage — provided, of course, that we could be as good as our word, and were prepared to respond to invitations. There is, therefore, an increasing need for a full inventory of Council activities in order to identify the ones that are likely to be of interest to the federal and provincial governments. It should be noted that a number of Council activities touch on areas coming under provincial jurisdiction in Canada. The possibility therefore exists of a measure of valuable federal-provincial co-operation, about which we could be thinking in concrete terms.

In the last few years, Canada has been represented on several expert committees concerned with such legal problems as treaty law, the fight against terrorism, the responsibility of producers, relations between states and international organizations, and economic obstacles preventing access to civil justice. We have also shown interest in the work The Eighteen have been doing in such areas as legal information, penal justice, science policy and the environment. The Environmental Impact Assessment Centre of the Department of the Environment is also interested in the work being done in Strasbourg. Canada was a close observer at the recent multi-disciplinary round-table conference on twentieth-century prospects and long-term European perspectives. For the first time, our country has been invited to the conference of (European) ministers of the environment, to be held in Brussels in March 1976 under the auspices of the Council of Europe — a very important development. The conference of planning ministers that is to take place in Rome during the fall of 1976 may also be useful; the conference on the evolution of democratic institutions, set for the spring of 1976, should be of the utmost interest to us; and the Amsterdam conference on the preservation of architectural heritages has also caught the attention of Canadian specialists. The Council of Europe, for its part, will take part in

*Canadian
interest
in work
of Eighteen*