

having a bearing on areas of concern to provincial governments and the increasing domestic influence of international factors contributed to their interest in matters outside provincial borders. At the same time, it has been necessary to ensure that provincial activities and those of the Federal Government were adequately coordinated and pursued in the interest of all Canadians.

The Department's services to provincial governments continue to expand. These include, in particular, assistance with visits by official provincial personalities and groups. In 1972, the Department, principally through its Federal-Provincial Coordination Division and Canadian posts abroad, coordinated and arranged 60 visits involving 232 people and some 33 countries. This included both the development and setting up of programs in various areas of interest, usually involving two or more countries, with visiting provincial groups generally comprising at least five people, often with different programs. The greater use by the provinces of the Department's resources both at home and abroad appears to be resulting in more effective programs as well as a greater appreciation and understanding of the Canadian system of government by the countries visited.

Increasingly, provinces have requested and received from Canadian posts and the Department in Ottawa reports and other information on various subjects ranging from foreign adoption practices to *ombudsman* legislation. Moreover, a number of provincial ministers and officials participated as members of Canadian delegations in international conferences in fields such as education and environment, and in mixed commissions established under exchange agreements with several European countries (e.g., France, Belgium, the U.S.S.R.), thereby adding an important Canadian contribution internationally and increasing the general fund of knowledge in Canada through an understanding of the experiences of others. Such participation by Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba, which have a special interest in international education questions in the francophone world, has been particularly significant, and the chairman of the Canadian delegation to international conferences in this area is usually provided by a provincial government.

In 1972, the Department also assisted Ontario and Quebec in establishing offices for promotional purposes in Brazil, Mexico, Belgium and Japan.