

A Film Co-production Agreement between Canada and Britain was signed in London in September by Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner and Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Among other Cabinet visitors to Britain during the year were the Ministers of Finance, of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, of Energy, Mines and Resources, and of Veterans Affairs. Premier Schreyer of Manitoba and ex-Premier Barrett of British Columbia also visited London during 1975, as did a number of provincial ministers.

During the year Canada welcomed the Parliamentary Secretary of the Treasury and Chief Government Whip, Mr. Robert Mellish, Lord Chancellor Lord Elwyn-Jones, Agriculture Minister Fred Peart, Paymaster-General Dell, Chief Treasury Secretary Joel Barnett and several other Members of Parliament with governmental responsibilities, including Mr. Clinton Davis and Mr. Neil Carmichael. The Leader of the Opposition, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, visited Canada in September.

Britain is still Canada's third-ranking trading partner and bilateral trade remained at significantly high levels. During 1975 Canadian imports from Britain grew more rapidly than exports. An encouraging note for the future was the recognition accorded, at the Canada-U.K. Continuing Committee meeting in Ottawa in October, to the new opportunities for industrial co-operation.

Although immigration to Canada from Britain was somewhat less than the 1974 level, Britain remained Canada's largest single source of immigrants, accounting for 20 per cent of the total (of which a significant percentage were former nationals of third countries).

As in the past, there was close co-operation on international questions in traditional organizations such as the UN, NATO, the OECD and the Commonwealth, as well as at conferences on such topical concerns as international economic co-operation, the law of the sea, and security and co-operation in Europe.

Ireland

Prime Minister Trudeau's meeting in Dublin during March 1975 with the *Taoiseach* (Prime Minister) of Ireland, Mr. Cosgrave, provided a valuable opportunity for a review of bilateral and international questions of interest

to the two leaders. In October, Irish Foreign Minister Garret FitzGerald came to Ottawa for talks. These useful and wide-ranging discussions revealed a broad similarity of views on many points of mutual concern. During the first six months of 1975, Ireland had served in the Presidency of the European Community, a role that added yet another element of interest to Dr. FitzGerald's visit.

Postmaster-General Bryce Mackasey represented Canada at the funeral in Dublin of the former President of Ireland, Eamon de Valera. During 1975 the National Defence College for the first time included Ireland in its European field study. Later in the year, in November, three Canadian naval vessels, HMCS *Fraser*, *Nipigon* and *Skeena*, paid a naval visit to Dublin.

Although Canadian exports to Ireland did not in 1975 equal those attained in 1974, the existing high level of Canadian investment and Ireland's potential offshore oil and gas deposits are making for a marked strengthening of economic relations. These more tangible interests reinforce the similar cultural values and historical links shared by Canada and Ireland.

Nordic countries

Canada shares with the Nordic countries a similar northern environment, which has done much to develop attitudes and values, essentially pragmatic, along parallel lines. Links were strengthened in 1975 by a steadily-increasing flow of Canadian official visitors to the area, attracted by the many progressive and innovative features of these societies. Canada in turn received a number of distinguished guests from Scandinavia.

Although Denmark, Iceland and Norway are, like Canada, members of NATO, while Finland and Sweden follow neutral foreign policies, Canada and the Nordic group co-operate closely on the international level and regionally in the management and protection of the North's resources.

As a step towards the expansion of trade with the Nordic countries, a high-level Canadian economic mission met with its counterparts in Finland, Norway and Sweden in June and in Denmark in September to explore possible areas of co-operation in the establishment of joint ventures for production, technological exchange and the comparison of industrial policies.