

## European Division

The functions of the Department's European Division are related to the whole of the European continent, East and West. Canada maintains diplomatic relations with 26 countries in Europe, where it has 20 resident missions and six consular offices. In Ottawa there are 24 diplomatic missions from European countries, three of which are also accredited to Washington.

Canada has taken an initial step in the study of Canadian policies and activities relating to Europe. The object is to fit relations with Europe into the order of priorities established in Canada's external relations policy and to examine the most effective means of maintaining Canadian-European relations.

Canada has kept in constant contact with the large multilateral organizations in Europe, especially the European Communities. Co-operation with European countries has been maintained through the GATT, the OECD and NATO. In May a delegation of Canadian Parliamentarians, headed by the Government Leader in the Senate and the President of the Privy Council, attended as observers the twenty-first session of the Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, where one day was devoted to a debate on the relations between Canada and Europe. During the summer, a delegation from the Senate Committee on Science Policy visited several European countries. In December, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs attended, as an observer, and addressed a session of the Consultative Assembly of the Western European Union.

During 1969, co-operation and the flow of exchanges between France and Canada continued to increase, in a variable political climate.

Many Canadian ministers went to France during the past year. We might mention especially the visit during the month of March of the Secretary of State, Mr. Gérard Pelletier, who, apart from his talks with ministers of the French Government, addressed the conference of the France-Canada Association; the visit of Mr. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, which also took place in March; and the visits of Mr. Donald C. Jamieson, Minister of Transport, in November, and Mr. Eric Kierans, Minister of Communications, in December.

Among other Franco-Canadian exchanges might be recalled the visit to Paris of the Canadian Parliamentary Committee on National Defence and External Affairs in March; the annual meeting of the Canada-France Joint Cultural Commission, within the framework of the France-Canada cultural agreement of 1965, held in Paris in February; the meeting of the France-Canada Interparliamentary Association that took place at Jasper, Alberta, in September; and the meeting of the Science Subcommittee of the Joint Commission in Ottawa in November. There was also the attendance by the French Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seal, Mr. René Pleven, at the Conference of the International French-language Law Institute in Montreal, Quebec City and Ottawa in the autumn at the joint invitation of the Ministers of Justice for Canada and Quebec.