

Participation by Canadian voluntary organizations in such events as the annual Florence International Handicrafts Exhibition and the International Ceramics Exhibition was helped by the Department.

Assistance was again given to the Canada Council in carrying out its programme of non-resident fellowships in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, under which 75 awards were made for foreign students to study in Canada. With the co-operation of appropriate agencies and societies, publicity was given to a number of scholarships offered to Canadians by foreign governments for study abroad.

With the assistance of the agencies and voluntary organizations concerned with such matters, the Department answered enquiries from an increasing number of foreign students interested in coming to study in this country, and it also dealt with many requests from Canadians for information concerning the availability of scholarships for study abroad.

The Department continued to discharge responsibilities arising from Canadian Government membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In doing so it had the co-operation and advice of the Canadian National Commission for UNESCO, which is responsible for co-ordinating UNESCO's activities in Canada. In October, Canadian representatives attended the Denver conference of the United States National Commission for UNESCO.

3. The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, which was agreed to in principle as a result of a Canadian initiative at the Montreal Trade and Economic Conference in 1958, was developed in greater detail during 1959. A Commonwealth Education Conference at Oxford in July warmly approved Canada's proposal for an exchange of scholarships among the different parts of the Commonwealth and agreed on the details of how the plan should operate. A total of 1,000 scholarships was to be exchanged, and Canada undertook to provide places in Canadian educational institutions for 250 Commonwealth scholars at any one time. By the end of the year administrative arrangements were well under way and other Commonwealth countries were invited to submit nominations for scholarships tenable in Canada in 1960.

At the Oxford Conference, Canada and the other advanced Commonwealth countries offered to assist the less-developed areas of the Commonwealth with education generally. Canada undertook to send teams of teachers abroad to train teachers in Commonwealth countries and to receive teacher trainees in this country. Other Commonwealth countries have been invited to submit applications for Canadian assistance in this field. This programme will be financed as part of Canada's regular technical assistance programmes.

4. Publications

The Department provided general information on Canada to all posts abroad for selective distribution. This was in addition to material on Canada's external relations sent to enquirers in Canada, and included: reference papers, reprints of articles appearing in Canadian publications, statements and speeches on Canada's foreign and domestic policies, and supplementary papers. Many of these are produced in several languages.