

A further aid to Canadian writers and artists in gaining entry into French circles are the literary salons as well as official or private cultural associations. Several of these groups, such as the *Centre Culturel International de Royaumont*, have at various times, with the assistance of Canadian writers visiting Paris, organized meetings for Franco-Canadian intellectual co-operation that have resulted in a profitable exchange of ideas. Moreover, on certain occasions, such as Canada's national day, the French broadcasting system has devoted programmes to the reading of excerpts from works by Canadian writers and to the playing of Canadian music. It is still recalled with emotion that, at the time of France's liberation, a group of French people wishing to show their admiration for and gratitude towards Canada, chose, as the most appropriate means of expressing their message, to read works by a Canadian poet, St-Denys Garneau. Canadian students in France, many of them holding scholarships, are also very active in this field; a series of lectures prepared by them for French and foreign young people in France on the various aspects of Canada's intellectual life, a series that was splendidly concluded by a reading of Canadian poems by the great artist Ludmilla Pitoëff, aroused wide interest. Similarly, the *Maison Canadienne* at the *Cité Universitaire* helps to make Canada better known.

In a more official setting, the warm praise of Canada by Etienne Gilson on the occasion of his admission to the French Academy is still remembered. He said that French-Canadian culture was due to the resolute will of a whole people, who had served the language of France well. The admission of another friend of Canada, Maurice Genevoix, provided the Academy with a fresh opportunity of expressing its admiration for Canada's intellectual achievement. The *Société des Gens de Lettres* also, in an official ceremony, has taken occasion to pay tribute to the important effort in Canada to make the intellectual and spiritual values of France better known.

A promising project has been undertaken by the *Institut scientifique franco-canadien* to invite Canadian intellectuals to give lectures in France, particularly to the students in the schools of higher studies, on various aspects of Canadian life. Before the War, these exchanges were one-sided, in that the *Institut* sent only French speakers to Canada. Since then, however, representatives of various intellectual interests in Canada have been going from Canada to France not only to speak to audiences in Paris but also to travel to the main provincial universities. Up to the present, the guests of the *Institut* have included such well-known figures as Jean Bruchési, who spoke on post-war Canada, Monseigneur Savard, who dealt with French-Canadian literature, Gérard Morisset, specialist in the history of Canadian arts, Cyrias Ouellet who, this year, will describe Canada's scientific achievements, and Luc Lacourcière who, next year, will give lectures on Canadian folklore.

The enterprise shown by the *Cercle du Livre de France* recently in creating a literary prize for Canadian novels will no doubt have the effect not only of stimulating creative writing in Canada but also of making Canadian novels better known in France. The prize-winning author is invited to go to Paris, where he is introduced to the chief literary associations and best-known writers. His work is published in the capital. Since the *Cercle du Livre de France* has many subscribers, the prize-winning book will have a wide distribution in France.

Comments on Canadian Works

In conclusion, a few excerpts from recent French criticisms of the works of Canadian authors will emphasize better than any commentary the contribution made by French-Canadian literature to the common intellectual heritage:

- (1) "Better still, this is an intellectual achievement which is whole and complete, since poetry expresses the very soul of a people; since, for that reason, it explains all else, and we shall not have understood Canada until, through her poetry,