



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 52/49

Statement by the head of the Canadian Delegation to UNESCO Conference, Dr. Victor Doré, made on November 13, 1952.

Mr. President,  
Mr. Director-General,  
Gentlemen and esteemed colleagues,

Yesterday, in his address of welcome, the French Minister of National Education, Mr. André Marie, declared that France deemed it an incomparable privilege to accommodate UNESCO in its capital. As Vice-President of the General Conference and head of the Canadian Delegation, I feel it to be my duty, - an especially moving duty for a French-speaking Canadian, - to return the compliment and to assure the French Government that UNESCO considers itself honoured to have been able to make Paris the centre of its activity.

France, Mr. President, is the meeting place for the world's great intellectual movements. Ideas seem to acquire greater clarity and humanity when cast into the melting-pot of French thought. UNESCO, which is striving to maintain and defend security by facilitating cultural exchanges, could find for its activities no more favourable atmosphere than that of Paris.

On behalf of my country, I should like to pay special homage to the President of the General Conference who is the distinguished representative of a country with which Canada is associated in the Commonwealth. I should also like to congratulate the President of the Executive Board, my friend Mr. Carneiro, for the admirable address that he gave this morning. I am sufficiently acquainted with the problems faced by the Executive Board to understand the full significance of his appeal to which we listened with the keenest sympathy. Finally, need I remind the Conference that if UNESCO is such an alive organization, it is largely thanks to the superior intelligence, intellectual courage, devotion and untiring energy of its Director-General? I express my friendship once again to Mr. Torres Bodet.

In the course of the remarks with which our distinguished colleague, the retiring president, Mr. Sargeant, made in his opening address to the Conference, he pointed to the steady progress of UNESCO as an indication that the forces making for peace are in the ascendency and that the forces making for war can be steadily overcome. This statement has been so close to my own thinking that I would like to stress it again. The forces which would drive us to war can be steadily overcome