

necessarily cover a rather long period, the co-operation of specialists such as yourselves is indispensable. In the present stage of human evolution, the role of chance is getting smaller every day. This can be observed daily, not only in laboratories but also in administration. And one of the surest ways to make the best possible use of resources, be it in the field of economy or culture, is to develop programmes of wide scope. It might be thought, at first, that the arts, owing to the individualism and freedom which are the hallmarks of their highest manifestations, cannot be placed under the rule of "plans". That is true of creation. Art councils do not engender genius, although they often promote its expression. In the end, a plan keeps all its value in the development of artistic capital if it is true, as can be proven by the body under whose auspices you are gathered, that the moral and intellectual development of humanity must be organized to a large extent.

Role of UNESCO

The activity of an organization such as UNESCO in the spread of culture is submitted to a strict working plan, which is gradually expanding, thanks to the active co-operation of its members, who multiply initiatives of the type of your Festival and Seminar of Art Films. As a member of UNESCO, Canada encourages the diffusion of the art masterpieces of the world by distributing its publications. Prominence is also accorded by your organization to the development of educational aids such as films, which contribute to a better knowledge of the plastic arts and help to intensify the exchange of ideas and information. By endeavouring to interest as large a public as possible in the various fields of arts and humanities, you are aiming at a dual objective: to enable all men to take part in the cultural life of the community and to help everyone to appreciate the artistic inheritance of man, thereby ensuring the development of mutual respect and understanding between nations.

Originality of Canada

There is no task more directly related to your objectives or more necessary to the development of international co-operation with regard to culture than the collecting and dissemination of information. In technical fields like that of art films, specialists must accumulate facts and documents before they can plan and carry out their projects. A gathering like yours, by the inventory it takes, by the exchanges it promotes and by the mine of information it uncovers, eminently favours the cultural action of the state. It is, of course, by encouraging initial action at the national level that UNESCO may attain its objective. A look at Canada reveals that the originality of this country resides mainly in the coexistence of two cultures that hold a rank of prestige in Western civilization. The development of these two cultures, which stimulate each other and have been referred to lately by the neologism "biculturalism", requires the equality of and complete respect for the two great sources of humanism which constitute our inheritance. The contribution of other ethnic groups should not be neglected.

A mosaic with two predominating colours but tinted with shades and hues borrowed from many different cultures, Canada promotes the development of arts as one of the most valuable factors of unity in diversity. The Quebecker who discovers British Columbia through the works of Emily Carr, the