

French literature. The religious tradition in Canada, where two-fifths of the people are Roman Catholic, is yet another basis for sympathetic feelings between this country and the Latin American republics, as are the racial and sentimental ties with Europe which Canada has in common with them.

Canada is also concerned with questions related to the security of the Western Hemisphere. The Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence keeps under review the defence requirements of the northern part of the Hemisphere. As a signatory of the North Atlantic Treaty, Canada has also undertaken to play a full part in the preservation of the peace and security of the North Atlantic community. As members of the United Nations, Canadian, United States, and Latin American delegations are constantly in contact, exchanging views on problems affecting their security and welfare, and co-operating closely in the work of the specialized agencies, such as the International Trade Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, and the International Telecommunications Union, in which common membership is maintained.

Canada is increasingly aware of its position as an American nation and looks forward to a future in which its relations with its neighbours in the western hemisphere will continue to be cordial.

Canada and the Pacific

Across Canada's western frontier, the Pacific Ocean, lie the densely populated lands of Asia with natural resources and markets whose development will greatly expand world trade. Japan's aggression in 1941 jarred Canada into a new awareness of the extent to which Pacific affairs may impinge upon the security and welfare of the North American continent.

Canada's pre-war contacts with China were limited to missionary work, modest commercial activity and immigration matters. Friendship between the people of Canada and China has been stimulated by the work of Canadian missionaries, doctors, and educators in China over a period of 75 years. A Chinese consulate established in Canada in 1909 looked after immigration. Trade from Canada's Pacific ports began with the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885. Since then Canadian commercial relations with China have grown with the assistance of Canadian Trade Commissioners stationed in Shanghai and other ports, and in 1942 Canada and China exchanged diplomatic missions.

With Japan, too, Canada's chief points of contact have been trade and missionary activity. As a highly industrialized nation, Japan was one of Canada's important customers in pre-war years, being the third largest purchaser of Canadian exports in 1926 and



Canadian Pacific Airlines plane leaves Vancouver for Australia.

1929. Japan was one of the first three countries with which Canada exchanged diplomatic representatives. A Canadian legation was opened in Tokyo in 1929 and continued to function until Japan entered the war. In August, 1946, a Canadian Liaison Mission was sent to Tokyo to take charge of Canada's post-war interests in Japan.

As a Pacific country Canada has a vital interest in the peace settlement of the Allied Nations with Japan. Canada is represented on the thirteen power Far Eastern Commission set up in Washington in 1945 to decide the principles for the demilitarization of Japan and the establishment of a peacefully inclined and responsible government.

Canada has from the beginning given its full support to the United Nations. A delegation headed by the Prime Minister, and including members of the principal national political parties, participated in the meetings at San Francisco in April 1945, when the Charter of the United Nations was drafted. At this

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