

The Belgo-Canadian Mixed Commission which met on December 8 in Quebec completed its work this afternoon. It examined in their entirety the cultural exchanges which have taken place between the two countries since the conclusion of the Agreement in 1967 and declared its satisfaction at the rate of growth. The Commission also reviewed the various activities undertaken under the aegis of the Agreement over the last few years. The Commission determined the general orientation of Belgo-Canadian co-operation in the cultural field for the next few years.

The principal areas of concentration are to be the following:

Both sides agreed to expand their programmes of exchanges of personnel, in the academic sectors, including Canadian studies, as well as in the cultural and socio-cultural sectors. In this connection, each side has made available to the other a bank of 100 Mission-days.

In the area of cultural dissemination, plans for a variety of tours and exhibitions were discussed as well as Canada's annual participation in the "Festival des Flandres" starting in 1977.

The Mixed Commission also received and approved the report of the Belgo-Quebec Sub-Commission which it had established by resolution at the beginning of its meeting.

The next meeting of the Commission and Sub-Commission will take place in Belgium during the final quarter of 1976.