

## RESULTS OF SURVEY OF DUTCH LANGUAGE TEACHING IN CANADA

In the first half of 1983 the CAANS Language Committee of the Toronto Chapter has conducted a survey of Dutch language teaching in Canada. A total of 110 questionnaires were mailed to persons known to CAANS as teachers of Dutch, to teachers whose names were supplied by Netherlands consuls, and to persons whose names were supplied by respondents. The questionnaire was also mailed to principals of Christian schools (secured from the publication "Calvinist Contact"). It was not known if Dutch was taught in those schools. In Ontario 23 questionnaires were mailed to Christian schools from whom 3 replies were received, 2 indicating that Dutch was taught. Similarly 2 were mailed to Christian schools in Manitoba and one to Saskatchewan. No reply was received. In Alberta 4 out of 5 replied and in B.C. 2 out of 7 replied.

Although a number of questionnaires were mailed to persons of whom it was not known if they taught Dutch, a total of 60 questionnaires was mailed to persons of whom it is known with certainty that they are or were teaching Dutch. Of these 21 did not yet reply [as of November 1983] and therefore are not included in the data gathering. However, they must be included in the count of Dutch teachers in Canada. At present, though, the status of the classes they conduct cannot be ascertained.

The questionnaire was addressed to teachers of children as well as teachers of adults. In 12 cases teachers taught both children and adults.

It will be evident from the above that we cannot be sure of having reached all teachers of Dutch, since CAANS has no complete count of language classes and teachers in Canada. Some but not all teachers who failed to reply were contacted a second time. Not all of these replied.

While 110 questionnaires were mailed out, we had of course no assurance that all those persons and institutions addressed were in fact conducting or had been conducting classes of Dutch. At all events 45 replies were received.

The present total number of classes and children or adults receiving instruction therefore cannot be an accurate reflection of the actual situation, but may be taken as a general overview of the situation. From the table below it is clear that Ontario has by far the largest number of classes. Largest concentrations of teachers and classes were found in Toronto, Ottawa, St. Catharines/Hamilton, London and surrounding area (including Waterloo, Strathroy and Stratford).