

Statements and Speeches

No. 75/33

MR. MACEACHEN IN EDINBURGH -- SOME THOUGHTS ON CANADA, BRITAIN AND

The Texts of Three Brief Statements by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, in Edinburgh on October 21, 1975.

(a) Remarks at a lunch for the Directors of the Foundation for Canadian Studies in the United Kingdom:

Allow me to say, first, how pleased I was to attend this morning the meeting of the Foundation for Canadian Studies in the United Kingdom.

The progress accomplished since its initial meeting last December -and the progress leading up to that initial meeting -- are most impressive, and I begin at once with a general "thank-you" to all who were responsible for this success. In a matter of months, a wellendowed and well-organized institution was brought into existence, which we in Canada believe will make an important and continuing contribution to relations between our country and the United Kingdom. At a time when no one was in a mood -- or a position -- to throw money around loosely, if there ever is such a time, the goal of the fund-raising campaign was substantially over-subscribed. Instead of the target of £180,000, the final subscription, I understand, had reached, as of last Friday, £222,394 and 94 p. As many of you know, the Canadian Government had agreed to contribute £60,000 to the Foundation, provided Canadian businessmen doing business in Britain and British businessmen doing business in Canada could each be persuaded to contribute a matching amount.

I find it most impressive and most encouraging to realize that British and Canadian businessmen over-subscribed to the extent they did. What this says for the healthy condition of business relations between Britain and Canada is more eloquent and convincing than any words I might offer you on the subject today. So I take this opportunity publicly to thank, on behalf of the Government of Canada, all those British and Canadian businessmen who have chosen this unique means of reasserting their faith in the Anglo-Canadian connection. The response to the subscription campaign has been so remarkable that I can hardly think of a more profitable cultural investment the Canadian Government could have made than its contribution to the Foundation.