



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 22 No. 13

March 29, 1967

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THE CONCEPTION OF A FRENCH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY

The following excerpts are from a recent address by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, at the Banquet of the Governors of the Junior Chamber of Commerce of the District of Montreal:

...Among the various aspects of foreign policy with which the Canadian Government is currently concerned there is one to which it is particularly sympathetic - "La Francophonie" - the conception of a French-speaking community....

But what does "La Francophonie" mean? Perhaps the best explanation has been given by President Senghor [of Senegal]. He thinks of it as an intellectual or spiritual community of all the countries which have French as a national or official language or where it is currently spoken. The aim is to bring closer together those countries which, through the French language, share a cultural heritage and have certain ways of thought and action, of looking at problems and of solving them, in common.

The conception is cultural and linguistic. Above all it is a recognition of the richness of the heritage which we have in common with nearly 150 million people living in more than 25 countries throughout the world. These countries, like us, are anxious not only to preserve this heritage but to develop it. They realize today that they can do this better if they do it together.

As a French-speaking country, thanks to one of its two great cultures and one of its two official languages, Canada ought to welcome this idea warmly. I spoke on this subject in the House of Commons on October 24 last year when I said:

"...The Canadian Government fully supports the idea of developing closer links and more exchanges,

particularly in the cultural and related fields, with those countries which, like Canada, share the heritage of the French language and culture.

It is the policy of the Canadian Government to give full expression, in its international relations, to the bilingual and bicultural character of our country. The development of our ties with the 'Francophone' countries, which we have pursued vigorously over the last few years, represents a new and valuable dimension of Canadian diplomacy. We wish more particularly to participate actively in any effort to find an effective framework for further co-operation among 'Francophone' states...."

INTENSIFIED ACTIVITIES

Our bilateral relations have developed particularly with France. The visit which the Prime Minister and I made to France in January 1964 was a turning-point. On this occasion, General de Gaulle and Mr. Pearson agreed on the principles of broad co-operation at all levels between the two countries. Exchanges between the two countries were greatly stimulated as a result. There has been periodic consultation between the two governments since then concerning our bilateral interests and international affairs, just like the consultation we have with the United States or Britain. Two or three times a year, I meet with my good friend and colleague Mr. Couve de Murville. From time to time, other ministers of the two governments have exchanged visits to discuss problems of mutual interest. There have also been numerous meetings between officials. I should also mention the activities of the France-Canada Parliamentary Association which, since its creation a year ago, has held meetings in both countries....

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

In our cultural relations, we have made great progress since we established our programme of cultural exchanges with French-speaking countries in 1964. When we started, we had \$250,000 at our disposal. Since 1965, we have raised this amount to \$1 million. In November 1965, the French Ambassador and I signed the first general cultural agreement between our two countries. This agreement, which aimed at a better organization and co-ordination of cultural exchanges between the two countries, has resulted in our welcoming to Canada at least 100 French scholarship winners every year, who have come to study at post-graduate and research levels in our universities. Under the same agreement, about 20 French university professors are invited to our universities every year. In return, France has granted nearly 80 scholarships to Canadians to study in France, and also welcomes several members of our academic community.

In addition, to underline the importance of La Maison Canadienne for students in Paris, the Federal Government has made a grant of half a million dollars to permit its expansion, raising its capacity from 70 to 125 students.

Thanks to the federal programme of exchanges with French-speaking countries, we have been able to help several Canadian groups go abroad during the past year. I might just mention a few of them: the Montreal Symphony Orchestra went to France, Switzerland and Belgium, with great success; le Théâtre de l'Egrégore played in France and Switzerland; les Feux-Follets took part in the international music-hall festival at the Olympia in Paris; a Canada week was organized at Mulhouse. Lastly, book collections of more than 800 works, covering all phases of Canadian life, have been given to six large French libraries....

POLICY OF EXPANSION

I should like to point out that the policy of cultural exchanges is not limited to French-speaking countries. I believe that it is in the interests of all Canadians to develop our cultural exchanges, particularly with Europe. I was particularly happy to be able to announce, in the course of my trip to Europe last November, the opening of negotiations with Italy and the U.S.S.R., which we hope will lead to cultural agreements with them....

While we have tried to intensify and diversify our traditional relations with France and to extend the scope of our exchanges with Belgium and Switzerland, we have also sought to establish close links with the many developing French-speaking countries which have gained independence since the last war. Canada has shown its interest in being represented in these countries in Africa by establishing embassies in Cameroun, Congo (Kinshasa), Tunisia and Senegal. Through multiple accreditation we now have diplomatic relations with all of French-speaking Africa. Although we have no formal diplomatic missions in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, our participation in the work of the International Control Commission since 1954 has allowed us to have useful contacts with these countries. I hope that in the near future our financial and personnel resources will

allow us to expand our network of diplomatic missions in French-speaking countries....

INCREASED AID

...In French-speaking Africa, our external aid programme has developed remarkably in the last few years. From the \$300,000 a year which we spent between 1961 and 1964, our bilateral aid figures went up to \$4 million in 1964 and reached \$8 million during the present fiscal year. To this impressive sum we intend to add another \$4 million. I am pleased to announce that the Canadian Government has decided to increase its aid to French-speaking Africa during the next fiscal year to \$12 million. If you bear in mind that we shall be giving \$16 million to English-speaking African countries next year, it will be evident that we have gone a good way towards balancing the aid which we give to the two groups in Africa....

We have now reached what I should call the second stage in implementing our programme - that of diversification and consolidation. At first our activity was directed mainly towards technical assistance, and particularly education. We already have nearly 250 teachers in French-speaking Africa, and we hope to bring this number up to nearly 300 during the coming year. Nearly 450 trainees from the developing French-speaking countries are now studying in Canada....

SCOPE OF DEVELOPMENT

...It goes without saying that "La Francophonie", although it may have an economic aspect, will be essentially a great cultural undertaking. No one dreams of having it extend into the political field. To endure, it must be a joint effort, it will have to be developed through constant consultation between equal partners, with due regard for the domestic institutions of each country. It follows that "La Francophonie" will have to have a very flexible form. It will require the freely given assistance of all those who wish it well, including participation by private organizations. It will also call for systematic international co-ordination which presupposes the support of French-speaking governments....

...We see our relations with "La Francophonie", the Commonwealth and other countries as different manifestations of a single foreign policy which is in the interests of all Canadians. As one aspect of this policy I am happy to announce this evening that the Canadian Government will provide an annual grant to AUPELF [L'Association des Universités partiellement ou entièrement de langue française - the Association of Universities which are partly or entirely French speaking] of \$50,000. In addition, at the request of AUPELF, it will contribute to the Fonds international de Co-opération universitaire, (the International Fund for University Co-operation), the principal aim of which is to promote the development of universities in the developing French-speaking countries. For this purpose, we envisage an annual contribution of \$100,000 for five years, to be used in consultation with AUPELF and the governments concerned....

NEW DIPLOMATIC POSTS

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that Mr. Max H. Wershof, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs and Legal Adviser in Ottawa, will be the new Canadian Ambassador to Denmark, and Mr. Paul André Beaulieu, the present Ambassador to Brazil, will become Deputy Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

Mr. Charles S.A. Ritchie will become High Commissioner for Canada in Britain to succeed Mr. Lionel Chevrier who has held this position since 1964. Mr. Ritchie, at present Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the North Atlantic Council in Paris, will be replaced by Mr. Ross Campbell, now Canadian Ambassador to Yugoslavia.

Mr. Chevrier will return to Canada shortly to take up his duties as Commissioner General for Visits of State 1967.

ROYAL VISIT TO EXPO

The Office of the Commissioner-General of Visits of State 1967 reports that the Queen and Prince Philip will arrive at the St. Lambert Seawall in the yacht *Britannia* for their visit to the World Exhibition at Montreal on the morning of July 3.

The royal party will spend the morning visiting a number of pavilions, including those of Quebec, Ontario, the Western Provinces, the Atlantic Provinces, the Indians of Canada, and Britain. A lunch will be given by the Prime Minister of Canada at the Canada pavilion.

In the afternoon, the royal party will tour the Canada pavilion, returning to HMY *Britannia* about 4:00 p.m. In the evening, the Queen will entertain about 40 guests at dinner aboard the royal yacht.

INDIANS TRAIN IN CANADA

As a result of the recent agreement between Canada and India providing for the addition of another 200,000-kilowatt unit to the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, 32 engineers employed by the Indian Department of Atomic Energy are at present training in Canada. They will eventually form the nucleus of the team to carry out India's heavy-water power reactor programme both at Rajasthan and at the Madras Atomic Power Project.

Fourteen engineers from DAE are attached to Power Projects at Sheridan Park performing either design or development work. Most of them will spend a year or two in Canada before returning to assist in the design work in India. Some will be working at the Rajasthan site, some at Trombay in the manufacture of fuel and instrumentation, and others at the RAPP office in Bombay.

Other Indian trainees are attached to manufacturers and consultants in Canada who are engaged

in the Rajasthan Project. Thirteen of the DAE engineers are training at Douglas Point. The majority of this group has been in Canada since late 1964 and will not return to India until October of this year. Members of this group have received training in all aspects of station operation and at present are carrying out normal operational duties with the Ontario Hydro operations group.

PAIT AID FOR FIVE FIRMS

The Department of Industry has announced that five new applied research and development projects totalling \$1,761,530 have been approved for financial assistance under its Programme for the Advancement of Industrial Technology.

DEVELOPMENT INSURANCE

PAIT was established by the Department of Industry in July 1965 to help Canadian industry upgrade its technology and expand its innovation activity by underwriting specific development projects which embody a significant technical advance and offer good prospects for commercial exploitation. It is, in effect, a form of "development insurance" with the Department of Industry advancing up to half of the money required to develop the new product or process. If the project is commercially successful, the firm is expected to repay with interest the Government's share of the development costs from sales income over a period of several years.

The firms receiving the PAIT support just announced are: ATCO Industries Ltd., Calgary; Balloon Transport Ltd., Vancouver; Leigh Instruments Ltd., Carleton Place, Ontario; Maritime Industries Ltd., Vancouver, and Steep Rock Iron Mines Ltd., Steep Rock Lake, Ontario.

These additional projects bring to 70 the total number supported by PAIT in the 18 months since its inception, representing a total development effort of \$26,966,000 undertaken by Canadian industry.

MOSTLY CANADIAN COMPANIES

The majority of the applications for assistance have come from small and medium-sized companies and more than three-quarters of the firms receiving assistance are Canadian-owned. Distribution of effort amongst the various industry sectors shows the electrical and electronics industry leading in the number of PAIT-sponsored projects, closely followed by the metallurgical industry and the machinery industry.

PAIT support is concentrated on products and processes which will enhance productivity and technical leadership, or otherwise contribute directly to the country's economic growth. The choice of development projects, responsibility for their direction, and ownership of proprietary rights rests entirely with the sponsoring company. However, if the development succeeds, companies are obligated to exploit the results by production in Canada.

ACCLIMATIZED ATHLETES

A physical educator at the University of British Columbia is using a unique machine to prove that athletes can be acclimatized to high-altitude conditions without leaving sea-level.

Dr. Eric W. Banister, Assistant Professor of Physical Education at UBC, has been using a respirometer, the only one of its kind in Canada, to simulate high-altitude conditions by altering the oxygen level inside the machine.

Preliminary tests, carried out on himself and seven members of UBC's grass-hockey team, show that athletes can be pre-trained at sea-level in preparation for performing at high altitudes.

"One of the unanswered questions about acclimatization is just how long an athlete needs to adjust to an alien environment," Dr. Banister says.

In the attempt to answer this and related questions, Dr. Banister selected a group of students and measured their physical performance both inside and outside the respirometer, a chamber measuring four feet by eight feet by eight feet.

Inside the machine the students pedalled a stationary bicycle once a week for eight weeks. Altitudes of 8,000 and 12,000 feet were simulated by reducing the oxygen content of the closed chamber.

IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

The end result of the tests and measurements carried out by Dr. Banister was a measurable improvement of performance by the students at both sea-level and high altitude.

"The results obtained so far indicate a trend but are by no means conclusive," Dr. Banister said. During the coming year he will expand the research programme by applying more sophisticated tests designed to measure a wider range of altitude reactions.

A TEST OF HONEY

A three-member Canadian trade mission is investigating means of enlarging Canada's exports of honey to Britain. The mission, sponsored by the Department of Trade and Commerce, was organized

in co-operation with the Canadian Beekeepers Council.

Seven years ago, Canada sold very little honey to Britain. Yearly sales today, total about seven million pounds by weight, a quarter of the total British consumption. There has recently been a trend away from the export of bulk honey in favour of packaged, branded varieties that lend themselves more readily to market development and promotion.

The members of the mission are visiting London, Dublin, Liverpool and Glasgow, meeting buyers of honey and importers of the Canadian product. They will explore alternative methods of developing the British market and study various approaches in merchandising that the Canadian honey industry might use.

THE CONCEPTION OF A FRENCH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION NEEDED

Up to now, these various initiatives have developed spontaneously. If we want to make sure that "La Francophonie" develops in an effective and coherent manner, it seems to me essential that such initiatives should be carried out in future in a more systematic way; they should be encouraged, and co-ordinated. I think that the most suitable instrument for this purpose would be an international organization of an essentially private nature, based on national association of the same character, which would be independent from one another and from their governments, but would work closely with the latter and would enjoy their support. Such an international organization would permit co-operation in this field on the basis of complete equality among the various countries concerned, and would supplement the activities of governments by mobilizing the resources and initiatives of individuals and private organizations. The Canadian Government is convinced of the value of this idea, and has undertaken to submit it to French-speaking governments. If their opinion is favourable, we shall be ready to call a meeting of their representatives to discuss the question....