

Canada's Cuba policy also sparked comment because there was concern in Canada over how Canada's "independent posture", as the Vancouver Sun stated, would affect Canada-U.S. relations.<sup>20</sup> Two other writers attempted to interpret Cuba for their readers,<sup>21</sup> while the Financial Post had articles on Mexico and Peru which outlined the prospects for Canadians in those two countries.<sup>22</sup>

The Canadian Institute of Public Affairs' renowned Couchiching Conference concentrated on Latin America at its 1960 meeting. The participants included some of the Americas' most experienced students of Latin America and the subsequent report of the meeting was well-received. The meetings certainly provided an insight into certain racial divisions existing in Canada among religious leaders from the older generation, who, with their nineteenth century religious legacies, had at one another. It also illustrated that there were few Canadians who could intelligently discuss the area.

Reaction to Canada's Cuba policy grew in intensity as 1960 came to a close. Remarks made by the Minister of Trade & Commerce generated different responses from editors and journalists. Time reported the Montreal Star's comment that good U.S.-Canadian relations were more important than a "few fast bucks".<sup>23</sup> The Star modified its opinion in the first week of January, 1961, by pointing out that the American decision to restrict its trade with Cuba would not prevent American businessmen from continuing a profitable trade with the island.<sup>24</sup> Editorial comment in other newspapers supported the Canadian Government's desire to pursue amicable relations with the Cuban government, although the Ottawa Citizen warned that U.S. public opinion might criticize Canadian trade policies with Castro, who had some sympathy in Canada, where he was seen