

reception. The atmosphere in our talks was at all times cordial, frank and, as a rule, quite informal. The scope and, frequently, the depth of our exchanges were striking; we entered into a dialogue which we intend to continue.

Our mission was widely publicized in all the countries visited. Good coverage was afforded by the press as well as by radio and television stations. The presence of the mission was felt in Latin America.

There is one feature of the mission which I should like to mention. The mission was an excellent projection abroad of the Canada of to-day. Almost every member of the mission was bilingual in French and English. In addition, many could speak Spanish or Portuguese.

The mission has amassed a great deal of valuable information and has formed impressions and tentative opinions which will clearly be of great assistance to the Government when completing its review of relations with Latin America. The substantial preparations for the mission and the work of the mission itself constituted the first phase of that review. Much has been accomplished in this first phase. Some projects which can be advanced under present policies and procedures have been identified; a few of these have been carried to completion, and the others will be followed up without delay.

Mexico-Canada Committee

One example is the establishment of a Joint Mexico-Canada Committee for the consideration of matters of common interest to the two countries in the political, economic and commercial fields. The Committee may also consider other matters, such as, for example, cultural relations. I wish now to table, in English and in French, the note on this subject which I signed and handed to the Foreign Minister of Mexico when the ministerial mission was in that country. This note, and the note which the Foreign Minister signed and handed to me in reply, constitute an agreement establishing the Committee.

I am glad to be able to report that the mission accomplished the objectives set by the Prime Minister before its departure. It is the desire of the Government to determine, in the shortest possible time, how present possibilities may be translated into action within the framework of our broader foreign policy review. The members of the ministerial mission will now reflect on what they have found and seen and heard and will shortly make a report to the Government.

I should like to make clear that it is the intention of the Government, before completing its review of policy toward Latin America, to consult individuals and groups within the Canadian community which have an interest in Latin America and, in Parliament, to submit the review to critical examination in Committee. In this process, the Government will welcome presentations and representations from all sides. I should add that the ministerial mission itself has given a new impetus to the development of Canadian relations with the countries of Latin America.

I am sure that I speak on behalf of all members of this House when