

Resources; the Secretary of State, and Mr. Otto Lang, Minister without Portfolio with responsibilities in the field of industry, trade and commerce. My Parliamentary Secretary (Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer) also took part. We so arranged our time that at least three of us were present in each country. In this way, our three main areas of interest — political, economic and cultural — were always well covered.

Ministers were supported by senior officials of the Department of External Affairs, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and the Department of the Secretary of State, as well as of the Canadian International Development Agency, the Export Credits Insurance Corporation, the Canada Council, the National Gallery, the National Film Board and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Most of these officials were with the mission throughout the tour.

The mission visited nine countries : six in South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela); one in North America (Mexico); and two in Central America (Costa Rica and Guatemala). The tour lasted approximately one month.

In each country ministers were received by the President and had a series of meetings with ministers of the host government. In most countries we talked with leading members of the legislative bodies and with some representatives of regional and international organizations. Certain officials had individual meetings or made brief side visits, sometimes to neighbouring countries not covered by the official itinerary. In all these meetings a very wide range of subjects was discussed in considerable depth.

Political Talks

In the political field, we discussed hemispheric questions and current international issues. In the trade and economic field we discussed trade in the multilateral context, bilateral trade, financing and investment. Everywhere we went we found that development is a main preoccupation of government. In the cultural sphere, to which the Latin Americans also attach great importance, we explored a wide spectrum of activities, ranging from scientific research to film-production. I should like to emphasize that our discussions related to concrete possibilities as much as to general policies and procedures.

While we worked mainly with governments, we paid special attention to private institutions which, both in Latin America and in Canada, have an important role to play in developing our relations. We had meetings, for example, with chambers of commerce, with university rectors, with museum directors and leading experts in the arts. We met with Canadian businessmen and with Canadian missionaries, religious and lay, and with other volunteer workers. In all these meetings we were greatly impressed by the importance of the part which private individuals and groups can play in the pursuit of goals shared by the peoples of Canada and Latin America.

In every country we visited we were offered a warm and most hospitable