

interest in Cuba as have the activities of Dr. Castro. There is evidence too that it may even have been greater. Certainly there was concern expressed that perhaps Canada had gone too far in its refusal to follow the United States lead, but on the other hand, many writers saw Cuba as a means of Canada's asserting itself.

The debate on this issue was heaviest in the period 1960-61, when United States-Cuban relations went from bad to worse. It carried on through the Missile Crisis, 1962, and then tapered off.

Castro had only been thirty days in power when Saturday Night published John Harbron's "Can Castro Keep Cuban Politics Clean?" The article was an attempt to assess the Cuban situation in the light of the past, and Harbron believed that Cuba's future would be as unsettled and unstable as the past.⁸

Relations had articles in July and September 1960 also trying to understand Castro. They were cautious and not very optimistic about the future either. There was still a hope that Cuba was not Communist, however. A Université de Montréal law student, writing in the University paper, said of her visit to Cuba that she found it was not Communist and that it remained "profoundly catholic". She wrote in October at the time the Government was declining to support a U.S. blockade of Cuba.⁹

The question of Cuba's direction was discussed in Saturday Night's November 12, 1960, issue by a Canadian graduate student at Harvard. Barry Lando asked "Is Cuba a Communist Beachhead?", and proceeded to discuss the problems of Latin America and Canada's lack of involvement in the area. He did not feel that the Castro government was Communist.¹⁰