

by Mr. Lane. This is a matter of great concern to this committee. I wanted to hear your remarks in this regard.

Senator AIRD: I don't think it is possible to increase communication between the two areas with the existing means, particularly by sea when the only regular service I know of is the *Saguenay*, and that only touches the larger islands and cannot promote trade with the smaller islands. It is true Canada provided some coastal ships some years back, the *Federal Palm* and the *Federal Maple*.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The *Federal Palm* and the *Federal Maple* touch in at all the Leeward and the Windward Islands—perhaps not at Nevis for example, but altogether there are ten ports of call. That is Jamaica and Trinidad at each end, Barbados and the seven Windwards and Leewards. They touch at all of them and I would go further than that and say that not only do they touch at all of them but they stay in each port for several hours during daylight hours.

Senator AIRD: That is for passengers, but not for trade.

Mr. CAMPBELL: But there is every facility with the *Federal Palm* and *Federal Maple* for inter-island trade.

Senator O'LEARY (*Carleton*): What government machinery exists for giving effect to these undertakings on both sides? What trade or diplomatic contacts have we with these islands, and what trade or diplomatic contacts have they with us?

Mr. CAMPBELL: We have a High Commissioner in Jamaica and Trinidad and in Guyana. They are Harry Jay in Jamaica; Russ McKinney, secretary of the conference, has been appointed to succeed Eric Gilmour in Trinidad; and Milton F. Gregg is High Commissioner in Guyana. There are trade commissioners in Jamaica and Trinidad. The trade office in Trinidad has responsibility for Guyana and also the Windward and Leeward Islands.

With respect to our aid program, the High Commissioner in Port of Spain has responsibility for administration in the Windward and Leeward Islands and Barbados. I might say that our High Commissioner has been in the past a frequent visitor to Barbados and the Windwards and Leewards on Government business.

Charles Gadd, the First Secretary, who at the present time is Acting High Commissioner there, and who was present for the conference, two or three months ago, made a tour of the islands to see how things were getting on. There are a number of Canadian teachers and people of that description in the islands under our technical assistance program, and they are happy to see a fatherly face occasionally. There is a newly appointed administrative officer who has just gone down there and who will be concerned with the administration of the aid program. She is Miss Pat Cordingley. She has just completed a tour of the islands. We do attempt to keep in touch both with the administrations of the islands and with the Canadians who are there.

Senator O'LEARY (*Carleton*): Thank you. I would like to ask one more question and then I shall desist. Have you any evidence in your department that the thinking of the West Indies islands has been affected in any way by the events in Cuba in the last few years?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I am not aware of anything in the way of evidence from the islands. There was, however, a considerable amount of contact between Cuba and the previous administration in British Guiana before independence. Dr. Jagan, who was then Premier, had a policy of quite close relationships with Cuba on a number of fronts. Among those, he managed to sell a good deal of Guianese rice to Cuba. But there were close relations in other ways. I am not aware of any similar relationship between any of the islands and Cuba.