

with CUSO or with the Mennonites or with the Catholic Church or with other churches, from this country, to Africa, to Asia, to South America, those people were also involved deeply and directly in personal diplomacy. And that has left two kinds of legacy for this country. One is a sense of familiarity and good will toward Canada that is marked wherever you go.

The second is the immense experience of the world within our own population. For example, in China - Canada was well ahead of the rest of the world in accepting the new China and in responding to it. There is a very direct link between that initiative and the hundreds of Canadian missionaries who served in China over a span of years. We are all familiar with the story of Norman Bethune. But there were also the missionary sisters from Montreal, and hundreds of others - some missionaries, some traders - who acquired and conveyed an intimate knowledge of that country. The relation between their experience and Canadian policy was direct. When China began to move out of its isolationist stage, Canada was one of the first to start trade and to establish relations. In a sense you could say that it was the missionaries who laid the ground to help us sell the grain, that began this phase of Canada's relations with China.

It is the same story in Africa. Canada is considered to be an important influence in Africa today and if you examine that relationship, you see that it is not based largely on commercial or colonial ties. The commonwealth, of course, is very important. But so were the Oblate Fathers who established programs in Lesotho in education, in development, in health care. So was Father Levesque of Montreal who founded the University of Rwanda. President Mugabe of Zimbabwe was educated at mission schools and at Silveria House, which was founded and run by Canadian Jesuits.

When I was in Ethiopia last fall discussing the Canadian response to their famine, I discovered that their Development Minister is an Engineering graduate from the University of British Columbia. A United Church Minister named Lee Holland has founded a project in Zambia called Family Farms which permits groups of Africans to buy portions of the old colonial plantations and run these new family farms on an improved basis. There are Canadian connections throughout Africa and naturally Canadian connections