

deal about it but that is different from actually seeing this brand-new capital carved out of the woods, with huge apartment buildings and government buildings that must have cost a great many millions of dollars. It will be a wonderful capital and it means so much to the people of Brazil as a symbol of their development and of the great nation they have become.

In all these countries our Canadian ambassadors and their staffs are doing a splendid job for Canada. In a very real way, they are in the front line in our relations with other countries, and I found them all doing a splendid job.

### Role of Canada

All of these countries are very much interested in Canada. They are very friendly. Their outlook on world affairs is very much the same as our own. They place great value on their independence. They are all strong supporters of the United Nations and, as a matter of fact, each one of them has had a President of the United Nations - that is, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Mexico. I think one of them has had two Presidents of the United Nations. Canada has always enjoyed the co-operation of these countries in the United Nations, but they are deeply puzzled that Canadians do not seem to realize that Canada is a very important member of the Western Hemisphere family. I met this attitude everywhere I went, just a little feeling that Canadians are of the opinion they do not want to be too much involved with these Latin American nations.

I can only say to the House that each one of these countries would make a very staunch friend of Canada. They are all playing a very important part in world affairs, and they are steadily growing in stature. I believe it will not be very many years until there are more people south of the Rio Grande than there are north of it. I think that Latin America is on the move. These nations, as I have said, are very much like our own, and I believe are extremely important to Canada.

I cannot go farther than that with regard to Canadian policy at the moment. I do say this, however, that the policy of the Government has been and is to further improve the good relations which exist between Canada and the Latin American nations. For example, I plan to set up in the Department of External Affairs a Latin American Division. At the present time we only have a sub-division dealing with Latin American business, but it is far too important to be treated in that way. We have very much in mind the need for closer co-operation with these Western Hemisphere neighbours of ours and steps will be taken toward that end.