CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI

AND PEADE

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CANADA LOOKS SOUTH

CANADA AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTH

For years Canada's relations with Latin America were cordial but remote.

Few Latin Americans spoke English or French, few Canadians Spanish or Portuguese.

In recent years the world has shrunk. South and Central America are often in turmoil and though Ellesmere Island and Tierra del Fuego are still almost literally poles apart, Canada is involved. Its exchange of goods, most notably with Venezuela, Mexico and Brazil, has increased spectacularly in recent decades, and it is committed to helping the island countries of the Caribbean find their place in the sun.

In this issue CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI looks at Canada's policies and ventures, past and present, with the countries south of the 30th parallel.

AHAMAS

INICAN REPUBLIC PUERTO RICO

GUADELOUPE MARTINIQUE BARBADOS GRENADA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NAM

BRAZIL

BOLIV

RGENTU

FRENCH GUIANA

The Sum of Many Parts

"Latin America is . . . roughly the same size as Canada and the United States combined. It stretches 7,000 miles from Cape Horn to the United States border. The population exceeds 220,000,000: almost half of that number are Portuguese-speaking Brazilians; about 5,000,000 are Haitians, citizens of the most African country in the Americas; the remainder live in the eighteen republics that emerged from the Spanish colonial empire. Each of the twenty countries has its own historical past and its own particular view of the world. It is important to remember this distinctiveness-it has always been easier for foreigners to lump Latin America together than to recognize its individual parts." J.C.M. Ogelsby in Gringos from the Far North: Essays in the History of Canadian-Latin American Relations 1866-1968.

Is the Hemisphere Really a Region?

"If there is one region . . . to which Canada does not naturally belong, it is the so-called Western Hemisphere . . . the Western Hemisphere, as I understand it, begins in the east end of London, includes most of England, all of Ireland, and then goes westward into Siberia." From *The Better Part of Valour: Essays on Canadian Diplomacy*, by John Holmes.

EL SALVAD

NICARAGU

COSTA RICA

ECUADOR

PERL

Tropic of Capricorn

CHILE

A Concise History of Canada's Cautious Opening of Relations With the Latins

Two hundred years ago almost every country or colony in the Americas was quarrelling with someone.

British North America—Canada to be—was preoccupied with the United States and not very interested in the America to the south.

The first faint stirrings came in 1866. The U.S. was annoyed by British North America's recent pro-Confederacy tilt, and the Fathers of Confederation, who were slowly crafting a new country, feared they might lose their best market for fish, grain and lumber. They dispatched an eightmember mission to "open communications with the West India Islands, with Spain and her colonies (Cuba and Puerto Rico) and with Brazil and Mexico."

The mission split in two. One group went to Brazil and were entertained royally in Rio at Dom Pedro II's Imperial Court. The other went to Puerto Rico, Cuba and Haiti. No one went to Mexico where the brief Empire of Maximilian von Hapsburg was about to fall.

During the next seventy-four years there were other occasional overtures.

In December 1940 James MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and a four-member group made a more consequential effort. They went to Jamaica and Colombia where MacKinnon had an attack of kidney stones and had to return home. They made another try in July, visiting Equador, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. Within four years exports to the countries visited had more than doubled.

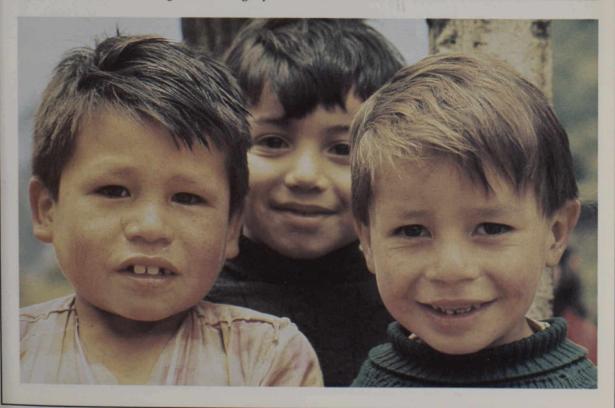
MacKinnon led another mission in 1946 and trade agreements were signed with Mexico and Colombia. By 1953—when Trade and Commerce Minister C.D. Howe led a large group to Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Trinidad, Venezuela, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba and Mexico—annual trade between Canada and the Latin American and Caribbean countries had topped \$500 million.

In 1968 External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp led the largest and most prestigious mission south—four ministers and thirty advisors to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico. Business kept on growing.

Last year Canada sold about \$4 billion worth of goods to the Latins and bought back about the same amount.

Why They Call Us Gringos

Mexicans started calling other North Americans gringos during their country's war with the United States in the 19th century. They were, J.C.M. Ogelsby tells us in *Gringos from the Far North*, impressed by the fact that a great many American soldiers were persistently singing a song that began, "Green grow the lilacs." The compacted initial two words were eventually applied to Canadians as well.



Venezuela

Venezuela has over 15 million people, mestizos or Spanish-Indians, Europeans, Africans and Indians.

It has the greatest trade exchange with Canada of any Latin country. There have been highlevel trade missions between the two countries since the mid-1970s. Prime Minister Trudeau paid an official visit in 1976, Venezuelan Foreign Minister José Zambrano Velasco came to Canada early in 1981 and External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan went to Venezuela in 1982.

Venezuela is Canada's major foreign supplier

Mexico, the third largest country in Latin America, has the largest Spanish-speaking population in the world.

Its 74 million people include mestizos, American Indians and Caucasians. It has been independent from Spain since 1810 and a republic since the French-sponsored monarchy under Maximilian von Hapsburg collapsed in 1822.

Canada and Mexico have been flirting with each other for a long time.

In 1905 the two countries hired a British steamship line to carry cargos between them. The contract was renewed in 1909 and 1912, but when the Mexican Revolution came in 1913 the steamship service ended.

In 1920 Mexico sent a commercial representative to Toronto, and Canada sent one to Mexico City. Nothing much came of that. of petroleum, and last year the trade balance was heavily in its favour: Canada imported \$1.8 billion worth of goods, mostly oil, and exported \$437 million worth.

Recently, as Venezuela's production of light crude oil has declined, it has displayed interest in Canadian technology for converting heavy oils such as oil sands.

Venezuela also sends Canada iron ore, cocoa and coffee, and Canada sends Venezuela newsprint, auto parts, synthetic rubber and plastics.

Mexico

World War II brought new urgency and the two countries signed an accord in 1946. Mexico sold Canada \$13.5 million worth of goods that year and bought \$8.8 million.

Today Mexico is Canada's second largest Latin trading partner and the one with which it has the most varied relationship. Canadian exports to Mexico more than doubled during the 1960s and Mexican exports to Canada tripled. In May 1980 the two countries signed an Agreement on Industrial and Energy Cooperation, which provides for the sale of Mexican oil to Canada and for Canadian participation in Mexico's industrial development. In 1981 Canada's exports rose to \$715 million and its imports, reflecting the impact of oil, went to \$996 million. Last year the imports leveled off at \$998 million while exports shrank to \$485 million.

Brazil

Brazil, the largest country in South America, has 127 million people, almost half of the continent's total.

It was Canada's best South American customer in 1982 when it bought \$525 million worth of goods and sold Canada \$482 million.

President Joao Figueiredo visited Ottawa that year and showed a particular interest in Canadian high technology.

Canada's Export Development Corporation then loaned Embratel, the Brazilian government's telecommunications corporation, \$84.6 million and Embratel arranged to buy two domestic communications satellites and associated ground equipment from Spar Aerospace Ltd. of Toronto. The EDC also loaned \$30 million to Petrobras, the Brazilian government's petroleum agency, to buy petroleum-refining equipment.

Clang, Clang, Clang Went the Trolley

During most of this century Canada was Brazil's greatest foreign investor.

The link began in 1896 when Capt. F.A.

Gualco, a resident of Toronto, and Augusto de Souza, the brother-in-law of the President of the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo, established Sao Paulo's first electric tramway system. Frederick S. Pearson, an American engineer, raised most of the capital needed in Canada, principally from stock-





holders in the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Sao Paulo Tramway, Light and Power Company Ltd., was incorporated in Ontario in 1899, and Alexander Mackenzie of Toronto went to Brazil as its first manager. By 1904 all of Sao Paulo's trams were electrically powered, and the company then built a much bigger system in Rio de Janeiro and took control of the telephone system and the gas company as well. The Brazilian Traction, Light and Power Co. Ltd., as the overall operation was known, made much money until the Great Depression. After that it had an increasingly difficult time. Tramway fares had been fixed by government decree, and since Brazil had a high rate of inflation it became difficult to pay for maintenance and replacement of equipment.

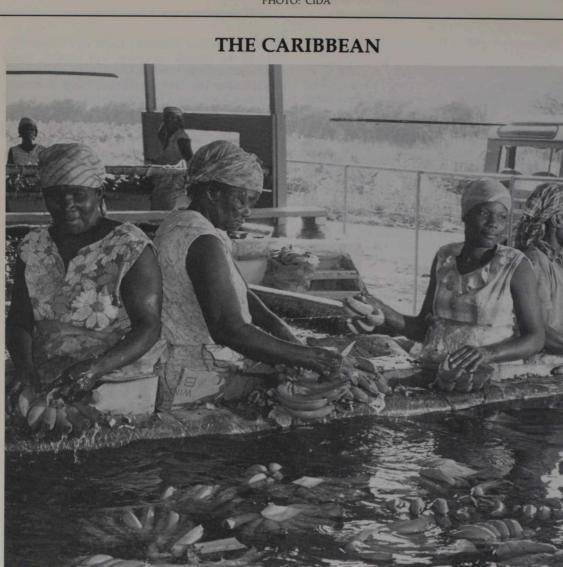
Henry Borden, the son of Canadian Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden, took over as company president in 1946, but Brazilians were becoming increasingly critical of the company's foreign ownership. In response the company moved its headquarters to Brazil and named a Brazilian as its chief executive officer.

In 1962 the government of Joao Goulart expropriated the telephone holdings in Rio, and in 1963 it took over the last of the tramway systems.

In 1969 the company changed its name to Brascan and began diversifying its holdings. Ten years later it sold its Light Servicos de Electricidade S.A. to the Brazilian government for what was considered a very good price, (Cdn) \$447 million. Brascan is now a huge holding company with the bulk of its investments in Canada but still with extensive holdings in Brazil including real estate, tin mining and tourism.

Country	Canadian Products Exported (thousands of \$)	Foreign Products Imported (thousands of \$)
Argentina	87,093	58,389
Barbados	32,088	6,754
Bolivia	9,112	8,076
Brazil	525,560	482,440
Chile	66,710	120,928
Colombia	190,655	92,011
Costa Rica	15,744	32,168
Cuba	324,399	94,843
Dominican Republic	50,283	18,364
Ecuador	58,421	51,220
El Salvador	13,976	20,870
Guatemala	34,021	23,090
Haiti	23,573	8,512
Honduras	15,234	28,442
Jamaica	67,404	125,149
Mexico	485,056	998,495
Nicaragua	15,561	26,651
Panama	36,266	18,190
Paraguay	690	1,102
Peru	105,066	33,201
Surinam	4,261	7,476
Uruguay	13,638	10,094
Venezuela	437,287	1,811,042

Canada, Latin and Caribbean trade in 1982



Canada has had a long and fruitful link with the countries of the Caribbean, particularly with fellow members of the British Commonwealth.

The Bank of Nova Scotia built a branch in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1889, eight years before it built one in Toronto, and the Royal Bank of Canada, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Montreal also have branches in the Islands. Canada does a brisk trade with Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Honduras and Jamaica.

In per-capita terms, the Caribbean nations receive the greatest share of Canada's world-wide aid programs. They are concentrated in agriculture, human resources and energy and have totaled \$360 million since 1965. In 1980 Canada gave priority status for overseas development aid to the Caribbean Commonwealth countries. In 1981 Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada would double its aid to the Caribbean for a total amount of \$350 million by 1986. Between 1980-81 and 1982-83, it disbursed \$130 million to the Caribbean Commonwealth countries and \$50.9

million to other countries in Central America.

The Canadian International Development Agency has contributed to scholarships, personnel and building construction at the University of the West Indies, which is supported by fourteen island governments.

Other CIDA projects encourage beef production and offer technical assistance to local airlines.

Some projects are regional, some limited to single countries. Grants to Jamaica, for example, have been used for food, fertilizer, steel and zinc bridge components, agricultural machinery and hospital equipment.

Canada's International Development Research Centre helps researchers in developing countries find their own answers to problems of hunger, health and education.

It currently directs \$8 million to projects in the Caribbean, ranging from establishment of a local oyster culture industry, development of disease resistance in plantains and bananas and treatment of dehydration in children, to development of computer information systems.



SPECIAL EDITION

PRIME MINISTER Pierre Trudeau Addresses

Peace and Security

Canada Today/d'Aujourd'hui

Prime Minister Trudeau hopes to enlist world leaders in a concerted effort to lessen tensions by bringing a firmer political will to the control of arms and the building of East-West confidence.

The effort has been commended in Canada, the United States and Europe. *The Los Angeles Times* applauded "an ambitious diplomatic effort" and James Reston in *The New York Times* said it was the voice of Canada, "a neighborly and friendly voice Washington cannot easily ignore."

His initiative for easing world tensions was first outlined in a major speech before the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age, at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on October 27.

Mr. Trudeau said he was deeply troubled by "a widening gap between military strategy and political purpose" and "a superpower relationship which is dangerously confrontational."

In the next few weeks the Prime Minister dis-

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cussed his proposals with Pope John Paul II and the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands. On November 13, in a speech in Montreal, he expanded on his initiative, and in late November he went to Japan to meet with Prime Minister Nakasone and to New Delhi, where he met with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India and other Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Both speeches emphasized Canada's dedication to the Western Alliance and its partnership with the United States in defence of the continent, coupled with a realization that efforts to improve the prospects for peace must be global in scope.

At Guelph the Prime Minister rejected the idea of a nuclear freeze and supported NATO's two-track policy of negotiating arms cuts while modernizing European defences and permitting the testing of the cruise missile in Canadian territory.

The Canadian Initiative To Date

October 27: Prime Minister Trudeau spoke at the University of Guelph before the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age.

November 8 to 11: The Prime Minister discussed the initiative with Pope John Paul II and the leaders of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands.

November 13: The Prime Minister gave specifics of the plan in a speech at Montreal.

November 19 to 27: The Prime Minister discussed the initiative with Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan and then went to New Delhi to meet with the other Commonwealth Heads of Government. The Declaration issued at the conclusion of the meeting supported "in all appropriate ways" the Canadian initiative and Prime Minister Trudeau's "efforts to restore active political contact and communications among all the nuclear weapon powers."

November 28 to 29: The Prime Minister met with China's leaders Deng Xiaoping and Zhaoziyang Ziyang in Peking and then returned to New Delhi.

November 29: The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Canada's Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, spoke to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. He said, in part:

It is important to bear in mind that Canada does not view the superpowers as moral equivalents. The United States is distinguished by values common to its friends and allies, above all the belief in liberty and democracy. But we believe that the world needs a better atmosphere if arms control talks are to have a chance to succeed.

We begin by acknowledging the existence of a mutuality of interest between the superpowers. This is not, in our view, wishful thinking. It is cold political realism. Both the United States and the USSR know that the other holds the key to its security. Both share a mutual interest in being free from the fear of accidental war and surprise attack. Both share a mutual interest in avoiding uncontrolled escalation of a crisis. Both have an interest in avoiding collisions with the other over regional conflicts. Both have an interest in stemming the horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the costly vertical proliferation of their own weapons, nuclear and otherwise.

The initiative launched by the Prime Minister of Canada is aimed at improving the atmosphere for discourse between the United States and the USSR and more generally between East and West. Canada Today/d'Aujourd'hui

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Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in Bonn with Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Bundesbildstelle Bonn

He said he is convinced that "casting a fresh linkage—of military strategy with, but subordinate to, strong political purpose—must become the highest priority of East and West alike," and that this is a time of changing realities, a time to weed out obsolete ideas.

"Our central purpose must be to create a stable environment of increased security for both East and West. We must aim at suppressing those nearly instinctive fears, frustrations, or ambitions which have so often been the reason for resorting to the use of force."

He noted that since the fading of détente there has been a "readiness to adapt to the worse rather than to exert our influence for the better."

He continued: "The responsibility for this lies partly, but by no means exclusively, with both superpowers. The United States and the Soviet Union outstrip the rest of us in their global reach, their armaments, and their leadership responsibilities. Naturally, they differ greatly—and I am not committing the fallacy of describing them as equals in any moral sense at all. Nevertheless, they breathe an atmosphere common to themselves, and share a global perception according to which even remote events can threaten their interests or their associates."

He noted that both powers have points in common: They occupy continental land masses and are economically self-sufficient to a considerable degree. They have somewhat ambivalent relations with Europe and Asia and are demographically complex, and each focuses on the other in deciding policies.

"What is essential to assert is that . . . as war is

too important to leave to the generals, so the relationship between the superpowers may have become too charged with animosity... to be entrusted to them alone."

Mr. Trudeau said that in addition to NATO's two-track approach of deployment and negotiation, a "third rail" of "confidence and communications" is needed—"a rail charging our dealings with the other side with a current of political energy."

He also said at Guelph that the risk of miscalculation is too great not to try to re-build confidence through active political contact and consultation.

"Only in this way can the quality of credibility of efforts toward peace and security, from whatever quarter, be animated and reinforced."

In Montreal he said he had taken the elements of a program for political management of the current crisis to his European colleagues "for discussion and refinement" and had returned "with the assurance of their personal attention." The first element is the need "to establish as soon as possible in the course of the coming year, a forum in which global limits might be negotiated for all five nuclear-weapons states."

He said that forum should recognize the rights of the USA and the USSR as strategic equals and provide a mutually acceptable and stable framework for the relationship between the forces of the United Kingdom, France and China and those of the superpowers.

"In this way neither Britain, nor France, nor China need fear that their forces will be subject to restraints which do not recognize their own national interest."

A second element of his program is the need to shore up the Non-Proliferation Treaty which comes up for renewal in 1985.

"If the five nuclear-weapons states could begin to strengthen their side of the non-proliferation bargain, then the rest of us could more easily bring good sense to bear on those who have not yet signed on."

He said there should be incentives for Third World states to forego nuclear weapons—a linkage between disarmament and development, and a full range of safeguards governing the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

The third element of his initiative, he said, recognizes the dangerous concentration of forces—conventional as well as nuclear—in the

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heart of Europe.

He said there is an apprehension that the more powerful Warsaw Pact forces could be tempted to gamble on a conventionally-armed attack, to "throw down the challenge to Western leaders either of accepting defeat, or of being the first to resort to the use of nuclear weapons in our own defence."

He said the simple but expensive way to correct the imbalance would be for the West to increase its conventional forces, but this should be a last resort. "The far more sensible approach would be for both sides to reduce their conventional forces to mutually agreed levels." He said the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction (MBFR) talks in Vienna pursue this goal and though there is sign of movement the pace is too slow. He said he has explored, with his colleagues in the Alliance, ways to give the MBFR talks fresh political impetus.

He said another negotiating forum will open in Stockholm in January, the "Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe." He said he has proposed that the merits of high-level political representation there be seriously considered.

A fourth element, he said, flows from a strategy of suffocation he first proposed to the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament in 1978. The strategy would address arms control measures for new technologies.

"I have in mind a ban on the testing and deployment of those anti-satellite systems designed to operate at high altitude. Such weapons could attack the global communications which are of critical importance for crisis management. Destruction of the other side's command and control network, at a time of crisis, would leave him blind and mute at the very moment when stability demands awareness and response, not the panic reaction of 'launch on warning.'" He said there is still time for the superpowers to agree to forego these systems.

He is also concerned that new intercontinental strategic weapons may be so highly mobile as to be virtually invisible, and it might consequently be impossible for either side, or for international bodies, to verify arms control agreements.

He believes the prospects for arms control

would be enhanced if methods of verification were taken into account while new strategic systems are still in the developmental stage.

The Prime Minister said he would introduce, in the appropriate forum, "papers calling for an international agreement to (a) ban the testing and deployment of high-altitude anti-satellite systems; (b) restrict excessive mobility of ICBMs; and (c) require that future strategic weapons systems be fully verifiable by national technical means."

He said the several elements offered represent a truly comprehensive approach to the crisis of peace and security.

"It is essential . . . that this interlocking programme, this safety net for our very survival, be guided by political leadership at the highest level. That our own consultations, and talks with others, be quickened by a jolt of political energy. That we work to identify steadily increasing areas of mutual interest, starting from our common humanity and our common fate on this earth."

The Prime Minister said that in addition to the consultations underway with the United States, he has initiated consultations with the Soviet Union through a personal emissary.

"I am encouraged by this momentum, and heartened by the response. But I am also well aware that critics of my initiative have difficulty in grasping this step-by-step approach. Some would prefer the passionate embrace of an unattainable ideal. Others are paralyzed by the complexities of the issues in play. I believe that peace must be waged steadily, with caution and with realism. We must work with due respect for the fragility of political trust, for the importance of building carefully, for the need to search out common ground on which to stand. . . .

"Peace and security are not cold abstractions. Their purpose is to preserve the future of mankind, the growth of the human spirit, and the patrimony of our planet.

"The choice we face is clear and present. We can without effort abandon our fate to the mindless drift toward nuclear war. Or we can gather our strength, working in good company to turn aside the forces bearing down on us, on our children, on this earth."

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Cuba

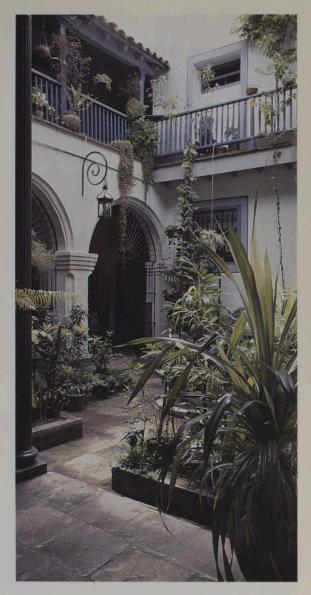
The largest Caribbean island is located 90 miles southeast of Florida. It has about 10 million people over 44,200 square miles.

Cuba was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1492 and governed by the Spanish for most of the next four hundred years. The United States took control during the Spanish-American war and kept it until the Republic of Cuba was established in 1902. It continued to be directly involved until 1934. The present communist government was established by revolution in 1959 and the revolutionary commander, Fidel Castro, has been Cuba's undisputed leader since.

Castro sent his first trade mission to Canada in 1960 and the exchange grew rapidly after the United States broke off trade with Cuba. Canadian exports-principally industrial equipment, breeding bulls, frozen semen and feed grainswent from \$20 million in the mid-1960s to \$250 million in 1976. In 1975 Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Alastair Gillespie led a trade mission to Cuba, and despite Cuba's shortage of foreign currency reserves, exports have continued to grow. Canada does not send materials to Cuba that are considered strategic by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and in recent years its exports have been mostly wheat and other cereals, vegetables and vegetable preparations. Total exports in 1982 amounted to almost \$325 million, with wheat alone accounting for \$124 million.

Canada's import levels are much lower, their value totaling almost \$95 million with raw and refined sugar, fish and other seafood, tobacco, cocoa and chocolate, the principal components.

Canada ceased its aid program to Cuba at the time of Cuba's involvement in Angola and its trade relations, though lively, are controlled by the Cuban government and conducted through government trading organizations.



The OAS

The International Union of American States (which would become the Organization of American States), established in 1890, is the oldest international regional organization in the world.

It is now an agent of the United Nations, governed by its own charter adopted in 1948 and amended by the Protocol of Buenos Aires in 1967.

It is usually thought of as all the Latin American countries plus the United States, but in recent decades it has acquired many English-speaking members from the Caribbean as well as the Dutchspeaking delegation from Surinam and the French-speaking one from Haiti.

Canada became a Permanent Observer in 1972 as a first step in strengthening its ties with Latin America and the Caribbean. It doesn't vote or participate in OAS debates, but it has a full-time representation led by an ambassador. Spain and Italy also have ambassadors and Guyana, Israel, the Netherlands, France, the German Federal Republic, Belgium, Japan, Portugal, Egypt, Switzerland, the Vatican, Greece, Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Korea and Morocco have observers.

Canada is also an active participant in the:

- Postal Union of the Americas and Spain
- Inter-American Statistical Institute
- Pan American Institute of Geography and History
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
- Pan American Health Organization
- Inter-American Development Bank
- Pan American Railway Congress Association
- Inter-American Telecommunications Conference.

PAHO

Canada joined the Pan American Health Organization in 1971. PAHO spent some \$182 million in fiscal year 1982-83, concentrating its efforts on the 40 per cent of Latin America's people who lack proper health care. It has had some notable successes. Smallpox was eradicated in Latin America in 1973 largely through its efforts, and a 50 per cent drop in the infant mortality rate was achieved between 1960 and 1980.

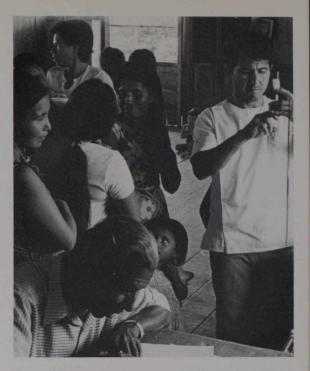
It is linked to the World Health Organization through its secretariat, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, which also serves as a WHO regional office.

CALA

The Canadian Association—Latin America— Caribbean has 200 business members. It considers ideology irrelevant and is concerned with developing trade with countries of such diverse political inclinations as Argentina, Chile and Cuba. It is partly supported by the Canadian government.

IICA

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the agricultural agency of the OAS, was founded in 1942 and has twenty-nine members. Canada joined in 1973. It trains professionals



in plant and animal sciences, conducts agricultural research, provides technical assistance to member countries, and maintains the Inter-American Centre for Documentation and Agricultural Information at its headquarters in San José, Costa Rica. Canada provides about 7 per cent of its \$20 million annual budget.



The Missionary Link

The French Canadians

There has long been a vague feeling in Quebec that French Canada and Latin America are naturally linked.

The link has been largely religious and lingual—both are overwhelmingly Catholic and both speak Romance languages.

The first few Canadian nuns, five Sisters of Providence, stopped in Valparaiso, Chile, in 1853 while sailing from British Columbia to their mother house in Montreal and the Archbishop of Santiago persuaded them to stay. "It is certainly Divine Providence who has led you here where you are longed for," he wrote.

Today most of the 1,409 Canadian priests and nuns in South and Central America are Francophones.

Modern involvement began when a few Canadian priests volunteered in response to requests from the Vatican and from Latin-American bishops. The Franciscans were sent to the Amazon in 1945 and Oblate Fathers to Iquique, Chile, in 1947.

One hundred and fifty-four missionary com-

munities were established in eighteen countries between 1957 and 1970. Seventy-one per cent of the centres are served by French Canadians. The Ottawa *Citizen* noted that "the adaptation of French Canadian priests and religious to South America has been markedly different from that of priests and religious from the United States." It said French-speaking Canadian priests are not absorbed into the local English-speaking communities and they seem less prone to pressures than their American counterparts.

Both French and English-speaking Canadians have had striking successes.

Father Jean-Marie Paiement from Sturgeon Falls, Ontario, founded a coffee marketing cooperative at La Union in the mountains of Guatemala in 1966. Within four years the farmers were receiving \$26 a bag, up from \$5.

In 1967, Father André Godin, who had been working in a shanty town on the edge of Lima, Peru, bought forty-six acres of mountain jungle at Aucayacu, at the end of a highway. With two other priests he cleared twenty-nine acres, built a house and several sheds and planted corn, rice, pistachio nuts and soybeans.





The farm became a centre for teaching farm techniques, and within five years the population of the backwoods region had grown from 1,000 to more than 30,000. Between 1969 and 1971 rice production in the area grew from 415,800 pounds to 5,864,200 pounds.

Father Charles Conroy, a native of Newfoundland, and Father Richard Morse, of London, Ontario, were sent to Monsefu, Peru, by the local bishop after the people of Monsefu expelled their priest, who they felt was more interested in money than in his parishioners. They established a school and a clinic and in 1963 Father Conroy was elected interim mayor. He initiated water and sewage projects and later relocated a polluted irrigation canal so it did not flow through a residential district. When the old canal was filled and paved, the town named it Carlos Conroy Avenue. Father Conroy and two sisters from the school were killed in a highway accident in 1966.

The Protestant Presence

Protestant missionaries were most active in South America in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

An Anglican mission established an industrial school, a girls' school and a clinic among the Araucanian people of southern Chile in 1895. The Canadian connection ended in the 1930s, but the mission continues with native-born clergy. Dr. Marie Cameron, a Baptist, who went to San José, Costa Rica, to work with the Latin American Mission founded in 1929, was the first woman and the last foreigner given a license to practice in Costa Rica. In her spare time she trained nurses and established the Clinica Biblica as an important medical institution. She retired in 1968 and local evangelicals assumed responsibility for the clinic in 1968. It has since become a recognized pioneer in family planning.

The longest enterprise undertaken by Protestant missionaries was in the Bolivian town of Oruro, a centre for silver, tin and wolfram mining.

Archibald Brownlee Reekie, once of Bruce County, Ontario, opened the first Protestant day school in the country in 1899. He was joined by the Rev. and Mrs. Routledge.

The school was a small success, but efforts to convert the Bolivians were unrewarded.

Mr. Routledge, a man who apparently found adjustment difficult, resigned, explaining that his work with them was of peculiar difficulty owing to "their devotion to a life of pleasure." He and his wife went back to Canada.

Reekie stayed on, concentrating on non-Spanish-speaking Indians, and was joined by other Canadian clergymen. They lobbied the government to permit civil marriage and public Protestant services, and established a farm on the shores of Lake Titicaca.

Islanders Go North

A considerable number of West Indians have settled in Canada.

More than 130,000 came between 1946 and 1976, 85 per cent going to Ontario, most to Toronto, although a substantial number went to Montreal.

The first Guyanese to arrive were people of Portuguese ancestry who had worked in the Canadian banks in Guyana. The first Barbadians were former police officers.

In 1955 the government initiated a "Female Domestic Immigration Scheme" and one hundred single women, seventy-five from Jamaica and twenty-five from Barbados, were admitted. They agreed to work as domestic servants for one year and were then eligible for landed immigrant status. By the time the program ended in 1967, 2,690 women from several countries had arrived.

In 1962 the immigration laws were relaxed and there was a large increase in the numbers of Caribbean immigrants to Canada, some by way of Britain or the U.S. Many were doctors, nurses or teachers and others were students enrolled at Canadian universities.

The greatest number came from Jamaica, the second greatest from Trinidad and Tobago.

Toronto, once a homogeneous, quiet Anglo-Celtic city, now has a vibrant mix. The West Indians have their own radio station, restaurants, cricket matches, markets, an annual music festival and a quarterly cultural magazine.

The Caribana Festival, modeled after Trinidad's carnival, is held each summer.

This year the twelve-day celebrations included five boat cruises on Lake Ontario, a ball at the Royal York Hotel, the crowning of Miss Caribana, a children's festival and a parade down University Avenue.



The Birds Go South

Among the many Canadians who go south to the Caribbean Islands and Latin America in the winter are about 225 species of birds.

The peregrine falcon, the common tern, flycatchers, native Canadian sparrows, various warblers and a great many others make it to Mexico, Central America, the Islands and even the southern tip of the continent.

The Canadian Wildlife Service's Latin American Program was launched in 1980. The governments of Argentina, Brazil, Guyana, French Guiana, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela cooperated in a survey of South America's northern and eastern coastlines, identifying shorebird concentration areas.

One problem being wrestled with is the shrinking of tropical forests in Central America and parts of Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil, which is imperiling some 100 species of forest-dwelling birds.



Toronto's Caribana festival parade.

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