

SYMPOSIUM ON DEVELOPMENT AND HISTORICAL PROCESS

1. THE BASIC IDEA

The proposition by the United States of the program "Alliance for Progress" shows a new and deep understanding between that country and Latin America in respect to the economic aspects of the development problem.

The moment has arrived, perhaps to broaden this understanding, in the light of the historical process, and of the global changes of a whole social structure - the so called "Colonial Structure", in Latin America.

Regarding the Brazilian situation we need a sincere and effective dialogue between the national "intelligentsia", and its American counterpart, in an attempt to establish a discussion on the very categories of thinking, the stereotypes, even the myths, that, from both sides, show the lack of a critical interpretation of interamerican relations. The revolutionary purpose shown by the new American Government to favour the needs of a society in a radical transition in Latin America makes believable the possibility of a real meeting of intellectuals. A complete new kind of meeting, distinct of those of the economic leaders of the two countries, of their governmental bureaucracies, of their teachers turned into proselites, of their students, just with a technical education, deprived of its historical environment.

The assumption, thus, implied in the rejection by the United States, of any ideology of an economical and political dominant regime, is to open a new change of points of view with the "lefts" of the Latin American countries.

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it needs a continuous capacity, to make a distinction, in the opposition United States faces in the Continent, between the one that obeys to an external interest, and the one derived from a genuine effort of self-determination. The possibility of correct appraisal of Brazilian nationalism rests on this new and open critical attitude. From the Brazilian side, the positive effects of the dialogue depends on an honest distinction between governmental action and certain American economic activities; on resisting any temptation to envisage American policies as a global phenomenon of domination.

2. METHOD

This dialogue may become an authentic one if assured by the following process:

a) organization of the agenda of the symposium on a polemical way, in order to catch the vivid issues, that rise in the cultural, political and economical fields, concerning Brazilian and U.S. self-appraisal of their present historical moment.

b) systematization of those issues in order to present them in an integrated complex, possibly subordinated to the title "Development and historical process".

c) to choose the debaters, within the political economical and social fields, that are really identified with a polemic view of the subject specially in the following social sets:

- 1) university and post-university institutes professors,
- 2) congressmen,
- 3) intellectuals and newspapermen.

d) organization of the symposium as follows:

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months, one in each country,

3) the intellectuals chosen to form each group must be able to develop a general theme, and to participate as debaters, on the subsequent general discussion,

4) the expositions and discussions would be printed in their polemical form.

SUGGESTED THEMES

Themes concerning brazilian perspective with respect to its own present reality.

a) CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

Colonial countries - Western Successor, Cultores, or external ones, to that culture?

b) POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

Nacionalism - an authentic or a reflexive phenomenon in the underdeveloped countries?

c) SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

The concept of "people" in the underdeveloped countries; colonial stratification and social classes.

d) ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

The role of the State in the evolution of the economic colonial systems; socialism in old capitalism systems, and the "take off" of new development economies of the Hemisphere.

Themes concerning brazilian perspectives with respect to present U.S. reality.

a) CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

b) POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

Government face to american activities, in respect to its external and internal plans.

c) SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

I -- The "community" and the "managerial revolution" at the present stage of american life.

II - Public opinion mechanisms, and the intellectual's role in american society.

d) ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

I -- The public sector in the american economy; its extention and its set of decision.

II - Capital concetration in present day american capitalism

III - Forms of the rising american "community" in the economic field.

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