

Book Reviews

merce (or bilateral trade councils), and then there are some which are really promotion offices sponsored by foreign governments: "The Canada-Germany, Canada-Netherlands and Canada-France Chambers of Commerce fall into the latter category. Three of the most prominent bona fide chambers are the Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce, the Canada-Japan Trade Council, and the Swiss-Canadian Chamber of Commerce, all of which qualify for inclusion in this study."

The author does not seek to analyze and explain why this is, because she has as her objective a preliminary, tentative survey. The discussion of each interest group, she emphasizes, is "confined to information on its purpose, foreign policy goals, membership, structure and funding.

The inclusion of full details on tactics, government contacts, and relative influence and effectiveness of the groups is beyond the scope of this survey."

Bearing these qualifications in mind, this guide will be of considerable use to academics, journalists, indeed anyone concerned with the public political process in Canada. There are helpful indexes of interest groups involved in foreign policy, with addresses, phone numbers, and list of interviewees.

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Letters to the Editor

Sir,

If Fearn and Leibovitz are as irrational about other aspects of peacemaking in their article, "A Start on Peacemaking," (*International Perspectives*, May/June 1985), as in their short paragraph on modern media, war will continue to be mankind's lot despite, or maybe even because of, the efforts of Fearn and Leibovitz.

Assertions such as "modern mass media have come to function as a broadsheet for advertising"; the "decapitation of a free and inquiring press"; "the decline of autonomous and critical journalism," and "mass-mediated information serves to tranquilize the passive majority," add up to the most unintelligent conglomeration of what must be sociological jargon it has been my misfortune to read for a long time.

Surely some substantiation should have been included, no matter how biased in the gathering, to support claims the media are broadsheets for advertising, that a free press has been decapitated, that critical journalism has declined and that the passive majority are truly tranquilized.

I am reassured, however, by Fearn's and Leibovitz's "however" bit at the end of their paragraph, that "critical journalism remains possible for those who dare to try it," which is what is intended here.

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