

Cité Libre's own editorial in favour of membership in its October, 1961, edition qualified its position so much that it was apparent that the editor was concerned about the organization. He favoured membership because Canada was an American nation, but he pointed out that Canada must retain its freedom to make its own policies in foreign affairs, and it should be free to disagree with other members.¹⁶ A guest editorial in Canadian Mining and Metallurgical Bulletin strongly advocated OAS membership. The author had no hesitations as he argued, "Latin America... is no longer remote and Canada cannot afford to maintain an indifferent attitude toward our friends, the Latin Americans."¹⁷

1965 and 1966 saw Arthur Irwin's articles in Queen's Quarterly and Canadian Forum and the reply by Professor Smith to the Queen's Quarterly article. There the issue stands for the moment.

It is interesting to note that the one time the government called on the public to express itself by writing directly to the Minister for External Affairs, The public did so. But not overwhelmingly. There were more letters in the Division files on that subject and in response to that issue than on any other Latin American topic. And a December, 1961 memorandum to the Minister showed the majority of the 205 letters received after April had been opposed to membership. About twenty-five per cent of the writers lived in British Columbia (Victoria, the Gulf Islands, and Vancouver) and the remainder on the Prairies and in Ontario. Québec and the Maritimes rendered little response. The penmanship reflected the age of a majority of the writers and the letters' contents reflected their emotional response. A July 6, 1961, memorandum to the Secretary of State pointed out that in