

development and maturity."¹⁵ A Le Droit editorial declared "Le Canada ne doit pas demeurer à l'écart" and stated that Canada should play a role in Latin America; if need be, in the OAS. It believed that Canada would become no more involved in internal affairs of OAS nations than it did by participating in NATO and the UN.¹⁶

The May visit of the Secretary of State for External Affairs of South America was news and the Globe viewed possible OAS entry as "A Dangerous Commitment."¹⁷ Mr. Green's statements on his return were reported in the Canadian press apparently without much comment. But his trip, and the continued Government interest in closer relations with Latin America, led a number of individuals with varying experience in Latin America to write articles for Canadian publications. These appeared in late summer and in the autumn, and discussed the economic prospects for Canada in Latin America, or were designed to introduce the area to readers. The question of OAS participation was included in most of the articles and the authors inclined toward membership, though it was not unanimous.¹⁸

The special meeting of the Toronto Branch, Canadian Institute of International Affairs, reflected the ambivalence demonstrated by the above writers. In a stimulating discussion regarding "Canada and the OAS" the panelists split 4-3 in favour of joining, and the majority of observers were also divided on the question. However, there apparently was little reasoning and a great deal of emotion generated over the issue; and when it came to trying to discover how the OAS functioned there was an evident lack of knowledge on that subject.¹⁹