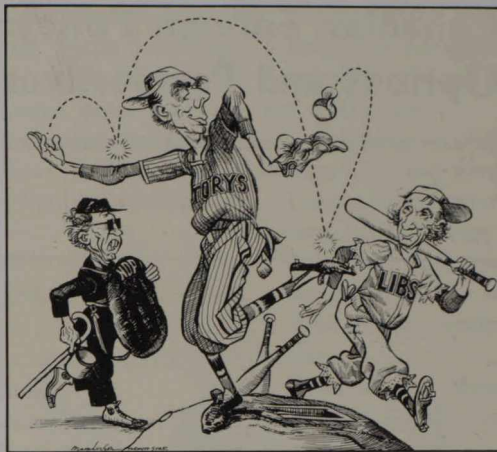


continued from page seven

frayed the ties, causing doubts about the wisdom of British leadership and, most significantly, dividing Canadians — the overwhelming majority of English speakers favored conscription during the war; the overwhelming majority of French speakers were against it. In 1926, with the Balfour Declaration, Canada became the first Dominion, an "autonomous community." It sent its first Ministers abroad, and it officially acquired a foreign policy of its own. Prime Minister Mackenzie King conducted it in terms of domestic realities, and one of the realities was that many Canadians shunned foreign involvements which could lead to war, feeling like Sen. Raoul Dandurand, that "We live in a fire-proof house far from inflammable materials." World War II arrived nevertheless. The authors take off from this background. They consider the consequences of past and continuing events on the people at home — of World War II, of the rise of the U.S. to ultra power, of the fading of the British Empire — and of the attitude of the people at home on foreign policy. (Things, domestic and foreign do not divide as nicely as the title suggests.) In



separate chapters, they consider Canada and Europe; Canada and the Third World; and, of course, Canada and the United States. They consider East-West tension and the evolutions therein. They report on the transformation of the British Commonwealth into a viable Commonwealth where most members are non-white and few indeed are British.

The book is essentially a study of contemporary conditions, occasioned by the recent reassessment of Canadian foreign policy commissioned by the Trudeau government. It is able to probe a good deal deeper and more critically than does the government White Paper. It is particularly revealing in the complex area of U.S.-Canadian relations, a field the white paper discretely declines to consider

separately.

It is a fascinating book. It lectures quite clearly; it explains persuasively why some things are as they are at the moment; and it provides, perhaps almost accidentally, a complex view for the people in the melting pot of their neighbors in the mosaic.

Reviewed by Tom Kelly, an American writer on government and other affairs.

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