

The December 1973 issue of Saturday Night carried an article by Robert Fulford entitled, "Canada, friend of all dictatorships".

In its issue of January 14, 1974, the Toronto Star published an article by Professor Harvey Levenstein, McMaster University, the paper's regular contributor on Latin American affairs, entitled: "Latin America: We can learn more than we can teach". After alleging that none of the Canadians at the embassy in Chile could speak Spanish, he wrote that "it has long been a commonplace among Canadians in Latin America that the last place to go to find out what is happening in the country is the Canadian embassy". He went on to say that this smacked of the type of story regarding the U.S. foreign service in the 1950's, the era of the "Ugly Americans". This, he thought, was no accident, "for our policy towards Latin America (and much of the world) is still being shaped by the people whose minds were cast in those years". Professor Levenstein alleged that "for years our foreign policy makers regarded Latin America as the private fief of the United States". That is why Canada never joined the OAS. Although we prided ourselves on our independent policy vis-à-vis Cuba, in fact we did everything short of withdrawing recognition. "We are now plunging full blown into a pallid imitation of American policy of the early 1960's", by trying to develop markets by low-interest loans and technical aid-markets for manufactured products that Latin American countries might get more cheaply from the American firms that own the branch plants in Canada. He wrote that