

Politics and economics are very closely interwoven in the fabric of Latin American business."⁸ John Barleigh, writing in Canada Month's fore-runner edition, said that Canadians, including journalists were uninformed about Latin America, and that there are reasons for or against joining the OAS, but, "one readily apparent benefit: we would have to learn more about the area."⁹

S.J. Randall, President of General Steel Wares Ltd., was anxious for readers of Monetary Times to understand the need for becoming involved in Latin America. He felt that with the emerging trading blocks it was necessary to get a toe-hold in them before it was too late. Canada, as a part of the Western Hemisphere, was involved in what happens there, and it would be to Canadian advantage to participate in creating an increased consumer market in the area. He implied that membership in the OAS was one means of creating contacts.¹⁰ Kenneth McNaught on "Canada's Pan-American Hot Seat," was opposed to joining the OAS. He cited historical reasons for avoiding membership.¹¹

Canada Month's, February, 1962 editorial, "Another Uncertainty: Canada into the OAS," discussed the issues involved. It believed Canadian opinion was "pretty solidly in favour" of membership, but could still see that the usual arguments against joining were strong. However, the editor believed that Canada was going to become more and more involved in Latin America at the expense of its British and European relations.¹²

John Holmes' account of his attendance at the Bahia Conference in International Journal cited his opinion that "Hemispheres are after all figments of the geographer's imagination." And he saw the inter-american