

disregarded or impaired. This situation changed during the 1920-30 decade.

Fourthly, the Parliamentary apathy toward questions of foreign affairs - other than relations with the United States - was partly based on the elementary facts of geography. The international problems of the world beyond the North American continent impinged but slightly, prior to 1914, on the outlying parts of the Empire. Great Britain was a part of the European system; Canada was not. Canada felt herself secure behind the screen of the Monroe Doctrine and the British and United States navies; it was secure by virtue of the wide moat of the Atlantic on one side and the Pacific on the other, with the vast Arctic zone almost uninhabited, inaccessible, serving as an insulator in the north. The threat of American annexationism had virtually passed, and the "century of peace" along the border was well along its course. The First World War proved how illusory was this confidence in Canada's geographical isolation and security; a Serbian political feud and a shot in Sarajevo had plunged Canada into a four year war in Europe; and after that revelation, more Canadians began to take a more concerned interest in world affairs in remote parts of the inhabited globe and to take a more direct and active interest, through the League of Nations and in other respects, in the world's foreign affairs.

Fifthly, Canada had no diplomatic machinery