

III. Canadian Opinion

Canadian opinion is scattered, confused, relatively uninformed on European issues, and in this situation it is easy to be misled by expressions which really represent small groups, but it might be hazarded that:-

The overwhelming majority of Canadians would like to see the braggart licked and the under dog triumphant, but equally hope that Providence or Haile Selassie will do the trick, and that Canada will not be involved in war.

A substantial majority support mild sanctions against Italy, which they assume will not mean war.

A large section would support severe economic or even military sanctions if the United Kingdom were to take that line, but most of them, particularly the imperialist as distinct from the League wing, probably hope the United Kingdom won't take that line. The Hoare-Laval proposals had a distinct effect on Canadian opinion; it is hard to "back up England" when England is backing up.

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