

element, I hasten to add, the necessity of close co-operation with a good and gigantic friend and neighbour.

It's a tricky, not an easy situation; and is just one more reason why Canada, with its 19 million inhabitants occupying half a continent, but with most of them clustered close to the United States boundary in a kind of continental, 4,000-mile-long ribbon development, it is one of the additional reasons why Canada is one of the most difficult countries in the world to govern. Especially for the head of a minority government!

That difficulty -- and I am not complaining about it -- is increased by the fact that our people have come near to achieving your material standard of living - nearer than any other people - and, living so close to you in every way, we will not now accept anything less. We want to have two television sets in every house, two chickens in every pot, two cars in every garage. But it's far harder for our 19 million to finance all this than it is for our wealthier neighbor. So, we borrow - largely from you.

These borrowings have had happy as well as less-happy results for us. They have been responsible for much - and we should acknowledge it - of the growth and development of our country. Without your capital we could not have maintained the pace and pattern of our development. Your money has saved us from the disastrous consequences of a large, unfavourable trade balance with you. It has also put us deeply into debt and in some danger of mortgaging our future. That naturally worries us. In terms of your income, our unfavourable balance of payments with the U.S.A. during the last five years will have averaged \$17 billion each year.

That gives us, or should give us, furiously to think. I want to assure you, however, that in all this concern there is no anti-American feeling in the sense that there is any unfriendliness to American people. Of course not, and there will not be.

On the contrary, we are so friendly that we feel that we can criticize the United States as a Texan does, and in the same idiom. But, with this friendliness, there is a resolve in Canada, now, to promote and protect our own development as a separate nation as best we can.

We are right in trying to do this, as I am sure Americans will understand. As a former Governor-General of Canada, the Right Honourable Vincent Massey has put it: "Americans do not dislike us when we are loyal to ourselves, and they respect us when we stand up for what we believe to be our rights, as they are always zealous in defending what they believe to be theirs".

But we, and you also, should always be careful to make sure that, in the protection of our national interest, not only our policies but our procedures are fair to our friends; that, if experience shows we have made a mistake, we should try to correct it; that we do not fall victim to a super-sensitive, obstinate and narrow economic nationalism, which would be more foolish to Canada than for almost any country in the world, because we live by foreign trade.