

Let me mention a few of these neighbourly affairs which are current just now. The St. Lawrence seaway and power developments come at once to mind. It now looks as if the Congress, after years of refusal, is about to sanction American participation in the Seaway. Agreement has been reached between the two Governments on a number of occasions over the past thirty years, but hitherto Congress has always withheld its approval. And the joint hydro-electric development of the International Rapids Section has been stalled for years by the political and legal strategems of its opponents. These delays have caused a good deal of impatience on my side of the border, particularly of late since our large increase in economic strength has brought it home to Canadians that we are perfectly capable of completing the seaway ourselves. At any rate it now seems possible that, with the active interest and co-operation of U.S. authorities, the legal impediments to the power scheme will be disposed of in a few months so that construction can get under way this coming summer. (Industrial Ontario needs the power badly.) Whether the Seaway is to be a joint or purely Canadian undertaking, it now appears certain that it will go ahead. Either way we in Canada are convinced that it will redound to the benefit of both our countries in providing for heavy waterborne traffic into the heart of the continent.

Another current example of our neighbourly business is one which has recently acquired added importance for us both - the defence of North America. The new weapons and the capabilities of modern aircraft to fly over the Arctic roof of the Western Hemisphere has given urgency to the solution of this complicated problem. Here it is evident that our objective is the same. And there is no doubt that we will work together in this business. But there are many technical and political - questions to be solved. How much radar and early warning and where? What interceptor arrangements? Who pays? Who commands? We Canadians will have to take care that no unreasonable emphasis on national sovereignty, no undue sensitiveness or false pride is allowed to prevent measures necessary for the safety of us both. And you Americans, I suggest, would do well to bear in mind that Canada's co-operation will be the more wholehearted and effective if sympathetic allowance is made for our national views and interests. So far our record on joint defence is good - very good. And since I have come to Washington I have been much impressed by the co-operative and friendly spirit which your people, civil and military, are showing. But as the scale of the effort is stepped up - as it must be to meet the new capabilities of those who threaten us - the test of our commonsense and mutual forbearance will be more severe.

There are many other examples of our neighbourly relations which I might cite. They range widely in variety and importance - border-crossings, commercial dealings, defence purchasing, security - a multitude of affairs which provide your Embassy in Ottawa and my own Mission in Washington with plenty to do. Usually we can deal with each other in a practical, commonsense, North American way. When President Eisenhower was in Canada last autumn, he put it this way: