

understand, with Canada's real concern about jurisdiction exercised by even the most friendly country over civilian and military activities on Canadian soil.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, there have also been some difficulties over that unguarded boundary which is the delight of every after dinner speaker on Canadian-United States relations. Last year our joint border was crossed by new record crowds of United States tourists, and many Canadians went to the United States though the number was restricted by foreign exchange conditions. A few Canadians, however, did not manage to get across. We can understand, Mr. Speaker, our neighbour's legitimate desire to strengthen its border regulations in order to hinder the tourist and convention activities of communist agents. We accept of course its complete right to admit or refuse to admit persons into its country. That is a right which we ourselves maintain. But we consider it unfortunate when innocent citizens are inconvenienced and embarrassed by security delays, and when others are prevented from visiting the United States because of alleged activities which could, even if true, hardly constitute a threat to the security of that great and powerful state. We are at present discussing this whole question on a very friendly basis, as we always do, with the competent United States officials and we hope soon to arrange a solution for a problem which has understandably aroused anxiety in this country lest it cast a shadow, even a small one, over the easy and friendly intercourse between our two peoples.

Our relations with the United States are more complex and continuous than with any other nation in the world, both between governments and between private organizations and individuals in our two countries. All of us in Canada of course attach enormous importance to these relations. It is our great good fortune that the power and influence of the United States is wielded by a friendly and peaceful people through a friendly and peaceful government of their choosing. In a world where some states stand in daily fear of a great neighbour, we appreciate the fact that our border marches with that of a powerful state that shares our ideals of freedom and our abhorrence of war, and that conducts its relations with smaller states on a basis of friendly understanding. Conversely, and I hope I will not be thought immodest in saying this, we consider it is the good fortune of the United States to have in us a neighbour which, though much less powerful has shown itself competent in the management of its own affairs, united in the face of external danger, and strong in the resources and the will necessary to meet danger when it arises. We share a common political background and our social and ethical ideals spring from similar origins. There is therefore a solid basis for the co-operative effort which characterizes our relations and enriches the life we lead together on this continent.

Latin America

May I say just a word about our relations with Latin America. Since the exchange of diplomatic missions with several of these Latin American republics and also through our increasingly friendly contacts with their representatives at United Nations meetings, there has been a welcome growth in our knowledge of each other's affairs. Broadly speaking, we have found, as we have come to know each other better, that we have a similar point of view on most, if not all, important international questions and a common desire to promote the security and welfare of our peoples. The cordial nature of our relations with the twenty Latin American republics has been given tangible expression in a variety of ways. In the face of present world economic difficulties, there has been since 1939 a tenfold increase in the total value of our trade with the nations of this area of the world. Not only do we continue to export to Latin America commodities such as wheat and newsprint which have always been of importance to our foreign trade in that part of the world, but we have extended the list to include other items such as, for example, ships and machinery. We have also co-operated on matters of mutual interest and concern in the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

For instance, Mr. Speaker, at the current meeting of the general assembly we were associated with Bolivia and the United States in presenting a resolution concerning human rights in the Balkan countries. In addition, we have continued