

water-basins can dramatically effect the environment – the extent and timing of water-flow changes, water-levels and associated water-qualities are critical to the survival of flora and fauna. In one way or another, Canadian water-resources as they exist during the year can be said to be spoken for.

Finally, any thought of exporting water should under no circumstances contain a price-tag. It must be remembered that, if we make the decision to export water, we can never turn it off – we are permanently committed.

Canada must develop broadly-based, comprehensive public-affairs initiatives to explain to Americans their water-resources, their demands, their real water-supplies

now and in the future, and their programs of water-management and water-resource development. To postpone this activity or to assume that Americans already know that Canada has limited water-resources could adversely affect the Canada-U.S. relation. If a crisis develops and Americans find themselves lining up for water as their crops and industries disappear, they will certainly wonder why some water cannot begin to flow south from that water well to the north. Functionaries in Ottawa and Washington will quickly understand Canada's situation, but will the effected American public? There is no reason why they should not. The existing Canadian-American relation is worth preserving – let us not let water get in the way.

### *Canadian-American relations*

## An American looks at Canada

By Donald E. Nuechterlein

Like many Americans, I took Canada for granted for many years. Part of the reason was that, viewed from Michigan in the 1930s, Ontario was closer to home than Ohio, and the bridge from Detroit to Windsor seemed more like a gateway to another state than a passage between sovereign nations.

Another reason was the wartime co-operation between these neighbours. After the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939, Prime Minister King and President Roosevelt got together and agreed on a continental defence arrangement that has continued to the present day. Following the war, the two countries continued this close co-operation and extended it to economic relations, cultural contacts and a vast exchange of tourists. Though some Americans were aware that French Canadians refused to be drafted for overseas duty during the Second World War, few of us appreciated the tensions that had long existed between English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians, dating back to 1759, when Britain defeated French forces at Quebec City and established its own colonial rule there.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Canada seemed like a vigorous, prosperous, self-confident and democratic ally and friend – a model of political stability in a world where this attribute was in short supply. In sum,

Canada presented no problems for Americans and consequently was taken for granted.

In 1968, both countries experienced significant political changes that resulted in some strains in their relations. President Lyndon Johnson decided not to seek re-election, and this set the stage for the return of the Republican Party to power in Washington, led by Richard Nixon, whose Administration was determined to follow a tougher policy both on defence commitments round the world and on trade relations with America's allies. In Canada, Pierre Elliott Trudeau was elected leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Canada. Three of his Government's aims were: (1) the accommodation of French-Canadian interests by English-speaking Canada in order to check

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