

new relationship between Canada and Great Britain. The Joint Commission was established primarily to deal with matters relating to the boundary between our two countries, and particularly to the waterways which form so large and important a part of that boundary and those other streams that flow back and forth across that boundary.

Those of us who live in the St. Lawrence Valley and the basin of the Great Lakes have an especially keen interest in the beneficial use of boundary waters. I am sure all of us hope that we are really approaching the day when we can start to make full use of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence system both for navigation and power. I know we in Canada are getting rather impatient about the delay. From end to end of Canada there is an overwhelming feeling that a development which will strengthen and enrich this whole St. Lawrence area will benefit all parts of the continent.

I said we in Canada were getting rather impatient. After all, it is eighteen years since the first agreement which we were ready to carry out failed to get sufficient support in your Congress; and it is nine years since we made the second agreement. Our need in Canada is urgent; particularly for more electrical energy. If the Niagara Diversion Treaty can be ratified quickly by your Senate, that will help; but both countries need, and we in Canada certainly want to get ahead with the larger scheme.

Of course, the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence are not the only waterway in which our two countries have a common interest. The devastating floods of the Red River of the North have given new urgency to the problems of conservation and flood prevention in the middle of the continent. And I know all of us in North America hope the day may come when we can give all our attention to co-operation for beneficial and constructive purposes. That has not been the situation for this past decade, and it is not so today.

Our most urgent preoccupation in these latter years has been co-operation for our common security. You are all familiar with the great landmarks in defence co-operation represented by the late President Roosevelt's declaration at Queen's University, and Mr. Mackenzie King's reciprocal declaration at Woodbridge, Ontario in 1938; by the Ogdensburg Agreement of the dark days of 1940 which established the Permanent Joint Board on Defence; and the Hyde Park Declaration of 1941 which enabled both our countries to pool our industrial resources for the common prosecution of the late war.

We in Canada feel that similar co-operation in defence production will increase the post-war security of both countries. Even in wartime we Canadians paid cash for our purchases in the United States. We want to go on paying cash for what we buy for defence. But we cannot buy unless we can also sell. We were particularly pleased by the announcement in Washington a few weeks ago that some of the obstacles to defence purchases in Canada had been cleared away, and that a programme for such purchases on a reciprocal basis was being developed for the year beginning July 1. This programme will assist us in Canada to make an effective contribution to the combined strength of the Atlantic Nations and will thereby strengthen not only Canada's defence but the defence of the United States. We hope it is only a first step.

But defence, like disarmament, is in itself a negative conception, and I am glad to have the opportunity to express in his own country my profound agreement with the views repeatedly expressed by your Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, that the