



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

An Address by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Paul Martin, at the closing dinner of the CANADA-UNITED STATES CONFERENCE, University of Rochester, N.Y., September 1, 1955.

It was with much pleasure that I accepted the kind invitation of President de Kiewiet to represent Canada and the Canadian Government in this distinguished gathering and to offer a few observations on Canadian foreign policy. I have come here from New York where our foreign policy is being put to a practical test in the meetings of the Subcommittee of the Disarmament Commission which has convened at the recommendation of the President of the United States and the other Heads of State attending the recent Geneva talks.

May I, first of all, express my great pleasure at again visiting the city of Rochester and this University. Three years ago I had the privilege of being one of the first few Canadians to take part in these forums when I discussed some of Canada's experiments in social legislation.

For some years, Rochester has been associated in the minds of most Canadians with medicine and with music, but today our people are becoming increasingly aware that Rochester is developing into an outstanding centre of studies on Canadian affairs. We in Canada have welcomed your initiative in establishing, in this great University, a specialized programme of Canadian Studies; and I may add that we are particularly gratified that its direction has been entrusted to a man of Mr. Mason Wade's evident talents. The Government of Canada regards this project as a matter of the greatest importance and I can assure you that we shall give you all the co-operation and all the help at our disposal to aid in furthering this imaginative undertaking which is but one further example of your friendly and neighbourly interest in our affairs.

In the discussions of the past two days on "The Bases of United States and Canadian Foreign Policies", you have considered the manner in which foreign policy is planned, the procedures for carrying it through Congress or Parliament, and of finding support for it in public opinion. You will naturally expect from me some account of Canadian views and attitudes on these matters.