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CANADA-ECONOMIC RELATIONS

ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

COLUMNISTS

Montreal Gazette Dec. 10/84

(Professor William Watson in Dialogue contribution, Op Ed page)

Professor Watson debated the question of free trade with the U.S. and argued in favour of it. He disputed each of the major objections raised by critics of the plan. He concluded that access to the U.S. market would boost productivity and incomes of Canadians.

Toronto Star

(Column by Richard Gwyn)

Gwyn warned that Canada stood in danger of being "Finlandized" by cosying up to the United States. He noted that renewal of the special relationship was being discussed and that a special personal relationship had already developed between President Reagan and Prime Minister Mulroney. Gwyn cautioned foreign investment could be helpful but it by itself could not create an economy. Basically, Gwyn's message was that unless Canada speaks out when it has something to say, the country runs the risk of becoming an international neuter.

Globe and Mail Sept. 27/84

(Column by Jeffrey Simpson)

Simpson noted that proposals for sectoral free trade between Canada and the United States could run into stiff opposition from antagonistic lobbies in the U.S. Simpson suggested the Canadian government would have to decide on pursuing sectoral free trade talks or attempting to negotiate free trade on most items. Simpson said the Mulroney administration's actions in this area would be a test of what is meant by a "refurbished" relationship with the U.S.

Globe and Mail Sept. 28/84

(Report on Business columnist Ronald Anderson)

Anderson reviewed proposals by the Business Council on National Issues aimed at liberalizing bilateral trade flows.

Globe and Mail Oct. 3/84

(Column by Jeffrey Simpson)

Simpson judged that the burgeoning relationship between Canada and the U.S. is being well managed by the administration. He said the Reagan administration was trying to pay attention to Canada and he foresaw a period in which the two countries would work hard on solving their bilateral disagreements.

Vancouver Sun Oct. 9/84

(Column by Marjorie Nichols)

Nichols said it remained far from certain whether the Tory government would continue along the "logical road to ultimate objective of eliminating all tariffs and barriers along the 49th parallel." She suggested among others that both British Columbia and Alberta could find reasons for opposing full-fledged free trade.