

that the interests of the people of the country are not necessarily always identical with the point of view put forth by those persons who are most vocal, nor are short-term interests always identical with long-term interests. It would, however, be mere sentimentality, and I should be much less than frank - indeed, I should be definitely misleading - if I were to pretend that the traditional friendship between the peoples and the governments of our two countries could not be injuriously affected by any possible action or failure to act on the part of the United States.

c) In the third place, we are fully convinced that static relations soon become stagnant relations. Continuing good relations between us are so important that they must be kept under constant and vigilant review in a world which has moved a long distance from the orderly Nineteenth Century pax Britannica. Relations between the United States and Canada cannot exist in some sort of sterile vacuum. Our relations are alive and growing.

d) Finally, the interests of true friendship can be served better by a frank examination of problems as they arise than by sulking in the corner and, if you will pardon the change of metaphor, permitting them to fester under a covering of professed friendship.

A few years ago there was a rather glib assumption that some sort of marvellous salve existed which, whenever applied, soothed and healed every conceivable wound occasioned by one to the other of our two countries. This miraculous salve was believed to have been responsible for a prolonged period of peace and an extensive undefended boundary.

How accurate is this concept of the miraculous salve? Since my entry into what is described as "practical politics" now just nine months ago I have frequently heard it said that public memory is short. Sometimes this opinion has been vouchsafed with a sigh of relief; at other times it has been put forward at least in sorrow if not in anger. All of us idealize our youth and I understand that quite unconsciously we remember those things that are pleasant and forget those things that are unpleasant. But a realistic appraisal of relations between our two countries must face historical facts. Many years after the War of 1812 the Rideau Canal, which today provides beauty to the Federal District Commission of Ottawa, was built as a means of protecting Canadian shipping from United States marauders along the St. Lawrence River. On April 14, 1870, three years after Canadian confederation, our Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald wrote: