

said that they were being browbeaten by the Americans, if they said that their interests were being seriously prejudiced by the United States, the world's sympathy would lie overwhelmingly with Canada. (That, I may insert, is the price you have to pay for being top dog; the sympathy we enjoy is that which attaches to and cheers us smaller dogs.)

"The world sees Canada as a country very like the United States ... if the Americans could not get on well with Canada, with whom could they get on well? ... good relations with Canada -- the good relations of discussion and co-operation, of some real give and take in policy - are a primary interest of the United States."

Having suggested that we are of some importance to you, let me hasten to say that you are of very obvious, and often of overwhelming, importance to us. Geography, history, economics, defence, combine to make your interests in world affairs very largely our interests. When your security is weakened, we have cause to worry. When freedom falters with you, ours is diminished.

The basis of our relations, in short, is that we are essential to each other.

It was not always so. For a long time, in the formative years of our two countries, we were by no means the best of friends, or even very good neighbours. Indeed, I should tell you that only yesterday I was taking part in celebrating the 150th anniversary of a battle in which we repelled American invaders; at least we did in our history books. Yours are less accurate. That was a long time ago. I think that both our countries are entitled to some sense of satisfaction about the way in which we have since worked out a peaceful relations.

Harmony Not Always Easy

It has not been altogether easy, and I don't expect it to become easy. There are and always will be difficulties and differences of interest between us. It would be folly to ignore them. A country is a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts. But it has parts. And those parts have their own particular interests. Individual industries in Canada, particular areas of Canada, inevitably have interests which are competitive with the interests of individual industries and particular areas of your country. The very closeness, the acute and pervasive interdependence, of our relations means that there are bound to be a great many differences.

Those are the facts of life. It is evidence of the nature of our neighbourhood that we do not have to worry morbidly about them or allow them to poison our relations. Perhaps I