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CANADA IN THE POST-WAR WORLD

Speech by the Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Mr. A.D.P. Heeney, to the Institute of International Affairs, Seattle, March 16, 1954.

It is, I think, fitting that one of the first official visits of a new Canadian Ambassador should be to the beautiful border State of Washington - and particularly to this fine city of Seattle which, since the opening of the Klondike and before, has had so many associations with my country. Canadians are not strangers in this vigorous centre of the commercial, industrial and financial life of the Pacific Northwest; nor indeed to the renowned University which has given us such a warm welcome here tonight.

I know, Mr. Chairman, that many business and professional men and women in this State have close and regular dealings across the nearby northern border. Indeed, your record of friendly co-operation with Canada and your record of striking example of those intimate relations between our two countries which have long been a standard to the world - and the occasion for what familiar floods of after-dinner oratory! You in the Pacific Northwest are accustomed to joint endeavours with us in Canada in matters of economic development and commercial affairs - and tackling the many problems that we have in common - in as well in the scholarly and cultural activities in which so much initiative and vigour has been demonstrated on both sides of the boundary. It is true that, in all these departments, the competitive element has not been lacking between us; but this must surely be an additional symptom of our rude health and confidence.

The best evidence of the importance which the Canadian Government attach to your Pacific Northwest is the recent establishment in this city of a Canadian Consulate General, under my friend Norman Senior - a man of wide experience in our country's service. I know that you will find in him and his staff wise counsellors willing and able to advise in many Canadian affairs with which you are concerned. You will also find them good citizens of Seattle.

Tonight, Mr. Chairman, I am going to resist the temptation to speak of the dramatic material progress which Canada has made since the end of World War II. This is an exciting story - in part it is the story of the new frontier familiar to earlier epochs in your own history. The discovery and exploitation of vast new resources - of oil, gas, iron ore, uranium and many other forms of national wealth. It is also the story of immense and rapid industrial growth and development - on our own Pacific Coast, in central Canada, in the Maritime Provinces and elsewhere; a process which has in a decade changed the character of the Canadian economy. It is the story of increased population, of striking new levels in the national production and income, of large savings from our own earnings, of heavy investment. As I say, Mr. Chairman, the