

tural mosaic, and would likely remove much of the determination of Canadians to protect their cultural minorities.

Problems of this magnitude cannot be wished away. They can be solved, however, by the institutions we have created for our own governance. Those institutions belong to all Canadians, to me as a Quebecer as much as to my fellow citizens from the other provinces. And because these institutions are democratically structured, because their members are freely elected, they are capable of reflecting changes and of responding to the popular will.

I am confident that we in Canada are well along in the course of devising a society as free of prejudice and fear, as full of understanding and generosity, as respectful of individuality and beauty, as receptive to change and innovation, as exists anywhere. Our nation is the encounter of two of the most important cultures of Western civilization, to which countless other strains are being added.

Most Canadians understand that the rupture of their country would be an aberrant departure from the norms they themselves have set, a crime against the history of mankind; for I am immodest enough to suggest that a failure of this always-varied, often-illustrious Canadian social experiment would

create shock waves of disbelief among those all over the world who are committed to the proposition that among man's noblest endeavours are those communities in which persons of diverse origins live, love, work and find mutual benefit.

#### Canada/U.S. ties are a model

Canadians are conscious of the effort required of them to maintain in healthy working order not only their own nation but as well the North American neighbourhood in which they flourish. A wholesome relationship with our mutual friend Mexico and a robust partnership with the United States are both, in our eyes, highly desirable. To those ends we have contributed much energy. And you in this country have reciprocated to the point where our relationship forms a model admired by much of the world — one moulded from the elements of mutual respect and supported by the vigour of disciplined co-operation.

We have built together one of the world's largest and most efficient transportation and power generating systems in the form of the St. Lawrence Seaway. We have conceived and established the world's oldest, continuously functioning binational arbitral tribunal — the International Joint Commission.

We have joined together in many parts of the world in defence of freedom and in the relief of want. We have created oftentimes original techniques of environmental management, of emergency and disaster assistance, of air- and sea-traffic control, of movements of people, goods and services — the latter so successfully that the value of our trade and the volume of visitors back and forth exceeds several times over that of any other two countries in the world. It is no wonder that we are each so interested in the continued social stability and economic prosperity of the other.

Nor should we be surprised that the desire of the American and Canadian peoples to understand and help one another sometimes adopts unusual forms. In what other two countries in the world could there be reproduced the scene of tens of thousands of people in a Montreal baseball park identifying totally with one team against the other, forgetting all the while that every single player on each is American, and a similar scene in the Washington hockey arena where thousands of spectators identify totally with one team against another, forgetting that virtually every player on the ice is Canadian.

#### Our substitutes for hostility

Thus do the images blur, and sometimes do they lead to chafing. Yet how civilized are the responses! How temperate are the replies! We threaten to black out your television commercials! You launch fusillades of anti-trust proceedings! Such admirable substitutes for hostility!

More important than the occasional incident of disagreement is the continuing process of management which we have successfully incorporated into our relationship. It is a process which succeeds through careful attention, through consultation, and through awareness on both sides of the border that problems can arise which are attributable neither to intent nor neglect, but to the disproportionate size of our two populations and the resulting imbalance of our economic strength.

Those differences will likely always lead us in Canada to attempt to ensure that there be maintained a climate for the expression of Canadian culture.



CP wirephoto

U.S. President Carter (right) and Prime Minister Trudeau exchange a last handshake as Mr. Trudeau leaves the White House following their meeting on Feb-

ruary 22. Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson, who accompanied Mr. Trudeau on his two-day visit to Washington, looks on.