

there was also the maritime area which has now become the four provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland; the total population of both did not exceed 100,000. The Constitution of the United States came into effect in 1789, but it was not until nearly 80 years later, in 1867, that the Canadian Constitution welded together in a federal union the original provinces of Canada. Furthermore, the independence of the United States was achieved at a stroke as a result of the Revolutionary Wars, whereas the independence of Canada has come about as the result of a long process of evolution during which the constitutional links with the United Kingdom were modified one after another by peaceful agreement.

The slower start in Canada was imposed mainly by physical and geographical conditions, which I shall not describe. The process which is often called the taming of the continent is still continuing, especially in the vast areas of the Canadian Northland which will never be really tamed or support a substantial population. But great advances have been made, and there is in Canada today a confident and vigorous national sentiment, the good sort of nationalism which leads to greater national achievement.

Thus we have now two very large sovereign states extending across the continent, both wealthy, both highly productive both hitherto unexposed to the danger of direct attack from abroad, both pledged to the principles of democracy and individual liberty, both thoroughly aroused to the menace of these principles of Communist imperialism, both therefore more deeply concerned than ever before in their history with problems of security, and both resolved to maintain an effective partnership in protecting and developing their heritage.

So much for some basic similarities. Let me touch on some basic differences. The United States is vastly more powerful, more wealthy and more populous. It has 11 times more people than Canada and its volume of production is about 17 times greater. It is the greatest of the great powers whereas Canada is a secondary power which does not have that responsibility for world leadership which has come to the United States through its great strength and vitality.

The partnership between Canada and the United States is not between two countries that are equal in stature, nor is it likely ever to become so. Furthermore, it is not exclusive; it is one of several larger partnerships to which one or both countries belong, such as the North Atlantic partnership established two years ago, the older partnership between the United States and the Latin American Republics in the Organization of American States and the continuing Canadian partnership in the British Commonwealth of Nations. In some ways, however, by both choice and necessity it is a wider partnership than these others, because of the great range of matters on which our two nations, as sharers of a continent, need to work in concert, because of the enormous volume of traffic which crosses the international boundary, and because of the constant intermingling over several generations of the two peoples.

The newest, but already very extensive, field of activities in which the partnership has been applied is the field of defence. This is wholly a product of the last war and of the tensions which now divide the world in two. Today, when defence dominates so much of our thinking, it is almost a shock to recall that it was only in 1940 after France had been overrun by the Nazis that co-operation in defence began between Canada and the United States.