

Opposition Leader, Mr. Stanfield, for sharing their insights with us as we embarked on these endeavours. As we continue together our common quest for a better world order, let us apply the lessons we have learned so well on this continent: that we can walk our own road in our own way without moving farther apart; that we can grow closer together without growing more alike; that peaceful competition can produce winners without producing losers; that success for some need not mean setbacks for the rest; that a rising tide will lift all of our boats; that to go forward at all is to go forward together; that the enemy of peace is not independence but isolation; that the way to peace is an open world.

And let us remember too, these truths that we have found together, that variety can mean vitality; that diversity can be a force for progress; and that our ultimate destiny is indivisible.

When I spoke at the St. Lawrence seaway ceremonies in 1969, I borrowed some words from the monument there which I had joined Queen Elizabeth in dedicating just ten years before. That monument, as its inscription puts it:

bears witness to the common purpose of two nations whose frontiers are the frontiers of friendship, whose ways are the ways of freedom, whose works are the works of peace.

The truth to which the inscription testifies is of profound importance to people everywhere in this world.

For the ability of our two nations, Canada and the United States, to preserve the frontiers of friendship, to walk in the ways of freedom, and to pursue the works of peace provides example and encouragement to all who seek these same objectives, wherever they may live.

There is nothing more exciting than a time of new beginnings. A member of this body caught that spirit when he spoke in Parliament about the beginnings of Canadian nationhood 100 years ago. Listen to him:

Blood pulsed in our veins, new hopes fired our hearts, new horizons lifted and widened, new visions came to us in the night watches.

May that same sense of excitement inspire our two nations as we help lead the world to new beginnings today.

3. *Exchange of Remarks Between Prime Minister Trudeau and President Nixon Following the Signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, April 15, 1972*

(U.S. Information Service, Ottawa, "Visit to Canada Of The President." pp. 20-22)

THE PRIME MINISTER: The importance of what we have done this morning cannot be described or measured by conventional means for this agreement does not fall within the normal categories of international activity. It will not contribute materially to the economies of either of our countries; it makes neither of us more secure in our relations with one another or the world beyond; it does little to diminish or remove any of the social problems which worry Americans and Canadians alike.

Yet while doing none of these things it accomplishes much more. For it marks our recognition of the fragility of our planet and the delicacy of the biosphere on which all life is dependent. This agreement deals with the most vital of all issues—the process of life itself. And in doing so it contributes to the well-being of millions of North Americans for it promises to restore to a wholesome condition an immense area which, through greed and indifference, has been permitted to deteriorate disgracefully.

Any catalogue of the distinctive features of this continent surely includes the far-flung water system we know as the Great Lakes. In them is contained the world's largest reservoir of fresh water. Out of them flows one of the world's mightiest and most important rivers.

The beauty and the utility of these waters have proved attractive to men for centuries. That attractiveness has led to extraordinary changes. The birch bark canoes of the Indians and the coureurs-de-bois have given way to giant ocean-going vessels; the handful of explorers who earlier stood in awe at the beauty of Niagara Falls or the Thousand Islands has been replaced by millions of tourists; the first few settlements and factories have burgeoned into sprawling cities and giant industrial complexes. In the process the lakes have suffered.

We now have the opportunity and the responsibility to ease that suffering and to restore to the Great Lakes a large measure of the purity which once was theirs. That task is being shared by those provinces and states that border the lakes and whose governments have encouraged this agreement and contributed to its success. The presence here this morning of the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of the Environment of Quebec as well as the members of the International Joint Commission is proof of the solid foundation of support which our acts enjoy. The tireless dedication of the Canadian Minister of the Environment, Mr. Jack Davis, is recognized in what we are doing, as is the fine level