

I know that the average politician who hates all unpleasant facts will say: "The Americans are our cousins and friends; war with them is unthinkable! Unthinkable! There is no such word in international politics. We have been at war with the United States in the past. We have more than once since then been on the verge of war with her—the last time, less than fourteen years ago, over Venezeula. In any case, no statesman has the right, whatever the circumstances, to stake the existence of his country on the hope that the friendship of a foreign country will continue indefinitely."

The same authority has stated recently: "As long as nations are separate nations, with frontiers that touch, with economic interests that may clash, they have always got to consider the possibility of war. We can be responsible for our own policy but we cannot be responsible for the policy of any other country. We cannot say who may be controlling the destinies of the United States 10 or 20 years hence, or what their attitude may then be towards Canada or towards the British Empire. More than that, international friendship is most securely based when it is based on respect as well as on mere good-will. I don't think Canadians to-day can do otherwise than regard the problem gravely and seriously, with an earnest desire to maintain for 100 years more, as in the past 100 years, the friendship of the United States, but with the knowledge that such friendship can be maintained only by mutual respect and by our confidence in our power to defend our rights."

Let me go even a step further, and say that if we believe the history and the reasoning given by Mr. Homer Lea to be correct, it would appear to be certain that the rapidly converging lines and interests between ourselves and our