

a recognizable Canadian accent, and also that there should be the greatest possible harmony between that voice and the other members of the chorus, especially the leader.

So far as our strictly bilateral relations with the United States are concerned, if it is possible to separate them from the collective problems which we share with others, they are closer, more complex and more varied than ever before. Take trade for instance. The currents of trade now criss-cross our boundary with the United States until trade between our two countries has become greater than that between any two countries in the world and, indeed, I believe is greater than trade between the United States and the whole of South America. Every state in the United States and every province in Canada has a part in that trade which reaches farther into Canada as our northern frontiers assume greater importance in the industrial development of both countries.

So ... we were glad to hear President Eisenhower, in his State-of-the-Union message, urge upon the United States Congress the need for basing foreign trade securely on fair and equitable arrangements, and in particular to hear his recommendation regarding the reciprocal trade agreements act and the revision of customs regulations aimed at reducing obstacles to trade. We hope that this will soon result in enhancing the economic strength of the whole free world by securing its foundation in rational trading policies which will benefit us all. Political co-operation and economic conflict are difficult at times to reconcile.

In joint defence, if I may turn to another field, our partnership with the United States is also becoming closer and more complex. Today our common defence requirements are greater than ever before, so great, for instance, that it has been necessary for Canadians, and Americans to take their places side by side at lonely northern outposts in Canada as protection against possible aggression which, if it occurred, would not be aggression against a nation but aggression against a continent. It must be expected, that as the advances of modern science and technology increase the speed with which an enemy could strike, so it will be necessary to push our continental defences and our continental development farther and farther north.

In this increasing preoccupation with common defence there is ground for satisfaction on two counts. First, Canadians know that the United States Government respects our rights and our natural desire to retain in our own hands the responsibility for administration over all our territory, subject of course to the requirements of collective security. Second, the increasing need for northern defence arrangements in turn requires a further development of transportation, communications and other facilities which are making a material contribution to opening up the wealth and resources of our last remaining frontier, the north.

There is one matter, however, in which our American friends have not been able to co-operate with us at the pace we feel the requirements of the situation demand. I am speaking of the St. Lawrence Seaway. We have made great progress during the last few months toward the completion of arrangements for the joint development of the power works in the International Section of the river, which are essential before we can proceed with the development of the navigation works, either alone or in co-operation with the United States. All arrangements in Canada have now long since been completed. It remains only for the Federal Power Commission of the United States to issue a licence to an