

sense of Canadianism, if you will, has also been fed by our changing relationships throughout the world. For, as with an individual, so a country's identity, I think, is also fostered and defined by its relationships.

Any account, however brief, of Canada's international relationships must begin with the simple fact that a great deal of cold weather has been coming from over the Pole. From time to time those cold winds are interspersed with milder zephyrs. But the only assumption we can safely make on this shrunken planet is that, for a very long time to come, the United States and Canada, and indeed, all the countries of the free world, must be prepared for the worst, although hoping and striving for a more rational comity among the nations.

One result of Soviet hostility and of the consequent danger of an attack on North America across the Arctic Circle has been to make relations between Canada and the United States even closer than they have ever been before.

In order to make preparations against the possibility of a crippling air attack, the governments of the United States and Canada have had to pay increasing attention to the problems of continental defence, since it has become clear that there must be some increase in the protection provided by early warning systems and by squadrons of interceptor aircraft. The technical military problems that are raised by the necessity of tightening and strengthening the defence of the continent are manifold. At what parallels of latitudes should radar nets be strung, and how close a mesh should they provide? Where should airfields be sited? What types of planes are likely to offer the most effective protection? All of these technical questions are difficult enough to answer.

The difficulty of the problem, however, is increased by the fact that a balance must be struck between what might be ideally desirable from the military point of view and what can be afforded over a long period of years after taking into account the defence requirements of other parts of the world and the necessity of maintaining healthy economic conditions in the United States and Canada. There is the further complication that, although our alliance is perhaps the most intimate and informal in history, this common problem of continental defence must be solved by two sovereign nations whose views and interests are not necessarily always identical.

Clearly, in this situation, forbearance and co-operation are required of both countries. We, in Canada, must recognize the peril in which the whole of North America may stand and the degree to which, in a moment of crisis, our safety might be dependent on the military power of the United States. You, in the United States, for your part, I would suggest, will do well to bear in mind that Canada's co-operation will be more whole-hearted and effective if sympathetic allowance is made for our national views and interests. It will take a good deal of patient work before all the questions which I have mentioned are fully resolved. But since coming to this country eight months ago as Ambassador of Canada, I have been much encouraged by the co-operative and friendly spirit that has been shown by your Government in discussing these questions with us and in taking our views into full account. In return, I believe that we in Canada have shown in these matters a desire to act as a responsible ally.