

The entry of Newfoundland into Confederation has greatly increased the place of our deep-sea fisheries in the economy.

The healthy development of the Atlantic fisheries has become one of our national objectives.

Canada, and particularly the province of Newfoundland is geographically in a better position to exploit these greatest of all fisheries than any other country.

And most of the fish we catch in Canada has to be exported.

That is true of all the main products of Newfoundland: pulp and paper, iron ore and base metals as well as fish have to be exported.

Indeed, Newfoundland is more dependent on external trade than any other province.

Canada is as dependent as ever for prosperity upon the maintenance of good commercial relations with the rest of the world and, particularly, with the United States, the United Kingdom and Western Europe.

Since we Canadians depend so much on selling our products in the United States, it should be fortunate for us that we are, by a very wide margin, the largest and most profitable customer for American exporters.

While the United States as a whole is not nearly as dependent on exports as Canada, there are a very large number of American exporters who depend just as much on Canadian sales for the difference between profit and loss as Canadian exporters do on the American market.

We Canadians hope American exporters to Canada are alert to their interest in a gradual reduction of trade barriers and particularly in the avoidance of any increase in the barriers which exist today against Canadian imports into the United States.

The proposition that a country must import if it expects to sell its own goods abroad is well understood by our Canadian exporters and I am happy to say that Canadian exporters exert a steady and effective resistance against protectionist proposals whenever they show themselves in Canada.

This bread-and-butter interdependence between Canada and the United States makes good commercial relations vital to Canada and, we believe, very valuable to the United States.

There is a far greater sense of national solidarity in Canada today than there was in the years before the war.

Among other evil effects of the great depression of the 1930s, it produced deep conflicts between the governments of the provinces, particularly the larger provinces, and the national government.