

the rest of his life there. His reply, courteously and humourously declining the invitation, included the following sentences:

"There's another reason for not wanting to leave Canada for England. I'd hate to be so far away from the United States. You see, with us it's second nature, part of our lives, to be near them. Every Sunday morning we read the New York funny papers, and all week we read about politics in Alabama and Louisiana, and whether they caught the bandits that stole the vault of the national bank, and - well, you know American news - there is no other like it. And the Americans come-and-go up here, and we go-and-come down there, and they're educated just as we are and know all about Kilowatts but quit Latin at the fourth declension.....

"Our students go and play hockey with their stoo-dents and our tourists going out meet their towrists coming in. The Americans come up here and admire us for the way we hang criminals. They sit in our club and say, 'You certainly do hang them, don't you!' My, they'd like to hang a few! The day may be coming when they will. Meantime we like to hang people to make the Americans sit up.

"And in the same way we admire the Americans for the way they shovel up mountains and shift river-courses and throw the map all round the place. We sit in the club, fascinated, and listen to an American saying, 'The proposal is to dam up the Arkansas River and make it run backward over the Rockies.' That's the stuff! That's conversation.

"...We are 'sitting pretty' here in Canada. East and West are the two oceans far away; we are backed up against the ice cap of the pole; our feet rest on the fender of the American border, warm with a hundred years of friendship.....

"...Thank you, Mother England, I don't think I'll 'come home'. I'm 'home' now. Fetch me my carpet slippers from the farm. I'll rock it out to sleep right here."

I do not wish you to infer from all this that the ties that draw us across the Atlantic, that link us with our mother countries, Great Britain and France, and with the nations of the Commonwealth, are weakening. On the contrary, they are stronger than ever. The old problems arising out of our development from colony to nation, and