

hardly challenge the concept of presidential accountability; I can, however, mourn the fact that it does not seem to have left the President the effective power to carry out his constitutional responsibility to shape and conduct the foreign policy of the USA. Congress has grown increasingly assertive, and the Senate in particular is exercising its constitutional power in respect of treaty ratification in a way that is frustrating the President's foreign policy responsibilities, at least so far as Canada is concerned. Relations between the two countries are suffering as a result, even if only one of them seems to be aware of this to date.

Fish are not usually associated with the layman's idea of diplomacy, except perhaps in the form of caviar. Fish, however, have occupied a very important part in the relations -- and confrontations -- of Canada and the USA from colonial times to the present. Again today they are at the centre of what is for Canada our most serious bilateral issue with any country, but for the USA is simply a "regional problem" left for determination by two or three Senators in accordance with their local concerns. Once more, note the difference of perspective ...

I am referring of course to two inter-related