

which has replaced that of twisting the lion's tail. This shouldn't worry Americans, any more than it worried Englishmen once they appreciated its significance. It is a tribute to the high flying power and quality of the king of birds, just as it was in early days to the power and primacy of the king of beasts.

On this occasion I am going to try to add - rather than subtract a feather on this occasion; by affirming that all peoples in the world, Canadians are in the best position to testify to the quality; to the generosity, decency, and good neighbourliness of the American people. We know that beneath certain frothy outpourings that may from time to time perplex people in other countries; behind the sensational headlines, there are ideals and high principles, there is patience and dignity, decency and great wisdom in this country, and a determination to play a good part in the effort to make our little world not only secure, but one worth living in.

Canada which would make such a rich and useful and natural addition to United States "living space", is, of course, the decisive refutation of the evil and envious accusations of those who claim to see in the United States of America a bomb-rattling, power-hungry menace to peace and freedom.

If there were any truth in that caricature, there would be no delegates called Canadians attending this great Rotary conference, and there would be no Secretary of State for External Affairs of an independent Canada offering from this platform today, and be with great sincerity, a character reference to a good neighbour.

During the last 15 years or so men and women in scores of countries on every continent have become increasingly conscious of something that we in Canada have known about for a long time; of Americans as neighbours, friendly, vital, generous, at times disconcerting but never-to-be-ignored neighbours.

Many people in these other countries, to whom Americans are a relatively new sensation, have reacted to this situation not only with eager interest, but often with some of the uncertainty, even apprehension with which men are likely to view any novel and powerful influence on their lives; such as matrimony, television, or Chicago hospitality!

They should ask Canadians about the people of the United States; what it feels like to live in the shadow of this dynamic and powerful land. We have known its people for a long time, and by now have become mixed up with them through such things as Rotary, baseball, Jackie Gleason, a common language, Hollywood, tourists, and a border which is very easy to cross, unless you are on the Attorney-General's black - or rather red - list.

We are, in fact, and in many ways the closest neighbour that the United States enjoys, if I may use that word. I think it is true to say that no two nations in history, who are not politically associated, have ever developed such close and extensive contacts as those which exist between the peoples of the United States and Canada.

I do not say this with any feeling of smugness or any assumption of superior virtue. We have been fortunate in our two countries in the circumstances of our development and in the influences that have been brought to bear on our relationship.