

Seat belts to be mandatory in Nova Scotia

Legislation to make the use of seat belts mandatory in vehicles equipped with them in Nova Scotia has been introduced in the Legislature by Highways Minister Leonard Pace.

Nova Scotia is the first province in Canada to legislate the use of seat belts. Under the law, failure to wear seat belts would not be evidence of negligence in any civil action resulting from an accident.

Mr. Trudeau in Washington

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very satisfactory, they should not forget there are other markets for our products, particularly industrial goods.

It's a matter of kicking both ourselves and others in the pants to make sure we don't have all our eggs in one basket, as they are now.

Q: Are you seeking special ties with the EEC at the expense of the U.S.?

A: Well, I think the question itself is misphrased. We're not seeking special ties with the EEC, no more than we are seeking special ties with Japan or China or Russia. We are just seeking increased trade with these places. They are not going to be special in the sense that they are going to get favours the United States doesn't have.

Multinational trade aim

We are believers in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. We are believers in multinational trading patterns. We are only telling businessmen from Canada and other lands, "If you want to make trade multinational, then it shouldn't only be United States/Canada."

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As to whether this multinational trading can be at the expense of the United States, the answer is obviously "No." The United States also believes in a multinational trading world. And the United States also wants to diversify and penetrate as many foreign markets as possible. So I'm sure the United States can't object to Canada diversifying a bit if we can. But it's not all that easy, and it won't come all that fast.

Energy situation

Q: Canada plans gradually to cut off oil exports to the United States, yet just a year ago you said the two nations are friends and friends care about each other's needs. How do you expect American-Canadian co-operation in the energy field to develop?

A: When I said that last year, it was in relation to a particular series of events which had hit both the United States and Canada — a slowdown in the supply of oil from abroad. And we decided then that we would not try to lock in our oil. We didn't say to the United States: "We're going to keep our oil for ourselves because it is scarce, and then we'll have it for a longer period of time." In particular cases, one involving the State of Maine, for example, we continued to sell to American customers there oil that we needed here in Canada. That was because it would have meant a particular hardship on some border town relying on our supplies.

Now, when we talk about phasing out exports to the United States, it should be noted that we're talking about phasing out over a period of perhaps eight years, more or less. At the end of that time, we know there won't be enough oil produced in Canada for Canadian needs. So we're telling Americans, "Look, if we don't find much more, and if there is not enough Canadian oil to go around in Canada you'll have to expect that we'll serve ourselves before selling it abroad to you or anyone else."

Q: But about co-operation...

A: Indeed, there are areas for co-operation. For instance, we have pipe-lines going through the United States from Portland, Maine, to Montreal. We have pipe-lines, both gas and oil, coming from our western provinces to central Canada, and they pass through the United States. This obviously is

an area in which we need American co-operation and friendship.

The United States, I think, has the same kind of example in mind now when it is examining a Mackenzie Valley pipe-line running from Alaska through Canada. If such a pipe-line is built, it will want to be guaranteed by our friendship that we are not going to cut off this pipe-line.

Defence

Q: The North American Air Defence Agreement comes up for renegotiation next year — at a time Canada is re-assessing its own defence capabilities, at a time of new agreements between the U.S. and Russia, at a time the missile — not the manned bomber — is the major threat. What changes does Canada want in its joint defence agreements with the U.S.?

A: In terms of over-all policy, it's fair to say there will be no changes. Our first priority is the defence of Canadian sovereignty. Our second is defence of the North American continent. The United States does not have to fear any changes in these priorities. Military co-operation with the United States always will rank very high with us.

What renegotiation will mean in specific deployment of defensive forces is something I can't answer. It is a subject the Cabinet is looking at now. Very much will depend on the United States itself.

How does it assess the manned bomber threat compared to the guided missile? How does it rank anti-submarine warfare in its priorities over possible attacks over the horizon from the North?

We're making our examination on the basis of knowledge we acquire from the United States as to its own priorities. I can only say that whatever defence posture we come up with in practice — I mean the exact configuration of our defence forces — it will be such as to make sure our "second to the top" priority will be defence of the continent. It will be preceded only by defence of Canada. And that's a position I believe the United States would agree with as well. I would imagine American strategists saying, "Well, you Canadians defend yourselves first, then you can help defend us if you have anything left over."