

WRONG: I can say this: although I don't know why, we always seem to look for superlatives. It's a North American habit, I suppose. The border is crossed by more goods, by more travellers, and by more trains, cars, newspapers, films (good and bad), and radio programs (good and bad) than any other international boundary. Nevertheless, a lot of people think there's still too much red tape along that border.

ATHERTON: By the way, isn't there some place where a man can get his hair cut in Canada and his shoes shined in the United States at the same time?

WRONG: I've heard that that interesting feat can be performed at Rock Island. Even if it's mythical, that barber's chair could exist. More important than that particular instance is the sort of thing that happened out west this fall. From Saskatchewan alone, 375 grain combines crossed the border to help reap the harvests from Texas north. They harvested in Oklahoma, Kansas and the Dakotas. Then, when the harvest moved north across the border into Canada, United States combines came up to help ours harvest our own grain.

FISHER: I would call that a very tangible expression of the good neighbor policy, Mr. Wrong.

ATHERTON: At the same time there's a danger in regarding this border too carelessly, Mr. Fisher. Because of the movement back and forth, and because we find that so many of the same products and ideas are common to both of us, we sometimes tend to forget that after all our neighbors to the north are, as I have said citizens of a different nation. And that can lead us into pitfalls. That fact was brought out, rather as a surprise to us I think, recently when, for instance, we learned that Canada has agreed to sell the bulk of her export surplus of wheat for the next five years to the United Kingdom.

WRONG: I'm glad you brought that up. It gives me a chance to correct what seems to be a fairly widely held misconception. We always