



CANADA

# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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## CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES - A VITAL PARTNERSHIP

Address by the Honourable Robert H. Winters,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce, to the  
Cincinnati Council of World Affairs Cincinnati,  
Ohio, November 3, 1967.

I am honoured to have this opportunity to meet and talk with the members of Cincinnati's Council on World Affairs. In this age of printed and electronic communications when almost all our dealings are conducted on a once-removed basis, the value of first-hand face-to-face communications such as this is great.

There are numerous topics I should like to discuss with you today. I hope my brief opening remarks will give rise to many questions on which we can exchange views. When this meeting is adjourned, I hope we will all leave here with a little better understanding of each other's viewpoint and our countries' problems and prospects, goals and aspirations.

This is a region for which Canadian-American relations have a special historical significance. Canada and Canadian trade have long played a part in the development of the Ohio Valley. The first European to explore this region was one of our early Canadian explorers, the Sieur de La Salle. From New France this trail-blazing pioneer made his way down the uncharted Ohio River nearly three centuries ago. I should like to think this first Canadian visitor set a precedent for his successors to follow, except that the good seigneur met death at the hands of some inhospitable early Americans a little further south. It still remains to be seen as to what fate awaits me - but on this visit I do not plan a more southerly penetration.

Later, in the eighteenth century, the Ohio Valley ranked as one of the major sources of furs for the traders of Montreal, opening up an avenue of mutual commercial advantage which has remained open to the present. Today, Canadians look to Cincinnati not for furs but for many of the tools of modern industry, particularly the machine tools for which this city has attained well-deserved international renown.

I have read enough of your history to know that many of your great and revered names had their origins in the old country and are thus intertwined