

future in either exclusive North American or European continentalism. We believe that the peace and security of the world, as well as the self-interest of both continents - Europe and North America - and of the individual nations that compose them, are best served by frank recognition of the requirements of an increasing and a widening interdependence.

Naturally, it is the first responsibility of the Government of Canada, as of any government, to ensure that our national purposes are achieved, that our economic and material progress is continued, that its benefits are spread as widely and as equitably as possible among all our people, and that our economy does not fall under external (by which we mean American) control. We shall never discharge our national responsibilities by ignoring our continental and international responsibilities, by pretending that national policies alone can ensure our progress - or even our survival.

We, in Canada, acknowledge, and appreciate the important part American enterprise and American capital have played, and are playing, in the development of our country. It is neither ingratitude nor unneighbourliness that makes us worry about the outcome of your having played that part so well that, today, a greater proportion of Canada's resources and industrial production come under foreign - largely American - control than is the case with any other industrial country in the world. I am sure you have been told that non-resident interests - almost entirely in the United States - control almost 60 per cent of our manufacturing. Naturally, this - and other facts about your share in our progress - worry us because of the effect it could have on our economic and our political development as a separate, independent state - and we want to preserve that.

Our anxiety in these matters is perfectly natural. It is also increasing. It has been the subject of debate in our country for many years.

That debate at the present time is receiving the kind of popular interest usually reserved for commissions of inquiry, television programmes and the killing of seals. Nor is the debate unrelated to our domestic dialogue about our future as a united country.

There are those in Canada who say: "Why worry about problems of Canadian federation and unity if we are going to be swallowed up anyway by 'Uncle Jonah' - in one form or another?"

There are others who add: "Why get excited about the United States absorbing Canada when we ourselves don't know what kind of Canada is going to be absorbed, except that it will be indigestible?"

These are the views of a somewhat cynical minority.

Let's look at the problem more soberly, as most Canadians look at it.