

our own citizens but on the citizens of the other members of the alliance.

As the character of the political relations between the United States and Canada has been changing, so also are the economies of the two countries in various ways; being drawn more closely together. There is one important field, however, in which progress in this direction has been long delayed. In 1941 the Governments of Canada and the United States signed an agreement for the combined development of the power and navigation facilities of the St. Lawrence waterways. That agreement has not yet been ratified by Congress, although once again Congressional committees are this year examining it. It is the strong hope and indeed the expectation of the Canadian Government that favourable action may at last be taken on this project. The Canadian Government is firmly convinced that the development of the St. Lawrence would be equally in the interests of the United States and Canada, particularly in present circumstances when it is necessary to mobilize and expand the whole of North America's industrial capacity. The development of the power and navigation facilities of the St. Lawrence system, in our view, would mean an immense accretion of strength to the industrial complex in the United States and Canada.

In many ways, then, Canada and the United States are drawing closer together. I hope that this process will continue and increase, as part of a wider and even more important process towards closer co-operation in the whole North Atlantic area. There is, I think, in Canada a wide-spread willingness to move towards this closer association with as many of the nations of the free world as possible. It may take a long time to achieve that wider objective of unity; but it should constantly inspire the efforts which are necessary now to protect free societies from being overwhelmed. Canadians will not be behind any people in readiness to pool their sovereignty with that of other free nations, so that it can work more effectively for our security, and our welfare. But if we are all to move towards that distant goal, it is necessary that we should first maintain and strengthen the special bonds of friendship which already exist between countries in the free world. Of these, there are none closer or more significant than the ties between the people of Canada and the United States. In working through Canada-United States Goodwill week and in so many other ways, to promote good relations between our two countries, Kiwanis is therefore working, it seems to me, towards a purpose which transcends even the destiny of those two countries. You are helping to lay the foundation of a great, new community of free peoples, and, above all, to protect and ensure peace.

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