

difficulty in the way that seems best to us. Such events will get little or no attention here unless - and this is a depressing feature - the news seems bad enough to be big.

You tend to underplay Canadian and American problems unless they become conflicts. We tend to overplay them and read a disaster into a difference.

To read some Canadian headlines and listen to some Canadian pronouncements, and a few American, you would think that the unguarded boundary now needs the United Nations police force to keep the peace. I deplore this exaggeration almost as much as I worry about the general indifference on this side to the important problems which are exaggerated. It is shocking, for instance, to see a Canadian headline, as I did recently, that reads: "Angry U.S.A. lashes Canada," when the basis for this "lashing" was a report of a criticism of Canadian grain-trading policy by one unnamed United States official in the Department of Agriculture!

A sense of responsibility, a sense of proportion and mutual understanding is needed on both sides - above all, a sane and mature approach to our problems by politicians, press and public.

#### Mutual Understanding Necessary

So far as the relations between the two governments are concerned, I am very happy to testify that, though we have had as difficult and sensitive problems to face in the last six months as in any previous period, throughout this time the contacts and the communications between Washington and Ottawa have been continuous, amicable and frank. It makes all the difference (I know from a long diplomatic experience) when you can talk to each other in the friendly, frank and direct way that political leaders in our two countries now do.

It should be no surprise to anyone that, in spite of this, many of our problems have persisted. I myself have never pretended that all differences between our two countries would be resolved by friendly visits or a friendly atmosphere. These things can help - help greatly - but our relations are too complicated and the problems too deep-rooted for that, that kind of easy solution.

Some years ago I ventured to prophesy, and the prophecy came as a shock to some and was strongly criticized, that the days of relatively easy and automatic relations between us were over. Later events have merely confirmed that forecast. This does not mean that the relations between our two countries in the future will be less good than they have been in the past; it does mean that they will require more vigilant attention, a greater effort of mutual understanding.

By reason of geography alone, Canada and the United States are inevitably and inescapably in a special position in relation to each other, and it will continue that way. The special features of the physical relationship between our countries are reinforced by the other special ties which have developed and have brought us so close together in so many ways.