

Transportation

Transportation links further strengthen the economic association. More than 8,000 miles of Canadian railways in the United States and some 1,500 miles of U.S. track in Canada connect with their parent systems through fifty border crossings. Freighters from both countries freely ply the common inland waterway of the Great Lakes system.

The extensive Canadian canal system is open to all ships on an equal basis--and more than one-half of the traffic passing through comes from the United States. Tonnage through the Sault Ste. Marie canals, one Canadian and the other American, is approximately twice as heavy as that through the Panama Canal. Similarly close links are now being established in the growing field of civil aviation.

KINSHIP OF PEOPLE AND OUTLOOK

As a further bond in the continental neighborhood, the denser areas of the Canadian and American population are for the most part located near the common border. Personal contacts between corresponding sections of the two countries--between Montreal and New York, Toronto and Buffalo, Windsor and Detroit, Winnipeg and Minneapolis, Vancouver and Seattle--are thus in many cases easier than contacts between different sections within each country.

Historically, the movement of people in both directions across the border was an important factor in the development of both Canada and the United States. Beginning with the United Empire Loyalists, the first great influx of English-speaking colonists came to Canada from the United States. Hundreds of thousands of French-speaking Canadians emigrated to New England and New York. The citizens of both countries were intermingled in the westward movement across the continent that peopled the fertile prairies.

The common task was the opening up of a vast continent, and the dynamic character of this task eliminated the boundary--in so far as hampering the free movement of people from either country was concerned. Political loyalties were submerged in the pioneers' search for greater opportunity.

At present, if one were to count up all the people born in Canada and still alive, fourteen out of every hundred are living in the United States. Conversely, 350,000 of American birth have made their homes in Canada. The exchange of population on such a scale indicates the fundamental similarity of life in both countries.

The political institutions of both Canada and the United States have a common origin in Great Britain and western Europe. English is a common tongue. Although they have achieved national sovereignty in different ways, both Canada and the United States have travelled the same road from colonial dependence to national independence. In both countries the democratic freedom of the individual is the very foundation of the state. Twice in the present century Canada and the United States have fought side by side in defence of their common democratic ideals. Both are now dedicated to the building of peace through the United Nations.

The harmony of ideals and aspirations is matched by the strong community in the daily life of Canada and the United States. There is the same high standard of living and education, similar trademarks, products, commercial tastes and