



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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No. 54/42 CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Speech by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Paul Martin, made at the Annual Convention of the United Steel Workers of America, at Atlantic City, September 22, 1954.

I am honoured by this invitation to address the Annual Convention of the United Steel Workers of America. Yours is a mighty union with intimate and continuing connections with the Steel Workers, and so with the people and indeed the whole economy of my own country - your neighbour, Canada.

Any Canadian would be proud to be in the midst of this company today and to pay tribute to this gathering. Your convention is a symbol of that combination of industrial strength linked to the ideal of free association and civic responsibility which is one of the roots of your national greatness.

As a neighbour of the United States, Canada welcomes the moral power and material strength of the United States. Two years ago in speaking of the free partnership which exists between our two countries my colleague, Mr. Pearson, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, said:

"In some parts of the world where smaller countries lie next to more powerful neighbours, the dominant keynote is fear and subordination. In North America, it is friendship and confidence, founded on a free and fruitful association. Proximity arising from the facts of politics and geography can often breed mistrust. In the case of our two peoples, it has bred deep and mutual respect. Proximity does not for us mean the imposed leadership of the master or the enforced obedience of the reluctant satellite. It means partnership, based on consultations and cooperation, and includes the right to agree - or to disagree.

"This tradition of the good neighbour derives not merely from the fact that we are the joint occupants of a continent endowed with great material resources and developed by the industry and spirit of Americans and Canadians. Nor is it due only to the fact that we know - and act on the knowledge - that our defence recognizes no national boundaries; that it lies in collective measures shared with our neighbours and our friends, and in the pledges we have made - and which we are honouring - as members of the United Nations.