

### Interlocking Interests

We should not forget that Canadian national interests cannot be considered and safeguarded, apart from yours. Oh, we can build up our made-in-Canada shock absorbers but we cannot secure immunity from the impact of anything you do. When the results of your actions are good, this is to our quick and great advantage; when they are bad, we often are the first and foremost country to suffer.

So, no wonder we worry about what you do. You may worry about us, too, but while we can merely hurt you by some fiscal or taxation measure, you can ruin us by one of yours.

Most of these problems could have been avoided if we had been chosen or been forced to forego the benefits of close relations between our two countries. If, by any stretch of the imagination, we had been able to remain more aloof from each other over the years, we would have fewer problems now. But we would certainly both be the poorer for it, and in many ways; that's not the solution that I am looking for.

Close and varied neighbourly relations inevitably bring varied and serious problems. We should not try to avoid or ignore them. That would be unrealistic and would merely store up trouble for the future. We do better when we recognize frankly that the problems are bound to arise and then try to do something sensible about them as they do arise.

As good neighbours, we must be able to sit down and discuss them, realizing that solutions will not be found without hard work and give and take on both sides. It won't be done by mirrors or miracles, and won't be done by after-dinner speeches.

Notwithstanding the 150 years of peace (and we can take pride in that); notwithstanding the undefended border and our common addiction to the Beverly Hillbillies, Casey Stengel and public opinion; notwithstanding national pride and sentiment, domestic politics and a touchiness native to North Americans; all these will operate at times to the detriment of good Canada-United States relations. They will occasionally get our governments into hot water with each other. G.K. Chesterton once said: "I like hot water; it keeps you clean." Hot, yes, but not scalding!

The inevitable disparity of dependence of our two countries on each other creates a disparity in concern and in interest for each other. This is a source of some of our difficulties and some of our problems, and we have some good examples of that at the present time.

### Exaggeration Versus Indifference

What may seem to us, and is to us, a major issue, such as the effect of your tax-equilization proposal, will command big, black and continuing headlines in our press. So will harassment of our shipping in United States Great Lakes ports by some of your unions which disapprove of the action taken by our free and responsible Parliament to settle a Canadian