

because we were fearful that at the end of the Civil War the United States would move north. So Canada was formed, and at every stage of our history this relationship exists. We are to some extent a reaction to the United States, but it is not anti-American. It is a desire to be a distinct country living in harmony with the United States. That is the problem, and for us it's an extremely difficult one.

Q. Do you feel you're making progress, sir?

SSEA: Yes, I do. When I think back to my youth, I think how much more our institutions are developed, how much more our economy is developed. All of these things. But here we are on television. If you lived in Canada you'd see almost as much American television as you would see in the United States. And yet we're trying to promote our arts, our musicians, our books, our writers, and we're making considerable progress, but it is always an uphill battle.

Q. Mr. Secretary, do you see anything in President Nixon's view of Canada that is different from the view, say, of the President's predecessors?

SSEA: No. I don't really see very much difference. Like the Prime Minister, I felt it was a very significant statement that the President made when Mr. Trudeau saw him: that it is not the desire of the United States to impose any kind of economic régime upon Canada.

Q. But then Secretary Connally made some remarks that infuriated Canadians.

SSEA: Yes he made some remarks that seem to us not to be in line with what the President had said, and we assume that the President speaks for the Government of the United States. We do recognize, however, that there are inherent problems, nothing to do with the policy of the Government of the United States. Problems for us that are caused by simple proximity to the United States. It has nothing to do with the policy of the United States Government as such. It's simply that a very dynamic society of vast power is situated alongside of us. That's our real problem. And we hope that we have the sympathetic understanding of the United States, and we think in President Nixon we have such sympathy.

Q. What is that button on your lapel, Mr. Secretary?

SSEA: This is to identify me for the purposes of security while the President is here so that I can move in and out without being stopped by the guards on one side or the other.

Q. Do you anticipate any problems?