

Above all, there is the St. Lawrence Seaway. We have decided in Canada that if this great venture cannot be carried out co-operatively with the United States - and we think it should - then we will go ahead and do it ourselves as an all-Canadian Seaway. We are not, I assure you, bluffing in this. Nor do we get any pleasure out of reading in one of your great national weeklies, the following: "as to Canada's threat [it's not a threat, it's a promise!]" to build the Seaway alone, there are commentators who say that any time a country wants to spend its own money with no contribution from the United States - that we must see, if strictly from amazement".

The amazement on our side is that an editor could make such a mistake about Canada. He should know that we are developing our own country without financial aid from any other government. The American money which has poured in to assist us, and has played such a great part in this development, is, I need hardly add, commercial money, invested for purposes of honest profit.

So we shall go ahead with the St. Lawrence Seaway, if necessary, on our own. But even for a Canadian waterway, because it affects boundary waters, we have to secure United States co-operation under a treaty between the two countries before we can proceed. So we are grateful to the Administration in Washington for assuring us that this co-operation will not be withheld.

As a matter of fact when we talk these days about "doing something ourselves", "going it alone", we are aware that no country, certainly not Canada, can or should want to go it alone. Take our commercial relationships. No two countries in the world are tied together so closely by trade as your country and mine. You are our best customer and we are yours. This trade is made up of all sorts of goods - we send you raw materials, you send us manufactured goods; we send you apples, you send us oranges. Sometimes the trade figures look queer because we seem to send each other the same thing. For instance lumber moves in both directions, but of course this is because the frontier is so long; at the eastern and western ends of the continent lumber moves south and in the centre section lumber moves north.

Probably we only realize how much we depend upon each other when things go wrong. Very recently we have had an instance of this. Two or three weeks ago in a small section of one of our prairie provinces there was an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in a few herds of cattle. We have never in the history of Canada had an outbreak of this very dangerous and very infectious disease and we have not yet definitely traced its origin in this case. American law provides that you can take no imports of cattle or meat or related products from any country where this disease exists and so your authorities were forced to impose a complete embargo against all these products from Canada. Unfortunately, according to your law, this embargo had to apply right across the full length of the international boundary. It shut off Canadian exports from herds in provinces like Ontario which are more than a thousand miles away from the small centre of infection. This, of course, caused confusion in our meat and cattle market all over the country.