

Now I am not saying that Canada is about to retaliate against the United States by raising barriers to imports from this country. I belong to a Government that has moved steadily in the direction of freer trade, which we believe to be in the Canadian interest, and in the interests of a peaceful world. Nor do I overlook the progress that has been made by the United States in the same direction in recent years.

It is just that I am convinced that Americans who sell goods to Canada and appreciate the value of the Canadian market would do well to remind themselves more often that Canada is a separate nation, not a state of the Union, a nation which in the long run can import only as much as it exports. If Americans think more often of their Canadian market in that sense, there will, I am confident, be greater support in this country for the kind of trade policies that will put United States-Canadian trade on an even more secure footing, and that will at the same time result in greater markets for United States goods in Canada.

When I think of how Americans and Canadians can work together as citizens of separate countries, living side by side, each respecting the legitimate interests of the other, I think immediately of the St. Lawrence Seaway which is of such vital interest to the city of Milwaukee. For many, many years Canada tried in vain to get the agreement of the United States to proceed with that great project. Finally, Canadian patience was exhausted. If the United States was not prepared to join in an international navigation project, Canada stood ready to go it alone.

Fortunately, that did not become necessary. Thanks to the unfailing support from communities such as your own, the opposition was overcome, and our two countries reached agreement and began work. I take this occasion to congratulate you on the success of your efforts.

Only a comparatively short time ago, the idea of Canada building the deep waterway by herself would have seemed absurd. But not today. This is a measure of the advance in economic strength of my country in recent years. That Canada stood ready to go it alone is another instance of the growing confidence of the Canadian people in their own capacity.

An international project was greatly to be desired, however, and Canadians have joined with enthusiasm in the construction of both the power and navigation aspects of the work. In fact, most of the navigation improvements are in Canada and will be paid for by Canada. We look forward, as you do, to an immense development following upon the completion of the improvements that will bring the ocean to the heart of the Continent.

I have been most interested to learn about and now to see at first hand the enterprise in preparing for the Seaway that is being shown at American ports along the Great Lakes such