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INTRODUCTION

Trade between Canada and the United States is extensive and therefore very important to both nations. For example, in 1972 Canada exported \$20.179 billion of goods, \$14.022 billion of which was to the United States. Exports from the United States to Canada totalled \$12.787 billion. In 1973 the volume of trade was even greater: \$17.246 billion of Canada's total exports of \$25.409 billion was to the United States, with United States exports to Canada amounting to \$16.446 billion.¹

In any close relationship such as the one shared by the United States and Canada, problems will arise. In general, each nation will be studying the other's domestic and foreign commercial policies which will affect trade. Each nation will act in its own self-interest, often to the detriment of the bilateral relationship. Also, non-trade social and political issues often have an indirect but substantial impact on trade. Finally, forces outside the control of either the United States or Canada must be considered. Some of the specific problems affecting the trade relationship between Canada and the United States are domestic agricultural subsidies, tariff and nontariff barriers, foreign investment by United States corporations in Canada and the resulting social and political consequences, institutional trade arrangements, and trade agreements among other nations which hinder bilateral trade arrangements.

The American Society of International Law held a regional meeting on May 12, 1973, at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio. The topic of the meeting was the future trade relation between the United States and Canada. The statements following were made by speakers invited to the meeting to discuss the problems in United States-Canada trade and to propose solutions and suggestions for its improvement. The editors have compiled transcripts of the informal remarks made by each speaker and edited them for publication.

¹Trade statistics provided by R. Allen Kilpatrick, Canadian Consul, Cleveland, Ohio, who acted as panel moderator at the symposium.