

CANADA AND THE WAR

THE LORD MAYOR'S LUNCHEON

IN HONOUR OF

THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

Addresses by

Right Hon. SIR GEORGE HENRY WILKINSON,
Lord Mayor of London

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Canada

AND

Right Hon. WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, C.H., M.P.,
Prime Minister of Great Britain

THE MANSION HOUSE

LONDON, ENGLAND, SEPTEMBER 4, 1941

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THE LORD MAYOR'S LUNCHEON

ADDRESS BY

Right Honourable SIR GEORGE HENRY WILKINSON
Lord Mayor of London

Your Grace, Mr. Prime Minister, My Lords and Gentlemen:

In extending a welcome to you all to the Mansion House to-day, I want to say how privileged I feel in entertaining so representative and distinguished a gathering to meet our honoured guest, Mr. Mackenzie King. And to our visitors from the Dominions, I wish to give you all an especially cordial welcome. You have come to this capital city of the Empire from all parts of the Dominions to join us in the great struggle on which we are at present embarked; a struggle in which we have but one aim—the preservation of the liberty and the privileges of the individual. That we meet in the Mansion House is perhaps symbolic, for the Corporation of London throughout its long history of nearly a thousand years, has strenuously fought for freedom, and has so often been the champion of the people against autocratic acts and rulers.

Thanks of Citizens of London to the Dominions

Many of you come into the city of London for the first time to-day. You find it battered and scarred, but let me assure you that the citizens are not cast down. They stand four square to face the future, with heads erect with resolution, and fierce determination. Nothing will turn them from their path, which is the road to complete and final victory. And it is perhaps especially in the city of London that we realize so well the great parts the Dominions are playing in the struggle. Their men, munitions, materials, and

food are coming to this country and to all fronts, to the utmost limit of their capacity, increasing with an evergrowing momentum. In addition to this, as you will see from the banners about me, the Dominions have sent enormous sums of money for the relief of air raid distress. And it was only after the last raid on London that a cheque for twenty thousand pounds was sent across by bomber with these words: "As long as German bombers fly over London, so long will Canadian cheques fly the Atlantic." May I, on behalf of all those who have benefited, once again tender to all from the Dominions, and to your generous countrymen, my sincere and very grateful thanks. Your unparalleled generosity and kindest sympathy, spontaneously offered, afford striking proof of those bonds which unite all our people, bonds indefinable and intangible, and therefore to the Germans, incomprehensible.

Welcome to the Prime Minister of Canada

We are gathered together to-day to welcome as our honoured guest the Prime Minister of Canada. During his stay here, Mr. Mackenzie King has applied himself assiduously in conjunction with our Cabinet Ministers to the urgent problems of the day. We are indeed glad to have with us a man so wise in counsel, shrewd in judgment, and inspiring in his enthusiasm. He takes a natural pride in the close friendship which he has established with Mr. Roosevelt, and we share his gratification in the admirable results which attended their joint efforts. One result of their co-operation was a setting up of the United States-Canada Permanent Joint Defence Board. Another, the agreement popularly known as "The Hyde Park Agreement" which dealt with the co-ordination of productive effort.

Mr. Mackenzie King comes representing one of the great Dominions, but he is not a stranger to the city of London, for he is one of our honorary freemen, a distinction which is bestowed on few, and the greatest honour the Corporation can present to any man. The freedom was given to him no less than eighteen years ago. Then, as now, he was Prime Minister. It is striking proof of his ability and virility that he has held that office with but a short break for so many years, serving with such distinction, and enjoying the complete confidence of all his fellows. In his final words, when acknowledging the bestowal of the freedom, Mr. Mackenzie King said, "Into our conference we seek to carry the spirit of the freedom of London, knowing that so long as that spirit survives, the British Empire will endure."

Never was the freedom of the whole world so menaced as to-day. In this gathering, so representative of the British Commonwealth of Nations, let us reaffirm that this struggle will not end until we are assured that men may once again live their own lives in freedom, in liberty, and in peace.

Greetings from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught

It was my privilege to send to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught a telegram of greeting from this gathering. I am honoured by the following reply:—

I am most grateful for your kind message which has deeply touched me. Please convey to Mr. Mackenzie King, Mr. Winston Churchill and the representatives of Canada my warm appreciation of their good wishes. Although many years have elapsed, I still remember with every pleasure the kindness and ready help received from all Canadians during my term as Governor General.

It gives me the greatest pleasure now to be able to join in the welcome you are giving to Mr. Mackenzie King in the full knowledge that the bonds of understanding and friendship between Canada and Great Britain are being drawn ever tighter in our united efforts for victory and peace. I hope Mr. Mackenzie King will carry back to Canada our warmest appreciation of the wonderful help the Dominion has been, and is giving us.

(Signed) ARTHUR.

I give you the toast of our honoured guest, the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mackenzie King.

THE LORD MAYOR'S LUNCHEON

ADDRESS BY

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING, M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

My Lord Mayor, Your Grace, Mr. Prime Minister, My Lords, and Gentlemen:

I thank you, my Lord Mayor, for the honour you have done me in proposing my health and particularly for the sentiments you have so graciously expressed. May I express, as well, my warm appreciation of the very distinguished company here assembled, and of the gracious message from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. The people of Canada will be quick to recognize that the honour which is being done me to-day is meant as an honour to all Canada. This the Canadian people will deeply appreciate. This they will never forget.

I thank you also, my Lord Mayor, for affording me the occasion to speak on behalf of the people of Canada to the people of Britain.

It is truly a high privilege to speak in this ancient city which has suffered so grievous a martyrdom for the cause of freedom. What London has already endured, with undaunted courage, has added to her story a chapter so illustrious that her historic glories pale by comparison. In these days, reviving the memories of the assertion and the preservation of the freedom, your citizens still defend, with all their ancestral strength, the rights of the plain, ordinary men and women, not of London only, but of the world; resisting, as of old, with indomitable and unbroken will, the onset of tyranny.

Canada at Britain's Side

Throughout the past two years the people of Britain, in the midst of horror and suffering, have given an example of human endurance unparalleled, I believe, in the annals of fortitude. Of London it will be written and spoken in proud memory, that when

the skies rained destruction upon her she stood amidst the ruins of her ancient monuments unbowed, unweeping, undespairing, but erect, resolute, unafraid.

This city to-day is held in high honour above all the cities of the earth. The very name of London reverberates around the world like the sound waves of a great bell, calling together all who love and cherish freedom. I am here, to-day, to tell the brave men and women of Britain that the call is being answered, and will continue to be answered, in ever larger measure, from across the sea.

In this world struggle to thwart aggression and to end oppression, Canada is at Britain's side. The United States of America is lending powerful support. Side by side, we of the new world stand in your defence, which we believe to be our own defence. Each at the other's side, each in its own way, but both in unflinching and ever-increasing measure, continue to supply the material and vital means of ultimate and certain victory.

Tribute to Mr. Churchill

I thank you, Prime Minister, for honouring this occasion by your presence. To me it is indeed a source of pride that behind our relationship in the affairs of State at this time of war, there lies an unbroken friendship extending over more than one-third of a century—a friendship kept warm by personal visits of one or the other to Britain or Canada. We have not, at all times, seen eye to eye. But in viewing the course which it has seemed wisest to take, we have seldom had difficulty in reconciling our views, and have never had reason to question their sincerity. To-day I stand at your side, one with you in thought and purpose and determination, never more honoured than that long years of public service should have afforded me an opportunity so to represent, before the world, the proud position of Canada at the side of Britain.

Perhaps you will permit me to express, in the presence of your fellow countrymen, something of the feelings which Canadians, one and all, cherish towards yourself. In the hour of Britain's greatest need, we have seen you personify the unbending determination, the dogged courage, and the unyielding perseverance of the British people. We have seen you do more than this. By the power of your eloquence, by the energy of your conduct, and by the genius of your leadership, you have galvanized a great people into heroic action, rarely equalled and never excelled in the history of warfare.

You have consistently upheld the right of men and nations freely to order their own affairs, in their own way, within the framework of international friendship and goodwill.

To-day, Nazi Germany, led by a man possessed by the power of evil, and corrupted by the evil of perverted power, seeks to crush all free peoples. Mankind may well be grateful that, here in Britain, a free man, who believes in the ultimate power of free men, has become the champion of the hosts of freedom.

It is a high destiny which, in the realm of either civil or international strife, links the name of any public man with the saving of his country. Of you, Mr. Churchill, history will record that, by your example and your leadership, you helped to save the freedom of the world.

Canada's Entry into War

Canada is proud of her position in the sisterhood of the British Commonwealth. But that position and association, had other reasons been lacking, would not have sufficed to bring Canada into a European war. Ours was not an automatic response to some mechanical organization of Empire. Canada's entry into the war was the deliberate decision of free people, by their own representatives in a free parliament.

Canada is a nation of the new world. As a nation of the new world, we placed ourselves freely at Britain's side because Britain's cause was the cause of freedom, not in this island alone, not in the British Empire alone, not in the old world alone, but everywhere in the world. Lincoln, in his day, saw that the United States could not survive half-slave and half-free. Likewise the Canadian people have clearly seen that the world to-day cannot long continue half-slave and half-free. Ere Poland was invaded we had come to see, as you had come to see, that Nazi Germany had been maddened by the poison of the evil doctrines of race and force; that the lust and passion of her rulers could be satisfied only by the blood and soil and treasure of her neighbours. We were well aware that ambition, feeding on itself, would steadily grow. We saw that if Hitler were successful in his immediate aims, the whole world would soon be threatened by the unlimited ambition of evil men, and by the might of the greatest military machine the world has ever known.

Canada with Britain to the End

When you in Britain determined to oppose this growing danger, we in Canada were with you from the start. Like you, we saw the folly of waiting passively for our turn to come. We will be with you to the end.

We are fighting to defend democratic and Christian ideals. We believe that everything which free men value and cherish, on this side of the grave, is in peril in this war. The right of men, rich and poor, to be treated as men; the right of men to make the laws by which they shall be governed; the right of men to work where they will, at what they will; the right of womankind to the serenity and sanctity of the home; the right of children to play in safety under peaceful heavens; the right of old men and women to the tranquillity of their sunset; the right to speak the truth in our hearts; the right to worship in our own way, the God in whom we believe.

When war came, Canada did not hesitate. But I am bound to say our resolve and our determination has been strengthened by your

magnificent endurance. We have been deeply moved by the example of the King and Queen, sharing the dangers and sorrows of their people. We have been stirred by your Prime Minister sounding the battle cry of humanity. But, above all, we have been inspired by the undaunted courage and the unshaken faith with which millions of ordinary men and women have faced destruction and death. We, in Canada, cannot all share your dangers, but we are proud to share your burdens. We are determined to share them to the utmost of our strength.

Canada's War Effort

You already know something of Canada's war effort. We have transformed one of the least military peoples on earth into a nation organized for modern war. Our war production gains daily in momentum. As the conflict has spread, as its intensity has grown, so has our resolve to put forth our utmost effort.

For your forces as well as ours, Canada to-day is making ships, aircraft, motor transport, universal carriers, tanks, field guns, machine-guns, anti-aircraft guns, munitions of many kinds, explosives, chemicals, radio devices, electrical equipment and a great many other essentials of modern war.

To-day Canada is a granary and a storehouse from which we are sending you all the food that ships can be found to carry. Our country has also become an arsenal of democracy, and a shipyard of the freedom of the seas.

By British standards, our navy is small. But its strength has increased tenfold since war began. When invasion first threatened this island, Canada was proud to be able to send her destroyers to join the Royal Navy in guarding your shores. The ships and men of Canada's navy are taking their full part in the escort of convoys on the North Atlantic passage.

Canada's air force also has its part in convoy duty. But the greatest task of the Royal Canadian Air Force—and Canada's greatest single contribution to the common cause—is our part in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Together with the associated Royal Air Force schools for which we have provided a home in Canada, it represents the greatest concentration of air training in the world.

In the Commonwealth Plan, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand are associated with Canada. Its purpose is the achievement of decisive supremacy in the air. The results already attained far exceed the original plans.

Thousands of graduates of the Air Training Plan already are serving in the Royal Air Force, or in our own Canadian squadrons in Britain. As the output of air crews increases, more Canadian airmen will serve with the R.A.F. More Canadian squadrons will also be formed. Before long the skies over Britain—and over Germany, too—will be filled with young airmen from our land.

A Remarkable Prophecy

And here may I pause to repeat what I believe will yet prove to be one of the most remarkable prophecies in all history. The original lines were written in Latin, 200 years ago, by the author of the "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard." Happily, they have been translated into excellent English verse. I give their message to you, brave people of Britain, as something to which I believe you may look with confidence:

*"The time will come, when thou shalt lift thine eyes
To watch a long-drawn battle in the skies,
While aged peasants, too amazed for words,
Stare at the flying fleets of wond'rous birds.
England, so long the mistress of the sea,
Where winds and waves confess her sovereignty,
Her ancient triumphs yet on high shall bear
And reign, the sovereign of the conquered air."*

In the last great war the national pride of Canada was fired by the exploits of the Canadian Corps. When the present war came, we set about creating a new army which we were determined would rival the old. Canada's new army, I think I may say, is as well known in many parts of Britain as it is in Canada. Since my arrival, I have been proud to hear on all sides that the Canadian Corps, under General McNaughton's command, is as fine as any military unit in Britain.

In addition to the two operational divisions in the Corps, there are, in this country, many thousands of Canadian troops, including a tank brigade and an infantry division which have recently arrived. Before the year is out we shall send over still another division—this one, an armoured division.

You all know how eager our Canadian soldiers are for action against the enemy. I cannot make too clear that the policy of the Canadian government is to have our troops serve in those theatres where, viewing the war as a whole, it is believed their services will count most. The Canadian people are proud that to-day our men are among the defenders of the very heart of the free world.

And here let me express my thanks for the hospitable way in which our Canadians have been received into your hearts and homes. The Canadian forces in your midst are at once the symbol of the unity of our cause, and the most precious evidence we can give of our wholehearted support.

Magnitude of Britain's Task

One purpose I had in my present visit to Britain was to gain, from the point of vantage which Britain affords, a truer picture of the world conflict than is possible anywhere else. I am more than ever convinced that the dangers we face together are world-wide dangers. The very existence of this island is threatened. At Suez

and Gibraltar, and throughout the whole Mediterranean basin, there is a constant danger of enemy attacks. From the West and from the East, the security of India is threatened. In the Far East, menacing clouds hang over Singapore. The most vital sources of British supplies and the routes of communication and transportation are everywhere in danger. To all this must be added the enemy's gains in the long list of conquered nations. No greater mistake could be made than to fail adequately to measure the magnitude of the task; or to think that British interests alone are menaced by this world-encircling danger. The strength, the resources and the rapacity of the enemy are so great that no country which still possesses its freedom and independence is secure.

We face, to-day, battles not of nations but of continents. If, tomorrow, the world is not to face a battle between hemispheres, it is going to take all the strength that all the free peoples can muster to keep the conflict in this hemisphere, and finally extinguish it before the whole world is in flames.

In every country Hitlerism has found its most useful allies among those who believed they could save themselves by isolation and neutrality while others fought the battles of freedom. Although none will ever do more for freedom than the people of this island are doing in this greatest of all wars, Britain, without aid, far greater than any yet in sight, cannot win the war for freedom the world over. You, Mr. Churchill, said: "Give us the tools and we will finish the job." It was the appeal of a people who will never falter. But in our hearts we know, to-day, the war will be far longer, far harder, and far more desperate if all free men do not rally to your side while you are at the fulness of your strength. For the task that faces Britain and those who fight with her is, I verily believe, nothing less than the task of saving humanity.

The "Northern Bridge" and the New World

In recent days, you and I, Prime Minister, have crossed the great northern bridge which stretches through Iceland, Greenland and Newfoundland from the Old World to the New. The narrow seas between Scotland and Iceland, between Iceland and Greenland, between Greenland and Newfoundland, through which you voyaged to your historic conference with President Roosevelt, are the most vital strategic areas in the world to-day. As I spanned those waters and islands, in the space of a single night, I had a new and more vivid sense of our nearness, in North America, to the heart of the world conflict.

I felt a new pride, too, that, from the beginning of the war, Canada has been a keeper of that northern bridge. In Newfoundland and Iceland, Canadian forces were the pioneers from the New World. Across that bridge come vast supplies of war materials and foodstuffs; yes, and of fighting men, too. Back across that same bridge, if this island bridgehead should ever be lost, would move the enslaving hordes of the new barbarians.

We know it is not enough to garrison the bridge itself, unless we are prepared to defend this island which is its eastern bridgehead. That is why the fighting men of Canada are here in growing numbers to share in the task which is our defence as well as yours. By your action, you, in Britain, have already made it clear that you will never open to any aggressor the road across the Northern Bridge, so long as brave men survive to keep it closed.

That the United States was to share in keeping this Northern Bridge was the best of news. I find further encouragement in the words of President Roosevelt last Monday when he said: "I know I speak for the conscience and determination of the American people when I say we shall do everything in our power to crush Hitler and his Nazi forces." The most important step in crushing Hitler is to render wholly secure this island base from which the final attack must be launched.

We, in Canada, were greatly heartened when, three years ago, the President, after referring to the Dominion of Canada as part of the sisterhood of the British Empire, declared that the people of the United States would not stand idly by if the domination of Canadian soil were threatened by any other empire. In the name of our government, I reciprocated at once by recognizing Canada's responsibility to do what lay within her power to prevent attacks through our territory upon the United States. These declarations were the starting point of our agreement for joint defence.

Deepening Interdependence of the Free World

To-day, fortunately, we are witnessing the birth of still wider arrangements for joint defence between the British Empire and the United States. Your declaration, Prime Minister, that, in the Far East, Britain would stand at the side of the United States, is a sure sign of the deepening interdependence of the free world. A similar declaration on the part of the United States, as respects Nazi Germany, would, I believe, serve to shorten this perilous conflict. Such a declaration would be full of meaning for the German people. At the same time, it would constitute a realistic recognition that Britain is the one obstacle in the way of a Nazi attack upon the New World.

Without doubt, Britain could, if she would, purchase a temporary respite by agreeing to the continuance of the Nazi domination of continental Europe. Such a course you rightly refuse to consider because you know full well that all it would mean is an armed truce. You would face, and we in North America would face, an agony of prolonged uncertainty while Germany repaired her military machine and gathered fresh strength for a final assault on what remained of democracy in the world.

No prospect would please the Nazis more than the opportunity of consolidating their position in the conquered lands while preparing for the conquest of the rest of the world. That opportunity will never be given them. But it becomes daily clearer that resistance alone will not bring victory. Unless the whole resources and the total energy of the free world are thrown into the struggle, the war may drag on for years, carrying, in its train, famine, pestilence and horrors still undreamed of. Regardless of all else, we may be sure that, so long as the forces of destruction continue to rage, there can be no security, no progress and no peace in any corner of the world. Instead the world will drift more and more toward universal chaos in which hopes of reconstruction or of a new world order may altogether disappear.

A New World Order

Much is being said about a new world order to take the place of the old world order when the war is at an end. If that new order is not already on its way before the war is over, we may look for it in vain. A new world order cannot be worked out at some given moment and reduced to writing at a conference table. It is not a matter of parchments and of seals. That was one of the mistaken beliefs at the end of the last war.

A new world order, to be worthy of the name, is something that is born, not made. It is something that lives and breathes; something that needs to be developed in the minds and hearts of men; something that touches the human soul. It expresses itself in goodwill and in mutual aid. It is the application, in all human relations, of the principle of helpfulness and service. It is based, not on fear, greed and hate, but on mutual trust and the noblest qualities of the human heart and mind. It seeks neither to divide nor to destroy. Its aim is brotherhood, its method co-operation.

While the old order is destroying itself, this new relationship of men and nations already has begun its slow but sure evolution. It found expression when Britain determined to put an end to aggression in Europe; when other nations of the British Commonwealth took their place at the side of Britain; and when the United States resolved to lend its powerful aid to the nations which are fighting for freedom. It has found its latest expression in the Atlantic Charter. All these factors are combining to create one great brotherhood of freedom-loving peoples.

It must now be wholly clear that if the new world order, based upon freedom, is to assume definite shape, this can only be effected through the leadership of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the United States of America working in whole-hearted co-operation toward this great end. On such a foundation of unity of purpose and effort all free peoples may well hope to build an enduring new world order.

A New Heaven and a New Earth

“ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea . . . and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.”

A new heaven and a new earth—are not these, in very truth, what we seek to-day?

A heaven to which men, women, and little children no longer will look in fear, but where they may gaze again in silent worship and in thankfulness for the benediction of the sun and the rain; an earth no longer scarred by warfare and torn by greed, but where the lowly and humble of all races may work in ways of pleasantness and walk in paths of peace. And the sea no longer will be the scene of conflict nor harbour any menace; it, too, will gladden the hearts of men as it unites in friendly intercourse the nations of the world.

Then . . . “ *shall all men's good
Be each man's rule, and universal Peace
Lie like a shaft of light across the land,
And like a lane of beams athwart the sea,
Thro' all the circle of the golden year.*”

This new heaven, this new earth, is the vision which, at this time of war unites, inspires and guides Britain, Canada, other nations of the British Commonwealth, the United States and our allies in all parts of the world. No lesser vision will suffice to gain the victory. No lesser service to humanity will hold the faith and win the gratitude of mankind.

THE LORD MAYOR'S LUNCHEON

ADDRESS BY

Right Hon. WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, C.H., M.P.
Prime Minister of Great Britain

My Lord Mayor, I rise to propose your health.

I suppose that, during your year of office, you have a vast number of important and interesting gatherings over which you must preside, and I am sure that, like your predecessors, you have dispensed, even in these hard, precarious times, the famous hospitality of the city of London to them. I feel convinced that nothing in your year of office will stand out more vividly in your mind than this entertainment here to-day of so many military representatives of the Dominions to give a hearty welcome and do all honour to the Prime Minister of Canada, our guest, Mr. Mackenzie King.

I have, as he has reminded us, known him for a great many years. I remember, as an Under Secretary for the Colonies, negotiating with him the details of some Canadian legislation about which there was some hitch in the days when he was here at the side of that great Canadian, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. That is now 35 or 36 years ago. Ever since then I have enjoyed the honour and the pleasure of his friendship and have followed with close attention the long and consistent political message which he has delivered to his country, to the Empire, and to the times in which we live.

A Memorable and Momentous Declaration

To-day you have listened to a memorable and momentous declaration, made here amid our ruins of London. But it resounds throughout the Empire and is carried to all parts of the world by the marvellous mechanism of modern life and modern war.

You have listened to a speech which, I think, all those who have heard it will feel explains the long continued authority which Mr. Mackenzie King has wielded during the fifteen years he has been Prime Minister of Canada.

He has spoken of the great issues of war, and of the duty of all free men in all parts of the world to band together lest their heritage be wasted. He has spoken of the immense burden we have to bear, of our unflinching resolve to persevere, to carry forward our standard in common, and he has also struck that note, never absent from our minds, that no lasting or perfect solution of the difficulties with which we are now confronted—with which the whole world is now confronted—no diversion of that sad fate by which the whole world is menaced, can be achieved without a full co-operation, in every field, of all the nations which as yet lie outside the range of the conqueror's power.

In Mr. Mackenzie King we have a Canadian statesman who has always preserved the most intimate relations with the great republic of the United States, and whose name and voice are honoured there as they are on this side of the Atlantic. I had the opportunity of meeting the President of the United States a few weeks ago, and I know from him the great esteem in which Mr. Mackenzie King is held, and how much he has contributed to joining together in close, sympathetic action, the republic of the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

I am grateful to Mr. Mackenzie King to-day for having put in terms perhaps more pointed than I, as a British Minister, would use, that overpowering sense we have that the struggle is dire, and that all the free men of the world must stand together in one line if humanity is to be spared a deepening and darkening and widening tragedy which can lead only, as Mr. Mackenzie King has said, to something in the nature of immediate world chaos.

I hope, Mr. Mackenzie King, during your all too brief visit here—the visit in a few weeks must draw to a close—you have found yourself able to see with your own eyes what we have gone through; and, also, to feel that unconquerable uplift of energy and of resolve which will carry this old island through the storm and carry with it also much that is precious to mankind.

The War Effort of Canada

You have a great knowledge of the flexible organization, a system ever changing and expanding, yet ever growing into a greater harmony, by which the British Commonwealth of Nations is conducted. You have also a knowledge of your own people, and your association with them is so long and so intimate, that it has enabled you to realize and express, in these hours of trouble, a more complete unity of Canada than has ever before been achieved.

You have taken your place at our councils, you have discussed and examined, with our professional experts, questions of strategy and war which are pending. You have seen your gallant Canadian Corps and other troops who are here. We have felt very much for them that they have not yet had a chance of coming to close quarters with the enemy. It is not their fault; it is not our fault; but there they stand, and there they have stood through the whole of the critical period of the last fifteen months at the very point where they would be the first to be hurled into a counter-stroke against an invader.

No greater service can be rendered to this country, no more important military duty can be performed by any troops in all the Allies. It seems to me that although they may have felt envious that Australian, New Zealand and South African troops have been in action, the part they have played in bringing about the final result is second to none.

The war effort of Canada during this war, happily, has not so far required effusion of blood upon a large scale. But that effort, in men, in ships, aircraft, air training, in finance, in food, constitutes an element in the resistance of the British Empire without which that resistance could not be successfully maintained.

For all these reasons, my Lord Mayor, we are most grateful to you for assembling us here to do honour to the Prime Minister of Canada. We feel that we have participated in an occasion memorable in itself and fruitful also for the future.

Canada, the Linchpin of the English-speaking World

Canada is the linchpin of the English-speaking world. Canada, with close relations of friendly, affectionate intimacy with the United States on the one hand, and with her unswerving fidelity to the British Commonwealth and the Motherland on the other, is the link which joins together these great branches of the human family, a link which, spanning the oceans, brings the continents into their true relation, and will prevent, in future generations, a division between the proud and once happy nations of Europe and the great countries which have come into existence in the New World.