

✓ brilliant victory won in Sicily by the fighting men of the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, and the first signs of the crumbling of Japanese military power on the Pacific front. Yet the major task of defeating the forces of totalitarianism was many months ahead and all of us know how hard was the final path to Berlin and Tokyo. The sudden passing of President Roosevelt on the eve of the victory for which he had fought so valiantly was a deep and personal loss, not only to those closest to him, and to the people of the United States, but to all the peoples of the civilized world. To Canadians it was the loss of the first among our good neighbours.

Today, almost four years later, we are honoured by your presence in this House, Mr. President. On your shoulders have fallen heavy responsibilities as the leader of one of the greatest democratic communities in the world today. May I assure you, Mr. President, that all Canadians are proud to have you as our guest. To lead a mighty nation through the havoc of modern war is a grave and unenviable responsibility. To lead that same great nation through this difficult after-war period when the grim effects of world conflict are at times more apparent than the foundations of