

"Now I came with those words echoing in my ears, with high hopes to this meeting. And those hopes remain still undimmed. And I, speaking for my English-speaking confreres, would like first of all to thank all those faithful men and women of many races and many peoples who have sought the truth and have worked so hard to enlarge the human family and to keep friendships, personal, national and international in repair. And I would like to say for my own land of Canada that by the time of the next session of this body we shall have long since set up a Canadian UNESCO Council for the first time and it is the hope of all the Canadian Delegates that our successors will come better prepared by continued and continuous study to serve the purposes of this great organization.

"Now as we go to our homes there are many glimpses and echos which will follow us into our winters and our wanderings. We shall remember many things -- friendships and courtesies. But three memories will stand out about this meeting in my mind, I think above all others. I shall never forget the Egyptian Delegate whose splendid dignity and honourable fairness impressed us all. And I think a remark he made in the Programme Committee which you may not all have attended, interpreted the spirit of UNESCO as well as any other words I have heard spoken. For in a debate about the architectural and other monuments he paid a tribute to the educational and scientific and cultural assistance that throughout the years had been given to Egypt by Britain and France and he said how sincerely happy he will be when all misunderstandings and difficulties have been swept aside and that grand relationship is restored once again.

"I was impressed too, as I hope you were when my own ancestral land of Britain, whose honour is so dear to me and whose departures from conduct that is generally approved so sad to me, when I saw my own ancestral land of Britain showing her best side in voting willingly for the resolutions sponsored by Egypt and by Greece.

"And I think I shall never forget either the moving eloquence and sincerity of Mr. Nehru. And I would like to say this about him. By his personal suffering and sacrifices for freedom of his own land, he is surely fit to be one of the great champions of freedom everywhere. And when I hear some of the things he says I am often reminded of a great phrase by the Englishman, Tom Paine, who helped the Americans in their War of Independence. When somebody said to him Where freedom is, there is my country, Paine replied Where freedom is not, there is my country.

"Now of our thanks to India, to the Government and people of India, it is impossible to speak adequately in a few minutes. They have housed us and entertained us magnificently. But above all they have given us an opportunity unparalleled at least in my life, to enrich our common humanity.