

pressive and enduring, the product of a gifted mind and balanced judgment, made their striking appeal because they are based on the eternal verities without which, as we believe, nothing is. To-day, sir, your speech is an outstanding example of those utterances which have endeared you to our people and caused dismaying fear to our foes.

The road still may be long and dreary and the end not yet in sight, but the issue is no longer in doubt; and upon you, sir, the tremendous responsibilities of victory will be part of your destiny. You will require the assistance of all who, like you, believe that good is the final goal of ill. We are confident that in Canada you will find that co-operation in peace which we have shared in war. All we desire is the right to exercise the four freedoms upon which an enduring democracy must be based. If I may say so, your own phrase—now a household word—"the good neighbour," definitely embodies these principles. We invoke the blessing of Almighty God upon you. May He strengthen and sustain you until victory is achieved and peace and happiness restored to this war-torn world.

Mr. President, in the name of and for Canada I thank you most cordially and sincerely for your presence with us to-day, and for your noble address.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret, Chief Justice of Canada, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne; and the House of Commons having been summoned, and being come with their Speaker, the Honourable the Speaker of the Senate informed members of the Senate and of the House of Commons that His Excellency the Governor General had been pleased to cause letters patent to be issued under his sign manual and signet constituting the Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret his Deputy to do in His Excellency's name all acts on his part necessary to be done during His Excellency's pleasure.

The Honourable the Deputy Governor General was then pleased to close the Fourth Session of the Nineteenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

When the present session opened a year ago, the initiative taken by the United Nations gave

promise of impressive victories. During the year, that promise has been fulfilled.

The Axis forces in North Africa have been destroyed. The European mainland has been invaded. Italy has surrendered unconditionally. On the long Russian front the armies of the Soviet Union have relentlessly driven back the Nazi invaders. The Japanese advance in the south-west Pacific has been definitely halted. The invasion threats to Australia and New Zealand have been removed. On the mainland of Asia, the Chinese armies and people have continued to hold back the Japanese tide. The destructive enemy submarine campaign in the north Atlantic has been brought under control. On both sides of the globe the United Nations have maintained supremacy at sea and gained ascendancy in the air.

To-day, in Italy, German forces, despite stubborn resistance, are being compelled to yield ground. In Russia, great German armies face unparalleled destruction. In south-eastern Europe, there is growing unrest among Germany's satellite states. In the occupied countries, the people await the signal for open resistance. An ever-increasing aerial bombardment is destroying the war potential of Germany. It is bringing the war home to the German people.

In the campaign against the U-boats, Canada's Navy has had a prominent part. It has helped to maintain the bridge of ships across the Atlantic on which offensive action in Europe depends. During the year, all Allied naval forces in the north-west Atlantic were placed under a Canadian Commander-in-Chief. Units of the Canadian Army were among the first to land in Sicily, and again on the mainland of Italy. In hard battles won and hundreds of miles of difficult ground taken, our soldiers have had their full share in the accomplishments of this important campaign. They have made a record unexcelled by fighting men. On the opposite side of the world, Canadian forces joined with those of the United States in the occupation of Kiska in the Aleutians. In the attacks upon the U-boats, in the aerial assaults against Germany and occupied Europe, and over battlefronts around the globe, increasing numbers of Canadian airmen continued to take a telling part.

During the autumn, the Minister of National Defence visited Canada's overseas forces in Britain and in Italy. The transport of mail to the forces overseas has been greatly improved by the establishment of air mail services.

Provision of aid to our Allies continued to be a major factor in Canada's war effort. War supplies are being sent to Russia, to China, to French forces in Africa, as well as to the United Kingdom and other nations of the Commonwealth. They are supplied under the mutual aid legislation enacted during the present session, and are allocated by the Mutual Aid Board in accordance with strategic need. A considerable portion of Canada's mutual aid has been transported across the seas in Canadian built ships, manned by Canadian crews.

For more than a year, Canada has been sending wheat to Greece every month to aid in relieving the starving population. To assist in relieving famine conditions in Bengal, the Government has also taken steps to ship Canadian wheat to India.