

held in the shadow of grim and fearful weapons unknown in 1945. The problems and the duties facing the United Nations in maintaining peace and, for that matter, in preserving the very existence of the civilized world, remain complex and difficult. These difficulties and the dangers inherent in them we now recognize pretty fully. We are now aware also that there are no easy ways to resolve the problems which confront us.

We should not forget however, that the United Nations has to its credit some very considerable achievements which should reassure us. First of all, throughout these turbulent ten years, many of the urgent economic and political problems of the world have been discussed fully and publicly and often constructively. Even in those problems for which adequate solutions have not yet been found, the earnest debates in the Assembly have undoubtedly clarified the principal issues, and the areas of disagreement have been narrowed. There has also been a vast increase in the scope of United Nations responsibilities. The Specialized Agencies and the many United Nations bodies for financial and technical assistance have been continued and developed their unspectacular work, and have made important contributions to the well-being of citizens everywhere,—in their health, their food, their education and indeed in most aspects of their lives. There is now, it seems to me, a much greater comprehension of how closely the nations of the world are bound together, and the more fortunate peoples of the earth have assumed increasing responsibility for the progress of less technically advanced countries. All this, and much more, constitutes a considerable body of achievement. If we have the wisdom and the courage to avoid the ultimate catastrophe of war, the United Nations can grow and develop as an effective and well-equipped organization for man's progress toward an incomparably better life.

The United Nations is now at the beginning of a new decade; one that is certain to bring new problems and perhaps great changes in our world. We enter this new period with no illusions that our tasks will be light or easy, but we can take confidence from what already has been accomplished and from what we now know can be accomplished by nations working peacefully together for their common welfare. Man has created a great instrument for his political and economic well-being, and it now remains for him to use it with all the wisdom and with all the sense of responsibility he can command.

### ITALY'S PRESIDENT VISITS CANADA

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I would like to consider as evidence of this friendship those Italians to whom you open your doors and who give to your cities and land their contribution of loyal and industrious activity.

May God guide and maintain our two peoples united on the road to progress and peace.