

you, Mr. Truman, how greatly the Canadian people have admired the manner in which, under all these circumstances, you assumed and are now bearing the tremendous responsibilities of the office of President of the United States.

May I say how greatly we all admire the qualities of humour, sincerity and courage and the capacity for friendship which you possess in such large measure; and which, if I may say so, have been particularly evident since the last Congressional elections. Far be it from me to introduce any note of party politics into words of official welcome, much less to say anything that, even to appearances, might be considered interference in the domestic affairs of another country. At the same time, I think that all of us in public life would agree that to be faced with a legislature of which the majority may be disinclined to accept the government's policies is not the most comfortable position in which to find oneself as head of an administration.

Because of a considerable experience in such matters, I may perhaps be allowed, in an aside to the President, to express a personal word of sympathy and understanding. Many who are assembled in this Chamber can tell you, Mr. President, that, as leader of a political party and as head of the government, there have been occasions when I too have had to