

DOMINION DAY

MESSAGES OF GREETING AND GOOD WISHES FROM
REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I feel that hon. members of the house will be pleased to know that yesterday, Dominion day, I received on behalf of their governments, either by letter or by personal call, greetings to Canada, good wishes and many expressions of thanks from members of the foreign diplomatic service resident in Ottawa at this time. There were also a number of telegrams received from different countries, some of which I have felt would be of special interest to the house, and which the house might wish to have as a matter of record on *Hansard*. It will not take more than a minute or two for me to refer to them; they illustrate the appreciation felt by other countries of Canada's present position and of the assistance received from Canada during the period of the war.

One message directed to His Excellency the Governor General was from King Peter of Yugoslavia, who it will be remembered visited Ottawa not so very long ago. The message was as follows:

On the occasion of the national day of Canada I offer Your Excellency my warmest greetings and best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of the dominion and of the gallant Canadian people.

From the Yugoslav Minister for Foreign Affairs in London, a message was addressed to myself in the following words:

I avail myself of the Canadian Dominion Day to convey to you my warmest greetings and heartfelt good wishes for the happiness and prosperity of your great nation.

A message addressed to myself as Prime Minister came from General Sikorski, Prime Minister of Poland, who is at the present time in Cairo. General Sikorski, it will be recalled, has visited Canada on two or three occasions in the course of the war:

On the occasion of your national holiday I send you and the gallant Canadian nation my heartiest congratulations, best wishes, all success. May I assure you the Polish nation and myself greatly admire Canada's magnificent contribution to the allies' cause on the battlefields of this war. By the same opportunity please accept my personal best greetings.

A communication came also from the Polish government in London, through the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, which reads:

On the occasion of Canada's day please accept, Mr. Prime Minister, the cordial greetings and heartfelt wishes of the government and people of Poland. We shall always remember with

gratitude the support which your great country is so generously giving us in the hour of need. I am sure that the bonds of friendship forged during the years of our common struggle will continue after victory is achieved and contribute to the building up of a new international community.

His Excellency the President of China, Lin Sen, sent the following message to His Excellency the Governor General:

On the occasion of Dominion day, I have great pleasure in extending to you on behalf of the national government and people of China my hearty felicitations and best wishes for your personal welfare and the prosperity of Canada.

The following message was also received from Chungking, addressed to myself as Prime Minister, from Premier and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek:

On the occasion of your Dominion day I have great pleasure to extend to you my hearty felicitations. I believe that our traditional friendship which has been enhanced by comradeship in arms not only strengthens our united war effort to crush our common enemy but will stand us in good stead in our post-war co-operation to establish an enduring peace. May I also take this opportunity to express to you my personal thanks for the kind hospitality which your government and the Canadian people extended to my wife during her recent stay in your country and my best wishes for your health and the happiness of the Canadian people.

There were three or four important messages from south American countries. From the Argentine republic a communication from the Hon. Segundo R. Storni, Minister of Foreign Affairs, as follows:

It is with special pleasure that I address myself to you, the Prime Minister, to reaffirm, on the occasion of the commemoration of Dominion day the deep friendship of the government and people of my country for the government and people of Canada. The Argentine republic, linked to Canada by reason of our dwelling in the same hemisphere and by common ideals of progress, wishes to expand and consolidate the friendly relations which unite both countries.

The following message was received from the President of the Republic of Brazil, His Excellency Doctor Getrilo Vargas. It was communicated through the Minister, Doctor de Millo Franco:

The President of the republic of the United States of Brazil has instructed me by telegram to convey to you and to the Canadian people his heartiest congratulations and those of the Brazilian people on the occasion of the celebration of Dominion day. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Doctor Oswaldo Aranha, also instructed me to congratulate you on his behalf, which I also do in my own name.

It is with great pleasure that I give course to said instructions. The commemoration of Dominion day cannot be considered by the nations of the Americas only as the celebration of a great Canadian date, but as that of a great American date, as it represents the birth of one more sister nation.