Visit of President Eisenhower

The world that God has given us is of course material, intellectual and spiritual in its values. We have to hand over to those who come after us this balance of values, and particularly the certainty that they can enjoy the same kind of opportunity in this spiritual, intellectual and material world that we, who will then be their ancestors, enjoyed before them. That, it seems to me, is the real problem that Canada and the United States today face together. It is one reason I get such a thrill every time I come to this country, because here I sense in the very atmosphere your determination to work in that direction, not acknowledging defeat, certain that we can win, because there are values that man treasures above all things else in the world.

The free world believes that practical problems should be solved practically, that they should be solved by orderly procedure, step by step, so that the foundation for peace, which we are building in concert with other nations, will be solid and unshakeable. I deem it a high privilege to salute, through this their parliament, the Canadian people for the strength they have added to this faith and for the contribution they are making toward its realization.

Beyond the shadow of the atomic cloud, the horizon is bright with promise. No shadow can halt our advance together. For we, Canada and the United States, shall use carefully and wisely the God-given graces of faith and reason as we march together toward the horizon of a world where each man, each family, each nation, lives at peace in a climate of freedom.

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson (Speaker of the Senate): On behalf of the Senate of Canada, Mr. President, may I say to you how greatly we appreciate the visit to Canada of Mrs. Eisenhower and yourself. We are honoured to have you with us. We welcome you as the leader of the allied forces in time of peril. We salute you now as the leader of a mighty nation, bound to us by ties of blood, friendship and common sacrifice. We thank you for the friendly and inspiring address you have just delivered.

We have looked forward to your visit with the keenest anticipation. We remember how successfully you co-ordinated our joint efforts during the last war, and how well you laid the foundation for our joint defence through NATO. We believe, sir, that you, in the high position your people have chosen you to fill, are destined to exercise an even greater influence in the years that lie ahead.

We would ask you, Mr. President, to convey to the people of your country our warmest expression of esteem and friendship. We can never forget the gigantic effort of the people of the United States of America in the cause of freedom in two world wars, and we greatly admire what they have done to help rebuild a war-torn world. We are fortunate, indeed, in having a "good neighbour" on our southern boundary to march with in time of war and to co-operate with in time of peace, to make North America the land of liberty and happiness envisaged by our founding fathers.

We would particularly ask you, Mr. President, to convey our greetings to the members of the United States congress. We feel that it is of the utmost importance to develop personal relationships, and understanding, between the members of our respective legislatures, such as already exist between the personnel of the executive and administrative branches of our governments.

We pray that you and your great country may be given strength, wisdom and patience to discharge your great responsibilities. You will find Canadians ever willing and ready to co-operate with you.

May Divine Providence bless your endeavours.

(Translation):

Hon. L. Rene Beaudoin (Speaker of the House of Commons): Mr. President, if my memory serves me right, today is the third time that a president of the United States has visited the capital of Canada. The first one thus to honour our country said in this very place, almost ten years ago, that Canada is a nation founded on the union of two great races; he added that their harmonious association in equality could serve as an example to the whole world.

Hence, I have the very great honour, the signal joy to offer you in my mother tongue—one of the two official languages of our country—the heartfelt thanks of the House of Commons for the memorable speech which you have delivered and, more especially, for the extreme pleasure you are giving us, you and Mrs. Eisenhower, by your visit.

We salute you, Mr. President, as the leader of a very powerful nation whom we have long considered as a sister nation; we recognize in you the worthy successor of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, two of your illustrious predecessors, but we also honour you as the craftsman, nay, as the father of that glorious victory which has given to the peoples whose armies have fought under your command the freedom of worshipping and