

*The Governor General*

has seen the proposed address, has kindly said that he would be pleased to second the motion which proposes it. I shall not say more, but will immediately move:

That whereas the houses of parliament desire to present an address to His Excellency the Governor General on the occasion of the termination of His Excellency's official connection with this country, it be resolved by this house that the said address be presented in the following words:

"Farewell address by both houses of parliament to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone, Governor General of Canada.

To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Grand Master of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, one of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada. May it please Your Excellency:

We, the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons of Canada in parliament assembled, beg leave to convey to Your Excellency an expression of the general feeling of regret with which the people of Canada have learned of the approaching conclusion of your official relationship as the representative in Canada of His Majesty the King.

Your Excellency's period of office has extended over the most eventful years in the history of the world. It must be a source of profound gratification to you, on your retirement as Governor General, to realize that your years in Canada have witnessed victory over the enemies of freedom, and the emergence of Canada as a world power, with a foremost place among the united nations.

We cannot bid Your Excellency farewell without expressing our grateful appreciation of your helpful cooperation in the tasks of government through these years of constant anxiety. You have, throughout, given unsparingly of your time and thought to sustain and strengthen the morale of the nation at war. By word and example, you brought courage and cheer to the armed forces, to the auxiliary services, and to the workers in all the fields of wartime production and supply. You lent your support to every worthy national appeal. Universities, schools, hospitals, and other agencies of health, and welfare, have all benefited from your personal interest and concern.

Your extensive travels have given Your Excellency an intimate knowledge of our country, its resources and its potential future. You have seen Canada at work under the tragic stimulus of war. You have also watched its industries being converted to the purposes of peace. We are pleased that you have been able to glimpse the broad expanses of our country and that you have found delight in its scenic grandeur. Your journeys to all parts of Canada, including many remote areas, have been greatly appreciated. Wherever you have gone, you have been warmly welcome and will be long remembered.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

At no time in Canada's history has our country been visited by so many of the leading personalities of the world. Both at Government House in Ottawa, and at the Citadel in Quebec, you have extended warmest hospitality in the name of Canada.

Throughout your life, Your Excellency has given constant proof of devotion to public service. We do not forget that for seven years you were His Majesty's representative in the Union of South Africa. In Canada, as in South Africa, your unfailing courtesy, your broad and generous sympathies and your wide experience of constitutional government have helped to further the ideals of tolerance and good-will. You have thereby helped to strengthen national unity, and the ties which bind, in close attachment to the crown, the nations of the British commonwealth.

The presence of Your Excellency and Her Royal Highness in Canada has also strengthened the place which the royal family holds in the hearts of the Canadian people. We would ask Your Excellency, on your return to the United Kingdom, to convey to Their Majesties, the King and Queen, the assurance of Canada's fidelity to the crown, and of the devotion and affection felt by the Canadian people for Their Majesties. We should be pleased if you would also convey to Queen Mary an expression of our kind remembrance. We hope that in the near future Canada may be honoured by a visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret.

In saying farewell to Your Excellency, we cannot express too warmly our appreciation of the helpful part so graciously taken by Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice in the discharge of Your Excellency's high responsibilities. The active, generous and sympathetic co-operation of Princess Alice in the performance of your public and social duties has won for Her Royal Highness an enduring place in the admiration and affection of the Canadian people. Your Excellency and Her Royal Highness have been as one, in all you have sought to foster of a high sense of public duty and social responsibility.

To Your Excellency and Her Royal Highness we extend, on behalf of all Canada, the best of wishes for the future. We hope that, in the eventide of life, you may enjoy together, in health, strength and happiness, the reward of your many years of devoted public service."

Mr. JOHN BRACKEN (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, there are not many occasions when I can generously support a motion made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King). This however is one time when I can. I regard it as a very great honour and a very great privilege to support and to second a motion of this kind.

With what the Prime Minister has said about His Excellency our Governor General I am in entire accord. The present Governor General of Canada has brought distinction and dignity to a position which in the last few years has required unusual tact, and poise and judgment. During his term of office he has ably represented the crown and maintained the great respect for that institution which is