

You have taken your place at our councils, you have discussed and examined, with our professional experts, questions of strategy and war which are pending. You have seen your gallant Canadian Corps and other troops who are here. We have felt very much for them that they have not yet had a chance of coming to close quarters with the enemy. It is not their fault; it is not our fault; but there they stand, and there they have stood through the whole of the critical period of the last fifteen months at the very point where they would be the first to be hurled into a counter-stroke against an invader.

No greater service can be rendered to this country, no more important military duty can be performed by any troops in all the Allies. It seems to me that although they may have felt envious that Australian, New Zealand and South African troops have been in action, the part they have played in bringing about the final result is second to none.

The war effort of Canada during this war, happily, has not so far required effusion of blood upon a large scale. But that effort, in men, in ships, aircraft, air training, in finance, in food, constitutes an element in the resistance of the British Empire without which that resistance could not be successfully maintained.

For all these reasons, my Lord Mayor, we are most grateful to you for assembling us here to do honour to the Prime Minister of Canada. We feel that we have participated in an occasion memorable in itself and fruitful also for the future.

Canada, the Linchpin of the English-speaking World

Canada is the linchpin of the English-speaking world. Canada, with close relations of friendly, affectionate intimacy with the United States on the one hand, and with her unswerving fidelity to the British Commonwealth and the Motherland on the other, is the link which joins together these great branches of the human family, a link which, spanning the oceans, brings the continents into their true relation, and will prevent, in future generations, a division between the proud and once happy nations of Europe and the great countries which have come into existence in the New World.