

relations. There is a third great nation with whom our ties are close. I have spoken of Canada's place as an interpreter of the English speaking peoples. Canada, however, is not merely an English-speaking nation but is also a French-speaking nation. It is, indeed, the second French-speaking nation of the world.

The agony of France has thrown upon Canada a great responsibility and a great mission. As I pointed out at the moment of the collapse of France, "the tragic fate of France leaves to French Canada the duty of upholding the traditions of French culture and civilization, and the French passion for liberty in the world. This new responsibility will, I believe, be accepted proudly."

Events are throwing upon Canada not only the mission of upholding the traditions of French culture and civilization, but also the duty of helping to keep alive in the hearts of Frenchmen, all but prostrate to-day before a brutal conqueror, their devotion to liberty and their hopes of its ultimate triumph.

In the consciousness of that mission, my colleague, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe), recently broadcast a message to the French people. May I repeat a few lines from that message:

"Over there, you are our allies because we know too well the heart of France to doubt an instant of her heart's loyalty. Because we love the same things, we know that, no matter what fate may bring to her, no matter what tribulations await her, France will never fight against the British, against us, French-Canadians, so many of whose sons have been resting in the soil of France for the past twenty-three years."

I appeal to hon. members in the house and I appeal to my fellow-countrymen in all parts of the dominion to bear always in mind the task which Canada alone can perform in keeping hope alive in the hearts of the grief-stricken people of France. Let no word from Canadian lips add to the agony of her open wounds. Let us inflict no new pain, and let us be ever watchful to exercise the healer's art. In the new world which will follow the destruction of the evil thing which now crushes France, Canada's part in cementing the bonds between the French and the English-speaking peoples may be just as great as her role in bringing into closer relationship the peoples of the British commonwealth and the United States.

## 2. MEETINGS OF PERMANENT JOINT BOARD ON DEFENCE.

As reported in the last issue of the Bulletin, meetings of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence were held at Ottawa on August 26 and 27, at