

Let me then, in just a word, thank Mayor LaGuardia, first of all for what he is in himself and what he stands for. We recognize in him a true lover of liberty, a bold champion of the rights of a free people, an eloquent exponent of great causes, an exceptionally able executive, and, above all, today, as he has been over many years, a consistent, courageous and warm-hearted friend of Canada, of Britain, and of all peoples and countries that prize freedom, and seek to maintain it.

Next, I thank Mayor LaGuardia for the example he has set his fellow-men by his constant interest in municipal affairs, and the part he has played in their management and development on efficient, honest and progressive lines. Municipal democracy is the foundation of national democracy. "Every man," said Aristotle, "is born to be a citizen". When that was said in the days of ancient Greece, the city was the State. What more eloquent expression of the fruits of this teaching could be found than that which the men of Greece have given and are giving to the world today.

But, most of all, I wish to thank Mayor LaGuardia for the part he has taken, and the part his country is taking in the defence of freedom at this time of its greatest peril.