

Fellow members of the Liberal Party of Canada:

In my opening remarks, this evening, I referred to that memorable gathering of our Party which was held in Toronto on August 8th, 1939. In my address on that occasion, I concluded with the following words:

"Liberalism began with a struggle to extend and to defend freedom. Its work through the years has been to continue the effort to extend and to defend freedom. In the past, in Canada, that effort has been primarily in relation to freedom within our own country. So far as the future is concerned, we, as Liberals, if we be true to our cause, will seek to extend and defend freedom, not only for ourselves in our own land, but will be prepared to do so, as circumstances may determine, in the interests of mankind."

In those words, I was telling the people of Canada, no less than the members of my own party, that I believed the country was already under the shadow of war and that when war came, it would menace the freedom of all men.

Looking back, tonight, over four years of war, we may all feel the deepest satisfaction that Liberalism in Canada has been true to its fundamental principle - the defence of freedom. The

task of Liberalism will not