

trade. He has therefore a more direct and personal interest in our relations abroad than the citizens of other countries.

"The leaders of many states whose activities are of vital concern to Canada have been met, and have themselves now met the new leader of the Government of Canada, which has a deep-rooted tradition of international responsibility. The Canadian viewpoint on many matters has been put before them - and they, in turn, have had an opportunity to express their own views and opinions.

"But I would like to think that there are more lasting consequences that even these personal contacts, important though they are. I would like to believe that these visits re-emphasize our Canadian commitments to the highest moral and political standards of international goodwill, and to a continuation of that participation in the affairs of the world which has given Canada an international status far beyond our numbers and even beyond the level of our physical and monetary contributions of recent years.

"During my absence I have, of course, been in continual communication with the Cabinet here at home. I know that we still have problems of our own on the domestic front. It is here that my first responsibility lies. Every possible resource of the Government is being used to combat the national problems and individual hardships resulting from the worldwide economic show-down.

"It is a matter of great personal regret to me that some of these effects are still with us at this time. To inject a personal note, may I say my thoughts are very much with each of you, my fellow Canadians. I pray that the joys of Christmas may be yours in full measure; that the spirit of the blessed season be with you to comfort those in sorrow, to ease the cares of those who are sick, to lighten the burden of those in distress.

"Mes chers concitoyens, j'ai en ce moment une pensée pour chacun d'entre vous. Puissiez-vous participer pleinement aux joies que nous procure Noël; puisse l'esprit de cette époque

sainte de l'année reconforter ceux qui sont affligés; soulager ceux qui sont malades, et alléger le fardeau de ceux qui sont dans la misère. J'ai grand espoir -- et c'est aussi ma ferme détermination dans le mesure où il en dépendra de moi -- que la Nouvelle Année apportera à tous et à chacun d'entre vous des jours de paix, de prospérité et de bonheur. Bonsoir.

"And for the New Year, my hopes are high and my determination firm that, in so far as it may be in my power, the days ahead will bring to each of you peace, prosperity and great happiness. Goodnight."

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### LEBANESE AMBASSADOR

The Department of External Affairs has announced that his Excellency Abdullah Najjar presented to the Governor General his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Lebanon to Canada. Mr. Najjar presented his credentials as Minister of Lebanon in Ottawa on March 20, 1958, and has subsequently been serving in that capacity. Following the decision of the two governments to raise the status of their respective missions from Legations to Embassies, Mr. Najjar was appointed the first Ambassador of his country to Canada.

Mr. Najjar was born in 1898 and is a graduate of the American University of Beirut. Prior to his appointment to the foreign service of Lebanon, he held a number of other positions, including those of Director of Political Bureau in the Government of King Faisal 1 in Damascus in 1920, Director for Public Education in the State of Djebel Druze in 1923 and Secretary General of the Arab Bureau and of the Committee for the Defence of Palestine in 1937. After entering the Diplomatic Service of his country, Mr. Najjar has held appointments as Consul General of Lebanon in Amman, Counsellor of Legation in Buenos Aires and Minister in Moscow.