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supplies with which we were haunted two months ago can now be closed. I am humbly grateful to be the one to make this announcement.

But it cannot be emphasized too strongly that this ultimate victory over mass starvation is based upon three assumptions:

First, that the drastic food regimes in the food-deficit countries will be continued during the crisis months until the danger is absolutely over.

Second, that the people in the food-surplus countries continue their sacrifice in the consumption of wheat and fats during the remaining few months of the crisis.

Third, that supplies be shipped overseas in an uninterrupted stream over this period.

The precariousness of the situation is not over. Scarcely any of the major food deficit areas have stocks of as much as 30 days overseas food even on the basis of their much reduced living. If we fail in shipments, mass starvation will be instantly upon us.

DANGER OF MASS STARVATION PASSED EXCEPT IN CHINA

It is at least reassuring that if we have continued cooperative action of the various nations, mass starvation will be prevented, with one exception. That exception is China, where transportation to the interior and inadequate organization has rendered relief only partially successful.

In other famine areas there will be suffering. We truly need more supplies than just enough to prevent mass starvation. Many of the old people and the weaker children will fall by the wayside, nevertheless the great majority of the endangered will be saved. Beyond this saving of human life, the political and social stability of nations, upon which alone peace can be builded, will be preserved.

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

For success in preventing mass starvation credit must first go to the Combined Food Board in which Canada plays so important a part. That board has had the stern task of dividing the world's food between nations upon the agreed programs. UNRRA deserves praise in the limited field it covers -- that is the 20 per cent of the people who cannot finance their food imports. And no tribute can be great enough to the magnificent cooperation of the responsible officials in the forty nations which have joined in a gigantic effort to save life.

THE PROBLEM OF THE NEXT HARVEST YEAR

My present concern is with the immediate crisis months. But naturally my colleagues and I on this mission have been deeply interested in the food prospects of each nation after the coming harvest. Moreover, hope in the outlook for the next year affects the courage and morale of hungry people to endure for the next few months. More especially is this so as famine has its worse moments just before the new harvest, for then the reserves are gone.

THE PROSPECTS BETTER THAN THE PAST YEAR

I may say at once that I do not take the extreme pessimistic view of the world supplies after the coming harvests that has been expressed in several quarters. We can at least hope there will be no plundering by armies during the next year. We have reason to believe that there will