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ADDRESS BY RT. HON. W. L. MACKENZIE KING,
PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA; 1st JUNE, 1941

To-morrow, the people of Canada will begin to subscribe to the largest public loan ever sought in this Dominion. In launching the loan it is my privilege, on behalf of the people of Canada, to speak to the people of the British Isles.

Canada's new loan is described as the 1941 Victory Loan. This does not mean that we expect victory in 1941; it does mean that we are ready this year, and in each succeeding year, as long as the war may last, to do all that lies within our power to help to ensure victory.

The symbol of our united national appeal is a Torch of Victory. The torch is being flown from city to city, across four thousand miles of our Dominion, from Victoria by the Pacific Ocean, to Halifax on the Atlantic coast. Thence it will be borne across the sea to London. There we hope it will be received by your Prime Minister as a symbol of the spirit of the Canadian people, and of their determination to share his burdens, and your burdens, till the hour of victory.

Our Sympathy for Britain

The heart of Canada has been deeply touched by what you in Britain have been called upon to bear. We have felt deeply for you in the loss of your loved ones and your homes. Your losses and your sufferings have drawn us closer to your side, in sympathy for your grief, and in admiration of your endurance.

We understand the agony of human sacrifice. We know, too, how through separation, anxiety is increased and grief intensified. Our minds have been stricken with horror at the brutal bombing of innocent babes and little children, of men and women at their daily tasks, of the sick, the aged and the infirm.