

panied by Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. We are pleased that you have found it possible to make your stay of sufficient length to enable you to see something of Ottawa and its surroundings, and to give members of parliament and others the privilege of meeting you and Mrs. Truman, and your talented daughter. We know how greatly His Excellency the Governor General and Lady Alexander enjoyed their recent visit to Washington, and how very much they have been looking forward to having Mrs. Truman, Miss Truman and yourself as their guests at Rideau Hall. Nothing could be more symbolic of the happy relations between our two peoples than family visits between the White House in Washington and Government House in Ottawa.

I should like to add, Mr. President, how great a pleasure it is to me personally to be renewing today, in my own country, the deeply valued friendship formed with yourself on my visits to the United States from time to time. I shall always recall your wish, so generously expressed, almost immediately upon your assumption of office, that the relations between our two countries might continue to be as friendly as they had been at all times under President Roosevelt, and that you and I might come to share a personal friendship correspondingly close. You know how warmly both these wishes were and are reciprocated.

We are especially indebted to you, Mr. President, for your courtesy in consenting to speak to the members of our parliament in the course of your visit. To most men in high position, an escape from the ordeal of public addresses is a not unwelcome form of relaxation. To this doctrine, I am sure you will readily subscribe. Your willingness not only to speak but to allow your address to be broadcast will be warmly appreciated in all parts of Canada, as also in the United Kingdom, the United States, and elsewhere.

Your visit, Mr. President, vividly recalls the visit to Ottawa, in August 1943, of your illustrious predecessor. It was the first visit to Canada's capital of a President of the United States. That visit was at a time of war. At that time, the allied nations were still two years away from ultimate victory. Today, we are almost equidistant from the final battles which brought an end to hostilities in Europe and in Asia.

It was on the eve of the final battles that President Roosevelt was taken from his people. We do not forget it was without a moment's warning, and at that hour of world

crisis, that the mighty burdens which he had borne so long and with such great fortitude were transferred from his shoulders to yours. Before final victory was won, you were called upon to take grave and historic decisions. Since the end of the war you have been faced with the baffling tasks of reconstruction, when the grim effects of world conflict are still more apparent than the foundations of peace. We are glad to have the opportunity, which your presence here today affords, to tell you, Mr. Truman, how greatly the Canadian people have admired the manner in which, under all these circumstances, you assumed and are now bearing the tremendous responsibilities of the office of President of the United States.

May I say how greatly we all admire the qualities of humour, sincerity and courage and the capacity for friendship which you possess in such large measure, and which, if I may say so, have been particularly evident since the last congressional elections. Far be it from me to introduce any note of party politics into words of official welcome, much less to say anything that, even to appearances, might be considered interference in the domestic affairs of another country. At the same time, I think that all of us in public life would agree that to be faced with a legislature of which the majority may be disinclined to accept the government's policies is not the most comfortable position in which to find oneself as head of an administration.

Because of a considerable experience in such matters, I may perhaps be allowed, in an aside to the President, to express a personal word of sympathy and understanding. Many who are assembled in this chamber can tell you, Mr. President, that, as leader of a political party and as head of the government, there have been occasions when I too have had to face situations not wholly dissimilar. It may serve as a note of encouragement to you when I say I have yet to find that such embarrassments are necessarily a bar to many years of office.

May I conclude this word of welcome on a more serious note. You, Mr. President, have said: "If wars in the future are to be prevented, the peace-loving nations must be united in their determination to keep the peace under law. The breaking of the peace anywhere is the concern of peace-loving nations everywhere". This statement of American policy might equally be a statement of Canadian policy. In the solution of all world problems, effective co-operation between nations is a first essential. In effective co-operation, no finer example could be given to the world than that which has been developed