

x-25740

A T T L E E

???

MR. ATTLEE, I INVITE YOU TO RISE AND SIGN THE ROLL OF FAME.

IT IS THE CUSTOM OF THIS ANCIENT CORPORATION TO SINGLE OUT FROM TIME TO TIME FOR THE HIGHEST HONOUR.... THE FREEDOM OF THIS CITY THOSE WHO, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, HAVE RENDERED GREAT AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE NATION OR TO THE WORLD AT LARGE. AND SO IN THE NAME OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON I EXTEND TO MR. CLEMENT ATTLEE A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME. (APPLAUSE)

..... HE ENJOYED A HAPPY CHILDHOOD

OFFER THE RIGHTHAND OF FELLOWSHIP AND GREET YOU ONCE AGAIN AS A CITIZEN AND FREEMAN OF LONDON (applause). IN THE NAME OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON I PRESENT YOU WITH THIS CASKET AS A LITTLE MOMENTO OF TODAY.....RESOLUTION OF THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL VOTING YOU THE HONORARY FREEDOM OF THIS CITY. THAT YOU MAY ENJOY HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IN AN ERA OF PEACE IS THE HEARTFELT WISH OF MY FELLOW CITIZENS. (applause)

(applause as Attlee stands) -... THE HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD. I SHOULD LIKE ALSO TO THANK THE CHAMBERLAIN FOR THE VERY KIND THINGS HE SAID ABOUT ME. I AM A LONDONER BORN AND BRED. TRUE I WASN'T BORN WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS - A FEW OF MY GENERATION WERE - BUT I THINK THAT ON A QUIET NIGHT WITH A FAVOURABLE WIND I MIGHT HAVE HEARD BOW BELLS. (laughter) AND THOUGH I NEVER HEARD THEM SAY 'TURN AGAIN ATTLEE, FREEMAN OF LONDON' (applause) 7 YEARS AGO. . MORE THAN 200 YRS AGO ANCESTORS OF MINE WERE LIVING.....(laughter) BUT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A STUDENT OF HISTORY AND STANDING HERE I TURN TO THE TIME SO FRESH IN OUR MEMORY WHEN THIS CITY ENDURED WITH COURAGE AND RESOLUTION THE WORST THAT THE MALICE OF HITLER COULD INFLICT, AND SHE BEARS TODAY THOSE HONOURABLE SCARS. THRU ALL THESE CHANGES

AND CHANCES THE CITY HAS PRESERVED ITS ANCIENT INSTITUTIONS AND ITS INIQU
CHARACTER. WE LIVE IN AN AGE WHEN THE TIDES OF CHANGE ARE RUNNING STRONGLY,
AND WHEN MANY OLD LANDMARKS ARE BEING SWEEP AWAY. I HAVE THOUGHT IT MY DUTY
TO TAKE PART IN AND TO FURTHER SOME OF THESE CHANGES, BUT I WOULD NEVER
WANTONLY DESTROY THINGS BECAUSE THEY ARE OLD. I HAVE A LOVE OF ANCIENT THINGS
- I LIKE TO KEEP OLD INSTUTIONS AND SEE THEM TURNED TO NEW USES.....

ON THE RIVERSIDE WE SHALL ALWAYS BE CONSCIOUS OF OUR GREAT RIVER. I WAS GLAD
ON MY RECENT TOUR OF THE DOCKS TO HEAR A CITIZEN OF ANOTHER COUNTRY SAYING
THIS IS STILL THE GREATEST PORT IN THE WORLD. THE CITY OF LONDON HAS HELD
THE NAME..... EARTHQUAKE, FIRE OR FLOOD FALLS ON HAPLESS PEOPLE OUR FIRST
THOUGHT IS FOR A FUND. THE LATEST OF THESE WAS THAT MOST SUCCESSFUL APPEAL
FOR THE FLOODS ON THE E. COAST LAUNCHED BY THE LATE LORD MAYOR ~~KIBXWAS~~ WHO SO
WORTHILY
UPHELD HIS POSITION.....

IN OUR CITY THE GREAT DOME OF ST.
PAULS FITLY SYMBOLIZES THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SPIRITUAL OVER THE MATERIALS.

MY LORD MAYOR, THERE IS IT IS TO MY MIND ONE OF THE ESSENTIALS OF
DEMOCRACY THAT IS THE SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE, TOLERANCE NOT FOR EVIL BUT

FOR THE ~~EDGE~~ DIVERSITIES OF VIEW. [IT WAS JUST THIS WHICH ENABLED US WHEN THE
DAYS OF TRIAL CAME TO STAND TOGETHER IN THE DEFENCE OF OUR COUNTRY AND OF THOSE
THINGS WE ALL HELD DEAR. (applause) HONOUR BESTOWED UPON ME TODAY. (applause)