A RADIO ADDRESS BY HERBERT H. LEHMAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL, UNRRA
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Today we in America look forward to the first peacetime New Year in four years. It is the first in seven years in Canada and in Europe. But there will be no New Year for scores of thousands of American sons and husbands—or for millions of their European brothers in arms. For they endured the terrors of war that we might enjoy the blessings of peace—they laid down their lives that others might be born in freedom and human dignity.

We cannot forget the sacrifice that made this peacetime New Year possible—nor can we forget the solemn obligation which we owe to those—everywhere—who made it a reality.

We can best fulfill our duty by doing all that is humanly possible to alleviate some of the suffering in the bodies and minds of those who are living reminders of the high price which national independence and personal freedom exact. Today—and in the days to come—let us thank—with words, but even more with deeds—the blind and broken in our midst.

And let that spirit of good will among men go forth to those, who like our wounded sons, are still in pain. In Europe and in China there are millions of maimed and broken bodies—without adequate medicines, or even clothing to keep themselves warm. And there are millions of children who are hungry.
Yet today, these people know that there is good will among men — and that this good will is expressing itself in life-saving assistance. And they know it because of the generosity of the people in the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, and other liberty loving countries.

On December 18 President Truman signed an act of Congress authorizing the second contribution of the United States to the work of UNRRA. And on December 20 Congress passed a second act appropriating $750,000,000 for use in this program. On November 23 His Majesty's Government announced that the British contribution of approximately 75,000,000 pounds will be available. On December 22 the Canadian Government announced that it has approved a second contribution to UNRRA in the full amount of $77,000,000 Canadian. The funds available to UNRRA make this a season of hope for millions whose only chance for survival and new opportunity lies in the aid from their more fortunate neighbors. They in Europe—and we in North America—can observe the advent of the New Year 1946 sure in the blessed knowledge that there is no immediate danger of a break in the UNRRA supply line.

The needs of weary humanity are overpowering. The resources of UNRRA have been augmented by the recent generous actions of the American, Canadian and British people. They are to be increased by forthcoming actions of more than a score of other nations including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, the Latin-American nations and the countries of the Middle East. However, the prospective resources are all too limited. We will not be able to bind up every wound or feed every child who cries for help. The urgent needs of suffering people are far greater than our available resources. In the months that lie ahead we will need another $600,000,000 to complete the second
contribution recently authorized by Congress. Meanwhile, today, as we go into
the grimmest winter in Europe since the Thirty Years War in the seventeenth
century, we must husband our resources of food—and especially wheat, which
will be in short supply—so that we can help to keep that unhappy continent
alive during the critical months that lie ahead.

My friends, you have the gratitude of Europe's millions—and when I say
millions, do not think of that as a statistical word—but as men, women and
children, young and old, with the same hopes, fears, and aspirations as our-
selves. These fellow citizens of the world cannot thank you in person—it
is not possible. But because they have honored me by making me their spokesman,
I would like, on their behalf, to thank the citizens of America, Great Britain
and Canada, and the other contributing countries.

Yet you have no need of thanks from me. For yours is the satisfaction
of knowing that in the December season of holiday now drawing to a close you
have given the most precious of gifts—and one that is not confined to merely
a season in the year. Your gift today is the promise of life itself—the
promise of bodies restored to health and minds restored to sanity, and hearts
restored to confidence in themselves and their fellow men. And you have given
the children of the world the promise of opportunity in the years to come,
and the hope that they—unlike those of our generation—may continuously know
"Peace on earth, good will to men".