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THE LATE JOHN HALL KELLY

TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF CANADA'S FIRST HIGH
COMMISSIONER TO EIRE

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING
(Prime Minister): I have to-day received the following cable from Premier de Valera of Eire:

I wish to express my sincere sympathy with you and the Canadian government on the death of Mr. Hall Kelly, your distinguished representative in Dublin. He has endeared himself to all who knew him, by his personal qualities, and by his zeal and devotion in fostering close and cordial relations between Canada and Ireland.

I am sure that hon. members of this house will have learned with deep regret of the passing of Canada's first high commissioner to Eire. The career of Mr. John Hall Kelly is a record of industry, charity and devotion to the public interest. With few early advantages, Mr. Kelly gained for himself a high place in his chosen profession of law and success in the businesses in which he was engaged. As a member of the legislature of the province of Quebec, as an appointed member of the legislative council, and as minister without portfolio in the government of Quebec, he gave to his native province long and unselfish service. In him were joined the traditional eloquence of the Irish race and an ever present and kindly interest in the welfare of his fellow men.

Since his arrival in Dublin Mr. Kelly quietly and effectively worked for Canadian-Irish good will. His reports to the government have been of much value and it has been a great satisfaction to myself and my colleagues to note how warmly he has been welcomed by the people of Eire. The tribute which has been paid by Premier de Valera to his personal qualities, his zeal and his devotion is, itself, an indication of the loss which both countries have suffered by Mr. Kelly's passing.