

Government Dinner in Honour of The Governor General
and Princess Alice - Country Club, Thursday, March 28, 1946

Remarks by the Prime Minister:

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Your Excellency, Your Royal Highness, Your Excellencies
and Ladies and Gentlemen:

My colleagues in the Government and myself thought that we would like to have one evening on which we might invite representatives of the governmental and diplomatic and civic life of the national Capital to join with us in bidding farewell to two very staunch and delightful friends of Canada.

This dinner is one of a number of functions to enable people to say "au revoir" to His Excellency and Her Royal Highness, and I am personally delighted that so many have been able to accept our invitation this evening. Their presence here bespeaks an interest and a friendliness upon which I am able to draw in what might otherwise be an unusually difficult task.

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It is not easy, indeed, to find words in which to express the appreciation and admiration which we feel in our hearts for the distinguished representative of the King, and for his most charming wife. This evening our minds go back, perhaps even now with difficulty, over the nearly six years which have elapsed since His Excellency was sworn in as Governor General on June 21, 1940.

I need not remind any of you here how trying and exacting those years, under the stress of war, have been. The Governor General, in fact, arrived in the midst of war; and there is some sense of relief in the certainty that he can,