

Canada's Elder Statesman

THIS evening a large company of men, themselves distinguished for achievement in Canada's life, gather around the table at the Royal York Hotel to pay honor to an eminent citizen and to celebrate the diamond anniversary of an institution that has been a forum as well as a unifying influence.

The occasion, called by the Canadian Club, is such that it has attracted the presence of Prime Minister Diefenbaker; the Lieutenant Governor-designate of Ontario, Mr. Justice Keiller Mackay; and messages of congratulations from Sir Winston Churchill and other famous men.

When he rises to acknowledge the tributes, the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, a former Prime Minister of Canada now 83, will be entitled to feel the burden of years slip from his shoulders and upon his brow to feel the laurel all would bestow. For the tributes will recall invigorating years of service to the state in high office, culminating in the highest office of all, that of Prime

134086
Minister. The political past will be stripped of partisan conflict as men of all parties recognize the selfless devotion of Mr. Meighen's public services. They will wholeheartedly endorse Sir Winston's message: "I was very glad to hear that the Canadian Club is honoring this most distinguished Canadian statesman who, during his long career, has served so well his country, the Empire and the Commonwealth."

Mr. Meighen, whose statesmanship was illumined by scholarship and forms of address that were models of English precisely and exquisitely employed, may believe as he casts his eyes around the great hall that the years of duty he has given have earned him unqualified esteem and admiration.

For the Canadian Club, of which Mr. Meighen was president in 1931-32, this is a memorable event which sees Canada's oldest living ex-Prime Minister, her newest Prime Minister, and Ontario's next Lieutenant Governor assembled with leaders in other fields of Canada's activity on the occasion of the Club's 60th anniversary.

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 5 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 210)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA