

UNVEILING CEREMONY

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June 10, 1947

Remarks by the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King.

Your Excellency, Mr. President, and
fellow Members of Parliament:

You, Mr. Speaker, have given me a difficult task indeed. Of the kindnesses of all present, there are many acknowledgments I should like to make. I wish I felt equal to the least of them. I doubt if in the twenty years to which reference has been made this afternoon, there has been a moment when I have been as conscious of the extent of my obligation to others, and less able to give expression to the gratitude I feel.

I know I speak not less for others than for myself when I say how grateful we are to His Excellency the Governor General for having consented to honour this occasion with his presence, and to unveil the two portraits which he has unveiled this afternoon. It is a happy circumstance that we should have, in our Governor General, especially today, one who is at once a Field Marshal and an artist. His Excellency has referred to the association of the portraits with one or other of the great wars. May I say to His Excellency that we have much in mind that he himself is a veteran of the two wars.