

Prime Minister reminisces with students

Convocation Hall was packed to capacity on Thursday morning with a body of students who eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity to hear Canada's Prime Minister in an address primarily designed for students. For the best part of an hour Mr. Bennett, in his usual inimitable and fascinating style kept the large audience under the spell of his eloquence and charm. The address was extemporaneous, and its philosophic quality demonstrated the wide and deep intellectual resources which Mr. Bennett possesses.

As the hall filled rapidly, Professor Nichols rendered several organ selections, and at 10:30 the audience rose in deference to the entrance of the academic procession, led by the Right Honorable R.B. Bennett and Chancellor Rutherford. The colorful procession moved down the aisle, Dr. Rutherford, Premier Bennett, President Wallace and Chief Justice Harvey ascending the platform, and faculty members filing into the reserved section of the hall.

Dr. Wallace prefaced his introductory remarks with a request to the winners of this year's R.B. Bennett scholarship to come forward. The winners, David McKerricher and Mary Faunt, thereupon proceeded to the front, and were personally congratulated by Mr. Bennett.

President Wallace commented on the fact that Mr. Bennett had last visited the University five years ago, upon which occasion he, Dr. Wallace, had been installed in the Presidency of the institution. Since that time, stated the President, Mr. Bennett has become an internationally known figure, and has done much to maintain and elevate Canada's prestige abroad. Congratulating the students for their splendid representation at the meeting, Dr. Wallace presented the Prime Minister.

Mr. Bennett opened upon an informal note, which he sustained throughout. He recalled his own student days and glanced back over the years which have since intervened, years of eventful successes and failures, of changing opinions and conditions, years that, in spite of their active character, seem short in retrospect.

"Forces of world-wide significance, though not fully understood, are in operation today," he said. "To the student these are of vital interest, and there is no lack of challenge to those entering upon adulthood. The people here in Alberta, in a seemingly remote part of the world, can no longer feel that they are not an integral part of world affairs. With the marvellous methods of communication which make known throughout the whole

civilized world matters of moment almost at the same instant they occur, it must now be realized that every world happening is of significance to us. Troubles reflected in Germany, in China, or elsewhere are reflected here almost immediately." In this connection Mr. Bennett told of a conversation he had recently had with Signor Marconi. Marconi had recounted how in the early stages of his career, when he had lacked support to carry on his work, Canada had come to his aid in the great developments in communication, which have since so assisted, and indirectly had thus miraculously altered international affairs.

"What is the standpoint of the University student of today?" asked Mr. Bennett. "If it is the same as that current in my student days, it is that everything is done wrongly. Our professors are not what they seem to be, our political leaders are quite blind, and we seniors, if given the reins for a short time, would soon change things and bring about Utopianism. But the students of today," Mr. Bennett's eyes twinkled, "the students of today will probably find, as others before them, that when the time comes for them to assume responsibilities, their outlook will have changed materially."

"You are the heirs of the ages," he continued. "And the sum totals of knowledge which

you will have at your disposal are tools to apply to a greater task than has ever before confronted any age. It will take

patient, persistent courage to accomplish anything of importance, and above all service."

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