

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. HEENEY

Mr. Arnold P. Heeney, now chairman of the International Joint Commission, has for many years occupied important posts in External Affairs. All members of our Department will join us, I am sure, in offering him warm congratulations for receiving the Vanier Gold Medal in tribute to his 26 years of outstanding federal public service.

We take pleasure in reproducing in EXTERNALLY YOURS the remarks made by His Excellency the Governor General at the presentation ceremony of this award, at Rideau Hall, on January 31.

"Mr. Heeney, my dear Arnold,

"I am very happy that the Institute of Public Administration of Canada has awarded its Medal to you. There can be few, if any civil servants anywhere with a record of achievement comparable with your own.

"Your career in the service of the Federal Government spans the period of its great expansion and development. The recital that we have just heard of the high offices which you have held, in itself speaks volumes about the important and lasting contribution that you have made.

"The experts in the high art and intricate techniques of public administration have selected your achievements as deserving their highest recognition. To you, then, belongs that very greatest of professional accolades: the verdict of your colleagues.

"To their esteem there is in addition the gratitude of the many, many Canadians who have benefited by your imagination, vision, thought and devoted hard work. Unlike other professions, the civil service is conducted in silence and comparative anonymity. In it there is neither acclaim, privilege, nor wealth.

"The leaders of a profession are those who fashion its greatness. To their example of service and integrity, even more than to their accomplishments, people

look for the criteria of ethical and moral conduct that will guide other members of the calling and often, the community as well. In the public and the civil service, this pervasive influence of leaders is the greater because every citizen is and must always be directly involved in the process of government. The standards of the leaders are, therefore, of crucial importance to the healthy survival of the entire community.

"La médaille de l'Institut de l'administration publique du Canada n'est donc pas seulement la récompense de services exceptionnels accomplis sur le plan municipal, provincial ou fédéral, mais aussi un stimulant pour ceux qui désirent atteindre dans leur travail une qualité transcendante. Je ne trahirai aucun secret en disant qu'Arnold Heeney possède au plus haut degré et d'une façon édifiante la compréhension spirituelle des relations humaines qui s'exprime de façon constante sous la forme d'une participation personnelle et inlassable à de nombreuses causes, nobles et généreuses.

"I would be remiss in my duty if I did not pay homage also to one who has contributed in large measure to the lifework and success of the recipient - his charming wife. I am sad that my wife is not with us here to join in this tribute to both of them.

"An honourable man and a true servant of the public interest, it is a great satisfaction to present this Medal to my old and dear friend, Arnold Heeney."

⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ ⊕