

External Affairs  
Supplementary Paper

No. 54/4

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND  
SCIENTIFIC ENGINEERING IN CANADA

Address by Dr. C.J. Mackenzie, President,  
Atomic Energy Control Board at dinner given  
in his honour by the Professional Institute  
of the Public Service of Canada, Ottawa,  
January 23, 1954.

I do want to thank you, one and all, most sincerely for all the kindnesses you have shown to me tonight; for the good will which inspired this banquet; for the many generous and flattering things which have been said to me, and for the friendly and warm way in which you received the introductory remarks which I fear were more kindly than critically accurate.

I do appreciate it all very much and feel deeply grateful.

First I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your overly generous remarks, but more particularly I want to say how much it has meant to me that you and all my many other friends in the Public Service should want to honour me in this way.

Naturally I feel greatly honoured by the award of the Kelvin Medal, but for me the most heart warming and permanent award one can receive is the respect and personal regards of those with whom one has been associated in his daily work. It is for that reason I feel very proud tonight, and it is for that reason I value very highly the distinction of becoming an Honorary Member of your Institute - the highest honour you can give.

I think you will all agree with me that the Kelvin Medal Award is not only a personal compliment but a recognition of what has happened in Canada during the past 15 years and of the standing science and scientific engineering have attained. I am not being modest in that as I think the honour is greater, not less, on that account as I shall attempt to show.

There is no doubt that wars and the threat of wars have always profoundly affected the development of applied science. This we all now accept, but what is of paramount importance to any particular country is what happens after wars.

For me, and that includes most of those here tonight, who were vigorously engaged in war work between 1939 and 1945 there was a great thrill. There can be no greater satisfaction than being helpful when one's country is in peril.

My greatest personal satisfaction, however, lies not in the credit and recognition we got for spectacular war