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As Governor General of Canada, he generously gave of all his great qualities. He had a genuine affection for persons in the every day walks of life. He was liberal-minded in all his views, and strong in his resentment of class prejudice. He had a keen sense of humour and was essentially human. He liked talking to people, and laughing with people and sharing their interests and joys and sorrows.

He was a model of courtesy. But behind his simplicity and kindness there remained a great strength of character, a grave seriousness of purpose, rare ability and a perfect knowledge of his constitutional duties as the King's representative.

In truth the British Commonwealth has lost a great gentleman and a faithful servant. He will be long remembered for the work he accomplished and the friends he made.

The deepest sympathy will be felt throughout Canada for Lady Willingdon in her bereavement. Seldom have lives been more completely devoted to each other, or greater responsibilities been more fully shared than was the case with Lord and Lady Willingdon. Lord Willingdon never ceased to express to others what he felt he owed to Lady Willingdon not less in the discharge of his public duties than in the happiness of his private life. She was constantly at his side.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 309, pages C213628-C214205

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