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Remarks by the Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King at official ceremony opening the British Section of the Canadian National Exhibition, under the auspices of the British Empire Overseas Branch of the Toronto Board of Trade.

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You were right, Mr. Chairman, in describing the present as an historic and memorable occasion. I should regard it as such not only for the British Empire Overseas Branch of the Toronto Board of Trade, as you so modestly confined your reference, but for all Canada. It is not often that even by the magic of radio, we have the good fortune to hear at any one time the voices of the leaders of government of the United Kingdom and the several Dominions, or the like good fortune to see assembled in any one place, the distinguished representatives in our own country of the Nations of the Commonwealth. Tonight, at this hour and in this place, we have both.

I should like to join with you, Mr. Chairman, in welcoming to this platform, and in thanking for their presence, the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom and the corresponding representatives of other nations of the Commonwealth. As this is the first occasion, since India with full equality of status, has been represented in Canada at a gathering such as the present, I should like to say how warmly we all welcome her representative to this family circle, and how cordial and sincere are the wishes we extend for the future of his country. We equally welcome India's neighbour, Pakistan, to the community of British Nations.