

OTTAWA VALLEY GRADUATES SOCIETY.

March 1, 1933.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Let me assure you that I realize and appreciate the honour that is mine in being permitted to join you in this function tonight.

It is often one's pleasure to dine with different groups of men, and occasionally to speak to them. But this gathering is unique. Membership in this gathering cannot be purchased; it is not decided by ballot; you cannot apply for membership and be elected; admittance here does not depend on your social rating, on the wealth you possess, on your political bias, or on your religious faith. No, these are not the things that determine your eligibility for inclusion here. There is another test, and that

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test is absolute. You must be a McGill Graduate. That's the test; that's the tie that binds, and those only who know McGill and what she has been, what she is now, what she stands for, what her history and tradition have been, can appreciate the strength of that tie and the pride that goes with that badge of unity.

This organization is known as the Ottawa Valley Graduates' Society of McGill University, one of the oldest, best known and most loyal Graduates' Societies of the University. We have here represented tonight men of many classes in our University, some of them many years apart. Many of you have travelled a long road and have passed through varied and trying experiences since the old days at McGill. At this gathering tonight you roll back the years and give again in memory, if only for an hour, with the friends of your youth, the events of forgotten years, and in so