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Let me repeat, too, what I said a moment ago about all of us possessing a little of the two tendencies. If there are any here who think that Conservation is wholly bad, let me remind him of the little rhyme:

There's so much bad in the best of us,  
And so much good in the worst of us,  
That it ill behooves any of us  
To talk about the rest of us."

I suppose there is no real Liberal who has not some Conservative instinct which may tend to grow stronger as the years increase. And I should be sorry indeed if I thought that there were many Conservatives who had not in their natures some little of the saving grace of Liberalism. What I am concerned about at the moment is not the extreme individual, nor the milk-and-water type of individual, but the out-and-out normal man or woman who, in his or her point of view, or in his or her general attitude, for the most part stands for the one principle or the other, the Liberal principle or the Conservative principle, each in its relation to a wider or a lesser freedom for the generality of their fellowmen.

Political Parties and their Function.

Having defined the principles of Liberalism and of Conservatism, let me now say a word about political parties. It is important, I think, that we should understand exactly what

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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