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Speech by The Right Honourable Mackenzie King  
at the Banquet tendered him by the Liberal Party of Canada  
on the completion of twenty years of Leadership of the Party. x

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen: I am sure you will believe me when I say, though I have addressed many audiences in the past twenty years, there has never been an occasion when I found it more difficult to give expression to my feelings, and, I might equally say, more difficult to conceal my feelings.

It would be strange indeed if one were not deeply moved by a tribute such as that which has been paid to me this evening by this great audience, representative of leading Liberals in the public life of our country, representative of every province of this Dominion, representative of those who are in high places and in humble places in our land, representative of men and women who are advanced in years, and also of those who are just coming forward to face the battle of life.

It has been given to but few men to receive such a tribute and I would have you believe that I am deeply touched by it, that I am very conscious of all it means, and that I am more than grateful to you for it.

x A verbatim shorthand report was made of Mr. Mackenzie King's speech at the time it was delivered, as he spoke extemporaneously. In the editing of the transcript of shorthand notes, the address has been slightly abbreviated. In no material particular has the context been altered.