

halls of parliament on this occasion is an honour which will long be remembered by the members of both houses and indeed by all Canadians.

For a long time it has been felt that Sir Robert Borden's portrait should adorn the walls of these houses of parliament. When I had the honour to become Speaker of the House of Commons, I soon discovered that the consensus of opinion of members of both houses was that the practice of placing our Prime Ministers' portraits in the parliament buildings should be resumed. Instructions were accordingly given for the painting of a portrait of the late Sir Robert Borden. Mr. Kenneth Forbes, the well-known artist of Toronto, was commissioned for the purpose. How splendidly Mr. Forbes executed his commission you will see when the portrait of Sir Robert Borden is unveiled.

While arranging for this commission I learned of the portrait of the present Prime Minister which was painted by Mr. Frank O. Salisbury, and which had been exhibited in the Royal Academy in London. The portrait was temporarily on exhibition at our own National Gallery. Members who saw it were high in their praise of the great artist who was responsible for this splendid work of art. A general desire was expressed that the portrait should be placed in our parliament buildings.

On the 8th of December last, I took it upon myself to write the Prime Minister in the matter. Several letters were exchanged between Mr. King and myself before I was able to convince him that my request should be granted. Perhaps I may be permitted to use a privilege given to members of both houses, with unanimous consent, and given sometimes by the Speakers, to table for the press the correspondence exchanged.

May I say, in a word, that being assured that it was the wish of the Speakers, and of the leaders of all parties in both houses, that the portrait by Mr. Salisbury should be hung on the walls of these buildings at the same time as the portrait of Sir Robert Borden, Mr. King not only gave his consent to the transfer of the portrait for that purpose, but said he would be pleased to have the portrait accepted as a gift from himself to parliament.

I quite understand Mr. King's hesitation in allowing us to have his portrait for these walls while he is still a member of parliament, but I may assure him that after twenty years in the office of Prime Minister he should experience no embarrassment on that account.

Your final agreement to this step, Mr. Prime Minister, has warmed our hearts and increased your popularity in parliamentary circles. I wish to extend to you, sir, the sincere thanks

of all the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons for the very generous manner in which you have acceded to our request.

*The Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable J. H. King, then invited His Excellency the Governor General to unveil the portrait of Sir Robert Laird Borden. The Speaker said:*

Mr. President, Your Excellency, members of the Senate and of the House of Commons: On behalf of the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons of Canada, I have the honour to invite Your Excellency to unveil the portrait of the Right Honourable Sir Robert Laird Borden, who from 1911 to 1920, a period which included the years of the first great war, 1914-18, was Prime Minister of Canada.

*(His Excellency unveiled the portrait of Sir Robert Borden.)*

Hon. J. H. KING (Speaker of the Senate): Mr. President, Your Excellency: I have pleasure in presenting to you the artist, Mr. Kenneth Forbes, of Toronto, to whose talent we are indebted for the splendid portrait of Sir Robert Laird Borden.

*(Mr. Forbes came forward and acknowledged applause by a bow to the assembled company.)*

Hon. Senator KING: Mr. Henry Borden has telegraphed his regret at his inability to be present at this ceremony. We are very sorry that circumstances have prevented him from witnessing the unveiling of this portrait of his illustrious uncle.

*The Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honourable Gaspard Fauteux, then invited His Excellency to unveil the portrait of the present Prime Minister. The Speaker said:*

Mr. President, Your Excellency, members of the Senate and of the House of Commons: On behalf of the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons of Canada, I have the honour to invite Your Excellency to unveil the portrait of the Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, who today completes twenty years in the office of Prime Minister of Canada, including the years of the second great war, 1939-45.

*(His Excellency unveiled the portrait of the Prime Minister.)*

Hon. Mr. FAUTEUX: Mr. President, Your Excellency: I have pleasure in presenting to you Mr. Frank O. Salisbury, of London Eng-