

every night. Now and then a dashing youth in a tuxedo would dive from the dance floor into the pool.

The crystal had clouded by the 1950s. The Canadian Pacific Railway, which had built it, gave it to the city. The city more or less decided to tear it down in 1967 but the Crystal Garden Preservation Society was immediately formed. It persuaded the British Columbia government to save the old

place, and in 1977 the government gave a \$2 million grant for preservation.

Now, refreshed and refurbished, it is back in business. The pool has been filled and is now a lush garden with pink flamingoes and long-tailed macaws. There are still music and dancing and afternoon teas in the wicker lounge, an aviary and a lizard house and a full-scale restaurant in what was once the gymnasium.



### A Ruin Like No Other

William Lyon Mackenzie King got the germ of an idea in 1934 when he noticed that his grandfather's house on Bond Street in Toronto was about to be torn down. The grandfather had been Canada's most celebrated unsuccessful rebel, William Lyon Mackenzie, and the Prime Minister decided that he would like to take part of the old house to Kingsmere, his summer estate outside Ottawa. The old house was not torn down as it turned out, but the idea had been planted.

In 1935 the Prime Minister noticed that the old Ottawa home of Simon-Napoleon Parent, who was once the Premier of Quebec, was being torn down and he bought a semi-circular stone win-

dow from the wrecker for \$50. He decided it would make a "marvelous ruin" and he took it to Kingsmere and set it up on the side of a hill where he could look through it onto a striking stretch of scenery. He then began collecting other stones from various places—the old Centre Block of the Canadian Parliament which had burned down in 1916, some weathered stones from the British Houses of Parliament which were being replaced, and some others from the Palace of Westminster after it had been bombed in World War II. They were all brought together on hillocks at Kingsmere, next to the original window, and they are there today.