

Liberal's ear! I do not refer to my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition. His name may sound very sweet in the ears of the average Liberal, but if he ever gets over to this side of the House—which Heaven forbid!—he will probably discover that his name does not sound so sweet to the average Liberal, and particularly so if he shows any tendency to emulate the example of his noble predecessor, the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, and carries his principles into operation. When I came to this Parliament, an unsophisticated young Liberal, brought up at the feet of Hon. George Brown and Alexander Mackenzie, about twenty-two or twenty-three years ago, I held Alexander Mackenzie in the utmost reverence, and yet I learned that Alexander Mackenzie was really side-tracked by the Liberals. The name Mackenzie did not sound so sweet in the ears of Liberals of those days. The slogan among the Liberals when the Government was organized in 1896 and when we met here was, "For Heaven's sake let us not make the mistakes that Mackenzie made." I am not making a political speech, but just giving historical facts. I am spilling the beans right on the table beside the Mace so that all within hearing may understand the facts. The "mistakes" that Mackenzie made—I will put quotation marks on the word mistakes—were that he stood strictly to his principles. Mackenzie believed as my hon. friend from Red Deer (Mr. Clark) believes, and as I believe, that a party which goes to the country on a platform is in duty bound—morally bound, bound in every honourable way—to stand by that platform. Mackenzie believed in low tariff, and staked his political existence on low tariff. He was willing to go down to defeat on low tariff. Like that candidate for the Presidency of the United States, he would sooner be right than be Prime Minister. And let me tell my separated brethren on the other side of the House that the chief heritage which the Liberal party—not "a" Liberal party, but "the" Liberal party—enjoys to-day is that which was bequeathed to them by the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, who stood to his principles. That is their noblest heritage.

Now, a word on the necessity of cultivating the soil that produces statesmen, who are truly servants of the people. For, after all, there is something worth while in being a public man and serving the State. But, if men who attempt to serve the State are

ridiculed out of existence, if communion is withdrawn from them, if they are treated as, in the humble instance of myself I described this afternoon, then you will not raise that type of men in the country. Men will not serve the people if they know that they will be politically destroyed for so doing. I remember in my early days reading an essay by a great historian and philosopher. He was describing a hero, a man who had rendered great service to his country, both in the field of war and in the field of politics, for a period of thirty or forty years, and was recognized and acclaimed for what he had accomplished for the country. And the historian, in summing up his life, said: the great achievement—now, mark the words, for this is worth while—the great achievement of that country was to have produced such a hero, and woe to that country that fails to recognize its heroes, for after a time no hero will appear, nay, no hero will even be born. This, in my judgment, indicates the reason why Canada has not produced the type of men it should have produced for the public life of the country. Frequently I have listened to deliverances by able men who have declared that what Canada needs is a leader, a Joshua. [I am looking at my hon. friend the leader of the Opposition (Mr. McKenzie), though I have not him in mind.] What Canada needs, they tell us, is a Joshua who will take us out of the wilderness and into the promised land. Now, if the philosophers, or so-called philosophers, had stopped to think for a moment they would have known that it is impossible, and has been for thirty years, for Canada to produce a leader, a Joshua. Your public men are no better, and of necessity cannot be better, than the people. That is why it is so desirable to cultivate ideals, and to cultivate especially the ideal of service. That is why I have been glad to say an encouraging word to the two young men, one of whom moved and the other seconded the Address. I said this afternoon, and I repeat, it is a good sign to see member after member on both sides of the House congratulate these young men upon the noble, patriotic sentiments expressed in their speeches. This laudation of ideals augurs well for the future of the country.

In speaking this afternoon, and making a personal reference to the difficulties I encountered as a Liberal who made an attempt, however feeble, to stand by his ideals, I neglected to say what I never had opportunity to say before, but which I am glad to say now. I take advantage of this