

Thousands at Falls Pay Tribute to Band Led by Mackenzie

Prime Minister Pleads With Throng to Remain
Steadfast to the Homely Virtues, and by
So Doing Maintain Unity of Dominion
and Empire

INDIAN CHIEF BRINGS TRIBE'S GREETINGS

(By ROBERT JOHNSTON.)
(Staff Writer, The Globe and Mail)

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., June 19.—The Prime Minister of Canada journeyed to this world-famous falls city Saturday to lead thousands in a ceremony of tribute to a band of courageous men who more than 100 years ago risked their lives and fortunes for responsible government and freedom.

The ceremony was of a deep personal nature to the Right Hon. Mackenzie King, for the magnificent memorial arch he unveiled was dedicated to the Rebellion of 1837, led by his mother's father, the famous rebel, William Lyon Mackenzie.

Rainbow Appears

As the Premier arose to speak in the picturesque Oakes Theatre Garden the sun slashed briefly through threatening clouds and an enormous rainbow arched through the mist of the Horseshoe Falls. If Mr. King saw the rainbow he gave no sign, but he must have thought it particularly fitting that at a time when thousands were gathered to pay tribute to a once disgraced and exiled rebel, the heavens chose to shine.

Showing no signs of fatigue from his parliamentary battles, the Prime Minister was typically "the Liberal Chieftain." He spent a busy weekend in the district so replete with his family's history. In the morning he opened to the public his grandfather's home at Queenston. In the afternoon he unveiled the memorial arch. At night he listened to the Mendelssohn Choir at the Oakes Theatre Garden. Today he attended services at Drummond Hill Presbyterian Church.

The Saturday afternoon ceremony started, as was fitting, with the distant skirl of bagpipes. Swinging along the river front the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Hamilton led a parade of notables to the grandstand.

Premier King, flanked by Senators Dandurand and Herby, marched briskly along swinging a cane, and occasionally adjusting his pearl grey top hat. Cheers broke out as he entered the amphitheatre.

Heritage of the Past

In a vigorous and well-delivered speech, the Prime Minister urged Canadians to submerge sectional views and work for a united Dominion.

"I ask you to remain steadfast to the homely virtues," Mr. King said, "for all we have today is the heritage of the past. Let us keep it intact and we shall have a united Canada and a united Empire."

The Premier thanked Hon. T. B. McQuesten for his efforts in supervising the erection of the Memorial Arch, declaring the Ontario Minister of Highways was largely responsible for the thought behind the memorial.

"It would be difficult to imagine an occasion more significant than this one," said Mr. King. "I doubt it at any time, anywhere, there has been a ceremony where beauty and history have been so admirably combined. This Niagara district is one of the most beautiful in the world, and in its small compass much of the history of Canada has been written."

Referring to the inscription on the north wall of the memorial, which commemorates the early French explorers, Mr. King reminded his audience that the ground on which they were standing once belonged to Indians.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 24) "Colonial Advocate" Building and Memorial Arch - Dedication at Niagara Falls - Clippings June 1938