

I might say many things of much that was learned at that time, but I shall speak only of one or two precepts which I believe help to account for the fact that we are assembled here in the numbers we are this evening.

Precepts for Public Life

One thing I heard Sir Wilfrid Laurier say, and repeat time and again, was that "it does not do to cherish resentment in public life". I would like to say that, not only to the young Liberals who are coming on, but to all who have any desire to serve their country in a true and noble way: "It does not do to cherish resentment in public life".

I think, ladies and gentlemen, I may point to my record over the twenty years and say that, if in other things I may not have been as successful as I should like to have been, in this I have been true to my great leader, that I have not cherished resentment toward any man or toward any woman in any part of this great country. I have regarded my public life as a public trust, and I have sought, above all else, to keep any matter that might injure my feelings in a personal way so removed from my thoughts that it might never adversely influence my judgment with respect to public affairs.

There is another thing which I first learned from Sir Wilfrid Laurier and which I have always sought to remember.