

It is fitting, therefore, that we are today paying tribute to those whose efforts and sacrifices, a hundred years ago, contributed so largely to place colonial government on a new basis, and thereby made possible ~~our~~^{the} great Commonwealth of today;

1937 a significant year:

It is an interesting coincidence that this year - the centenary of the rebellion of 1837 - marked the occasion of two events of which the importance and the solemnity to the British Commonwealth cannot be over-estimated;

(1) The Coronation:

It symbolized our relationship with the Monarch - feelings which this event gave rise to, an indication that never have we, as a people, been more attached to the Throne - the link which binds together the free peoples of the Commonwealth, also indicated the constitutional position which Canada today occupies - for the first time the Monarch was crowned as "King of Canada" as well as of the United Kingdom, and other Dominions;

(2) The Imperial Conference:

It symbolized the relationship between the autonomous communities of the Commonwealth;

Like the Coronation, it emphasized two principles upon which British Commonwealth is based -