

PRESS CLIPPINGS

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The Prime Minister

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The Prime Minister

Mr. King spoke as follows:
"I wish I could begin to tell you the pleasure it gives me to be again in the Maritime Provinces and to address a meeting in Saint John. In the last few years all of us have been under great strain and passed through history the like of which the world has never known before. During the years of war I have had to remain almost constantly at the seat of government. I have a couple of times crossed the ocean and a couple of times gone down to Washington, but outside of these occasions I have been constantly at Ottawa.

"May I say first of all that I regret it is not going to be possible for me to visit all parts of the Maritime Provinces. Time and space make that impossible. It is not any lack of desire. When the war began it started with a session of Parliament, a Parliament which lasted five years. That was no sooner over than I had to go to San Francisco and went to Vancouver and from Vancouver here, without an opportunity of really doing anything more than paying a visit to one or more places and addressing audiences in the Western Provinces and Ontario. I would like to have gone to Halifax and Charlottetown and I hope our friends in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will realize that in speaking in Saint John I am speaking to all the country in this part of the Dominion.

"I would like, before acknowledging the kind remarks made by the chairman and my colleague and great friend Mr. MacLaren, to take the opportunity as prime minister of Canada, which I still am and hope to be after June 11th, to extend to the people of the Maritime Provinces my warmest congratulations and highest thanks on behalf of the government of this country for the magnificent contribution which they have made to the winning of the war in Europe.

"There is nothing that has impressed any country like the great success of the magnificent war effort and the magnificent contribution of the people of Canada. Wherever I have spoken about the war I have taken great care to say that it is not to the government of Canada that the credit is due, it is to the people of Canada. I would say on behalf of the government that all the efforts of the people of Canada might have been very different from what it was if that effort had not been wisely planned and carefully directed by the government which had that great responsibility.

None Finer

"May I speak particularly of the great service that has been rendered our country and many countries by the armed forces of Canada, I would like to speak of the contributions by the Army, Navy, Air Force and Merchant Marine, but may I say that I think all countries will agree having regard to the size of Canada, no country on earth has made a finer contribution to freedom in our time than the men of Canada in this war.

"I would like to speak not only of the great service rendered by our armed forces but also by those who have maintained the home front and maintained our armies at the front. A nation is made up at a time of war particularly of warriors and workers and it is to the workers of Canada, those particularly of the Maritime Provinces, those workers in the mines, forests, on the deep and rivers and getting the supplies necessary for our men at the front, that I wish to refer. Men, women and children working on the farms, working in munition plants and working on the great communications on sea and land. To you all may I on behalf of the government express the pride for the achievement which the Maritime Provinces have made. We have still to destroy Japan but we have destroyed Germany.

"I wish to refer to another great service and that is the contributions which you have made in money, in the way of savings, contributions to Victory loans. But for these contributions it would not have been possible for the government to finance this war as we have financed it, and I thank you one and all for what you have done in that regard.

"The production at home has been greater in this period of war than it has been at any previous time. That speaks magnificently for the people of Canada.

The Revenue Minister

"Ladies and Gentlemen, may I take the earliest opportunity I can to thank you for sending to the government of Canada the able and brilliant gentleman who has spoken to you

this evening and who is now the minister of national revenue in the Government of Canada. I believe we have in the presence of Mr. MacLaren in Ottawa now, and that is where he is going to stay, one of the greatest citizens of the Maritime Provinces and one of the greatest citizens of the Dominion of Canada.

"You may well be proud that this part of the Dominion is being represented by one who has the great ability and experience and the great charm which Mr. MacLaren has, and which goes so far in life. He possesses a quality of getting on with men, and I expect also with ladies, which is very valuable and which I would give a great deal personally to possess. The moment Mr. MacLaren came into the Council Chamber his colleagues felt an addition had been made in the government of Canada and he had not been there five minutes before he began in answer to questions put to him to give us the feeling that we had in our midst one who could speak with authority and one who possessed knowledge.

"I want to congratulate Mr. MacLaren on the part he has taken in the Victory Loans, but more on what he has done as a model citizen to this part of Canada, not only during the war period but during his whole life. I believe that you will send him back to Ottawa with a very large majority, that the people of Canada may realize that where a man is public-spirited and willing to give his time and he is needed and I am sure you will send him to us.

Senator Burchill

"I want to thank Senator Burchill for his kind words in introduction. I thought I was making a pretty good choice when I selected him along with other colleagues to become members of the Senate, but after listening to him tonight I have come to realize that we have got the right man in the right place. It is indeed a source of pride and satisfaction to know that the Parliament of Canada has been strengthened by the distinguished gentlemen who have been recently appointed to the Upper Chamber. Regarding the candidates in the coming election. There are some of the old members, and also new people who, I am sure, will render good service to this country as a whole.

"Now ladies and gentlemen I have no set speech for this evening. I have been traveling very steadily and have also had to keep an eye on matters pertaining to the war. I will speak to you this evening from my heart in regard to the situation that you are facing at the moment. It is a moment of great decision, not for me or the government or Parliament, but for you to make. It is your decision, you are the people who are deciding now what particular government is to be in office from now for another five years.