

CANADA

**House of Commons Debates**

OFFICIAL REPORT

SPEECH

OF

**HON. W. L. MACKENZIE KING**

MEMBER FOR PRINCE, P.E.I.

ON

**ADDRESS IN REPLY TO GOVERNOR GENERAL'S  
SPEECH**

In the House of Commons, Ottawa, on Tuesday, February 15, 1921.

Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to extend my congratulations to the hon. members who have just moved and seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I am sure that my hon. friend the member for King's, P.E.I. (Mr. McIsaac) will look upon this as a sort of field day for Prince Edward Island, inasmuch as he and I, comprising half the representation of that province, have been privileged to be the first speakers in this important debate. That his speech was very creditable to himself and to the Island, is, I think, the highest compliment that could be paid him. I hope he will not feel that I speak at all ironically when I say that, having listened to his poetical quotations and classical allusions, I believe he might have applied to his own speech the words which he quoted from Byron's Childe Harold in reference to the ocean—that there was considerable music in its roar.

I must also congratulate the hon. member for Yale (Mr. MacKelvie) on the speech which he made in seconding the Address. As all hon. members know, this is his maiden speech, and usually the making of

one's first speech in Parliament is not an easy matter. All who have had the privilege of listening to his address will, I am sure, feel that in the member for Yale the House has found an acquisition to its debating ability.

With many of the sentiments that have been expressed by both the mover and the seconder of the Address, we on this side of the House are in most hearty accord. There have been on the other hand references to some of the matters spoken of in the Speech from the Throne, there have been references to the present administration, with which I would take issue and which I would discuss at some length if this were the appropriate time and occasion. However, during the course of the debate there will be opportunity to take up matters of the kind.

In one respect, in particular, I find myself in hearty accord with the mover and the seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne—I join with them in extending congratulations to my Right Honourable friend (Mr. Meighen) upon his attainment of the high and responsible position of Prime Minister.