

APPENDIX

The
UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF
SIR ROBERT BORDEN

on

Tuesday, January 8, 1957

Speeches of the Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent, Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson, Speaker of the Senate, Hon. L. René Beaudoin, Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Henry Borden, Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker, Mr. M. J. Coldwell and Mr. Solon E. Low.

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson (Speaker of the Senate): Ladies and gentlemen, "O Canada".

(Whereupon the gathering sang *O Canada*.)

Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons, ladies and gentlemen: We are assembled here to do honour to the memory of a great Canadian, the Right Honourable Sir Robert Borden, a former prime minister of Canada. We, and the unseen audience, through the magic of television, have just witnessed the unveiling of the statue to his memory, located on a site just west of the west block on parliament hill. For seasonal reasons the continuing ceremonies are being held in the Hall of Honour of the centre block.

Seated on the platform in addition to the co-chairman, the Honourable L. René Beaudoin, Speaker of the House of Commons, are:

Right Honourable L. S. St. Laurent,
Prime Minister of Canada
Honourable Patrick Kerwin,
Chief Justice of Canada

Mr. Henry Borden

Honourable W. Ross Macdonald,
Government Leader in the Senate

Mr. John Diefenbaker,
Leader of the Opposition

Mrs. Henry Borden

Honourable T. A. Crerar

Honourable George Drew

Honourable J. T. Haig,

Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Mr. John Bracken

Mr. M. J. Coldwell,

Leader of the C.C.F. party

Mr. Solon Low,

Leader of the Social Credit party.

The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen, the Honourable Esioff L. Patenaude and the Honourable Albert A. Sevigny were invited to attend but expressed their regrets. They, with Senator Crerar, are the only surviving members of Sir Robert's government.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Speaker of the House of Commons.

(Translation):

Hon. L. René Beaudoin (Speaker of the House of Commons): Mr. Prime Minister, Honourable Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, ladies and gentlemen, we are gathered here this afternoon to honour the memory of a Canadian who was prime minister of our country and who, in the course of a long and remarkable political career, has rendered outstanding services: Sir Robert Laird Borden.

A few moments ago, in the presence of the present Right Honourable Prime Minister, and of the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Henry Borden, Q.C., a nephew of Sir Robert Borden, unveiled a monument erected on parliament hill to remind future generations of our past glories and of the debt of gratitude which we owe to the builders of this nation.

We are therefore witnessing one of those great parliamentary occasions. The leaders of all parties unite in paying a nation's tribute to Sir Robert Laird Borden.

(Text):

Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson (Speaker of the Senate):

Ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to present the Prime Minister of Canada.

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): Mr. Co-chairmen, Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. Borden, ladies and gentlemen: Just before we begin the heavy schedule of another session of parliament, it is fitting that we should pause to pay tribute to one of the great figures in Canadian history, Sir Robert Borden.

I wish to congratulate Miss Frances Loring on the striking likeness and the excellent workmanship of the statue which Mr. Henry Borden unveiled a few minutes ago. She has expressed for the permanent records of our nation in a fashion more eloquent than words many of the fine characteristics of that distinguished statesman.