

If the stage of social development in this city is to be divided into three significant periods it would seem that we could not do better than associate them with the name Mount Royal as it appears in connection with the place of welcome of travellers, tourists and citizens alike. The Mount Royal in the days of Cartier with its primitive civilization, the Mount Royal of the days of Dorchester with its transformation from the past into the present and our own day of world associations embodied so splendidly in what we are celebrating tonight.

It would appear from the records ~~frankly~~ of travel that the people of Montreal have ever been among the most hospitable and attentive to strangers. I have referred to the reception given to Jacques Cartier by the Indians of four centuries ago. In a rare little book entitled "Travels, etc"

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It is of the bearing of this feature upon the social life of our nation that I should like to conclude with just a further word. Not only is this hotel ~~represented~~ ^{second} a symbol of ~~the~~ ^{the} commercial and industrial greatness, but it is and above all else should continue to be a symbol of national unity and international goodwill. Here, as nowhere else in Canada, will assemble men and women of different races, different origins, different creeds and different tongues, the citizens of our own country and ^{the} strangers within our gates. What greater tribute could be paid to our country than that the student of many centuries hence looking back upon the records of our day should ~~be able~~ ^{find that the traveller} in the language of Isaac Weld, ^{who said} to say that having travelled through our vast Dominion he found its people "Like one large family". We are one large family in our celebration on this occasion. We, who come from many

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

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