

Dr. John H. Finley, Presenting the Whitney
Friendship Fountain at McGill University.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I find it very difficult to proceed after that introduction - I should be very glad if that would be made my obituary (laughter). I remember with great satisfaction one honour that I have enjoyed that has not been mentioned by the Vice Chancellor. I had the great honour when I was an educator and not merely an editor, to confer upon him the first honorary degree that he had from an educational institution in the United States (applause). I was the first, therefore, to recognise his eminent ability, both as a great soldier and as an educator and administrator.

I have the distinguished honour of presenting, on behalf of a Committee of representative citizens of the United States this souvenir of our neighborly love. You have used the word "regard". The word "goodwill" has often been used. I use, out of my own feelings and those which I represent, the word "neighborly love" (applause). I wish I might read the names of the Committee whom I have the honour to represent. I regret, as you do, that I may not do that, but I must call your attention to those that are written among the highest. First of all, that of Chief Justice Hughes, and then Mr. Kellogg, the former Secretary of State; Milton D. Baker, the former Secretary of War; the Honourable John W. Davis, late ambassador to the Court of Saint James; Owen D. Young; General Pershing. I am sorry I may not read the entire list in the hands of Miss Ballou, who has done so much to assemble this Committee (applause). If nations as well as individuals were enjoined to love their neighbours as themselves, we should not find it difficult to keep this second great commandment with Canada as our neighbour - though it is usually easier to love a neighbour who dwells at a distance than one just on the other side of an invisible fence.