

the happiness of the home. If we can make Canada a country of happy and contented homes, we can afford to leave most else of national import to take care of itself. To effect this the State requires the knowledge, the perceptions, the intuition with respect to the home and its needs which women alone possess, or possess, at all events, in a quite exceptional degree.

A country of happy homes, an ideal large enough to appeal to and inspire all to share in politics.

Surely, here is an ideal large enough, fine enough, simple, immediate and practical enough, to enlist the sympathies and active support of all who have to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow; who have aught in the way of obligation to parent or child, to sister or brother, to husband or wife; or who through fortune, good or ill, are free to direct their energies into any path. Such an ideal is nothing other than sharing actively in the politics of one's country, for it is as impossible to sever the happiness of the home from the well-being of the State, or the well-being of the State from the happiness of the home, as it is to sever the relation of the earth and the sun.

A compelling and comprehensive conception of politics. A challenge to one and all.

Such a conception of politics is alike compelling and comprehensive. It is a challenge to one and all; a challenge to do one's best while it is yet today; a challenge to the truest living and the ~~xx~~ highest citizenship; a challenge, in the words of Gladstone, revealing the secret of his own life effort on behalf of Liberal principles and ideals, to "be inspired with the belief that Life is a great and noble calling, not a mean and grovelling thing that we are to shuffle through as we can, but an elevated and lofty destiny".

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers
Speeches-1922 - 1932

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA