

Personal relations

I should like to say something now, more particularly, about our personal relations. Most of the ladies and gentlemen present may know much more about married life than I know, or can ever hope to know. I can tell them, however, that I think I know more about political life than most of them are ever likely to know. Of one thing I can assure them, it is that the importance of the right partner is as great in politics, as it is in marriage. It is not less true of political than of married life that its joys are many-fold increased and its burdens lightened many times by having, at one's side a loyal and faithful companion with whom joys and burdens alike can be unreservedly shared. Such has been the nature of the friendship which I have had with Ernest Lapointe in the years that we have shared these responsibilities together. For twenty years I have been able to share every anxiety and every problem with him. I doubt if, in our *Canadian* political history, there has been a more loyal friendship, a more constant friendship, a more unbroken friendship than that which we have enjoyed together over these many years.

Combined leadership in Canadian history

In looking back over the history of Canada, it