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Address by the Right Honourable W.L. Mackenzie King,
Prime Minister, at the official opening of the Canadian
National Exhibition - Toronto, August 22, 1947.

*Mr. President, Mr. Scythes, ~~Mr. Scythes~~
~~Mr. Scythes~~, Mr. Scythes, distinguished guests: Ladies & Gentlemen*

May I express, at once, to you, Mr. President, and to your fellow directors, my warm appreciation of your invitation to be the guest of the Canadian National Exhibition, on this its Opening Day. I thank you, Mr. Scythes, most sincerely for the words of welcome you have so cordially extended, and for having invited my friend, the Honourable Albert Matthews, to join with you in that welcome. I am most grateful also to Mr. Matthews for his all too generous words.

It is indeed pleasant to be reminded of the many associations I have with the City of Toronto. I especially value the kindly feelings which continue to be expressed by many of those who, for ~~some~~ ten years, I was privileged to regard as fellow citizens. In recent years, there have been occasions when it has not always been so easy to discern, here in Toronto, the note of cordial good-will so manifest in the welcome given me this afternoon. Today's welcome is, I assure you, all the pleasanter for that.

It will always be a source of pride to me to know that when Toronto was incorporated as a city, it was my mother's father who was elected as its first mayor; that he selected for the city its coat of arms, and chose as its motto, the words: