

Statue of Sir Robert Borden

As people in the days ahead look upon the likeness of Sir Robert that is now on the grounds of parliament, they will doubtless be moved to study the life and accomplishments of this great Canadian. If they do, I am sure that they will discover something which will give them considerable encouragement.

Sir Robert was born in humble circumstances, and through his own effort and determination to work hard he reached one of the highest positions within the ability of the Canadian people to bestow on any man. He accomplished this without benefit of family fortune or prestige of great family power. It will occur to all who will read and learn about this Canadian that what Sir Robert accomplished many another Canadian can also accomplish if he is prepared to devote himself unceasingly and with complete honesty of purpose to his task. We may differ with many of the views that were held by Sir Robert Borden. We may be critical even of some of the things he did, but anybody who took the trouble to study his life and the motives that activated him in his public service must agree that he did have complete honesty of purpose and an integrity that can

stand as an example to all who are called to serve their country. It is fitting, therefore, that an occasion of this kind be used to remind ourselves that Providence has always raised up good men to meet the needs of the particular time in which they lived.

I am sure that Sir Robert was one of those, and furthermore if our nation continues in humility to seek after things of righteousness we will always be blessed with the kind of men who can give us the leadership we need for the particular circumstances of those times.

May I say in conclusion that I honour the memory of Sir Robert Borden for all the reasons that have been mentioned here today, and in addition for the fact that he had a thoroughly disciplined mind, which he applied with singleness of purpose to the development of Canada and the British Empire. Of Sir Robert it can truly be said that he served his country well.

Hon. L. René Beaudoin (Speaker of the House of Commons): Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you now to rise and sing "God Save the Queen."

Whereupon the gathering sang *God Save the Queen*.
