

that was necessary, had there been, as there ought to have been, and as there ought now to be a pamphlet of eight pages or more in the nature of authoritative statements on this matter. But as nothing of the kind had been prepared, I felt the imperative necessity of dealing with the matter historically or in its true perspective in relation to other policies of the Government, and that took a considerable length of time, the reason for which, as was to have been expected, has been entirely misrepresented by an opposition press. May I point out that while that speech is in Hansard, and accessible to those who read Hansard, that the number of the latter is perhaps not one in a thousand outside an immediate parliamentary circle. Moreover no copies of that particular Hansard speech were reprinted or distributed at the time, nor has any reprint been made since or any pamphlet on the Beauharnois matter prepared and distributed. Is it any wonder that forces and influence, hostile or unfriendly to a political party are able to create any kind of false impression concerning matters which affect vitally its whole past, present and future, when the party itself has practically no medium other than the speeches of its members in parliament to make its record, its policies, and the truth of its position known.

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

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