

instrument of government. It is to this younger generation, if I may be permitted so to refer to them, that I should like to make a special appeal to interest themselves in the problems of government, and to co-operate actively with those of us who, having passed the half-century mark of our own life's span, find the supreme interest of our lives for such years as may remain, bound up with a concern for the well-being of the State.

appeal to those under 50.

those of 50.

those over 50.

Those who at the age of fifty have become interested in their country's affairs, may be expected to continue their interest in the end of their days. May I say to those who are over fifty, but have never taken any interest in the politics of this country, that their co-operation also will be mi welcomed, but we shall not expect much of them. Many will go on continuing to theorize, to talk of ideal systems of government, some perchance only to criticize, to detract and to destroy, but most, through apathy and indifference will remain aloof with nothing constructive to offer until the day comes which will take them to a world to which they more properly belong than this, for the man who does not take some real interest in how his country is governed is surely not a citizen of this world within any true meaning of the word.

Active interest essential.

To those under fifty, may I say, strive with all your might to keep out of that hopeless category. You will only keep out by interesting yourselves actively in politics meanwhile. Remember always that the limitations of governments and the fault to

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

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA