

Dr. and Mrs. Bourns, fellow graduates, families and friends, I am honored by the opportunity to propose the traditional Toast to Alma Mater on this special occasion marking "The History of McMaster University."

All of you, I am sure, are as eager as I am to read the newly published books on our beloved University by Professor Johnston and Dean Prince. Since my student days, I have been an omniverous reader of history, among other subjects, and these scholarly chronicles will certainly provide many pleasurable and profitable hours, especially to each and every one of us who has played some part, however large or small, in the story of McMaster's growth and success.

I shall not try to compete with these distinguished educators, but I would instead like to share with you a few of my reflections on the seventy years since I graduated from McMaster. During that period, some of the most significant events in the long history of the human race have occurred.

Since 1905, the population of Canada has increased fourfold, from 5 to 20 million. Through the same years, the enrollment at McMaster has mushroomed almost fortyfold, from 400 to 15,000. That is the statistical measure of two important facts, I think, one the recognition of the value of higher education, in general, and the other the acknowledgment of the excellence of McMaster, in particular.

### Technology Transforms the Planet

The past seventy years have witnessed technological developments that have transformed the daily lives of every inhabitant of this small planet. In 1905, the airplane was in its early experimental stages, but no one could then conceive of today's universal jet travel, let alone the landing of men on the moon. The automobile and radio, then in their infancy, are now so commonplace as to be taken for granted. Television and the computer, two inventions that profoundly influence our lives today, were not even to reach the drawing-board stage for another twenty or thirty years.

In 1905, let us remember, England was still able to boast, "We hold an

empire on which the sun never sets," and Canada was an integral part of that vast <sup>network</sup> ~~empire~~. How ironic it is to recall that, less than ten years later, the die was cast for destruction of the empire, with the beginning of World War I, a holocaust in which three of the principal protagonists were Queen Victoria's grandsons, the German Kaiser, the Russian Czar and the King of England. The squandering of England's accumulations of three hundred years of golden prosperity <sup>and</sup> ~~that~~ began with that conflict, was carried to a dismal conclusion in World War II. ~~its borders with the largest landing army in the world, and the Soviet~~

War and Depression

Like me, many of you must have poignant recollections of those wars. In the first of them, thirty of my relatives were combatants. These included my only brother, who left his McMaster classes for the fighting front, and sustained disabilities that sharply shortened his life. In World War II, I had my two sons and <sup>four</sup> ~~six~~ nephews, two of whom were killed in action. <sup>The lives of two cousins were also lost.</sup> ~~One of them~~ ~~was~~ the only son of my first cousin, Margaret Eaton Demler, a McMaster graduate.

Like me, many of you were also affected by the great economic depression <sup>that occurred</sup> between the two World Wars. Because of Canada's superior centralized banking system, the consequences in Canada were less severe than in the United States. I know at first hand because, while my business headquarters have been across the border, I have always been closely associated with Canadian industry, and my vacations have of course been spent in Canada, in winter on the skiing slopes of Quebec, and in summer on farms in my native Nova Scotia, with my Shorthorn cattle, Hampshire sheep, Canada geese, mallards and black ducks.

One constructive consequence of World War II was creation of the United Nations, an institution of great but still to be fully realized potential for peace on earth and good will toward men. I am proud that my uncle, the late U.S. Congressman Charles Eaton, was <sup>one of the five American founders</sup> ~~a~~ ~~signer~~ of the U.N. Charter in 1945. At the same time, I am aggrieved that the United States has not seen fit to allow the U.N. to deal with such problems as Vietnam.

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The Tragedy of Vietnam - 3 -

3. Instead the United States unwisely chose to intervene in Vietnam, at an incalculable cost in lives, domestic tranquility and economic stability. After his retirement from office, President Eisenhower told me in confidence that his own military experience had convinced him of the folly of sending American military forces 8,000 miles away into combat with people of a different race and different political and philosophical ideas. He gave due weight to the fact that North Vietnam, small nation though it was, had as its powerful allies China, right on its borders with the largest standing army in the world, and the Soviet Union, with a full supply of the most modern and deadly military weapons and equipment. What a <sup>tragedy</sup> ~~pity~~ it is that not one of the succeeding four American Presidents, including the present incumbent, could comprehend Eisenhower's sober and realistic conclusion that the United States simply could not win in Vietnam. Canada is to be congratulated for her ~~wisdom~~ wisdom in remaining aloof from the Vietnam misadventure.

4. The Bomb Leads to the Pugwash Conferences

The most horrendous product of World War II was the unleashing of the atomic bomb by the United States, and this has created grave problems with which mankind has not yet fully come to grips. I have been a trustee of the University of Chicago since long before Fermi and Szilard conducted the experiments there that resulted in the first nuclear fission that led directly to the bomb. Some years earlier, I first met Bertrand Russell while he was a visiting professor at the University of Chicago, and I am happy that the firm friendship then established later blossomed into full scale collaboration with Lord Russell and Albert Einstein in initiating the Pugwash Conferences of scientists from all countries, and of all political, economic and philosophical points of view, to warn the statesmen of the world of the hazards of nuclear warfare. It is a source of great pride to me that McMaster University has become the permanent home of the papers of Lord Russell, mathematician par excellence and holder of the Nobel Prize for mastery of the English language.

in 1930

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In moving ~~some long years ago~~ from Toronto to Hamilton, one of the world's leading industrial centers, McMaster <sup>also moved toward</sup> opted for a broadened curriculum, with new emphasis on mathematics and the sciences. The changes in the language courses are also indicative of McMaster's determination to prepare its sons and daughters for today's world of international exchange, commercial and cultural.

All of you, I am sure, are as eager as I am to read the newly published book on our beloved University by Professor Johnston and Dean Prince. Since my student days, I have been an omnivorous reader of history, among other subjects, to the classical Latin, Greek and Hebrew, was limited to French and German. Today's students can still acquire Latin, Greek, French and German, but can also learn Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Slavish linguistics. In the not too distant future, I would assume that Chinese would be added.

The Advantage of Bilingualism

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The question of bilingualism is far from new in Canada, I would remind you. In my student days, Canada's most brilliant writer, Goldwin Smith, was concerned with the problems created by differences in language and religion, and was predicting that Canada would break up into four or five nations. Since 1905, the population of Canada has increased fourfold, from 10 million to 30 million. Through the same years, the enrollment at McMaster has increased almost fortyfold, from 400 to 15,000. That is the statistical measure of two important facts, I think, one the recognition of the value of higher education, to its bright destiny, I think Canada must come to realise that it is an advantage to have at least two languages.

I wish I could be here seventy years from today to learn what now ~~unimaginable~~ ~~incomprehensible~~ changes will have taken place. By then, is it too much to hope that men will have given up many of their myths and superstitions, and be looking to the scientists and thinkers of the world for enlightenment? In the progression of human events, I count on McMaster to help lead the way as a great intellectual center and a constructive world influence.

And now let us stand and raise our glasses in a heartfelt toast to Alma Mater!

In 1905, let me remember, England was still able to boast, "We hold an

5/7/75

CB McMaster Notes

Bilingualism and the French. Goldwin Smith.

Seventy years ago I graduated from McMaster. Those 70 years have contained (encompassed) many of the most important events in the long history of the human race. McMaster has grown from a student body of 400 to one of 15,000. With my encouragement, my Alma Mater moved to Hamilton, one of the great industrial centers of the world, whose activities put emphasis on science and mathematics. The trend of McMaster interests is illustrated (suggested) by becoming the home of the important papers of Bertrand Russell, mathematician, scientist and holder of the Nobel Prize for mastery of the English language.

In that period, Canada's population has increased from 5,000,000 to 20,000,000. (Check figures.) The decline of the British Empire: In 1905, England boasted (was able to boast), "We hold an empire on which the sun never sets." In the 70 years, that vast empire has broken up, dissolved.

During my student days at McMaster, Goldwin Smith was Canada's most brilliant writer. In his book, Canada and the Canadian Question, Smith predicted the breakup of Canada into four or five nations. What Smith did not foresee was the vast growth of Canada's resources to the north and their development. In geographical extent and potential growth, Canada ranks second in the world only to the Soviet Union.

The folly of war: The far-reaching influence of World War I, in which the principal antagonists were first cousins, grandsons of Queen Victoria, the German Kaiser, the Russian Czar and the King of England. England squandered the accumulations, the profits of 300 years of golden prosperity.

Goldwin Smith emphasized the problems created by differences in language and religion. It is an advantage to have two languages. You are enriched by bilingualism. In my days at McMaster, the languages taught were Latin, Greek, Hebrew, French and German. In the future, in addition to these five, Canadians will become proficient in Russian, whose climate, resources and geographical extent most resemble Canada, and Chinese, the language of the largest population in the world and one of the oldest civilizations. China would have been quite an

intellectual (cultural) center long before Greece or France. What languages  
are taught now at McMaster? Spanish? Russian? Chinese?

In World War I, I had 30 relatives who were participants, including  
my only brother, who left his classes at McMaster to join the fight, from which  
he received disabilities (he was in the cavalry) which shortened his life.

In World War II, I had my two sons and six nephews, two of whom were  
killed in action. The only son of my first cousin, Margaret Eaton Demmler, a  
McMaster graduate, was killed at Okinawa.

The folly of war has most recently been illustrated by the madness of  
American statesmen that sent troops 8,000 miles to Vietnam. Eisenhower. Canada  
is to be congratulated on her wisdom.

The Great Depression so acutely felt in the United States, whose bank-  
ing system is so inadequate in strength in contrast with Canada's.

The United Nations, in which my Uncle Charles, the late U.S. Congress-  
man Eaton, was one of the signers of the Charter. He was an honorary fellow of  
McMaster. Margaret Eaton, mentioned above, was his daughter.

In the next 70 years, the graduates of McMaster will play important  
parts in all of the Provinces of Canada and in world affairs, There will be more  
of us.

While I have been engaged in -- my business headquarters have been in  
the United States, my vacations have been spent in Canada, in winter on the skiing  
slopes of Quebec, in summer on the farms in Nova Scotia with my Shorthorn cattle,  
Hampshire sheep, Canada geese, mallards and black ducks.

Vietnam -- attack the CIA.

Inventions: Airplane, television, <sup>Computer. Space travel</sup> The millions of years that man has  
been on earth. Great potential for education. The invention of the nuclear--

Hamilton and its emphasis on science and mathematics. In the next 70  
years, men will give up many of their myths and superstitions, and look to the  
scientists and thinkers of the world. I hope my Alma Mater will be one of the  
leaders, a great intellectual center, a great world influence. The fact that  
McMaster has become the home of the Bertrand Russell papers is significant.

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10<sup>th</sup> week





Television and the computer, two inventions that profoundly influence our lives today, were not even to reach the drawing-board stage for another twenty or thirty years.

In 1905, let us remember, England was, <sup>still</sup> able to boast, "We hold an empire on which the sun never sets," and Canada was an integral part of that vast empire. How ironic it is to recall that, <sup>she was cast for</sup> the seeds of the empire's destruction, <sup>the empire</sup> began to be sown ~~less than ten years later~~, less than ten years later, with the beginning of World War I, a holocaust in which three of the principal protagonists were Queen Victoria's grandsons, the German Kaiser, the Russian Czar and the King of England. The squandering of England's accumulations of three hundred years of golden prosperity that began with that ~~epoch~~ conflict was carried to a dismal conclusion in World War II.

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Instead the United States <sup>unwisely</sup> chose to intervene in what was essentially a civil war in Vietnam, at an incalculable cost in lives, domestic tranquility and economic stability. After his retirement from office, President Eisenhower told me in confidence that his own military experience had convinced him of the folly of sending American military forces 8,000 miles away into combat with people of a different race and different political and philosophical ideas. He gave due weight to the fact that North Vietnam, small nation though it was, had as its powerful allies China, right on its borders with the largest standing army in the world, and the Soviet Union with a full supply of the most modern and deadly military weapons and equipment. What a pity it is that not one of the succeeding four U.S. Presidents, including the present incumbent, could comprehend Eisenhower's sober and realistic conclusion that the United States simply could not win in Vietnam. Canada is to be congratulated for its wisdom in remaining aloof from

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? when?

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I wish I could be here seventy years from ~~now~~ <sup>today</sup> to learn what now incomprehensible changes will have taken

place. By then, it is to be hoped that men will have given up many of their myths and superstitions, and be looking to the scientists and thinkers of the world for enlightenment. In such progression in human events, I count on McMaster to ~~lead~~ help lead the way as a great intellectual center and a constructive world influence.

And now let us stand and raise our glasses in a heartfelt toast to Alma Mater.

5/7/75  
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RS

French  
Russian  
German  
Spanish  
Brazilian Portuguese  
" Ukrainian  
Latin  
Greek  
Slavic linguistics

And now { let us  
glances to Alma Mater if we will stand and raise our  
glasses to Alma Mater


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$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ 5 \overline{) 20} \\ \underline{20} \\ 0 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 400 \\ 16,000 \\ 5,000,000 \\ \hline 20,000,000 \end{array}$$

World War I  
The Great Depression  
World War II  
The UN  
Nuclear Fission = The Bomb  
The Pugwash Conferences  
Bilingualism  
Vietnam  
The Bertrand Russell Papers

5/8/75  
1:05 pm.

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Fermi + Richard

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Bertrand Russell + Einstein

" - p P D J 2 J 10 1 - D. G. front "  
- Max Born

RS

5/13/75  
10:30

	<u>Pop. of Canada</u>
1901	5,371,000
1911	7,207,000

Enzo Britannia

## McMaster Faculties (Divisions)

Humanities

Social Sciences

Business

Science

Engineering

Medicine

## Schools

Adult Education

Graduate Studies

Nursing

Phys. Ed. + Athletics

Artwork

McMaster was founded in 1887

World Almanac shows 14,601 students vs Cl's 25,000  
882 teachers

3/22/75  
10<sup>30</sup>

Ch = McMaster Speech

7/1/75 TO 1/1/76

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Cal v Col  
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McMester = 400 to 25 000

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✓ C. J. N. 100

Harper prediction that Russia would be the country  
of the future vs. Rockefeller & Japan

30 relatives in war of C & J

3 v. Jean Victoria 2 C - v  
Be  
Kaiser  
Cyr

Oct, 11<sup>th</sup> 1972

will mail other  
information to day

11:25

BB