The Honourable W. A. C. Bennett has rightly received many honours for his outstanding public service and for the development of this province under his government. Today, Mr. Chancellor, we honour him as a creator of universities and colleges. Under his imaginative leadership, higher education has been expanded in this province at a speed that is unbelievable. Men have been remembered for centuries for founding one college or one university. How are we to honour a man whose government within the brief space of two years has given charters to three universities, authorised a number of regional colleges, built the British Columbia Institute of Technology and who has now opened this university? We thank him on behalf of many generations of students, and congratulate him on having such a courageous and far-sighted minister of finance.

It is easy, Mr. Chancellor, to pay lip service to the importance of higher education in the growth of this province and this country. It is infinitely more difficult, with all the competing demands on the government, to create the institutions we so badly need. In recognition of his historic accomplishments I present the Honourable William Andrew Cecil Bennett, Prime Minister of British Columbia, for the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.