

Prince Edward Folk

Honor McFarland

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Staff Reporters

PICTON — It's no secret that Harvey McFarland and Prince Edward County have lived long together in warm, intimate relationship.

Last night the people themselves briefly traded that intimacy for a public cataloguing of the relationship.

More than 600 jammed Prince Edward Collegiate here to flavor the occasion as Harvey McFarland's adopted

community staged a public testimonial to the man who has become a forceful, local legend in his own lifetime.

The gesture for the first time publicly indexed some of the reasons for the depth of good will existing between the man and his neighbors.

Months in preparation, the goodwill fete drew personal testimony from a broad representation of the county's and country's public and private citizens.

All at some time had rea-

son to know the man whose broad range of contacts has privately and publicly left its mark on Prince Edward.

The breadth of the testimony revealed the scope of his endeavors and interests.

There was the younger set, now married and adults, who recalled the McFarland - organized train ride which took hundreds of youngsters to see Queen Elizabeth at that time a princess, at Trenton in early 1950s.

Letters were read from such

public notables as former Ontario premier Leslie Frost and former prime minister John Diefenbaker.

And, right up to the moment, there was an on-the-spot telephone call from the Canadian politician most in the news last night — finance Minister Benson, fresh from tabling his white paper on tax reforms in the Commons.

It took three hours for the parade of testimonies and presentations to pass offstage, before its central figure was

allowed to speak.

When he did, he was at a loss for public words.

"This night I never expected" he said. "It's hard for me to go and say too much".

It was only afterward, as the crowd filed out he privately recalled the events that first launched the mutual relationship between himself and his community.

It began in hard times.

PRINCE

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