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V. F. W. Normand Dionne Post No. 2299 Speech

Louis-Philippe Gagné

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First, I want to assure you that I was very pleased when Mr. Weeman told the ~~two~~ Mayors of the twin Cities, yesterday afternoon, that we were to extend the greetings of Lewiston and Auburn to the ladies this morning.

I must admit that the Mayor of Auburn and myself were surprised--to say the least--when we were given a copy of the Official program, yesterday morning. ~~Itzhadzhennxconfirmed~~ We knew we had to be at St. Peter's Hall, at nine o'clock to extend the greetings of our cities; then the Official program said that I was supposed to be here, at the same hour, and there was no mention of my colleague from Auburn. We followed the instructions from your Department Commander and while the Governor was speaking to you here, we were to address the ~~meeting~~ men delegates. And we presented a key to our cities to your State Commander.

However, I feel that ~~waxhaxezthexsamexobligation~~ before this convention comes to an end, it is not too late to extend to the ladies the most cordial welcome. We know that you already have conquered our cities and our people, but as Mayor of Lewiston I want to assure you of our admiration and I sincerely hope that you will return soon to this community.

Lewiston, as you know, is a twin city. The other twin is across the river. The two Mayors, however, are not twins. One is a Republican and a tall fellow. The other one---(if I may be permitted to inform you)--is a Democrat and of a reduced size. But in both cities, the people have the same spirit and they want you to know that their homes and their hearts are open to you. I am glad to say that I have witnessed the start of your local Dionne Post, a few years ago, and since I became Mayor, I have been with their burial Detachment on the arrival of every and all veterans brought from oversea. I shall continue to do so, on behalf of my City until my term of office expires.