William Lyon Mackenzie King Collection

Extent : 36.5 cm of textual records
12 photographs
Date : 1899-1999

1 King / Bezeau papers

1.1 Books and pamphlets authored by William Lyon Mackenzie King

RARE BOOK FC 27 H3K5
Author’s autograph : To - C.M. Bezeau, Oct. 1908

RARE BOOK FC 3847.9 J3C3

1.1.3 *Industry and humanity : a study in the principles underlying industrial reconstruction*. Toronto : Thomas Allen, 1918
RARE BOOK HD 45 K54
Author’s autograph : To - C.M. Bezeau, Xmas 1918

1.1.4 *The four parties to industry : address before the Empire Club of Canada at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto March 13th, 1919*. Toronto : Hunter Rose, 1919
RARE BOOK HD 8106 K53

1.1.5 *The Liberal Party and the tariff : a review of the 1924 budget proposals and principles underlying Liberal policy / by the Right Honourable W.L. Mackenzie King*. A speech delivered to the leader of the opposition in the debate on the budget, House of Commons, May 15, 1924
RARE BOOK HJ 793 K5

1.1.6 *The message of the carillon, and other addresses / by The Right Honourable W.L. MacKenzie King*. Toronto : MacMillan, 1927
RARE BOOK FC 60 K5
Author’s autograph : To - C. M. Bezeau, Xmas 1927

1.1.7 *Canada's foreign policy : statement of Canada's position with respect to External Affairs, House of Commons, Ottawa, May 24, 1938 / by W.L. Mackenzie King*. Ottawa : J.O. Patenaude [for King's Printer], 1938.
RARE BOOK FC 542 K5

1.1.8 *Controlling the cost of living : the stabilization of prices and wages*. Canada and the war. Broadcast by the Right Honourable W.L. Mackenzie King, M.P., Prime Minister of Canada, October 18, 1941. Ottawa : E. Cloutier, 1941
1.1.9 The defence of common liberties: an address to the pilgrims of the United States, New York, Dec. 2, 1942 / by W.L. Mackenzie King. Canada and the war. Ottawa: E. Cloutier, 1942

1.1.10 Canada and the war. Mackenzie King to the people of Canada, 1940. A series of radio broadcasts by Prime Minister Mackenzie King from Ottawa, February-March, 1940. Ottawa: National Liberal federation of Canada, 1940

1.2 Books, pamphlets and journal articles about W.L. Mackenzie King and his years in office

1.2.1 Speakers' handbook / National Liberal Committee. Ottawa: The Committee, 1921

1.2.2 The making of a premier: an outline of the life story of the Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G. / O.W. McGillicuddy. Toronto: Musson, 1922

1.2.3 Liberal historical calendar, 1924

1.2.4 Mackenzie King, the man: his achievements / John Lewis. Toronto: Morang, 1925

1.2.5 Liberal speakers' handbook, 1930 / National Liberal Committee. Ottawa: The Committee, 1930

1.2.6 The Canadian Vol. 2, no. 1, 1935; Vol. 2, no. 2, 1935

1.2.7 A lifetime of public service: a brief biographical sketch of Mackenzie King / Paul Martin. Ottawa: Mortimer, 1945

1.2.8 Mr. Mackenzie King's public bequests: a commentary / Leonard W. Brockington. Ottawa: CBC National Network, 1950

1.2.9 The career of Mackenzie King / John A. Stevenson. Reprinted from The political quarterly, October-December 1950, Vol. XXI, no. 4

1.2.10 The Canadian liberal: Mackenzie King memorial edition, Vol. 3, no. 3, September 1950
1.3 Correspondence between William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, and C. Mortimer Bezeau, Mayor of the City of Kitchener

1.3.1 Date: September 25, 1911, Ottawa
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

Thanks Bezeau for letter just received and comments on his defeat in the 1911 North Waterloo election on the reciprocity issue.

1.3.2 Date: November 7, 1927
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: CN telegram

King thanks Bezeau for the box of pears.

1.3.3 Date: December 13, 1928
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau asks King to arrange an interview with the Honourable Robert Forke.

1.3.4 Date: December 15, 1928
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau sends birthday congratulations, regrets not sending flowers or fruit as usual; commends King on his recent visit to England and the continent.

1.3.5 Date: December 17, 1928
To: Bezeau
From: W.H. Measures, private secretary to King
Format: Typed and signed

King’s private secretary, W.H. Measures, informs Bezeau that the Honourable Robert Forke will see him on December 19 or 21.
1.3.6 Date: October 25, 1929
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for the box of russet pears and friendship shown by flowers and fruit over the years.

1.3.7 Date: March 10, 1930
To: King
From: Bezeau

“Private” letter commending the government’s stand on soldiers’ pensions and the export of liquor to the United States - “it would be to the advantage of Canada to disassociate itself from the rum-running ring of the United States”. Bezeau informs Kings that “Euler is wild over your decision to refuse clearances, to liquor exports to the United States”, and “from a fairly reliable source” that Euler is expected “to resign from the government and run as an independent conservative in the next election”. Euler was disappointed not to receive the railway portfolio. Euler and Bezeau had no contact since. “I am not in Euler’s confidence, nor is he in mine”. Bezeau also reports feeling that since “Euler’s chances or re-election as a liberal are far from bright”...”any organization for the support of Euler would have very few of the old workers in it. The men who put Euler in parliament are now determined to put him out because of his apparent readiness to barter provincial liberals for Tory support in federal elections”. “I believe you should know these things to be on your guard”.

1.3.8 Date: April 4, 1930
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau commends King on his stand regarding federal unemployment relief to the provinces, pointing out that any relief by the King government “would be looked upon by the Tories as an endorsement of their claim...and would be used by them as ammunition to further their propaganda”.

1.3.9 Date: April 12, 1930
To: Bezeau
From: W.H. Measures, private secretary to King
Format: Typed and signed
Letter from W. H. Measures, private secretary to King, expressing King's regret at not being able to reply to his letter of March 10 due to the pressure of parliamentary duties.

1.3.10
Date: April 15, 1930
To: Bezeau
From: R.H.L. Henry, secretary to the President of the Privy Council
Format: Typed and signed

Letter from H. R. L. Henry, Secretary to the President of the Privy Council, stating that King had given him Bezeau's letter of April 4 and expressing King's thanks for writing on the "subject in question".

1.3.11
Date: May 20, 1930
To: S.C. Tweed, Waterloo
From: King
Format: Copy

King thanks Tweed for the sentiments conveyed in the resolution passed by the Liberal workers in Kitchener which he received in a letter of May 13.

1.3.12
Date: May 28, 1930
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau commends King for calling a general election at an early date. He is assured that King will be returned with a larger majority and offers "to assist any candidate outside the riding of North Waterloo".

1.3.13
Date: July 31, 1930
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau pours out his feelings to King concerning the loss of the election for the Liberal party, expressing his bitterness at the "misrepresentations" of the opponents. He does not feel that "Bennett will make any material change in the existing tariff." Evil seems to be equated with Tories and enlightenment with the Liberals.

1.3.14
Date: September 13, 1930
To: Bezeau
From: King
King thanks Bezeau for his letter of September 11 and encloses a copy of Hansard dated September 9, 1930, containing his remarks which Bezeau requested.

1.3.15  
Date: October 7-8, 1930  
To: Bezeau  
From: King  
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his letter (July 31, 1930) concerning the recent elections.

1.3.16  
Date: October 16, 1930  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed

Bezeau informs King that he has forwarded by CN Express a basket of pears. He congratulates King on the splendid speeches he delivered during the recent session of the House of Commons and regrets that the same quality of Liberal leadership is not available "in the provincial arena. Bezeau is watching "Bennett's efforts to blast his way into the markets of the Empire. One thing Bennett does not understand, and that is economics; and because he is a Tory with a one-track mind he is not likely to be a wiser, but he certainly will be a much sadder man when he returns to Canada."

1.3.17  
Date: October 22, 1930  
To: Bezeau (marked “Personal”)  
From: King  
Format: Signed

King thanks Bezeau for the pears and remarks on his little "farm" at Kingsmere. He also thanks Bezeau for his kind words on the recent special session and expresses his regrets at seeing the raising of tariffs. He describes Mr. Bennett's course of action in London as "farcical" and looks forward "to again speaking in public on the political issues, but for obvious reasons have thought it wise to remain silent until the Imperial Conference is over. One thing at least Bennett has done for good and all is that he has served to make clear the difference between the so-called two old political parties."

1.3.18  
Date: December 5, 1930  
To: Bezeau
King expresses his delight as Bezeau’s election as Mayor of Kitchener

1.3.19 Date : December 5, 1930
To : Bezeau (marked “Personal”)
From : King
Format : Typed and signed

King expresses his pleasure at Bezeau's election as "the Chief Magistrate of the city in which I was born". King reminds Bezeau of his personal interest in his life and work and of the close friendship which they have enjoyed ever since King was a candidate for parliament in North Waterloo. "Among the friends who will be wishing you great success in your tenure of office there will be no one who will do so with more heartfelt sincerity than myself."

1.3.20 Date : May 26, 1931
To : King
From : Bezeau
Format : Typed

Bezeau has enclosed a copy of a letter received from the Hon. Gordon Robertson by Mr. Tweed dealing with "the relief of unemployment and financial distress". Bezeau has enclosed a letter published in a number of papers and asks King's opinion on the proposed scheme "as a practical solution of the unemployment problem".

1.3.21 Date : June 5, 1931
To : Bezeau
From : King
Format : Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his letter on the unemployment problem. "It is interesting, however, to see how literally fulfilled has been all that I said with respect to the concern of the Tory party for unemployment."

1.3.22 Date : June 24, 1931
To : King
From : Bezeau
Format : Typed

Bezeau informs King that he will be in Ottawa the end of the week and would appreciate talking with him on "the present unemployment situation and to get
your view as to the economic soundness of the article which I submitted for your consideration some time ago.

1.3.23 Date: November 3, 1931
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for the box of russet pears and is glad to hear that Bezeau likes "what I said at London". King views "the Sifton outburst as anything but a misfortune". He also expresses his hope that Bezeau is enjoying his duties as mayor and adds: "Personally, I never cease to regret that its name does not continue to be that which rightfully belongs to it, which is the only name that could have been known to its founders and to many of those who have since passed away."

1.3.24 Date: June 11, 1932
To: Bezeau (marked “Personal”)
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King reminisces about the lamp lighter in old Berlin and wishes to obtain one of the lamps and lamp posts "to put up at the entrance to the grounds of my home in the country". King wants "the genuine article to which I can point and say it came from my own home town, which, as long as life itself continues, will evoke many cherished memories."

1.3.25 Date: July 26, 1932
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King informs Bezeau of "Mr. William Knell's kindness in sending me two of the old Berlin street lamps". "They are now in place, one at the entrance to my home at Kingsmere, and the other in the centre of the grounds." King remarks that they attracted the attention of the visitors to the Imperial Conference. "I just can’t say how delighted I am to have these interesting and historical souvenirs of bygone days." King asks Bezeau to find out from Mr. William Knell what his costs were so that he can make payment.

1.3.26 Date: July 30, 1932
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed
Bezeau informs King that he read his letter to William Knell and that he got so much pleasure out of doing the work on the lamps and because it brought gladness to King, he wouldn't think of charging.

1.3.27  Date: December 22, 1933  
To: Bezeau  
From: King  
Format: Handwritten and signed

Handwritten letter from King to Bezeau on the back of his thank you for Christmas greetings, 1933, thanking Bezeau for his card and good wishes and expressing the hope that the Christmas Season would be a joyous one for the Bezeau family.

1.3.28  Date: February 4, 1935  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed

Bezeau encloses "a series of letters published in the Kitchener Daily Record a few months ago". Bezeau feels the Liberal party must act on the proposals contained therein and expresses his dissatisfaction with the Tory government stand on unemployment.

1.3.29  Date: February 7, 1935  
To: Bezeau  
From: H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King  
Format: Typed and signed

Mr. H.R.L. Henry, Private Secretary to King, thanks Bezeau for his letter of February 4 but cannot bring it to Mr. King’s attention because of "the pressing nature of Mr. King's parliamentary duties and engagements at this time".

1.3.30  Date: May 23, 1935  
To: H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed

Bezeau is annoyed that Henry has withheld his letter to King for over three months. Bezeau says "I refrain from writing to him at such times unless I am reasonable certain that I have something of vital importance to say, and can make some contribution to some matter in which I know Mr. King to be vitally interested..." "You have now had the file which accompanied my letter
over a period of three months; and if it is your intention to withhold it from Mr. King until the present session is over I should be very glad to have you return it to me at your early convenience, as the opportunity for it to be of service to him will have passed by that time; and I can make other use of it in the meantime."

1.3.31  
Date : May 27, 1935  
To : Bezeau  
From : H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King  
Format : Typed and signed  

H.R.L. Henry, Private Secretary, thanks Bezeau for his letter of May 23 and says he is returning the file of correspondence. He wishes to assure Bezeau that he was not "trespassing in forwarding the material for Mr. King's perusal" but again points out the exacting nature of King's parliamentary duties. He states "I do not see how it will be possible for Mr. King to study the material before prorogation."

1.3.32  
Date : June 17, 1935  
To : M.F. Hepburn  
From : Bezeau  
Format : Typed  

Bezeau congratulates Hepburn on his stand concerning provincial banks.

1.3.33  
Date : October 17, 1935  
To : King  
From : Bezeau  
Format : Typed  

Bezeau congratulates King on his recent victory giving him "the largest following in the history of Liberalism in Canada. In this there is special reason to rejoice for it makes it possible for you to select a cabinet of men who are of the right faith - men who are Liberal at heart beyond question... I am particularly glad that you will be able to form a cabinet of men who are beyond doubt loyal to yourself and to the Liberal Party."

1.3.34  
Date : October 28, 1935  
To : Bezeau  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed  

King thanks Bezeau for his congratulations and "the box of delicious pears" which he received last week.
1.3.35  Date: June 29, 1936
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for the congratulations in his letter of June 25 and remarks on their friendship which has strengthened over the years.

1.3.36  Date: July 15-18, 1937?
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau congratulates King on his splendid address of the previous evening. "Some pronounced it the greatest of the many great speeches you have delivered; and some declared its author to be the greatest statesman in the British Empire."

1.3.37  Date: July 21, 1937
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his remarks on "the radio broadcast on Monday night" and is sorry to hear of Mrs. Bezeau's illness.

1.3.38  Date: May 26, 1938
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau congratulates King on his speech on foreign policy in the House of Commons on Tuesday, May 25. He feels that Bennett's Imperial Trade Policy prolonged the recent industrial depression and that it was "a factor in inducing nations outside the British Empire to seek markets in weaker countries". He states that in a speech to the Twentieth Century Liberal Club of Kitchener shortly after the Imperial Conference in Ottawa, he predicted that the stronger nations outside the British Empire "would seek markets by force of arms among the weaker nations; and when these were insufficient to meet the needs of the more powerful nations the same means would be tried by these countries to secure markets within the Empire itself. I regret that one-half of that prediction has come true; I pray the second half will ever remain unfulfilled."
1.3.39 Date: September 20, 1938  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed  

Bezeau takes exception to the editorial position of the Globe and Mail which criticized the government's stand "in the present international crisis". While Bezeau is opposed to granting any territorial concessions to Germany" he believes that "before we can reasonably hope to have peace among nations we must have economic appeasement."

1.3.40 Date: September 21, 1938  
To: Bezeau  
From: H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King  
Format: Typed and signed  

H.R.L. Henry, Private Secretary to King, expresses the Prime Minister's thanks for his letter of September 20 and is pleased to hear that "his policy in the present crisis in international affairs commends itself to your judgment."

1.3.41 Date: December 16, 1938  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed  

Bezeau sends birthday congratulations to King and regrets "that the occasion should be marred by the actions of one who, brooding over imaginary wrongs has seen fit to constitute himself your enemy when he should publicly proclaim himself your friend."

1.3.42 Date: February 16, 1939  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed  

Bezeau feels that "the movement started by the AngloAmerican-Canadian trade agreement should do much to clear the way for world peace", commends King for his speech in the House on this matter and expresses his approval "of the course you are pursuing."

1.3.43 Date: February 20, 1939  
To: Bezeau  
From: King
King thanks Bezeau for his encouraging words in the letter of February 16 and is happy to know that "the trade treaties recently concluded with the United States have commended themselves so strongly to your judgment, and that the policies of the Liberal Party in general also meet with your approval".

1.3.44 Date: March 26, 1940  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed

Bezeau congratulates King on the Liberal election victory stating "The people of Canada have again shown that they can distinguish between fact and fiction, between truth and deliberate untruth, between righteousness and unrighteousness."

1.3.45 Date: October 22, 1940  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed

Bezeau informs King that he has again sent some russet pears. He feels that there is a movement afoot which "has for its object the defeat of the Liberal party" and that "when the international conflict is ended the Liberal party will be faced with a task vastly greater and much more important to the welfare of humanity than any it has heretofore known. I hope I am wrong."

1.3.46 Date: October 24, 1940  
To: Bezeau  
From: King  
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for the russet pears "an expression of your never failing friendship." He has also noted Bezeau's feelings concerning "the movement to organize for taking care of post war conditions." King assures Bezeau that he will "watch closely the forces that may be behind any such movement. Properly directed, nothing could be better; in the wrong hands, nothing could be worse."

1.3.47 Date: April 18, 1942  
To: King  
From: Bezeau  
Format: Typed
Bezeau congratulates King on his broadcast of Tuesday, April 7, and his stand on conscription. It appears Bezeau is not convinced that he should vote "yes" but feels "the government acted wisely in submitting the question to the people. However, it is one thing to approve of the plebiscite, and quite another thing to commend the proposal to release the government from its pledge not to enforce conscription. In the opinion of the writer the reasons for the plebiscite are good reasons for voting 'no', and refusing to grant the requested release. This does not imply a lack of confidence in you, or in your judgment." Bezeau wonders what will happen if Ontario votes "yes" and Quebec votes "no". He also wonders why all the political opponents of the government are working for a "yes" vote. Bezeau goes on for over two pages expressing his views on conscription and says: "This ... is not written in criticism; but is in explanation of why I cannot vote 'yes' on April 27 next."

1.3.48  Date : April 21, 1942  
To : Bezeau (marked “Personal and confidential”)  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed

King replies to Bezeau’s letter of April 18, noting Bezeau’s view that "a 'yes' vote will strengthen the hands of the government's political opponents and that if more men are required than are offering themselves the remedy would not be found in conscription." In this very important letter King states that he and his colleagues wish "to avoid resort to conscription for military service overseas" and wishes to make clear that "Canada's war effort, however total it may be in reality, is being prejudiced in the minds of our own people and in the minds of the United Nations, the United States in particular, through appearing not to be a total effort, simply because the power, on the part of the government, to send additional men overseas does not exist." King continues his arguments and concludes "the government alone should be expected to make the momentous decisions in a time of war and should not be restricted by any individual or number of men from being free to exercise that obligation in the light of every possible circumstance."

1.3.49  Date : July 4, 1942  
To :  King  
From :  Bezeau  
Format :  Typed

Bezeau asks King to pass on to his finance minister his views on exemption from taxation for "sums as are paid to doctors, dentists and nurses" in the budget now before parliament.

1.3.50  Date : July 10, 1942
To : Bezeau  
From : H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King  
Format : Typed and signed

Mr. H.R.L. Henry, private secretary to King, acknowledges receipt of Bezeau’s letter of July 4 and points out that his suggestion that "nursing services should include not only the services of a registered nurse, but any additional help it is necessary to employ as a direct result of illness in the family" was discussed in the debate on the budget and is under consideration.

1.3.51 Date : October 19, 1942  
To : Bezeau  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed

King again thanks Bezeau for "the hamper of pears" which "if I am not mistaken" has been received annually since before "the war of 1914-18".

1.3.52 Date : January 4, 1943  
To : Bezeau  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed

King expresses his best wishes to Bezeau and his family for the New Year.

1.3.85 Date : August 28, 1943  
To : King  
From : Bezeau  
Format : Typed

Bezeau congratulates King on his achievements as leader of the Liberal party for 25 years, and encourages him as to the future. He tells King that the people are asking for freedom from fear and want, and feels the Liberal party can deliver that. He reminds King of an address delivered by King before the American Federation of Labor last fall, “...The era of freedom will be achieved only as social security and human welfare becomes the main concern of men and nations”.

1.3.86 Date : September 13, 1943  
To : Bezeau  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his letter of congratulations. He hopes that he may be
able to retain the confidence of the citizens of Canada. He admits that his party has to work hard against the forces which have been sabotaging its efforts.

1.3.53  Date: October 15, 1944
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King again expresses thanks for the box of delicious pears and for Bezeau’s friendship.

1.3.54  Date: December 28, 1944
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for the telegram of Christmas wishes he received on Christmas Day and extends best wishes to the Bezeau family for 1945.

1.3.55  Date: February 6, 1945
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau expresses his regret on the result of the election in Grey North. Bezeau remarks that "for the first sixty years of confederation the Tories were in office two thirds of the time with the aid of third parties." He feels that "if the C.C.F. plays a similar role in a general election they could bring about the defeat of your Government; and I am wondering if another session of parliament would not be worth while if for no other purpose than to amend the Election Act so as to prevent a repetition, on a much larger scale, of what happened in Grey North."

1.3.56  Date: February 10, 1945
To: Bezeau (marked “Strictly personal and confidential)
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his letter of February 6 and states "it was generally admitted that the C.C.F. preferred the election of the Liberal candidate to the Tory in Grey North. It is, however, quite apparent that on the day of the election a very large percentage of the C.C.F. members left their own party to vote for the Tories." King says he will consider the matter of the amendments
Bezeau sends King a newspaper clipping. He makes it clear that many Liberals are not favorable to the idea of returning L. O. Breithaupt to parliament but "believe that a real Liberal, not a Tory parading in Liberal raiment, should be chosen to represent this riding." Bezeau feels that Breithaupt is afraid of defeat and that there has been a real attempt to "build him up with the Liberals". "Breithaupt's whole outlook is Tory, as was that of his father before him, and there is no hope of him ever, being other than a Tory."

King thanks Bezeau for his letter of March 10 and for his views “on matters which pertain to the Party”.

Bezeau congratulates King on his return to office. Bezeau goes on to explain the local situation in the election which he described as "a peculiar one." Many people crossed party lines and Breithaupt received a huge majority because of, "the Tory type of campaign." Bezeau has not heard about King’s own seat or the country at large but hopes that there will be sufficient majority to carry on “without more than normal worries.”

King thanks Bezeau for his letter of congratulations.
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau requests King to assist in having his son, Louis M., return home. It quotes from two letters of Louis, the first, September 5, 1945, stating that he would be returning home immediately and the second, dated September 8, 1945, stating that he has been "taken off the draft" and is to teach in the Division Agricultural School.

1.3.62 Date: September 18, 1945
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King informs Bezeau he has received his letter, will make an inquiry into the matter, and will write as soon as he has particulars.

1.3.63 Date: October 3, 1945
To: Bezeau
From: R.G. Robertson, secretary to King
Format: Typed and signed

Letter written by R.G. Robertson, secretary to King, in which he informs Bezeau that "the release of any officer or soldier from his duty overseas rests with the responsible officers overseas." The Department is looking into the early release of his son.

1.3.64 Date: October 18, 1945
To: Bezeau
From: R.G. Robertson, secretary to King
Format: Typed and signed

R.G. Robertson informs Bezeau that his son is now “awaiting transportation to Canada.”

1.3.65 Date: October 22, 1945
To: R.G. Robertson
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau thanks Robertson and King for their interest and assistance in release of his son.

1.3.66 Date: November 26, 1945
Bezeau expresses his views on the Ford strike and picket line to King. He comments on the "intolerable situation in Windsor" and feels that "further encouragement to the lawless element within the labour movement will prove disastrous to industry and to the country as a whole." Bezeau feels that the unions in many cities "are not asking for better wages so much as for the right (?) to force every worker to join their organization."

1.3.67 Date: December 1, 1945
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King thanks Bezeau for his letter of November 26 and says he knows his views on "matters of labour organization."

1.3.68 Date: December 20, 1945
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

An end of the year letter to King commenting on the momentous year and his recent visit to Great Britain. Bezeau quotes from a speech in which he praises King for his peace efforts and his insistence that "Canada must have a voice in setting up the new world order." "Without Canada the war would not have been won, without Canada the peace will be lost."

1.3.69 Date: April 5, 1946
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau encloses a newspaper clipping dealing with "the idea of a permanent board of arbitration." Bezeau says he has been considering this for a long time and that "with the right personnel such courts would be a benefit to all classes of people; and much better than anything yet proposed as 'labor legislation'."

1.3.70 Date: April 10, 1946
To: Bezeau
From: King
King acknowledges Bezeau’s letter of April 5, and states "I have given much thought to the question of compulsory arbitration as a means of settling industrial disputes. I wish it were possible to believe that Labour and Capital would accept arbitration by the courts of their disputes. I greatly fear, however, that were a Board of Arbitration, with powers similar to those of our courts, established, to other difficulties we would have added that of open defiance of the courts, which might serve to make the last state worst than the first." He states that he hopes the day will come when "the rule of law will find its immediate application to industrial and international disputes as well as to ordinary civil disputes."

1.3.71 Date: September 11, 1946
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau comments on David Croll's statement in the newspaper on the steel strike. Bezeau says many people are wondering "if the government knows when patience ceases to be a virtue." Bezeau feels the time has come to end the strike and urges government intervention most strongly.

1.3.72 Date: September 13, 1946
To: Bezeau
From: King
Format: Typed and signed

King acknowledges a letter of September 11 and will make his colleagues "aware of its representations."

1.3.73 Date: October 7, 1946
To: King
From: Bezeau
Format: Typed

Bezeau has again sent russet pears to King. He is happy to hear that King does not intend to "relinquish leadership of the Liberal Party for some considerable time to come." Bezeau is still distressed about the way the strike situation was handled. Bezeau does assure King that "conditions would have been worse under any other leader."

1.3.74 Date: October 11, 1946
To: Bezeau
From: King
King thanks Bezeau for the carton of russet pears, has noted his comments and agrees that "Canadian conditions in industry are a reflection of world conditions." King adds that the difficult times (1946) are not as terrible as the war years themselves.

1.3.75
Date : December 21, 1946
To : King
From : Bezeau
Format : Typed

A Christmas letter in which Bezeau comments on progress that has been made over the years by the Liberal Party. Bezeau did not, however, expect, in his lifetime, "to see individual rights trampled upon by a Liberal government as evidenced by the recent spy probe; and the treatment of the Japanese in Canada. Had these things been done by a Tory government I could understand it, because I would not expect anything better." He is also disturbed about the present persecution of the "Witnesses" in Quebec. Bezeau has noted with pleasure King’s "recent plea for unity in the Liberal Party."...
"One can scarcely imagine what the political harvest of the last decade would have been had any man other than yourself been leading the government of Canada; and I dread to contemplate the future of the Liberal Party after it is deprived of your wise counsel and leadership."

1.3.76
Date : December 29, 1946
To : Bezeau
From : King
Format : Typed

King thanks Bezeau for "a most interesting letter" and says that he shares all Bezeau’s feelings "about making progress in the right direction and not allowing individual liberties to be destroyed." King hopes to be able to explain to Bezeau "why certain actions, though unpleasant, were inevitable with regard to one or two of the matters to which your letter refers."

1.3.87
Date : January 4, 1948
To : Mrs. Hunt
From : King
Format : Typed and signed

King thanks Mrs. Hunt for including him among the number of her friends to receive her booklet, “Abide with me”. Although King doubts that any publisher in Canada would undertake a Canadian edition of the booklet, he
would still bring it to the attention of a few firm he knows

1.3.77  Date: December 14, 1948
        To: King
        From: Bezeau
        Format: Typed

        Bezeau sends birthday congratulations to King and regrets "the circumstance that influenced your retirement." Bezeau feels that King laid a good foundation on which others can build but is fearful about the future of the Liberal Party after King’s retirement. Bezeau feels the Liberal Party of 1948 has departed from the principles of early liberalism but is thankful that King was its leader. Bezeau says he has disagreed with King only twice in the forty years since he entered Parliament. He also comments that "the present Federal leader of the Liberal Party is not a Laurier" and that "the day is not far distant when those Tories who placed the halo about the head of St. Laurent, will replace it with a crown of thorns; and do it with all the vicious cruelty of which they are so capable."

1.3.78  Date: January 3, 1949
        To: Bezeau
        From: King
        Format: Typed

        King thanks Bezeau for his greetings on his 74th birthday. He has not responded sooner because of illness and activities over the Christmas season. King is touched by the references by Bezeau and many others to his political life and suggests that he "not cherish doubts about the future of the Liberal Party, but rather continue to put forth all the effort you can to make its influence greater than ever." King also remarks that St. Laurent is a man of fine integrity and "genuinely sympathetic with the people" and that among his outstanding characteristics are "strict adherence to principles of 'truth, justice and righteousness'."

1.3.79  Date: Undated
        To: King
        From: George W. Gordon
        Format: Typed

        A letter by George W. Gordon requesting King to give serious consideration to appointing C. Mortimer Bezeau to the Senate. He lists three reasons and adds that a fourth is, his "loyalty to the Leader of the party."

1.3.80  Date: October 8, 1949
To : Bezeau  
From : King  
Format : Typed and signed  

King thanks Bezeau for the russet pears, his friendship over the years and hopes that his family is well, and that he will have “a chance of visiting again my old hometown.”

1.3.81 Date : November 19, 1959  
To : Bezeau  
From : Douglas Leiterman, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation  
Format : Typed and signed  

Douglas Leiterman of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation thanks Bezeau for his part in the filming of the Mackenzie King documentary for CBC-TV. The program will be delayed until March but the participants will receive their cheques shortly.

1.3.82 Date : March 10, 1960  
To : Bezeau from Canadian Broadcasting Corporation  
Format : Typed and signed  

A form letter which informs Bezeau that the CBC television documentary on Mackenzie King will be broadcast on March 10 and March 17 at 8:30 p.m. So many recollections by Bezeau and many others were received that a lot of material will be held for an additional series of programs and “your interview qualifies best for this later use”.

1.3.83 Date : March 24, 1960  
To : Douglas Lieterman  
From : Bezeau  
Format : Typed  

Bezeau suggests the sub-title for the broadcast - "After Death the Judgment". Bezeau feels that not all the comments have been fair to King and he relates his friendship of over 40 years and his impressions of King as a man and a politician, quoting from two of King’s letters.

1.3.84 Date : December 7, 1962  
To : Bezeau  
From : Anna Hughes  
Format : Typed and signed  

Anna Hughes remarks on Bezeau’s letter to the editor in the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, in which he comments favourably on "women in the
municipal field of politics" and is pleased to be held in such high regard.

1.3.88 Duplicate correspondence

1.4 Newspapers
These newspapers were published in Kitchener by Bezeau and used mainly as a platform for his views. They are not in any national or local collection, and are considered rare. Due to the fragile nature of the material photocopies are available for use.

1.4.1 *The weekly advertiser*
Sept. 18, 1933 - Oct. 19, 1933; Nov. 9, 1933 - Nov. 30, 1933
RARE BOOK AP 5 W4 RBO136

1.4.2 *The dawn*
Dec. 21, 1933; Jan. 25, 1934
RARE BOOK AP 5 D35 RBO137

1.4.3 *The sunset*
Jan. 12, 1934
RARE BOOK AP 5 S8 RBO138

1.5 Road map of eastern and western Ontario (S715 B1 F0.1)
Published by the Museum Book Co. Limited. Entered according to the Act of Parliament of Canada in the year 1899 by J.G. Foster & Co. at the Dept. of Agriculture.

1.6 Photograph of William Lyon Mackenzie King (photo no. : 1430)

2 King / Hoffman (Heather) papers

2.1 Correspondence

2.1.1 Date : July 14, 1910
To : Mrs. Hoffman
From : King, Ottawa
Format : Handwritten

Letter of condolence to Mrs. Hoffman on death of her husband.

2.1.2 Date : March 27, 1911
To : Mrs. Hoffman
From : King, Ottawa
Format : Handwritten

Letter in reply to her offer of her house for part of the summer. He has made some other inquiries, may want it for a month or two but plans indefinite and
depends on circumstances. Will keep her letter confidential and will call when next in Berlin.

2.1.3 Date: May 2, 1911
To: Mrs. Hoffman
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Handwritten

Plans indefinite because it is not known how long Parliament will continue. Arrangement she mentioned, including the housekeeper would be ideal. May be in Ottawa 24 months or 2-4 weeks. Feels he can't ask her to delay arrangements. Wishes her a pleasant trip abroad.

2.1.4 Date: May 19, 1911
To: Mrs. Hoffman, c/o Mrs. C. Ross, Ottawa
From: Francis Middens, King’s private secretary, Ottawa
Format: Typed

Note re: memorandum in regard to house in Berlin.

2.1.5 Date: May 13, 1911
To: Copy for Mrs. Hoffman
Format: Typed and signed by Francis Middens, Private Secretary

Francis Giddens called on Mrs. Hoffman at 117 Queen St. N. and arranged that King would rent her house from May 29 to June 29 for $50. Furnishings to remain, except a few things to be put away. Maid (Nellie Dingley) to be paid $3.00 from May 15 to 29 and her board to be paid from 15th to time house occupied by King. Gardener to be paid 25c an hour for any work: Coal, wood and gas to be paid for and a proportion of telephone charges.

2.1.6 Date: July 27, 1911
To: Mrs. Hoffman, Greenwich
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Telegram

Requests house for August and early September.

2.1.7 Date: July 29, 1911
To: Mrs. Hoffman, Greenwich
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Telegram

Nellie (maid) can't come so he asks Mrs. Hoffman if he could assume
responsibility for getting another servant.

2.1.8  Date:  September 11, 1911
To:  Mrs. Hoffman, Ottawa
From:  Francis Giddens, King’s private secretary, Berlin
Format:  Typed

Informs Mrs. Hoffman that King must leave Sunday, the 24th, and that he
took the house only from Aug. 4, not Aug.1; - total of one month and 3 weeks.
Cheque being sent to Mr. Laing of the Bank of Hamilton for this period.
Praise given housekeeper. Saw Nellie and she is staying in her present
position, not returning to Mrs. Hoffman. Francis Middens will be in Ottawa
on election day to vote and she can call his house.

2.1.9  Date:  September 23, 1911
To:  Mr. Laing, Manager, Bank of Hamilton, Berlin
From:  Francis Middens, King’s private secretary, Berlin
Format:  Typed

Letter enclosing cheque for $88. Francis Middens says telephone paid to end
of October and Mrs. Hoffman can have the benefit of it.

2.1.10 Date:  September 30, 1911
To:  Mrs. Hoffman
From:  King, Ottawa
Format:  Typed

King is surprised that Mrs. Hoffman does not wish to accept the cheque. She
expected 2 months rent and King quotes from letters what he thought was the
arrangement not only regarding house but servant and gardener. He would be
glad to let her see the letters if she doubts the arrangement as he outlined.

2.1.11 Date:  January 8, 1912
To:  Mrs. Hoffman
From:  G. Richmond, Home manager, Bell Telephone
Format:  Typed

Re contract cancellation. Outlines dates of contract cancellation and when
King had service installed. Refund of $1.30 given to her. King had service
for which she paid and therefore she should take up the matter with him and
get him to adjust it.

2.1.12 Date:  January 28, 1912
To:  King
Mrs. Hoffman asks King to check with Middens re telephone. Outlines her payment. Mentions arrangements re rental of the house, which was two full months. She is not charging damages done by children (servants) in the house but lists a few major items on back page. She is trying to have the telephone office straightened out.

2.1.13

Date: February 7, 1912
To: Mrs. Hoffman
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Handwritten

Apologizes for delay because he was in New York. King understands from Middens that his account with Mrs. Hoffman was settled in full according to terms and feels he can't consider any new claims.

2.1.14

Date: Oct. 26, 1926
To: Mrs. Heather, Knightsbridge, S.W.1
From: King, London
Format: Typed

Letter of acknowledgment and thanks for her Oct. 18 letter.

2.1.15

Date: September 2, 1928
To: Mrs. Heather, Geneva
From: King, Grand Hotel de la Paix, Geneva
Format: Typed

Received her note at the hotel and is glad to hear she and the Major will be in Geneva for some time. King is sorry he missed them when they called but looks forward to seeing them in Geneva.

2.1.16

Date: June 21, 1943
To: Mrs. Heather, 117 Queen St. N., Kitchener
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Typed

Apologizes for not acknowledging her letter of June 10 earlier. Will see that the part to be played by women in reconstruction and the representations enclosed in her letter re the place of migration and land settlement in reconstruction policy are brought to the attention of the appropriate officials.
2.1.17  Date: December 24, 1944
To: Mrs. Heather, “Beldornie”, Kitchener
From: King, Ottawa
Format: Typed

Thank you note for her Christmas greeting and sends best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to her and Major Heather.

2.1.18  Date: March 20, 1946
To: Major George Heather
From: King
Format: Telegram

Expresses sorrow on hearing of Mrs. Heather’s death. She was a friend to all members of his family.

2.2  Photographs
2.2.1 Black and white photograph of “Beldornie” dated July 1906. This is house that King rented. Was 117 Queen Street North - no longer standing between Kitchener Public Library and Centre in the Square. Zubers lived next door. Mrs. Hoffman in picture (Heather) Mr. Hoffman was a button manufacturer on Queen St. S. (see Busy Berlin for ad).
2.2.2 Black and white photograph of “Beldornie”, with ladies on lawn. Addressed to Mrs. L. Graham.

2.3  Newspaper clippings
2.3.1 1 page of writings by Henry Koch and photographs of “Woodside”, King’s boyhood home. K-W record, July 11, 1959.
2.3.2 “Complete restoration at old King home”. Globe and mail, undated.
2.3.3 Article regarding injunction preventing the sale of 40 letters addressed to Miss Agnes Wilson Moore, a Liberal party official in Saskatchewan. K-W record, undated.
2.3.4 “Few visit well-kept Mackenzie King home”. K-W record, undated.

2.4  Greeting cards
2.4.1 Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King card. Laurier House, Ottawa
2.4.2 Printed “Thank You Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year”. Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King, Laurier House, Ottawa.
2.4.3 "With kind thoughts and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year”. Signed W.L. Mackenzie King, Laurier House, Ottawa. 1922-1923
2.4.4 New Year’s greeting and Thank You with verse on card. W.L. Mackenzie King.
2.4.5 3 postcards of “Birthplace of Hon. Mackenzie King, Kitchener, Ont.”
“Photographed on his visit Sept. 13, 1922.” (Copyright photo by Denton).

3 **King related material**

3.1 Photographs

3.1.1 King standing on the steps of Laurier House, Christmas 1938
3.1.2 Sir Wilfrid Laurier and King at Brome Lake, August 1912 (photo no. : 1194)
3.1.3 King and William Mulock at breakfast on Mr. Mulock’s 100th birthday, January 19, 1944 (photo no. : 1197)
3.1.4 The Imperial Conference, 1926 (photo no. : 1199)
3.1.5 King’s bedroom, second floor, Laurier House (photo no. : 1196)
3.1.6 Breakfast room, third floor, Laurier House (photo no. : 1200)
3.1.7 Oak paneled dining room, Laurier House (photo no. : 1198)
3.1.8 View of the third floor library, Laurier House (photo no. : 1195)
3.1.9 The drawing room, main floor, Laurier House (photo no. : 1431)
3.1.10 Unidentified man (photo no. : 572.3)
3.1.11 Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada: 1921-26; 1926-27 (photo no. : C34 F9)

3.2 Newspaper clippings

3.2.1 Newspaper clippings : June 25, 1957; December 11, 1999; December 18, 1999
3.2.2 Scrap book of newspaper articles from July to August 1926 regarding King/Meighen issues (S715 B2 F11)

3.3 *Mrs. King : the life and times of Isabel Mackenzie King* / Charlotte Gray, 1997
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FC541.K56 G7 SC1111

3.4 Woodside

3.4.1 *Woodside National Historic Park, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada* / National Park Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Ottawa, Canada. 1957?
Copy 2 : SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FC 3099 K6Z55 SC4272
3.4.2 *Woodside album : a guide to the boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King*

3.5 The life story of Mackenzie King, 1926
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FC 581 K5L55 SC3167.7

4 **King/Rowell papers**

Correspondence between William Lyon Mackenzie King and Newton W. Rowell (1867-1941), leader of the Liberal Party in Ontario.

4.1 Description of letters, 2000

4.2 Date: Jan. 1, 1926
Rowell has been asked by King to assess the political situation and describes the alternatives if the King Government is defeated or if, more likely, the Progressives support the Liberals and King can carry on. He recommends approaches to the Progressives to form a coalition with some cabinet members coming from the Progressive Party.

4.3 Date: Jan. 22, 1926
To: Newton W. Rowell
From: William Lyon Mackenzie King
Format: Typed, signed

King describes his unsuccessful attempts to draw the Progressives into coalition.

4.4 Date: July 6, 1926
To: Newton W. Rowell
From: William Lyon Mackenzie King
Format: Typed, signed

King, now leader of the Opposition, defends his criticism of Lord Byng for his denial of a request for dissolution, stating the basis of the 1926 campaign that ended the short-lived Meighen government and returned King. The following election curtailed finally the powers of the Governor General and completed the powers of responsible government for Canada as a self-governing nation.

King also issues a strong appeal to Rowell to accept a nomination and join his government as Minister of Customs to clean up the mess the liberals had left.

4.5 Date: July 9, 1926
To: William Lyon Mackenzie King
From: Newton W. Rowell
Format: Typed, carbon copy, unsigned

Rowell pleads ill health and doctor’s advice for total rest to reject offer to run federally. He then strongly advises King not to criticize the Governor General but to focus criticism on Meighen. He refers to his Liberal friends in Toronto, Atkinson, (of the Star?) and Gundy who started Wood Gundy.

4.6 Date: July 8, 1926
To: J. A. Robb
From: Newton W. Rowell
Format: Typed, carbon copy, unsigned
Regarding the ‘shocking’ state of affairs in Customs Department and that the PM knew of the situation and took no action. Meighen was defeated in the House before the MPs had a chance to vote on the report deeply critical of the former Liberal government and its leader.

Rowell succinctly describes the constitutional issue repeating the basic principle in King’s words without attribution. He repeats the ill-health mantra and promises a letter that would be published on the constitutional issue, then announces his long rest and vacation.

4.7

Date: Sept. 18, 1926
To: Newton W. Rowell
From: William Lyon Mackenzie King
Format: Typed, signed