

C 54647

Right Honourable W.L. MacKenzie King.

On this, the occasion of your first visit to the Town of Port Hawkesbury, and the County of Inverness, the citizens of these and adjacent Municipalities extend to you a cordial Cape Breton welcome.

We hasten to apologize to you for the injudicious and intemperate language used by the Conservative candidate in this county of Inverness at a recent public meeting when he referred to your election in Prince Albert as being due to "Bohunks", thus trying to cast opprobrium on the brave Belgian farmers and miners who have settled in the country, and to whose support he must attribute a great part of his *own* majority last October. His ungrateful and insulting language will surely redound on his own irresponsible head, and we assure you that his debasing and ill-considered *speeches* ~~no~~ yourself are not, in any considerable degree, representative of the sentiments of our people.

We have closely followed your career since you were chosen leader of the Liberal Party in Canada, and we take pride in being able to say most sincerely, that we feel honoured and gratified in that choice, recognizing in your person as such leader the most eminent qualifications, embodying transcendent ability as well as character of the highest order.

The fairness with which you have treated your opponents on all occasions, but particularly since the opening of Parliament last winter, and the high moral plane of your every movement and your every action in dealing with the many complicated and delicate matters of Governmental and high national importance, which manifested themselves from day to day and from hour during the whole of the Parliamentary session, proclaim you to be a statesman of unexcelled genius and unimpeachable integrity, actuated by the most exalted ideals of leadership.

In this respect many of your warmest and most enthusiastic admirers feel that in your desire to be fair to all, you kept so scrupulously within the bounds and limitations of respectable party warfare, that your opponents took advantage of your generosity and close observance of the proprieties in this regard, requiting your kind hearted considerateness with slanderous insults and abominable innuendo.

We regard you as the rightful Prime Minister of Canada, by every rule of evolved constitutional law, by every principle and tenet of fair and impartial interpretation of Governmental and Parliamentary procedure,

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers
Memoranda & Notes

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