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Draft of radio message by the Rt. Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, March 27, 1939.

The celebration of a Diamond Jubilee is elways an occasion for popular rejoicing. Particularly is this true in the case of an organization which has been so closely associated with the growth of a great Canadian community as has the Board of Trade of the City of Winnipeg.

Sixty years ago, the present City of Winnipeg was the opening gateway to a still-undeveloped prairie West. There was as yet no transcontinental railway. The great wealth of wheat pouring in from the farms, which were to spread gradually across the prairies, had not yet made Winnipeg one of the greatest railway centres of the world. The Province of Manitoba, but nine years entered into Canadian confederation, had not yet reached its present limits. But the settlement which was being built around the site of one of the most celebrated fur-trading establishments was growing year by year, and there must have been not a few, among those whose lot was cast with the City of Winnipeg, who looked forward to the course of its development with confident anticipation.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939 (M.G. 26, J 4, volume 227, pages C154281-C154845)

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