

of the young men who have visited me at Government House.

He remains here till Monday next. I hope it may be possible for you to give him a good interview. You will like him. He is one of Milner's Transvaal kindercarten. He proved most useful, working behind the scenes, in counteracting opposition to unification of S.A. He is a Roman Catholic, and therein coupled with his relationship to the Duke of Norfolk, perhaps lies a possibility of his usefulness to you. He is clever and discreet. I urged him when at Winnipeg to endeavour to ascertain the R.C. and Protestant limits within which a future settlement of the pressing educational question of Manitoba can be looked for. . .

I think it is possible that Kerr might be of use to you in representing your views in London and perhaps even at the Vatican? (1)

Promptly the same day, Laurier acknowledged this note, saying to Earl Grey: "I have already heard of Mr. Kerr, through Fitzpatrick, who spoke to me of him in exactly the same terms as you. I will be most happy to meet him. . ." (2)

This interest of Kerr's in Canadian affairs continued for decades to follow, and Loring Christie's intimacy kept it alive until the end of their lives. Mr. Mackenzie King himself drew attention to this in his tribute to Loring Christie. He said, on February 17, 1941: "Mr. Loring C. Christie was a close personal friend of Lord Lothian for nearly a quarter of a century. . . Mr. Christie was appointed to the post of Canadian Minister to the United States shortly after the outbreak of war, and within a month or two of the arrival of Lord Lothian as British Ambassador. Like him, Mr. Christie has

(1) Grey of Howith Collection. Vol.4. Sec.42. 1909.  
(Document 001237).

(2) Ibid. (Document 001239).