

So much for the present as related to fifty years ago. May I say just a word about the present, and fifty years hence, in reference alike to the Exhibition and to our city. The thought which presses itself most forcibly into the foreground may not be an altogether welcome one. It is how very few of those who are assembled here today are likely to be present at the centennial anniversary of this Exhibition.

It is one of the curious facts of life, some would call it irony, others, a blessing, that the work of his own hands often outlives man himself; that the trees which he plants, the houses he builds, the institutions he helps to establish, survive his years and find their fullest fruition, and survive often only years after he himself has gone, and his name and his memory are lost in oblivion.

I suppose what I have said of the list of the original subscribers represents pretty well the average of life as it will be found in most associations and communities. For every seventy of the number assembled here today, a more handful, if it will be from the number of those who are in their 20's and 30's today, only, will be present at the centennial celebration in 1987. That surely should impress us all with the little time which remains for each to continue to play his part and make his contribution to the community and country in which we live.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 155, pages C111159-C111597)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA