

February 7, 1933

My dear John:

I received this morning your letter and its enclosure from Jack Paterson. I am returning the letter and with it a letter which Jack sent to me in reply to mine to him.

The difficulty about my speaking to Mr. Beatty, or any officer of the C.P.R., is that I am at this moment opposing very strongly Mr. Beatty's wishes in the matter of an amalgamation of the C.P.R. and the Canadian National Railways. In my position as leader of the party, I have to be particularly careful about asking favours of any corporation with which, were the Liberals in office, I might be called upon to have dealings, or concerning the affairs of which any discussion may arise in parliament at any time. I have never made an exception to this rule. To do so might occasion considerable embarrassment to myself or the party at a critical moment. There is nothing the C.P.R. would like better than to have me make a request of any kind for any purpose.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William  
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.  
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)  
Harry Morrison Lay and family January-  
July 1933

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