## C 42039

## (11)

The French Canadian's attitude towards the British Crown is more than loyalty, it is reverence. We are the offsprings of a royalist race. Respect for authority comes natural to us. We admired Queen Victoria. The Royal Family, in the minds of our habitants, is the embodiment of nobility elmost too high to be approached by the ordinary being. There is a feeling in Quebec that, as long as there will be a King in Great Britain, our constitutional minority rights shall not be jeopardized. Our people think that His Majesty will always influence his own government, and therefore Parliament, if any measure were ever introduced against the terms of the Treaty under which we have become British subjects. I suppose you know that in all our churches we recite special prayers for the King of Great Britain. I sincerely believe that if the British Commonwealth of Nations were presided over by a president, instead of a King-Emperor, it would not have such a hold as it has now on the Province of Quebec.

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The French Canadians were amongst the British subjects in America who refused to take up arms against England in the last part of the 18th century. My forefathers were steadfast in their belief that monarchy was the only legitimate form of government and they would not fight England for the benefit of the American rebels. We remained faithful to our allegiance and we have never regretted it. We like to think that the King of Great Britain feels his heart beating a little faster when he reads that part of Canadian

> W.L. Mackenzie King Papers Memoranda & Notes

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