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Ottawa August 17th 1937.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I have the pleasure of enclosing a copy of William Lyon Mackenzie's letter to the British Under-Secretary for the Colonies in 1846, as suggested in your last letter. I am sure you will be intensely absorbed by its contents. I have rarely read so interesting a piece of political history. The more one reads Mackenzie's writings, the more one is struck with his encyclopaedic information, his breadth of view, and his fervid sincerity!

His suggestion for Canadian representation in the British Parliament has often been re-asserted, but never so forcibly. One must remember it is the system adopted by France in her colonial dominions, and no doubt it is a patent tie of unity and union. Several suggestions in Mackenzie's letter would be worth singling out, but perhaps his most startling and foreseeing pronouncement is the claim in 1846, mind you, that Canada should be on equal terms with Great Britain. Evidently political evolution travels slowly, for what Mackenzie foresaw in 1846 was completed by his grandson only in 1926, eighty years later.

I have derived a special enjoyment from Mackenzie's letter in coming again into contact with him, such are the warmth of his convictions and the intensity of his zeal in the people's cause.

AUG 18 1937

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG  
26 J 7 volume 20) William Lyon Mackenzie  
King - Correspondence re: William Lyon  
Mackenzie (grandfather) - Dr. Gustave  
Lanctot - Dominion Archivist n.d.,  
1868-1946

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