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Manuscript Division

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA
Manuscript Division

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MG 26
J

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie. (1874-1950). Prime Minister.

Original, 1641, 1703, 1815-1969, 231.650 m. Photocopies, 1908-1950, 7.250 m. Transcripts, 1893-1950, 17.340 m.
Finding Aid No. 502.

1989-03-10
7-2061

William Lyon Mackenzie King, a grandson of William Lyon Mackenzie, was born in Kitchener (then Berlin), Ontario, 17 December 1874. He attended the University of Toronto (B.A., LL.B.), the University of Chicago, and Harvard University (M.A., Ph.D.). His field of study was Political Economy, with labour problems as his special interest. In 1900, he was appointed the first Deputy Minister of Labour and editor of the of the Labour Gazette. In 1908, he resigned to enter the House of Commons and in 1909 he entered the cabinet as the first Minister of Labour. He left politics after his defeat in the election of 1911 and from 1914 to 1917, he worked for the Rockefeller Foundation investigating industrial relations. He re-entered politics in 1919 after he was chosen leader of the Liberal Party. At the end of 1921, he became Prime Minister and held the post (with the exception of three months in 1926) until his party's defeat in the election of 1930.
He was Leader of the Opposition until October 1935 when the Liberals came back into power. From that time he was Prime Minister until he retired on 15 November 1948. He died 22 July 1950 at his Kingsmere estate.
The W.L. Mackenzie King Papers were deposited in the Public Archives of Canada by the terms of Mr. King's will. The papers were the property of his literary executors until they became the property of the Crown. The final transfer occurred 30 June 1977.

Access is Restricted.

Some type of finding aid exists for each series in the King Papers. The description of each series includes a note about that series' finding aid(s). Consult the Political and Public Affairs Archives for any possible finding aids in process.

The following portions of the King Papers are available on microform: Primary Series Correspondence (J1), Memoranda and Notes Series (J4), Speeches (J5) 1899-1932, and the Diaries (J13). The finding aid for each of these series includes a microfilm converstion list.

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Public Papers.

Primary Series Correspondence, J1 Series. Original, 1889-1950, 44.700 m. (Vol. 1-447).

This series consists of the important correspondence both from the Prime Minister's Office and from Laurier House. The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by author within each year, with enclosures and any replies kept together. The pages of the entire series are numbered consecutively. For the correspondence up to 1921, there are both subject and author indexes. The subject index is in four 10 cm boxes and the author index consists of index cards. The subject index is also available on microfilm reels C-4591 to C-4593. For the 1922-1942 correspondence a detailed subject and author index is available in the form of computer printouts. A detailed subject and author index for the period 1943 to 1950 is in preparation. A subject list for the entire period prepared by the biographers is available in the Political and Public Affairs Archives.

Prime Minister's Office Correspondence, J2 Series. Original, 1921-1930, 1935-1948, 52.000 m. (Vol. 1-520).

This series consists of the subject files remaining after the Primary Series correspondence was selected. A file list is available in two separate bound volumes.

General Correspondence, J3 Series. Original, 1915-1950, 15.200 m. Photocopies, 8 pages. (Vol. 1-161).

This series consists of personal letters which were kept at Laurier House. These letters were left after correspondence was selected for the Primary Series (J1), the Family Papers (J7), and the Personal Correspondence Series (J8). A file list is available in the finding aid. A more detailed author list is available in the Political and Public Affairs Archives.

Memoranda and Notes, J4 Series. Original, 1887-1950, 43.800 m. (Vol. 1-431).

Memoranda, notes and some correspondence are found in this series, arranged in subject files within four chronological periods (1887-1921, 1922-1932, 1933-1939 and 1940-1950), with additional material at the end. A complete file list is available in a separate bound finding aid and on microfiche.

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Speeches, J5 Series. Original, 1899-1950, 10.600 m. (Vol. 1-105).

This series contains speech notes, drafts, printed copies, newspaper reports and comments. The material is arranged chronologically. A list giving subject and place of each is available in a separate bound finding aid. The file list for the speeches up to 1932 is available on microfilm reel C-4593.

Pamphlets and Clippings, J6 Series. Original, 1876-1950, 42.100 m. (Vol. 1-245).

This series consists of clippings, pamphlets, obituaries and brochures arranged alphabetically in subject/nominal files. This series is divided into two parts: pre-1921 and 1921-1950. A file list is available in the file folder finding aids, and the list of pre-1921 material is available on microfilm reel C-4593.

Personal Papers.

Family Papers, J7 Series. Original, 1880-1950, 6.100 m. (Vol. 1-65).

This series consists of King's correspondence from members of his family. The letters are arranged chronologically up to the end of 1917 and after that by name of correspondent.

Personal Correspondence, J8 Series. Original, 1897-1950, 4.000 m. (Vol. 1-41).

This series includes the personal correspondence received by King between 1897 and 1950. This correspondence was from friends rather than from acquaintances or the general public. A file list is available with the file folder finding aids.

Spiritualism, J9 Series. Original, 1919-1950, 1.400 m. (Vol. 1-7).

This series includes correspondence, publications and memoranda arranged in subject files.

Laurier House and Kingsmere, J10 Series. Original, 1919-1950, 2.800 m. (Vol. 1-28).

This series includes financial, property, hospitality and job application files relating to King's two residences. A file list is available with the file folder finding aids.

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Finances, J11 Series. Original, 1907-1950, 1.600 m. (Vol. 1-16).

This series includes annual statements, material on investments, etc. arranged in subject files.

Personal Miscellaneous, J12 Series. Original, 1905-1950, 2.100 m. (Vol. 1-21).

This series consists of subject files on personal matters such as cars, church, health, insurance and staff.

Diaries, J13 Series. Original, 1893-1950, 5.700 m. (Vol. 28-32, 117-164). Transcripts, 15.000 m. (Vol. Unnumbered). Microfiche, 492 pages.

A list of the diaries and a microfiche conversion list is available in the file folder finding aid.

King Family Papers, J14 Series. Original, 1840-1950, 2.000 m. (Vol. 1-20).

This series consists of correspondence of members of the King family with persons other than W.L.M. King. Included are the papers of John and Christina King, Mr. and Mrs. John King, Isabel King, Dr. and Mrs. Macdougall King, Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Lay, and the Lindsey family. A file list is available in the file folder finding aid.

Souvenirs, J15 Series. Original, 1641, 1703, 1815-1950, 7.250 m. (Vol. 1-18).

This series, rearranged in 1981, contains a wide variety of material including programmes, historical documents and memorabilia collected by Mackenzie King. It is organized by type of document. A file list is available with the file folder finding aids.

Election Campaign Posters, J16 Series. Original, 1940, 6 pages.

Literary Executors of the King Estate, J17 Series. Original, 1938-1969, 1.800 m. (Vol. 1-9).

Included is the correspondence of the Literary Executors, 1950-1958, relating to the writing of the W.L.M. King biography and the placement of the King Papers in the Public Archives. Also included are financial records of the Rockefeller Foundation grant for the W.L.M. King memoir project, 1950-1957. A file list is available with the file folder finding aids.

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McGregor, F.A., J18 Series. Original, 1950-1956, 0.100 m. (Vol. 1).

F.A. McGregor: Secretary to Deputy Minister of Labour, 1909-1910; teacher at Woodstock College, 1913-1914; assisted King in his studies in industrial relations under the Rockefeller Foundation, 1914-1919; private secretary to Leader of the Opposition and to the Prime Minister of Canada, 1919-1925; Registrar, Combines Investigation Act, 1925-1937; Commissioner, Combines Investigation Act, 1937-1949; member of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, 1939-1950, and enforcement administrator, 1941-1946; literary executor and a trustee of the estate of W.L.M. King. The papers were presented in 1980 by Mr. A.N. McGregor.

Correspondence between F.A. McGregor, the literary executors and others involved in the estate and in the biography of King, as well as personal correspondence. A file list is available with the file folder finding aids.

Political and Public Affairs Archives.

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MG 26 J

KING, Le très honorable William Lyon Mackenzie (1874-1950). Premier Ministre.

Originaux, 1641, 1703, 1815-1969. 231.65 m. Photocopies, 1908-1950. 7.25 m. Transcriptions, 1893-1950. 17.34 m. Instrument de recherche no 502.

William Lyon Mackenzie King, petit-fils de William Lyon Mackenzie, est né à Kitchener (alors Berlin), Ontario, le 17 décembre 1874. Il étudie aux universités de Toronto (B.A., LL.B.), de Chicago et Harvard (M.A., Ph.D). Il se spécialise en économie politique et s'intéresse particulièrement aux problèmes ouvriers. En 1900, il est nommé premier sous-ministre du Travail et rédacteur de la Gazette du travail. Il démissionne en 1908 pour entrer à la Chambre des communes; en 1909, il devient le premier ministre du Travail. Il quitte la politique après sa défaite aux élections de 1911 et de 1914 à 1917, il étudie les relations industrielles à la Rockefeller Foundation. Il revient à la politique en 1919 après avoir été élu chef du parti Libéral. En 1921, il devient premier ministre et conserve ce poste (sauf pour quelques mois en 1926) jusqu'à la défaite de son parti aux élections de 1930. Il est chef de l'Opposition jusqu'à la reprise du pouvoir par les Libéraux en 1935. Il réintègre alors son poste de premier ministre qu'il conservera jusqu'à sa retraite en novembre 1948. Il meurt le 22 juillet 1950 dans son domaine de Kingsmere.

Les papiers W.L. Mackenzie King furent déposés aux Archives publiques du Canada conformément au testament de M. King. Les papiers sont demeurés la propriété de ses exécuteurs littéraires jusqu'au 22 juillet 1975, date à laquelle ils sont devenus celle de la Couronne.

Les instruments de recherche des papiers King ne sont pas encore terminés. La description de chaque série comprend une note explicative sur son (ses) instrument(s) de recherche. Consultez les archives des premiers ministres pour les instrument de recherche en préparation.

Les séries suivantes sont disponibles sur microformes: Première série de correspondance (J1), Mémoires et notes (J4) 1887-1939, Discours (J5) 1889-1932 et Journaux intimes (J13). L'instrument de recherche de chacune de ces séries comprend une liste de conversion des microfilms.

Papiers publics

Première série de correspondance, Série J1, 1889-1950. Originaux, 44.7 m (volumes 1-447).

Cette série comprend un choix des lettres les plus importantes des dossiers du cabinet du premier ministre et des dossiers de la maison Laurier. La correspondance est classée par ordre alphabétique d'auteur pour chaque année. Les pièces jointes et les réponses sont réunies et numérotées consécutivement. Il existe un index des auteurs et des matières pour la correspondance antérieure à 1921. L'index des auteurs est sur fiches et l'index des matières est conservé dans des boîtes de 10 cm. L'index des matières est également sur microfilm (bobine C-4591 à

MG 26 J — KING, Le très honorable William Lyon Mackenzie (1874-1950). Premier Ministre.

C-4593). Pour la période 1922-1942, un index détaillé tiré par ordinateur est disponible sous forme d'index-auteur et d'index-matière. L'index de la correspondance 1943-1950 est en préparation. Les biographes ont dressé une liste des matières qui est conservée dans les archives des premiers ministres.

Correspondance du Cabinet du premier ministre, Série J2, 1921-1930, 1935-1948. Originaux, 52 m (volumes 1-520).

Cette série comprend les dossiers-matière non compris dans la première série de correspondance. La liste des dossiers est disponible dans un instrument relié séparément.

Correspondance générale, série J3, 1915-1950. Originaux, 15.2 m. Photocopies, 8 pages (volumes 1-161).

Cette série comprend des lettres personnelles que King conservait à la maison Laurier et qui n'ont pas été retenues pour la première série J1 et celle de la correspondance générale, série J8. Une liste des auteurs est disponible aux archives des premiers-ministres.

Mémoires et notes, Série J4, 1887-1950. Originaux, 43.8 m (volumes 1-431).

Les mémoires, notes et quelques lettres qui n'étaient pas inclus dans la correspondance se trouvent dans cette série et sont classés dans des fichiers-matière divisés en quatre périodes chronologiques: 1887-1921, 1922-1932, 1933-1939 et 1940-1950. Un instrument relié séparément et sur microfiche donne la liste complète des dossiers.

Discours, Série J5, 1899-1950. Originaux, 10.6 m (volumes 1-105).

Cette série comprend des notes de discours, des brouillons, des copies imprimées, des commentaires et comptes rendus de journaux classés par ordre chronologique. Une liste donnant le sujet et l'endroit de chaque discours se trouve dans un instrument de recherche relié séparément. La liste des dossiers des discours antérieurs à 1932 se trouve sur la bobine de microfilm C-4593.

Brochures et coupures de journaux, Série J6, 1876-1950. Originaux, 42.1 m (volumes 1-245).

Cette série contient des coupures de journaux, des dépliants et des brochures qui sont classées alphabétiquement dans des dossiers de noms et de sujets. Cette série est divisée en deux parties: les documents antérieurs à 1921 et ceux de 1921 à 1950. Une liste est disponible.

Papiers personnels

Papiers de famille, Série J7, 1880-1950. Originaux, 6.1 m (volumes 1-65).

Cette série contient les lettres écrites à King par des membres de sa famille. La correspondance est en ordre chronologique jusqu'à la fin de 1917; après cette année, elle est classée par correspondant. Une liste des correspondants est disponible.

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MG 26 J

KING, le très honorable William Lyon Mackenzie (1874-1950). Premier Ministre.

Correspondance personnelle, Série J8, 1897-1950. Originaux, 4 m (volumes 1-41).

Cette série comprend la correspondance reçue par King entre les années 1897 et 1950. Cette correspondance provenait de ses amis plutôt que de ses connaissances ou le public en général. Un instrument est disponible.

Spiritisme, Série J9, 1919-1950. Originaux, 1.4 m (volumes 1-14).

Cette série comprend des lettres, des publications et des mémoires classés par matière.

Maison Laurier & Kingsmere, Série J10, 1919-1950. Originaux, 3.3 m (volumes 1-33).

Cette série comprend des lettres ayant trait à des plans, des meubles, etc., des résidences de King. Elle est organisée en dossiers-matière.

Finances, Série J11, 1907-1950. Originaux, 1.1 m (volumes 1-14).

Cette série comprend des états annuels, des documents relatifs à des placements, etc., organisés en dossiers-matière.

Papiers personnels divers, Série J12, 1905-1950. Originaux, 2 m (volumes 1-20).

Cette série comprend des dossiers-matières sur des affaires personnelles (voitures, église, clubs, santé, assurances et personnel).

Journaux intimes, Série J13, 1893-1950. Originaux, 5.7 m (volumes 28-34, 117-164). Transcriptions, env. 15.24 m (volumes non numérotés). Microfiche, 492 fiches.

Une liste des journaux intimes et une liste de conversion de ces journaux sur microfiche, sont disponibles dans l'instrument de recherche.

Papiers de la famille King, Série J14, 1840-1950. Originaux, 2 m (volumes 1-20).

Cette série comprend la correspondance des membres de la famille King avec d'autres personnes que W.L.M. King. On y trouve des lettres de John et Christina King, M. & Mme John King, Isabel King, Dr. & Mme Macdougall King, M. & Mme H.M. Lay et la famille Lindsey. Une liste des dossiers est diponible.

Souvenirs, Série J15, 1641, 1703, 1815-1950. Originaux, 7.25 m (volumes 1-16).

Cette série ré-organisée en 1981, comprend une variété de documentation y compris des programmes, des documents historiques, des souvenirs collectionnés par Mackenzie King. Elle est organisée par type de document. Une liste des dossiers est disponible.

Affiches de la campagne électorale, Série J16, 1940. Originaux, 6 pages.

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MG 26
J

KING, le très honorable William Lyon Mackenzie (1874-1950). Premier ministre.

Exécuteurs littéraires de M. King, Série J17, 1938-1969. Originaux, 1.8 m (volumes 1-9).

Cette série comprend de la corrrespondance des exécuteurs littéraires, 1950-1958, au sujet de la biographie de W.L.M. King et les documents sur le dépôt des papiers de M. King aux Archives publiques. Il y a aussi des dossiers financiers ayant trait à la fondation Rockefeller et du don de celle-ci au projet des mémoires de King, 1950-1957.

McGregor, F.A. Série J18, 1950-1956. Originaux, 10 cm (volume 1).

F.A. McGergor; Secrétaire du sous-ministre du Traval, 1909-1910; professeur au Collège Woodstock, 1913-1914, assista W.L.M. King lorsqu'il fit des études en relations industrielles grâce à une bourse de la fondation Rockefeller, 1914-1919; secrétaire particulier du chef de l'opposition et du Premier ministre du Canada, 1919-1925; greffier, Loi relative aux enquêtes sur les coalitions, 1925-1937; commissaire, Loi relative aux enquêtes sur les coalitions, 1937-1949; membre de la Commission des prix et du commerce en temps de guerre, 1939-1950, et agent d'exécution, 1941-1946; l'un des exécuteurs littéraires et des fiduciaires de feu W.L.M. King. Les papiers ont été présentés aux Archives en 1980 par M.A.N. McGregor.

Correspondance entre F.A. McGregor, les exécuteurs littéraires et les diverses autres personnes concernées par la succession et la biographie de W.L.M. King. Une liste des dossiers est disponible.

février 1983

7-2061/7-6142
Archives des premiers ministres

Ottawa, November 14, 1924

My dear Jennie:

I am trying to find out the exact hour of my own and Max's birth for an astrologer in England who has been preparing some most interesting charts for me. I wonder if Judge Wismer could not throw some slight on the subject, or whether you yourself can recall, from conversations with Mother, anything in this regard of an exacting character. I want to get as nearly to the minute as possible.

You will be quite amused and astonished when I show you how perfectly the delineation of character which has been sent from England corresponds with my own and Max's nature as I recall them. The nearer it is possible to come to the exact minute the more easily the astrologers find it possible to work out the scientific side of their charts.

Another thing, do you happen to know the address of Miss Jones, who acted as lady's help for Father and Mother during Father's blindness. I have in her hand-

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

National Archives of Canada
Archives nationales du Canada

Ottawa, November 14, 1924

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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 November-December 1924

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writing records of the births of the different members of the family, filled out on the little blank sheets which you may remember I prepared some years ago. I would like to find out from her whether this data was furnished by Father and Mother themselves - that would be a source of verification that would be helpful.

I am just getting over the fatiguing effects of my long journey through Western Canada. It was a remarkable tour, almost triumphal in its way. No doubt you heard from Audrey of the wonderful dinner given me by Murray and herself at the Vancouver Club. I met a great many very delightful people, and had one of the most enjoyable evenings I have ever spent. I saw very little of Murray and Audrey, but enjoyed exceedingly the pleasure of their society, as well as appreciating most deeply their great kindness.

Will write again in the near future. Meanwhile, with love and best wishes to Harry, the children, and yourself,

Believe me, dear Jennie,

Ever affectionately yours,

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 November-December 1924

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

November 14th 24

Dear Willie:

There was a general chorus of disappointment when we saw you were back in Ottawa for we were all hoping you would drop off here for Thanksgiving. I suppose you had what Jean would call a "wonderful" trip! We read what there was to read but there wasn't much in the papers. I had a note from Audrey saying they had seen you several times & had

copy of an English journal with a very nice reference to Mac's book & I sent it on to Mary. It is a blessing she is so well & I think Lee Mother is a real help to Lee, especially with the sewing. The Immigration dept. got me a very nice Irish girl but she doesn't know much. I will try & keep her for she is gentle, but if she doesn't do better I can't afford to pay for that alone! I was glad Miss Duff liked her so much.

Mary is going to enclose a picture he took of the porch. Prepare for the shock of the bills to follow! If I were flush of cash I wouldn't send them! All here join in sending much love & in the hope that you will manage a visit to us soon. Fond affectionate sister Jennie

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 November-December 1924

National Archives of Canada
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given a dinner party
will find plenty
for you in Ottawa
are time for you will
Wear Dudley before
would be a real
change provided
the world.

We had some fun
Mrs. Whitaker
waiting in Barrie.
asked me to go
evening as the
settle some question
I felt like
her own business,
When you come

I one conversation! She was visiting Mrs. Redditt who lives quite near us. They were here for a game of Bridge one evening.

I had a letter from your friend "Maude Pearson" asking me to arrange a meeting with you "in the sanctity of my home" before you left for the West. As you told me to consign any such documents to the waste basket, I didn't forward it! She was in London at the time.

Mary seems to be doing well this fall. She said she had had a letter from you about Mac's books and was delighted about it. Mrs. Reid gave me a

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 November-December 1924

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Day Letter	
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Night Letter	

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, November 15, 1924.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Greatly pleased to receive your letter of yesterday. Have been sharing in thought with you to-day's anniversary of Bella's birthday. Fondest love to all.

Willie.

DAY LETTER
CHG: PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

National Archives of Canada
Archives nationales du Canada

far off & the time simply flies. It doesn't seem possible it is a year since Nelson was home!

The "Government" has put up a most hideous windmill structure of a flag pole at the Post Office at the cost of $108 we hear. Someone told me it was Rev Boys was responsible but whoever did it, ought to have saved the money!! I hope your Government isn't responsible! The new division gives Barrie into Rev. Boys constituency & he is working hard to make

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Nov. 21st 1924

Dear Willie:

Many thanks for your letter of Nov 14th and also your message of the 15th. I have never had a minute all week as I have been "out" sewing in the day & had engagements each evening. The days go so quickly, so I am beginning the day today by writing you.

I don't see how Judge Winson could possibly know anything

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about your birthday. We he
been out of town all week
but when I read your
it is for me to remember
how old I don't remember
sister could remember
I know in Wallaceburg
reputed the mother of
Child's birth I
the registry Office
would have the
To the best of my
Mrs was born
Monday, Nov 11th 1878.
born on Thursday

at what hour I do not remember but you were an 8 month baby. Any records made by Miss Jones would certainly be from father & Mother for there was no one else could give them. I never saw or heard of the "sheets" there was no one else could give her information I have no idea what became of her. I never liked her & neither did Mother. She had no love for mother! She went to a college in the States but I never heard again after she wrote from there. I don't think I kept her letter.

Is there any chance of your spending Christmas with us this year? We would all love to have you and would do our best to make you happy. The day is not-

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strained feeling in the congregation at present & we are wondering whether the Unionists will leave the church. The vote is to be taken in January.

Harry is practically leading the Unionists & of course, Mr. Shortt is Anti. It is very unconfortable at times in the church.

I must not write more just now. This wonderful weather will help shorten the winter and, as we get older, we seem to want that.

All the family here are well, as I hope you are, all join in sending very much love from your affectionate sister Jennie

himself popular here. It is a case of "a prophet" etc

BOULDERFEL,

I hope you are feeling cooled BARRIE.
after your trip. Even a triumph tour takes it out of you & the constant publicity must be a great strain. Evidently Audrey was delighted with the reflected glory! The Vancouver paper which came to a friend of ours here said that "Mrs. Lay of Barrie" etc & explained the relationship to the Mummy Lay. Audrey writes very sketchy & so do the really doesn't give much information.

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I am enclosing the bills for the porch, which I hate to do but cannot afford to! The Simpson bill is for the painting applied him for holidays. By the for decorating the the job would have been done if I had ordered it as our means just everyone seems

improvement it is and we are very grateful for such a substantial gift. I hope it will not break the bank!

Isn't that business of Peter Smith, Amelius Jarvis et al. terrible? I feel so sorry for Peter Smith for I don't think he really knew the significance of what he was doing & Jarvis was the real criminal. As one seems safe these days! It must be a tremendous temptation to a man to get rich quick!

We are all going to have dinner with the Rev. J.S. Shortt tonight. There is a desperately

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November-December 1924

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

Form 6123, replacing Form 1-TW

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

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PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS UPON YOUR MAGNIFICIENT VICTORY WEST

HASTINGS FAMILY SEND BEST LOVE

HARRY.

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morrison Lay and family (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) November-December 1924

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Xmas 35-00 for children

Ottawa, November 26, 1924

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

I was very glad to receive your loving letter and also to have its enclosures. I am sending you with this letter a cheque covering the amount of the latter, which, I think, is quite reasonable. Indeed, I must thank you and Harry for the economies exercised in making the improvements. It gives me a real joy to feel that I have had a little something to do with the beauty of your lovely Barrie home, and since you were so good as to accept this particular contribution as a birthday gift, I cannot too sincerely hope that it will afford you much pleasure for many years to come.

I really think it is a very great improvement to the house, but I would now advise you ~~to~~ carefully consider as to whether the front would not be still further improved by painting green most of the triangle of the

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front of the roof which projects above the porch, and leaving in white outline only the semi-circular frame around the windows and the bands beneath the eaves. I think you would find that darkening the greater part of that surface would bring out the white trimmings on the porch and the rest of the house in even finer relief. This, however, is only a suggestion.

Let me thank you very much for your kind invitation to come to Barrie for Christmas Day. For many reasons it would be a great pleasure to me to spend Christmas with the children, Harry and yourself; but, to tell the truth, so very much comes just at that time to which I have to give personal attention that, were I to leave Ottawa even for Christmas Day, I fear I would find myself in such arrears of obligations to overtake when I got back that I would not be able to clear the slate before the New Year. I have to speak at a banquet of the Commercial Travellers' Association at Montreal on Monday, December the 22nd. This takes me away from Ottawa immediately before Christmas. Were I to go to Barrie, it would, with this engagement, mean losing three days out of the week, and I greatly fear that this is more than I can

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afford just at this time. Besides, I am still not a little exhausted from much train travelling of late. I shall have to get all the quiet I can between now and the end of the year, if Parliament is to be opened, as I expect it will, some time in January. You have no conception how very strenuous my days and even hours are. You and Harry will, I am sure, understand that it is not lack of desire but rather of physical incapacity to add to the demands of the Christmas season which makes me feel that I should follow the course that I have found on the whole most advisable in recent years, of staying quietly in my own library and making the day one of remembrance of by-gone years and acknowledgment of gifts and greetings from friends.

For the reasons just mentioned I am also most anxious to avoid, if possible, any undue pressure during the next week or two by way of preparation for Christmas, and I am hopeful that, so far as my own gifts to others are concerned, most, if not all, may be secured some days in advance of Christmas Day. Already I have addressed to friends in distant lands and to all the Members of Parliament cards of Christmas greetings which have already

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been printed. I know it will add to the happiness of Christmas to have everything prepared in advance as far as possible, and I am proceeding accordingly. May I in this regard ask you and Harry if you would be so good as to take over for me the securing, for each of the children, of some little gift which you have reason to know they would like to have.

I am enclosing a cheque for $35.00 which I would be glad if you would divide among the gifts to be purchased in whatever proportion you may think best. It has occurred to me that if something were secured for the two eldest at ten dollars each, and for the other two at eight and seven, that would make a fair division; but I would like you to feel free to divide up the amount in accordance with what you think best. The only thing that I would ask is that you get something which you are quite certain the children themselves would like, not any woollen underclothes or velvet pants. If you pick up just the thing you know they would be pleased to have and require some slight addition to the enclosed amount, please feel free to spend the additional amount and let me know what it comes to.

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I have to-day written May about the little boys. I am thinking of securing for them a radio set, if one can be obtained at a reasonable figure.

Oddly enough, the speech I delivered at Regina was heard with perfect distinctness in Denver, Colorado, as well as in California, Chicago and other centres. I have lying on my table over one hundred letters from people in the United States expressing congratulations upon it. Perhaps your children would be interested in a radio outfit and might prefer it as a collective gift to anything else. On the other hand, I imagine they would rather have something individual.

I wish you would send me a line as to what you think Harry would like in the way of a book or other gift, and would give me an inkling as to something which would be acceptable to you. It would really save a lot of effort on my part, both mental and physical, to have even the slightest suggestion of something that would be acceptable.

Let me thank you all for the telegram which Harry so kindly sent on the West Hastings result. It was certainly a body-blow to the Tory party, and is, I think,

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Let me thank you too for the letter sent respecting my own birthday and, in particular, the hour of birth. Mr. Dickie, who wrote me from Detroit, feels quite sure it was nine at night; that he was at the little cottage at eleven o'clock the same evening. What makes me think that Judge Wismer might know is that he was in Father's office at the time, and might recall whether Father was, as I have heard, absent at a political meeting at Lynwood. However, don't trouble Judge Wismer if you think it would be foolish so to do.

With love and the best of wishes to one and all,

Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Very affectionately yours,

Willi

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Ottawa, November 28, 1924

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

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$30.00

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With love and the best of wishes to one and all,

Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Very affectionately yours,

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$2 00 ~~$3 00~~ to send home to England ~~&~~ when that has to be made up out of the ordinary revenue it pinches a bit. I am not complaining only explaining our apparent reminiscences! I am just finishing making the fourth overcoat and when you have to "stock" by wholesale it keeps the heads of the house busy!

We are all very sorry you cannot come up for Christmas but we understand how busy you are & wonder how you accomplish so much. Mary is trying to paint our Christmas cards this year though they

Jean besought me to tell you that she wanted a pair of "big serge bloomers & a jersey more than anything else!" I am afraid that comes under the list of woolens, ~~velvets~~ etc!!

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Dec. 3rd 1924

Dear Willie

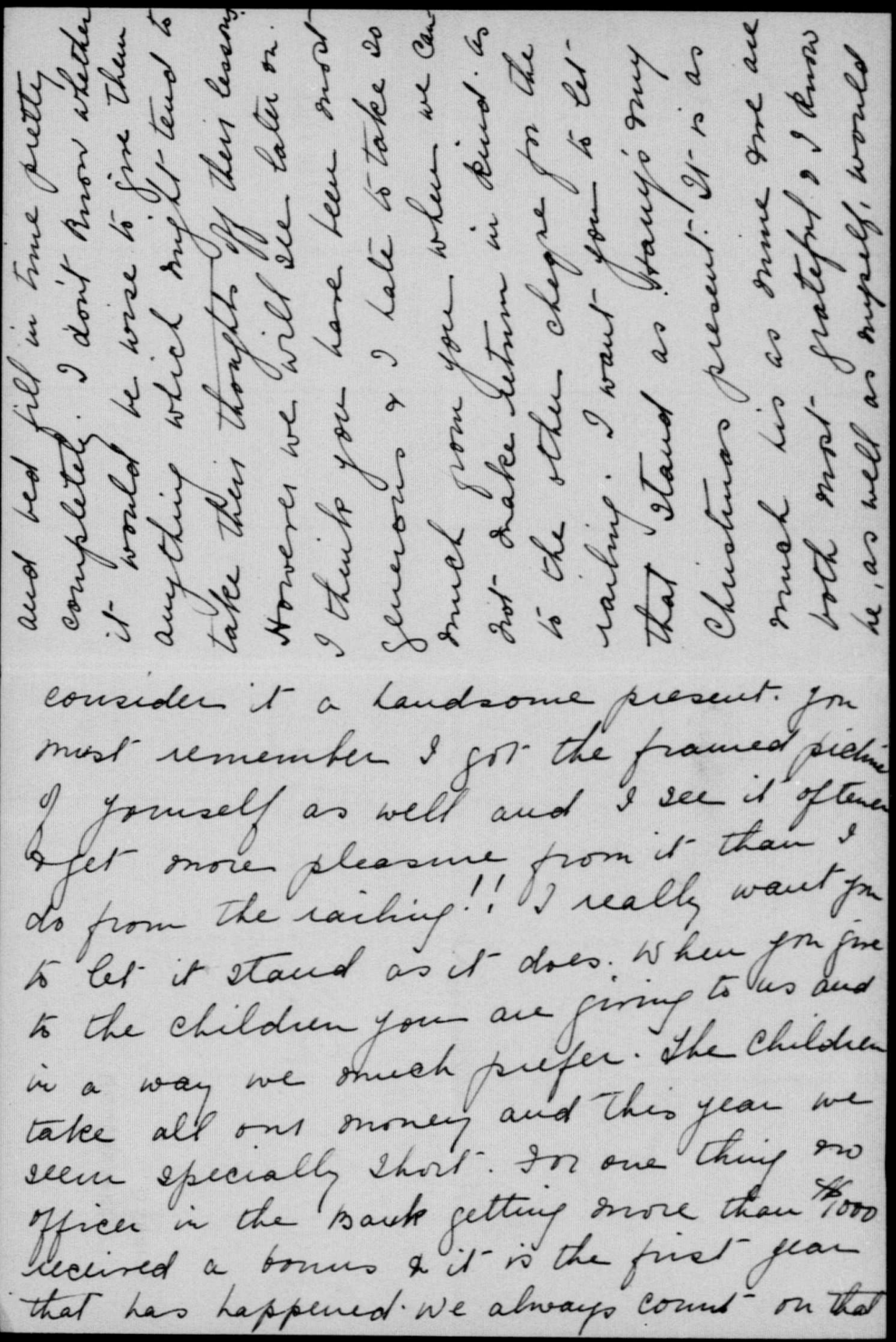
Your two very generous cheques and your loving letter were most welcome! The cheques I had Mary deposit till we see what is best to get for the Children. A radio I think would be splendid only I fear it would be one more distraction when they should be at lessons. At present they are never in the house ~~with~~ but in time when lessons

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and feel filled in time pretty completely. I don't know whether it would be fine them anything which I feel I should like to take them off their hands. However we will see. I think you have been most generous & I take it very kindly that I should get more pleasure from it than I do from the railing. I really want you to let it stand as it does. When you give to the children you are giving to us and in a way we much prefer. The children take all our money and this year we seem specially short. For one thing no officer in the bank getting more than $1000 received a bonus & it is the first year that has happened. We always count on that

consider it a handsome present. You must remember I got the framed picture for myself as well and I see it often & get more pleasure from it than I do from the railing!! I really want you to let it stand as it does. When you give to the children you are giving to us and in a way we much prefer. The children take all our money and this year we seem specially short. For one thing no officer in the bank getting more than $1000 received a bonus & it is the first year that has happened. We always count on that

of John, and are eagerly looking forward to Santa Claus! The two youngest are still prim Alices out- the two eldest think it polite to pretend they are! Now I must get to work as it is nearly ten a.m. I was too tired when I got home from town last night, to write so left it till this morning. The painting of the triangle is under consideration but will be postponed till the spring at any rate. I fancy the whole house will be ready for a coat then & the change can be made without looking blotchy. Many, many thanks for all your kindness & much love in which all the family join from affectionate Mother Jennie

are not at all elaborate they will be "different" and much cheaper. She is only doing the best ones the others we will BOULDERFEL, BARRIE. buy simple cards by the dozen. It is splendid that you have your all addressed already and will save much weariness at the last. I have been so rushed with sewing etc. which has to be done that Christmas will be very secondary. I can't do everything, & never waste a minute yet always find things to be done. We have had John in bed since Saturday with swollen glands which we

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are afraid we will develope into mumps as the rest of them. Perhaps the rabbit's foot that has taken the colyer off my disappointment on the children's part- mumps about from one child to another will be over if the children get three quarters of the last one before we will be quarantined for three weeks after the last one takes it! I have been rather worried for a week or two as mumps is rampant in the B[illegible] district. We are rounded up pretty close. We still hopping we may escape. I will try to go up to Winnie some day soon. Had a card from Winnie saying she had her tonsils out. I suppose she will develope into a regular little rescuitator for a time. Perhaps that has taken the place of the mumps. Winnie

entered Father's office the day Mac was born so may remember something about the event. I will ask him at any rate & see if he can furnish any information. What a wonderful thing radio is. It is remarkable that people all over the States should hear a speech made in Regina! This is certainly an age of wonders!

We have had very cold weather lately and have been forced to put it to church etc as it is not safe to let the car stand it is now we realize how far from town we are. One tip up & back is enough for me.

The family are all well with the exception

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Dec 11th 1924

Dear Willie:

We see by the paper that you are to speak in Dressey Hall on Jan. 12th will there be any chance of reserving tickets in case Mary & I can manage to go down? Dr. Simpson, who was the Liberal candidate here at the last election, was asking us last night if there would be any chance

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I getting a few votes for
some of the Liberal entrenchments
up here. If there is I am
sure they will be found to
vote there was
the annual election of
officers for the "Bachelors
King" club last night - I
Rank Hammond, a former
Catholic lawyer, was
elected president.
This is just a
catch the mail.
We had word from Nelson

last Saturday that he is in hospital
at College with water on his knee.
Too bad, isn't it.
Hope you are keeping well.
Love from all
Yours affectionately
Jennie

Ottawa, December 13, 1924

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

Certainly reservation can be made for you and Harry and any of your friends at Massey Hall. I shall see that a box is kept for you and will ask that space be kept in the Hall itself for any Barrie deputation.

It would give me great pleasure to see you and Harry there, and I really think you would enjoy being on hand. I am sure that Ethel Kirkpatrick and others would be glad of a chance to share a box with you.

I wish you would send me Nelson's address. I want to send him some slight remembrance for Christmas. I am sorry to hear of his being laid up in hospital, but I trust it will not be a long and serious affair.

Peter Sims arrived from Kitchener this morning and is spending to-night with me. We hope to see each other at meals, though I imagine there will be very little

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opportunity for more than that.

With love and best wishes to all,

Ever affectionately yours,

WLMK/GT

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Dec 16th, 1924

My dear Willie:

I sat down to write you a perfectly good birthday letter and an old lady came in and stayed just one hour of my precious time! Now as usual I will have to hurry to be done before Harry goes.

This is rather a special birthday when you reach the half century mark. It doesn't seem possible that you are old and yet you have

day so I am pretty sure Harry will be able to get off for the night following day. We are looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to being there.

I have Jean in bed with what looks like mumps but it is so slight that I am keeping mum so as not to be quarantined for Christmas. The Dr says he can't say it is mumps but there is such an epidemic in town that it probably is. Johnny off equally easily but I am wondering whether the next two will be in for it too. It keeps one pretty well tied for there is enough to do in a day without the extras which sickness means.

We had Revd R. J. Wilson preaching for us on Sunday evening & he

Dept. of Rec.

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marked a position which [illegible]
right- he proud [illegible]
the years from [illegible]
all been thinking [illegible]
of you very often [illegible]
Summers will be [illegible]
day of the [illegible]
happy and prosperous [illegible]
Hold on to your [illegible]
every thing else [illegible]
satisfied. It [illegible]
that is about [illegible]
pleasing. Our only [illegible]
feel written for [illegible]
to realize how [illegible]

strength is. I sincerely hope you may have many years of unalloyed happiness & prosperity. John helped the make some after dinner mints and we are sending a few with our best love, to help digestion on the festive day.

Many thanks for your letter received yesterday. If it is just the same to you I think we would enjoy a bous with other friends than Ethel, unless you would rather we had her! Dr. Simpson was delighted when he heard your message & is to let us know how many will be going down. The annual meeting of the Bank is the following

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Harry. They are all things I would have liked to get but couldn't except for your generosity and I know the delight there will be on Christmas. Harry & I are giving Jean the much longed for bloomers & sweater!! I suppose you have lots of snow too. It is over a foot deep on the level & Sunday was a terrible day with the worst blizzard we have had since last February! The children are having a glorious time and it is certainly Christmas weather. I quoted to John "A green Christmas makes a full churchyard" this reply was "I suppose

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it would, they would all stayed
round "talk" !!
I don't know whether I will
get another letter off to you
before Christmas but this takes
with it all good wishes for the
season, our only regret being
that you will not be here.
Again let me send our united
love to you on your birthday
and, may all good come to you
tomorrow and throughout the
year your affectionate sister
Jennie

Mrs. H. Lay

stayed with us. Mr Shortt
was speaking on anti-union
in Dr Pigeon's church so we had
BOULDERFEL, BARRIE.
Dr Wilson here but on the con-
dition that he didn't mention
the union question. We hope
to have Dr Pigeon & the Moderator
here later on to discuss that
question why and prevent a
split in this church. Dr Wilson
was speaking of you & said
he remembered you at Varsity
We had a letter from Nelson
yesterday saying he was going about
on crutches. He wears an
evaporating bandage to keep
down the swelling during the day

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 November-December 1924

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Ottawa, December 17, 1924

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario

Many, many thanks, dear Jennie, for birthday letter and exquisite gift received from you today. I cannot tell you how much pleasure these expressions of your love and affection have brought me on this fiftieth anniversary. Please thank Harry and the children for joining with you in your good wishes and the sweet contents of your gift. I send with heartfelt thanks my fondest love to you all.

Rex

NIGHTLETTER
CHARGE: PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
November-December 1924

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Dec. 23. 1924

My dear Willie:

This is just a little note to carry to you our best love and all good wishes for the Christmas season. We know Santa Claus will be good to you and we hope the day will be one of great happiness. Your presents for the children

I don't see how you get time for letters but you haven't four children everlastingly under your feet! I never have a free minute till after they are in bed! Harry joins with me in every loving wish for Christmas and the New Year & hope all happiness & prosperity may be yours. With best love from the children, Harry & myself

Your loving sister

Jennie

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 November-December 1924

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arrived yesterday and I will
attack the little cards. The
will be Tuesday
they open them
has knitted a
for Peach & I
her doll so
be complete.
things need
Nancy & I were
the town for
trying to find
it send you

disgusted! How we will end our
love and leave others to give gifts!
I wish you had not been quite so
generous to us for we are never able
to return in kind. It was so good
of you to remember Nelson and
I know he will thoroughly appreciate
your kindness. Certainly Nancy & I
do. Thank you so much for your
letter & card. The latter is very pretty
and one everyone will be glad to keep.

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 November-December 1924

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W. G. BARBER,
GENERAL MANAGER, TORONTO, ONT.

RA114 12

1924 DEC 25 PM 12 16

BARRIE ONT 25 1210 P

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OTTAWA ONT

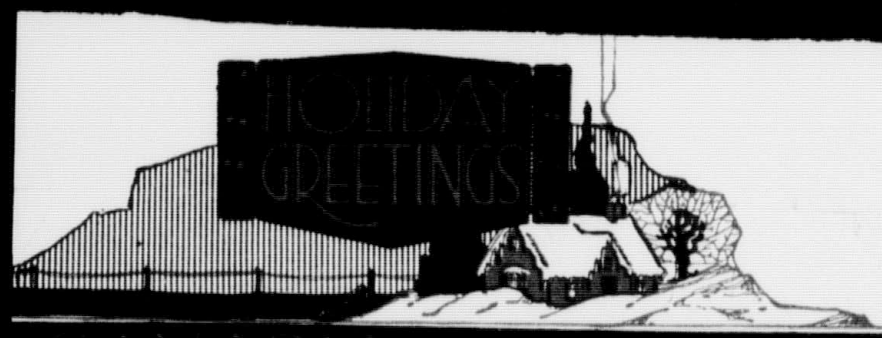
HARRY JENNIE AND THE CHILDREN JOIN IN BEST LOVE AND

XMAS GREETINGS

JENNIE.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. Wi
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 1
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family
November-December 1924

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

RA114 12

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BARRIE ONT 25 1210 P

RIGHT HON MCKENZIE KING

OTTAWA ONT

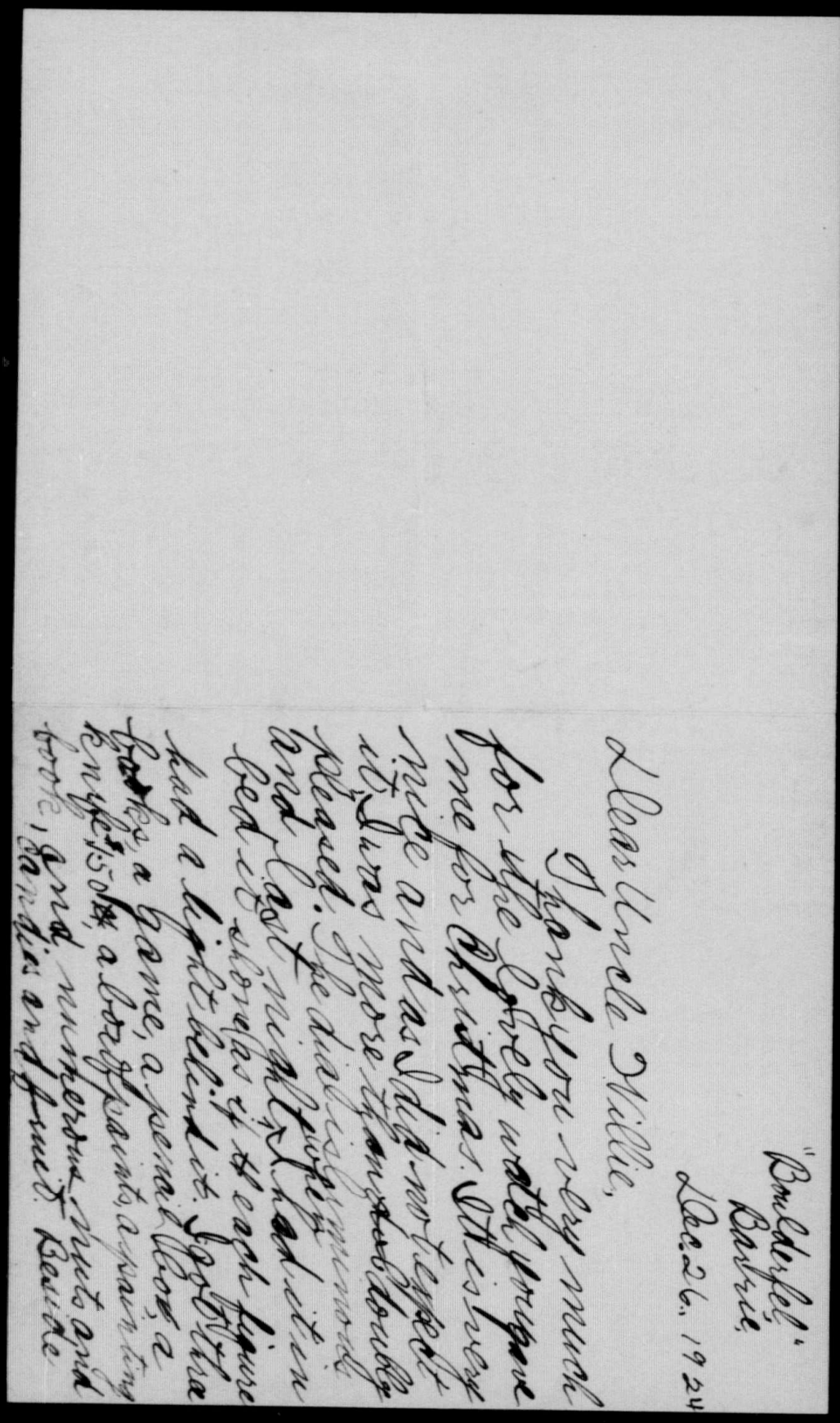
HARRY JENNIE AND THE CHILDREN JOIN IN BEST LOVE AND
XMAS GREETINGS

JENNIE.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

REPEAT
REPETITION

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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 November-December 1924

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this we all got a game called yacht racing. Nelson is sending a parcel to us but it has'nt arrived yet. Mrs Aird gave us a game of Pot. a game of pin the tail on the donkey and three other games.

We are going to the Shotts for tea to-night.

It is very cold now and blowing a hard S.- we were going to shovel a rink on the bay this afternoon but we can't now

I hope you will have a very Happy new Year and y many of them.

Lots of love from your loving nephew

John.

● 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 November-December 1924 ●

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"Bouldersfel"
Barrie, Dec. 26th, 24

My dear Willie

It is fitting that the first letter with the new desk fittings should be written to the very kind donor! I cleared off my desk and set out the new things and they look perfectly lovely. It is a beautiful present and one which will daily give pleasure, not only to me, but to all who see it. The blue is so pretty in this room and

days so, & with very inefficient help, it keeps me busy. This is our wedding anniversary & this morning John & Jean went down and bought us three roses with some of the money they got yesterday. I was cross with them for spending their money but it was sweet of them to think of doing it! It is a good deal colder today than it was eighteen years ago!

The children are all perfectly delighted with their presents. I am afraid had there been no Uncle Willie, Santa Claus would have been thought-

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My dear Mary,

Many thanks dear Mary, for your kind letter. I am very glad to hear that you received safely the picture of Rideau Hall containing Willie. I am sorry that the picture is so poor. I am sending you another picture of Rideau Hall which I hope will be better. I am also sending you a picture of

up the Long Distance operator & the last an October directory so that was pretty true. Hope it was all right.

Jones telegram came yesterday morning & brought much joy. It is so good of you to think so often of us when you are so busy. Harry wrote this morning to J. Spence and asked about the seals. I hope we can manage the trip for it will be a great experience. Now I must stop, & have the children to go to the Shortts'. We one & all unite in sending you very loving thanks and in the hope that 1925 will be a year of blessing & happiness to you in all you undertake. With much love Your affectionate sister Jennie

very mean! John got -$, Jean & Peach gloves & Harry overshoes. Harry gave me a sweater coat and I gave him the British Weekly. We had a very happy day with three homeless ones as guests, and a jolly good dinner! The children had a glorious time and seem still to be celebrating. I enclose the bills for my purchases. I really don't think anything else would have been more appreciated by any of them. Harry said to me this morning "How do you write to Jesus?" I told him Jesus knew our thoughts

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and we didn't need to write.
"Well then I wish I would be worried
hurry up & take anyway this evening
and let me take you bicycle
out." Everyone thinks he is
so like you & he often reminds
me of you when he plays
up & screeches! He has
had some splendid times
but it is an anxious
time dressed up in
pyjamas & dressing gown
to be so tired
to be tired when
in! I don't like
spell of cold weather and
it has come so early.
I am awfully sorry for

may having this new anxiety about Arthur. She really is plucky the way she sticks at her work & keeps things going. It is more than good of you to help her as you do and she is lucky to have you to fall back on. She will have the best medical help & Arthur ought soon to be well on the mend. However you turn there seems to be room for Charity!

I was sorry not to be able to give you first hand information about Percy Lindsey's address. The only thing I could do was ring

Barrie
Dec. 26. '24.
Dear Uncle
Willie I hope
you are well
and not sick
after christmas.
Mother thought
we might get
sick
Thank you very
much for the
lovely dolls I
carriage. I put
my doll in it
and took her
for a ride Jean
made me a cover
for my doll
carriage and
it is lovely
love from your
loving niece Rosa
XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

● King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924 ●

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 26. 1924

My dear Carlier,

The gift of Lord Minto was a most acceptable present and we shall very much enjoy reading it. Kit and Mary again thank you so kindly remembering us so delightful a way for your Christmas gift to us all.

The life of Lord Minto is made doubly interesting by the reference to your connection with public events & Canadian affairs. At that time Yukon was not known & Lewis was living but Dawson, I remember the days of illuminated

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a little address from that small person
community was held in my hands. Thank
You also for your loving message
Miss Grier and the success
Your kind wishes for the coming Year.
Jeune and I hope nothing will prevent
our going to Toronto on the 12th. as
are writing Mrs. J.W. Purves to You
support for renomination for the Barrie
Constituency. We are looking forward to a
"Gran visit!"
Once more Greetings from the
all. Your Friend Kingsley to the Kay
family both in Barrie and the mountain
I am ever Sincere. With Remembrance to
all.
Yours Affectionately.
Harry Lay.

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 November-December 1924

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The presents you sent mother just match the room and look very nice. To-day is mother's Wedding anniversary so John and I clubed together and got mother "three roses" because that was all we could afford. We have got a lovely Christmas tree which will stay up until my birthday so that every body can see it. John is a fond of his watch as I am. Harry is riding his tricycle all over the house and is all the time wishing that the snow would go away and the same with leaches. Harry is all the time taking the decorations off the Xmas tree and tying them on his tricycle to make it look like a parade. It was very cold on Xmas day but nobody minded that because nearly everybody was happy. Quite a few people gave us presents:- Josto, a Geography game, pin the tail of the donkey and lots of other nice games. It is below zero now and very windy. We got some of our presents today but most of them haven't come. I think this will be all for now. With lots of love from

Your loving niece.
Jean Lay.

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 31, 1924.

Miss Rosabel Lay,
Care, Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Lots of love and best wishes, dear Rosabel for a very happy New Year, and many, many thanks for your loving Christmas letter which I was so delighted to receive.

Uncle Willie

Night letter
Charge Prime Minister's Office

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
November-December 1924

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

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Ottawa, December 31, 1924.

Master Harry Lay,
Care, H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

dear Harry

Best wishes for a happy New Year. I was so glad to receive your loving Christmas letter and thank you so much for it. Lots of love from

Uncle Willie

Night letter
Charge Prime Minister's Office

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Ottawa, December 31, 1924.

Miss Jean Lay,
Care H.M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

A very happy New Year, dear Jean, and many, many thanks for your loving Christmas letter and Christmas gift, both of which I have greatly enjoyed. I send you best love for the New Year, which I hope will be a very Happy and good one for you.

Uncle Willie

Night letter
Charge Prime Minister's Office

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
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Ottawa, December 31, 1924.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Love and best wishes, dear Jennie, for a very happy New Year to Harry, the children and yourself. May nineteen twenty five be a very good year for you all. Please accept my warmest thanks for your telegram of loving greetings which I have just received from Harry and yourself and which has given me much pleasure.

Willie

Night letter
Charge Prime Minister's Office

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 November-December 1924

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 31, 1924.

Master John Lay,
Care, H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

A happy New Year, dear John, and many thanks for Christmas gift and letter received from you, both of which have given me very much pleasure. I hope the New Year will be a very good one for you. Lots of love.

Uncle Willie

Night letter
Charge Prime Minister's Office

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1924

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

Form 6123, replacing Form 1-TW

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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1924 DEC 31 PM 8 04

RA439 10

BARRIE ONT 31 755 P

RT HON MCKENZIE KING

476

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

LOVING GREETINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT BOULDERFEL

HARRY AND JANNIE.

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

● 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 November-December 1924

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Ottawa,
December 31, 1924

My dear Jennie:

I think you will be amused to see the enclosed card which my cook got out for Christmas. It happens that her name and her mother's name are the same ~~as my own~~ and, from the way she runs things, one would think she had the same authority in my household.

She told me your pudding was excellent. To my great dismay I found that she and the other two servants had eaten most of it. I was keeping it for my New Year's reception.

I am also enclosing a letter which I received when in England over a year ago, from Miss Siebert who was. You will no doubt remember her. Mr. MacGregor acknowledged the letter when it came to hand and I have to-day sent a further word of acknowledgment, in

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 November-December 1924

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clearing up correspondence that has been held in abeyance during the past year. If you feel like writing Mrs. Rossbach a line yourself, I am sure she will be delighted to receive it. Please return her letter and the cook's card when you are through with them.

With renewed good wishes for the New Year,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

VLMK/WHM/C

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 November-December 1924

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the children all went back to school today, John to the Collegiate.

Now I must write some other letters. Again many thanks dear Willie and hoping to see you on Saturday, with much love in which all the family join from loving Sister

Jennie

1925

they stayed all night. I took Peggy back with them this morning. Since then I have been helping Harry with his flowers for the flower show which is on today. With no maid it means a lot of work. Miss Duff rang me up a few minutes ago to say she had a maid for me and I expect her on Thursday at eleven a.m. It seems

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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-October 1925

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too good to be true! I have been alone all evening & am pretty tired. Oh! Well, we hope to see you & Richmond Hill on Saturday if it is a fine day, but not if it rains. Is there anything we could of your coming up for Sunday? We would love to have you & can be so glad to see you

or Camp Borden or Sutton or anywhere you like!!

We had the Chalmers here for Sunday a week ago and they were very happy. They said the Kitchener re-union was wonderful" & Willie is just the same as ever"! Think of them being left $275.000! Mary has a beautiful car and they seem to be enjoying life.

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

1923

Dear Jennie:

My first visit in this neighbourhood must be a greeting to you and Harry and the children - my heart goes and will remain for this New Year. May it be a very good year for you all.

Yours lovingly
Willie

Thanks ever for your telegram of Christmas wishes.

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-October 1925

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 4th 1925

My dear Willie

Jours loving letters and telegram have been very much appreciated I don't see how you manage to get in all you do. I have never had a minute to sit down to write letters. I did several after Christmas but Jean's birthday, Dr Gandier over Sunday & the children at home, have kept me busy. New Years eve I went to bed at 9.30 never cared whether any bells were rung at twelve p.m.! New years day we had callers in the afternoon, went to a tea & had some people in, in the evening. The morning was taken up with household duties and letters seem a luxury. Harry has been very busy at the

is going down to your meeting and is going to stay over for the next day's business.

We had an anti-union sermon from Mr Shaw this morning she quoted from your speech, in favor of anti-union! She didn't stick to the truth and my opinion of him dropped a good many pegs. We are to have the Moderator Dr McKinnon, stay with us next Friday and he will give an address in St Andrews. Donald Ross, though not a member, is one of the reactionist antis there is! The feeling here is very bitter.

Wasn't D.A. Cameron's death sad? I feel so sorry for his wife for I like her very much. He wasn't well last spring & had a couple of months off but I don't think they ever thought of his heart. It seemed strange it should have come that morning we had a letter from Nelson yesterday. He says he can get about with a stick but has no power in his leg & has to be very careful not to wrench it again. He says he doesn't know whether the cartilage has mended itself but doesn't seem to realize how serious that can be. We know how Isabel suffered all her life from the same thing. I am going to write & tell him.

The children were delighted with their telegrams. Harry's remark when he saw the type-written message was "Oh he only printed this!" They are writing one letter a day & it takes a long while to get over the list! Harry joins me in best love and in the hope that 1925 may be filled with happiness and prosperity for you. Hoping to see you on Monday. Your affectionate sister Jennie

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-October 1925

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Rough at the
a tremendous
at Lone Pin
procession, p
old friends!
and I am thi
of his bicycle
I have had t
station! Jean
the other day
broke her leg
shovelling, k
he came in Lo
Hood! All th
which might
I was glad
and will cert
is certainly
say. It was
they appreci
warm! Jean
the card you
after I left
hospital each

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-October 1925

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who can save Canada is Mackenzie King. It is a pity the Globe has to go to Montreal for a lead in this respect.

We are looking forward very much to hearing you on Monday evening.

With much love from us all

Yours affectionately
Harry Lay

Rt Hon W.L. MacKenzie King P.C.
Prime Minister,
Ottawa.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, Jan 10. 1925

My dear Willie,

It was exceedingly kind of you to send your telegram of the 7th and the copy of Hansard recording the division in which you voted against the Duff amendment. To effect use made of one paragraph in your speech to the effect that this was a time for conciliation not coercion, I quoted me or two passages from the same speech which showed that your desire was to remove all possible doubt as to the ability

JAN 13 Recd

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of the Presbyterian Church to consummate Union. Barrie is a stronghold of anti-Unionism and the ministers have been invited by circular to get out. This we intend to do should the vote, which starts on Wednesday next & continues for two weeks, be against union.

I hope that St Andrews Ottawa will set a good example and give a majority for union.

We had the pleasure of entertaining the Moderator Dr. Clarence MacKinnon last night. He addressed a good meeting in the Church and afterwards met our local Committee and then wives at our house. Dr. MacKinnon is a most charming man and we enjoyed his address and the little conversazione afterwards. He spoke of having been entertained at luncheon by you. Both John & Jean went up to the Church. The other day John told his mother he had read the Basis of Union and could see no reason why we should not go into the United Church of Canada!

I see the Montreal Star is quoted in the Globe today as stating that the only man

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had no regular maid since Christmas, though I have had a woman coming in each day. It has kept me very tied but I managed to catch up a little on my housekeeping expenses which had sadly overstepped in December! The family flourish on my cooking & the housework seems to agree with me but it leaves me time for nothing else and I can't keep it up for long.

We enjoyed immensely your meeting in Toronto. It was one of the finest meetings I was ever at and to see that building

Wm Jas K.

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

March 10th 1925

My dear Willie:

Letters seem to have been out of the question these last two months when I have had no maid but now that things are a bit easier I am trying to catch up with correspondence. Yesterday I wrote to May as I have never written since I heard that Lyon had pneumonia. May has certainly had a hard year but she seems to be doing

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well with her music and the absence of friends means a lot. I have leave to be away from Ottawa and, as they say, "out of sight is out of mind". However I enjoy the work. If you is served the Governor-General in the future you must have been a success. Your tribute is fine but I'm sure you could have expressed it better than they gave you credit for. I would love to see Quebec. It must be a wonderful city with her romantic and historical way of life. Regret pretty well as long as you will. It was good to see Duncan Marshall was most generous in praise of you and what you have accomplished. I was sorry that I was too sick to go to the meeting. Jean, Peach & then I had a dose of grippe but are all quite better. John is having his turn now but this year it has taken a much milder type and we only had a couple of weeks each! I have

situation. You will know Canada pretty well if you hold your present position a little longer! Harry said Duncan Marshall was most generous in praise of you and what you have accomplished. I was sorry that I was too sick to go to the meeting. Jean, Peach & then I had a dose of grippe but are all quite better. John is having his turn now but this year it has taken a much milder type and we only had a couple of weeks each! I have

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(they don't use text books) he, & we were agreeably surprised at the results. He told us at the time that he had made a number of foolish mistakes but he was too sick to think. He was on crutches at the time. He came 12th out of 72 & Harry DeWolf came 24th. In a former letter he told us of your generous Christmas present & how much he appreciated it. I had a letter from Audrey a few weeks ago and she said they had seen a photo of you at the "Herbert Woods" and did wish you would send them one. She also said to remind you when I saw you of the book you promised to send her & to tell you if you had a spare photo they would

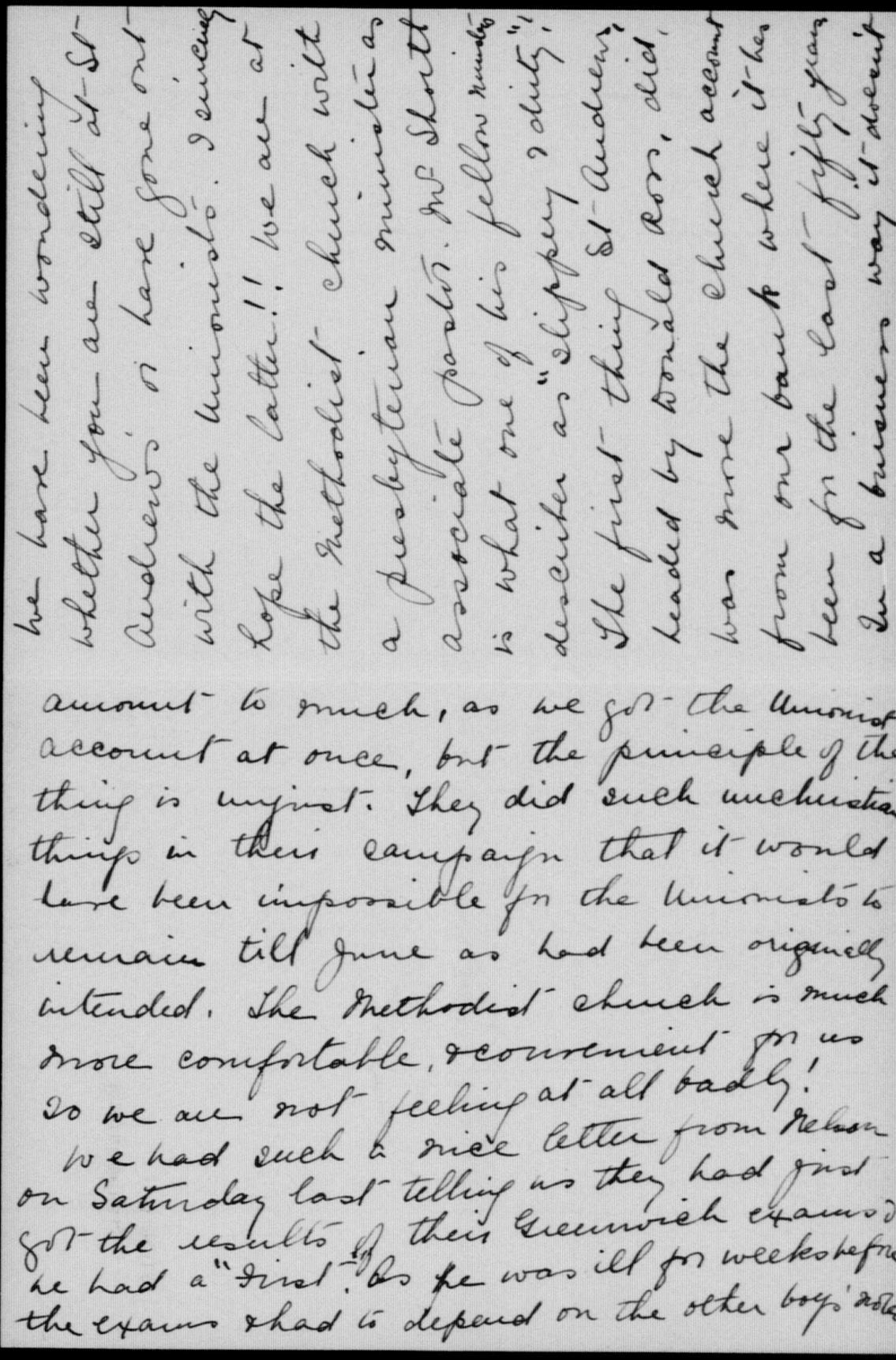
packed to the ceiling must have been an inspiration to you as well as your friends. You spoke splendidly and we were very proud of you. The feeling which is always uppermost at such times is the wish that Mother & Father could be with us! We could have given them so much happiness in these last few years, and the kind of happiness they most enjoyed.

We have had a great time here over Church Union. We saw that you Church had gone Anti and

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

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we have been hoping - still do - to
whether you are
Andrews is hard
with the Unionists
hope the latter!!
the Methodist church
a presbyterian
associate pastor
is what me of his
describes as "slipp
The first thing
headed by Donald
was more the ch
from me back
been for the last
In a business

amount to much, as we got the Unionist account at once, but the principle of the thing is unjust. They did such unchristian things in their campaign that it would have been impossible for the Unionists to remain till June as had been originally intended. The Methodist church is much more comfortable, & convenient for us so we are not feeling at all badly!

We had such a nice letter from Nelson on Saturday last telling us they had just got the results of their Greenwich exams & he had a "first". As he was ill for weeks before the exams & had to depend on the other boys' notes

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love to have one! I have delivered her messages! I suppose you saw Cora when she was in Ottawa. I was quite surprised when she was so enthusiastic about Toronto meeting, but evidently you won her heart by being good to Jim! Both she & Ethel Kirkpatrick rang me up and asked us to stay with them, but, as we had to come home on the early train, we felt more independent at the Prince George. Now I had better stop. Sam

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taking up too much of your
valuable time! I hope you
are well and that when you
are in this direction you will
run up and see us.
All here join in sending
much love
your affectionate sister
Jennie.

P.S. Will send back "Luidchen's"
letter & "Mrs Mackenzie's"
card in a day or two
J.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 2nd 1925

My dear Willie:

I have just finished a letter to Prin Siebel and am returning his and the card. Thanks for letting me have them.

Mary was glad of the word from you yesterday. You must be dog tired from festivities. You must be watching with interest. We are watching with interest from here too. This season.

Have you had Lords full. Mr. Lords, a friend of ours, is going to England but is waiting to see whether the sale is to go down! It is a splendid proposition, & hope you will be successful in all you have undertaken

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At present we are graciously favoured by
weather but expect to be out by Saturday
Harry has had them but is quite well
and outside today. We read up the
family had them five years ago when
he was three months old. Ann & Jean
are boarding in town for the week &
are not to miss school. They are all
well and looking forward to warm weather
We have been shopping recently up in
the hall in front of the house. It is quiet
a blessing to feel the winter is nearly over.
I hope you will keep well for your
sweet Grandchildren vitality & fine
life you do!
Did you see the notice of Doris Clahane
death in Thursday? I wrote to Annie, they
will miss him very much.
You will be glad my letter is short!
All join in much love & kindest
Jennie affectionately

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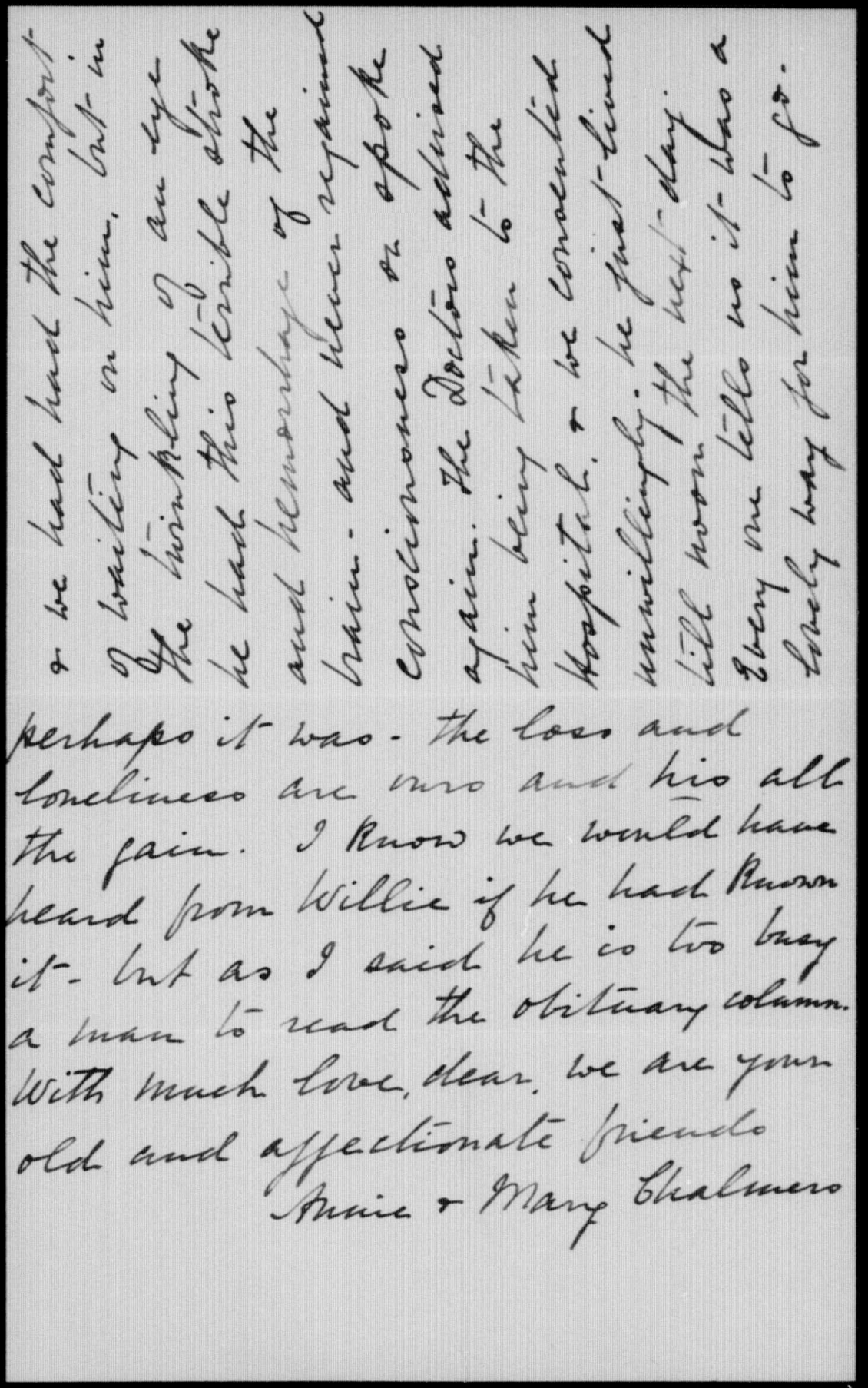
617 Avenue Road
Toronto, April 10th 1925

My dear Jennie.

Your loving letter of sympathy was duly received and Mary & I do appreciate your kindness & Mr Lay's. Our sorrow came to us very suddenly, & we have not recovered from the shock yet. If Daisy had been ill.

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perhaps it was - the loss and
loneliness are hers and his all
the pain. I know we would have
heard from Willie if he had known
it - but as I said he is too busy
a man to read the obituary column.
With much love, dear, we are your
old and affectionate friends
Annie + Mary Chalmers

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

April 21st '25

Dear Willie:

Before I begin my days' work I am going to get a line off to you, for I find it is fatal to letter writing to put off till a more convenient season.

We were all delighted with your Easter message and send many thanks for your loving thought of us. We were sitting in the library, speaking of you when the phone rang & they gave me your

all looking forward to having him with us for a little while and I know he will enjoy our home in the summer when he can have tennis, boating etc. I had a letter from Annie Chalmers. She said Darie had a stroke and died in two days without regaining consciousness. I will enclose Annie's letter. Destroy it after you have read it. Harry Jr. started off to school yesterday morning. The teacher had not returned from her holidays so they were given a holiday & Harry came back alone. I asked him if he met anyone & he said "Only three dogs, but I wasn't afraid"! I hate to see my baby start off but they

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message. I hope you enjoyed
from little Robert that
it was a real
Read me. From
a very strenuous
but I should
interesting one
while there is
early election
is probably
thought in
minds. The
Rolof on the
chances for
it seems

Isn't it horrible to see the snow again? I don't think I would mind so much if it were not so hard on the coal bin! It takes a lot of coal to keep warm for such a long winter. We had a beautiful bed of crocuses in front of the house but I am afraid there will be none left when the snow goes.

We had a letter from Nelson last week and he had made another "first" in his last exam: "Gunnery" I think it was. He hopes to get a commission on a Canadian ship this summer & if so will probably get home leave before he begins work. We are

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is good for us, but the rest of the family have bikes!

Did you notice that a tablet had been erected to the memory of Lady Willison? It never struck me there was very much to commemorate though. I was always fond of her she was more than good to me. You will soon be going out to Kingsmere. It must be lovely there in the Spring time. All here are well and send much love to you very many thanks for your Easter greetings. I am always glad when Easter is over. We didn't send cards or anything this year as I was in quarantine and had to look after it. Again with much love many thanks from affectionate Uncle Jennie.

have to grow up and, at my age, I realize that the sooner they are able to BOULDERFEL, care BARRIE for themselves the safer they will be in this world! Harry has quite recovered from his attack of measles & I hope they will all keep well for the rest of the year. I have a nice little maid. The one I had when we were quarantined objected to being kept in, so, as soon as I was sure Harry was not going to be seriously ill, I let her go. We saw by the Toronto papers that

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she was awfully pleased for being
in a resort down South
two months! She was a good
worker but afraid she
wasn't suitable
like having a
of the children
little chores
I haven't
to about a
learned to
her success
safely. She
her share
time to write
need to go

go to bed early if I am to accomplish
my days work without being too tired.
There is so much to do too little help.
I shouldn't tell you I am busy for I fancy
you never have an idle minute. We
are all hoping you will be able to come
and see us soon. We are having the
car painted so it will be fairly respectable
to drive the Prime Minister when he
comes; we couldn't get it out of
the garage on account of the snow
till the end of March it has been
down town ever since. I suppose walking

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Ottawa, June 1, 1925

My dear Jennie:

You may be interested in seeing the enclosed letter which came from Douglas Lay this morning.

I have only time to forward it with this line, which brings to you both, and to the children, my best love.

Yours affectionately,

W. L. Mackenzie King.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/LCM/RAW

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Grassi Pl- and spent the afternoon with Mrs Minnich and Helen. Sir George Burn was there and said he never saw a stronger likeness than John's to you! Harry is celebrated by rolling into the water with his clothes on and he looked about as handsome in my bathing suit, as Harry did in your clothes at Kingsmere!

You have had a pretty lively session and bid fair to have a busy fall. I hope you are keeping well! I had a letter from May, from La Jolla, California where she is spending July & August with the boys. She says Arthur had a small bone broken in his right arm just before they left for their holiday. Let me know if there is any chance of your coming to see us this week end. All join in sending very much love.

Your affectionate sister Jennie

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

July 26th 1925

Dear Willie:

We are all looking forward to seeing you if we go to Kitchener for the 4th. It is to be a great day we want to take it in if possible. Is there any chance of your coming to Barrie immediately before or after that visit? We are expecting Nelson home about that time. He sailed on Friday on the "Montrose" & said in his cable that he was going to stop off in Ottawa to see about his appointment. We may not do that

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now as many from Commodore steamer. We had letter from Balcarres had been appointment cable came de his appointment Chanfeol is Sopra would have the at home. We a He will have t a week off his leave. We are coming in the S plans looks as

I have had no maid for months but am hoping to get one from England this week. The work seems to agree with me for I have had less indigestion than for twenty years! but I am tied to the house and have very few spare minutes. However we managed to give two big teas this month, one for the officers others wives from Camp Borden. There are some very nice people there and as many does the banking business for the Camp we decided it was policy as well as pleasure to entertain them!

Last Friday I drove the children down to DC

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LH

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

August 8th 1925.

Dear Uncle Willie,-

Just a line to thank you very much for all the trouble you took about my leave. The letter from the Dept. of National Defence arrived this morning and they've given me a week more than they first

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said. They haven't acknowledged my letter yet so it was entirely due to you that I am getting the extra bit.

I was hoping for 38 days but only expecting 10, so was quite pleased when I heard definitely that I'd been given 17 days.

The "Patrician" is going to be at Vancouver when I join, so I ought to be able to see something of Aunt Audrey and Uncle Murray.

The rest of the family join me in sending their love.

Your affectionate nephew,

Nelson Lay.

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overhauled and it was found to require new bearings re. She now runs like a watch, and when you return, I think will take you anywhere and bring you back without delay!

Jennie and the Kiddies join me in much love. Please give our kind regards to Major Moyer.

Yours affectionately,
Harry Morrison.

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Aug 16. 1925

My dear Willie,

At Graeme Cameron's funeral last Thursday I was very sorry indeed to learn that he has left his widow and young child of five in very poor circumstances. I understand he only had $3000 insurance and that practically all his estate will be his freehold property. I don't know what the

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practice is in the case of a Judge's death – as to the length of time his salary is paid thereafter or if his period is extended until his successor is appointed. His widow, whom you know, is a very fine woman and she will gratefully appreciate any help it might be in your power to afford in the matter of representing her to the consideration of the Department. Graeme was one of your stalwart supporters and I know that you had a high regard for him. Do what you can for the widow.

Affectionately yours, John + Jean and I motored to Walkerton on Wednesday afternoon. N. + I going on to Toronto next day. We all appreciate the extra two weeks leave allowed to Nelson. Thanks beyond kind offices. He leaves for Vancouver next Wednesday night.

Jennie and I were sorry your visit to Barrie could not have been longer. Since our trip to Sutton I have had my car

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, August 27, 1925

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Best love and best wishes, dear Jennie, for a very happy birthday and many very happy returns of the day. I hope this new year of your life will be in every way the happiest you have thus far known. Love and best of wishes also to Harry and all the children.

WILLIE

PAID
CHARGE MACKENZIE KING

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 30th 25

My dear Willie

Many thanks for the Kitchener speech which has just arrived. This letter has been written in spasms now it is Sept 1st. We have had Peggy Thistle with us since Thursday & have been busy every day. Yesterday we went to Chilhi to see the Champlain Monument, which is really worth seeing. When we came home the Dr & Stazel were sitting in the library. They had come up for Peggy & had been here a couple of hours!

Your letter and telegram of good wishes are very much appreciated. Knowing as I do how very busy you are I think a very great deal of your taking the time to write me a letter! I know what it means, when you have

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a thousand times to
think of, and appreciate
very sincerely the kind
trouble you take. Many
thanks for all the good
trailer. She
be a very welcome gift and
my darken will
"Carmel" This
save me, but
see a bit too
to Gatineau
I like your
much and "
Kingsmere, is

It is prettier than "King's Cottage" which is no longer suitable. "Moonside" is certainly true of the Armidge place. I wanted to go and see "Woodside" when we were in Kitchener but perhaps it is as well I did not for they say it is terribly broken down. The Kitchener visit was a very real pleasure as was also our little trip to Sutton. There is a beautiful launch on the lake and we were wondering if it was the new O'Connor yacht!

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

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Form 6122
Replacing Form 1-TW

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543

L C MOYER

PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE OTTAWA ONT

RLEASE FORWARD SEAL TO MRS H M LAY BARRIE WITH LETTER
ADVISING SENT AT MY REQUEST

W L MACKENZIE KING.

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, September 9, 1925

Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King,
Private Car Number 100,
Guelph, Ontario.

Boulderfel embossing seal just delivered by Pritchard Andrews. Stop. Shall I forward to Barrie or hold until your return.

L. C. Moyer.

CHG: PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
October 1925

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Ottawa, Septe,ber 10, 1925

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

Dear Mrs. Lay:

Mr. King has asked me to let you know that I have today forwarded to you, by parcel post, at his request, a stationery embossing seal which has been made to his order by a local firm.

With kindest regards to yourself, Mr. Lay and family,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

L. C. MOYER

Private Secretary.

LCM/KM

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Sept. 12th 1925

My dear Willie:

You see the letter press has arrived safely, and we are all agreed it makes a very pretty letter head. The beauty of it is, we can do the stamping ourselves and that, in years to come, will make a considerable saving! The whole family appreciates its value, and already school books have an imposing heading! Thank you very, very much. It is a birthday

have liked to have heard his speech! What a splendid picture that was, taken with Percy Parker. It is good of one of the groups. You must have had a fine meeting there too. You will be kept busy for the next two months. There is some talk of Donald Ross running here! I hope he is not chosen as he is not popular though he is a good speaker. Drury would be a splendid man if they could persuade him to run Liberal. A three-cornered fight will put Boys in again. I hope if you are in this direction you will come in to see us and we will see that you get a rest. All the family are well & join in sending best love & all good wishes for the coming contest. Again many thanks for the lovely press

Your loving sister
Jennie

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present which will be ever in mind for there is scarcely a day that I will not think of something different I saw it. Your always kindness in greeting us. I enjoyed your speech very much. It is the first time I have had cheers enough for a speech on the platform, but it certainly made all the difference in my enjoyment of the meeting. I do not know that we had so far trouble on the trip. Your voice splendidly and carries so well in the building for. Dr. Hart said they

every word of your speech by radio up here! That seems remarkable. It was a splendid meeting in every sense of the word. Mr. Murphy gave me his bouquet though I told him the people might not like it! He said he didn't care. Tell him if you see him that only a dozen of the roses are still fresh and have given us all a great deal of pleasure. Yesterday John had to give an oral composition at High School and he chose as his subject "The Liberal picnic at Richmond Hill". I would

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the children were delightful with the books & flags. Mary was reading everything from the book at breakfast only had time to read a couple of chapters so far. Mr. Ellis is a splendid writer. I don't know whether I can go to the Massey Hall meeting. We will not probably dress as the trip home in the dark is too trying, but may go down today a couple of days with Helen if she is at home, I can get away. I would love to be at it. This is splendid weather for electioneering. Give me in Mary's the children join me in sending best love and with many thanks for all your kindness

Yours

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

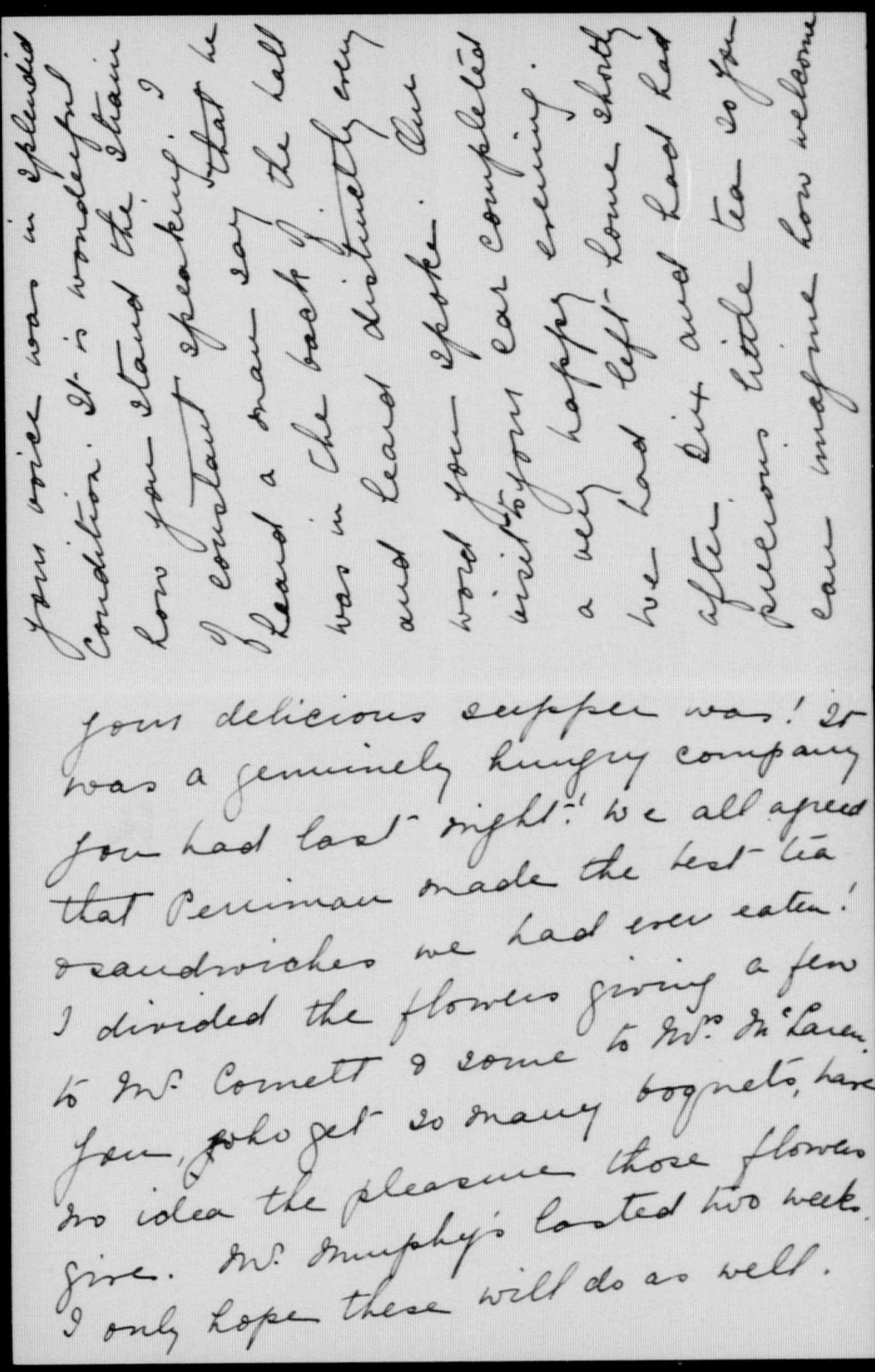
October 16th 25.

My dear Willie:

It was a very great pleasure seeing you again last night. Your meeting was splendid. Mary spoke very well indeed & quite infinitely the best at the meeting. I am sure this is a great help to you & the Party. Everything is going well here. Mary & I spent a very quiet day yesterday. Mary had a bad cold & I thought it best to keep her in bed. She is much better today & will be up for lunch. I am going to Toronto this afternoon to speak and

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your voice was in splendid
Condition. It is a wonderful
box for standing the strain
of constant speaking. I
heard a man say the call
was in the back of the hall
and heard distinctly every
word for speaker. Our
visitors from Canada complimented
a very happy evening.
We had left- over tea
after Dit and Mrs Mc Laren
previous little supper
can imagine how delicious

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your delicious supper was! It was a genuinely hungry company you had last night! We all agreed that Perriman made the best tea sandwiches we had ever eaten! I divided the flowers giving a few to Mrs Connett & some to Mrs McLaren. You, who get so many bouquets, have no idea the pleasure those flowers give. Mrs Murphy's lasted two weeks. I only hope these will do as well.

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BOULDERFIELD
BIRCHCLIFF ONT.

October 27th '25

Dear Willie:

We were very disappointed that we could not get down to your Toronto meeting but Harry had it the time and I had it the cash! Everyone says it was a wonderful meeting and, for the first time, I wished we had a radio! So many people here heard every word and they about Drury as Premier of Ontario. Even his own side hissed him done but Tory said to Stacey going out of the meeting: "Well, he made one vote for Drury Did you ever hear such dirt?" It was the most unpardonable bit of ungentlemanly I have ever listened to. It came near the end of his speech she had to sit down. When a man descends to personalities he always loses ground. The only example Boys gave us was that motor tires made in Canada sold for 5 cents less than those made in the States & Drury replied that it was easy to see why Mr. Boys chose tires - we all knew with what they were filled!! Since I started this letter I have heard of six who are going to vote for Drury after hearing Boys speak! I do hope you will get a splendid majority both in North York & in the country at large. I wish we could go down to Holland Landing tomorrow night! All are well & send best wishes for your success with love from affectionate sister

Jennie

said the air conditioning was perfect:
Earl: right- we had been between Boys & Drury, & then had been never again have Boys is a gentleman every rule I could I never was so every life - even did it- except Boys did last- two rules

were that they were to stick to the tariff strictly federal issues. The second was that there were to be no personalities. Mr. Drury spoke first for 80 minutes then Mr Boys for an hour, then Drury 10 min. This order is to be reversed tonight at Collingwood. Mr Boys began by laughing at Miss MacPhail & told a story, imitating a French member which ended up with "if she does not apologize, then she is no gentleman". This he told for the benefit of the ladies & I thold it was an insult to their sex as well as to their intelligence!" He gave us a lot of fluff till he finally came to his remarks

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BOULDERFIELD
BARRIE, ONT.

October 30th '25

My dear Willie:

It is impossible to realize that one day can so completely change the face of the country. We are desperately sorry for the country as a whole and for you in particular. So far we haven't heard the final results but it looks like a dead lock. What will happen? Mrs Drury rang me up this morning and asked me if you had said anything about another

town with Harry to get the results & the evening was a pretty exciting one for them. I stayed at home till I saw how things were going. & then had no desire to join the throng. We couldn't get you at all till Harry told Central to say it was your sister wanted to speak to you. I couldn't have slept without telling you how sorry we felt & how disgusted with the Country. All send much love and hope seeing you have had experience in taking defeat as well as in success, this will not mean so much to you. Your loving sister Jennie

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Ska says Mr Bruce is
election. She
simply
Boys is a
it does
mein
displace
This
of 1911
Surrey
also shows
County in
free trade
afraid of it
are. As

"we'll fight again" and as another said
"Better luck next time". I hope even
this time things may turn up to ease
the blow a little. In the mean time
we want you to know that we are
all thinking of you & send any
loving sympathy. Poor old John
is completely knocked out though
I made him go to school this
morning so as not to look like
a shirker. he is having a rest
this afternoon. She & Jean went down

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Ottawa,
October 31, 1925

My dear Jennie:

It was very kind of you to 'phone the night before last and to supplement your 'phone message by your letter just received.

The results were a bit of a surprise but the present situation, while baffling in some of its aspects, is anything but discouraging. I really look forward to a rebirth of a larger and stronger Liberalism out of what has happened. It requires an object lesson of this kind to bring together the Liberal and Progressive forces, and to teach them the folly of having wasted their strength in division, and to waken up our people to the value of the position they had won.

The truth is the Party, as a party, has never really tried properly to organize, nor to give to the Government either in the Press, or otherwise, the support which an Administration needs. I am far from sorry at some aspects of the situation. I believe it is all going to work out for the best, though it adds somewhat to my fatigue at the moment; I am inclined to view that as its worst feature.

I would write more, but you and Harry will understand how busy I am, and that this letter

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brings to you and to the children my best of wishes. With love to all

Yours affectionately,

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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Yours affectionately,

W. L. Mackenzie King

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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will soon be better for you here a big task before you. The liberals in North York must be pretty sore. A man who comes from down there told Harry that all the scowd who live in "Shacktown" were bought up and would be enough to defeat you alone. It was a shame and the thing I feel most badly about in the whole election. I hope you will win out in North York again! Many thanks for your letter. I don't want you to answer this or bother about us at all. I only want you to know that we are thinking of you all the time wishing you every success. The children are all well. Rosabel will be nine on Sunday and it doesn't seem any time since Mother was with me in the hospital in Wallaceburg you were in Baltimore! Best love dear Willie in which all join

ever lovingly yours

Sir Joshua said was up here on Tuesday & he said the only thing for you to do, for the sake of the country, was to hold on to office must bring on an election till absolutely necessary.

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

J.W.L. Nov. 6. 25

My dear Willie:

We were delighted to see by yesterday's papers that you are going to hold on to the reins of government. It would be a great mistake to do otherwise not only because it would be an acknowledgement of defeat, but because it would give the Conservatives control of so many things before the next election. Aren't they furious? Bob Rogers seems to feel he has been cheated

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of a choice bone! I cut out these two items. You may have seen them, but I would be a pity to miss either. As the Globe publishes, unfortunately, the Ferguson's remarks that the county will [illegible] alone the methods it has [illegible] Old stage-driver is me of the Star is me of the We were out at Sunday evening and Telling us a few the election. We a splendid fight we had a decent either in Toronto would have got

is too afraid of losing business to be on either side this partner is a Conservative. I noticed in Walkerton, where Dr. Hall (a poor fish!) got in, the Telescope was out-and-out Liberal. A nephew of Mr. Pense's has bought it out and there is no question where he stands. It certainly helps a lot. I sincerely hope they will start a morning Liberal paper in Toronto and freeze the Globe out. It is too bad the Conservatives have so much more money at their backs than anyone else has.

I see by the paper that you and Mrs. Meighen have both had colds! So have I & can sympathize most sincerely as I am jolly sick! I hope you

Ottawa, November 11, 1925

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

I was delighted to receive your welcome letter of November the 6th.

The political situation at the moment is still uncertain, but I have little doubt that when Parliament assembles it will be found that the anti-high-protection forces will join together to oppose any want of confidence motion which Mr. Meighen may seek to have carried, and that I shall be thereby invited to continue not only in the leadership of the Party but of the Government.

I have had twenty or more seats offered to me, but have felt I would prefer to remain out of Parliament until the House of Commons itself had passed upon the question of majority rule, thereby removing any possible suggestion of my having sought to cling on to office or to usurp power, the kind of thing which would be abhorrent to my whole nature.

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I feel too that the time has come when, if I am to continue to give the best of my life to the country's services and that of the Party, there should be something more in the way of appreciation of the support which all elements of a party should give its leader than I have had in the last four years.

The division of the anti-high-protection forces between Liberals and Progressives has been the main cause of the present situation. I have done my utmost ever since I became the leader of the Party to point out to all concerned the folly and inevitable consequences of such a division. While I have the friendliest feelings for Mr. Drury and others of his point of view, I would regard them much abler statesmen if they had been big enough to see beforehand what is now so plain to everyone and have lent their influences to healing a breach instead of helping to perpetuate it. I shall certainly never seek to carry on government by begging for Progressive support. I have helped to gain to them not a little of what they hoped to be able to obtain; if they wish for more they will have now to show wherein I may rely upon their support.

There is no question that so far as North York is concerned there was not a phase of corruption which was not

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carried as far as it possibly could be carried, without open exposure.

I was glad to learn that the old riding of North York had returned me; the defeat came through the addition of the two townships in the near proximity of Toronto and where there is a very considerable purchasable vote.

We have certainly been very much handicapped through having no press and scarcely less handicapped in the matter of organization.

I am sorry to learn from your letter that you also have a cold. I trust that ere this you have been able to shake it off. Please give Rosabel my congratulations on her ninth birthday. I am sorry not to have sent a little message on the day, but I did not receive your letter until after it was over.

I do not know whether I ever thanked you for your letter received the day before the elections telling me of the joint debate between Boys and Drury. One thing this election has helped to do has been to give you an insight into tory methods and to understand more fully what Liberalism really means and stands for and what it must have meant to be a Liberal in the early days. I am afraid this generation have

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forgotten the spiritual side of the conflict and that Liberalism is as much a part of Christianity of politics as it is the gospel of political freedom.

With best love to Harry, the children and yourself,

Believe me, as ever, dear Jennie,

Yours very affectionately,

WLMK/OR

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Ottawa, November 20, 1925.

Christmas, 1925

My dear Jennie:

It has occurred to me that if I were to give you a little longer time in making, on my behalf, a suitable selection of Christmas gifts for the children, you might be able to do much better for them and for me than if this commission were left over to the last minute. I am, therefore, enclosing a cheque for $50. and shall be glad if you will divide it between the little people in a proportion of $15. each to the two elder ones and $10. each to the two younger ones. If you like to make adjustments in any other way please feel free so to do.

I am writing May with reference to gifts for the boys and herself. It seemed to me to be the best plan to send a cheque and let them make their own selection.

Just at present I am doing my utmost to overtake a mass of correspondence which has reached colossal proportions. Until this is finished I shall not be able to enjoy any kind of rest or change. Meanwhile, I am "sitting tight" and letting the political

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situation work out as best it may

With best love to the children, Harry and yourself,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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(Personal)

Ottawa, November 20, 1925.

H. M. Lay Esq.,
Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ont.

My dear Harry:

I am very anxious to get Jennie for Christmas some little gift which she would really appreciate, and which she could have as coming from me while I am still Prime Minister. In the present circumstances one cannot say how long I may continue in that particular office.

I wish very much that you would write me a private note making a suggestion or two. Without letting Jennie know, you could probably ascertain what she would really like to have. Has she, for instance, a silver tray for afternoon tea use? Has she silver candlesticks? Would she like china in any form, or brass? My own thought was something more or less durable in which she would take a little pride as well as pleasure. What about silver picture frames for the piano, or writing t able sets or something of that kind, or ladies toilet sets? She may prefer to have something in the way of a fur ruff or something else to wear.

You will help me very much if you will give me a hint or

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two, as I am anxious to get all these matters arranged before Parliament re-assembles. I shall be too busy around Christmas time to attempt any shopping.

With all good wishes,

Ever affectionately yours,

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 November-December 1925

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, Nov. 24. 1925

Rt. Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King, P.C.
Prime Minister,
Ottawa,

My dear Willie,

Replying to your letter of the 20th - I have made some enquiry and find that something in the way of dessert spoons or forks, "fiddle" pattern, or china of any kind, would be very acceptable to Jennie. anything of brass did not so much appeal when and I think you gave her a mixing table set last year. She also spoke of candlesticks.

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You must have a very busy time just now and the burdens you have to bear are not lightened by the present extraordinary state of affairs. It must be hard to find a president in the history of British Parliamentary Government for the position in Canada today. We have confidence in your ability however to meet the situations which are sympathetic with your personalities. Matters no doubt will clear up when Parliament makes its decision.

I had a cable from my brother Frank last week telling me of Mabel's very serious illness. She is suffering from pernicious anaemia and slight paralysis. Her recovery is doubtful. As her health has been precarious for some years I have rather dreaded her ability to ~~throw~~ through the present attacks.

We are expecting Mr. & Mrs. Fraser (the artist) to address the Canadian Club here tonight. She and Mrs. Fraser are to beat our home this evening.

With best love from us all,

Yours affectionately,

Harry Lay

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her. She was more than good to Nelson.

Now about this crazy dame. She wrote me today saying she would be at the Carls Rite if you were coming here and that I was to get you by long distance & tell you you had to come! Needless to say I have paid no attention to her letters. This is the fourth I have had. It is too bad she should be able to worry people so much. Many thanks for your wire & letters. She will get no satisfaction from me you can be sure. This is all I have time for now as the train is in. Best love from all the family

ever your affectionate sister

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 24th '26

My dear Willie:

We are waiting for Mr & Mrs Forster to arrive on this evening's train so I will get this note off as there will not be a minute after they get here. Mr Forster is to speak at the Canadian Club tonight and he & Mrs Forster are to stay with us.

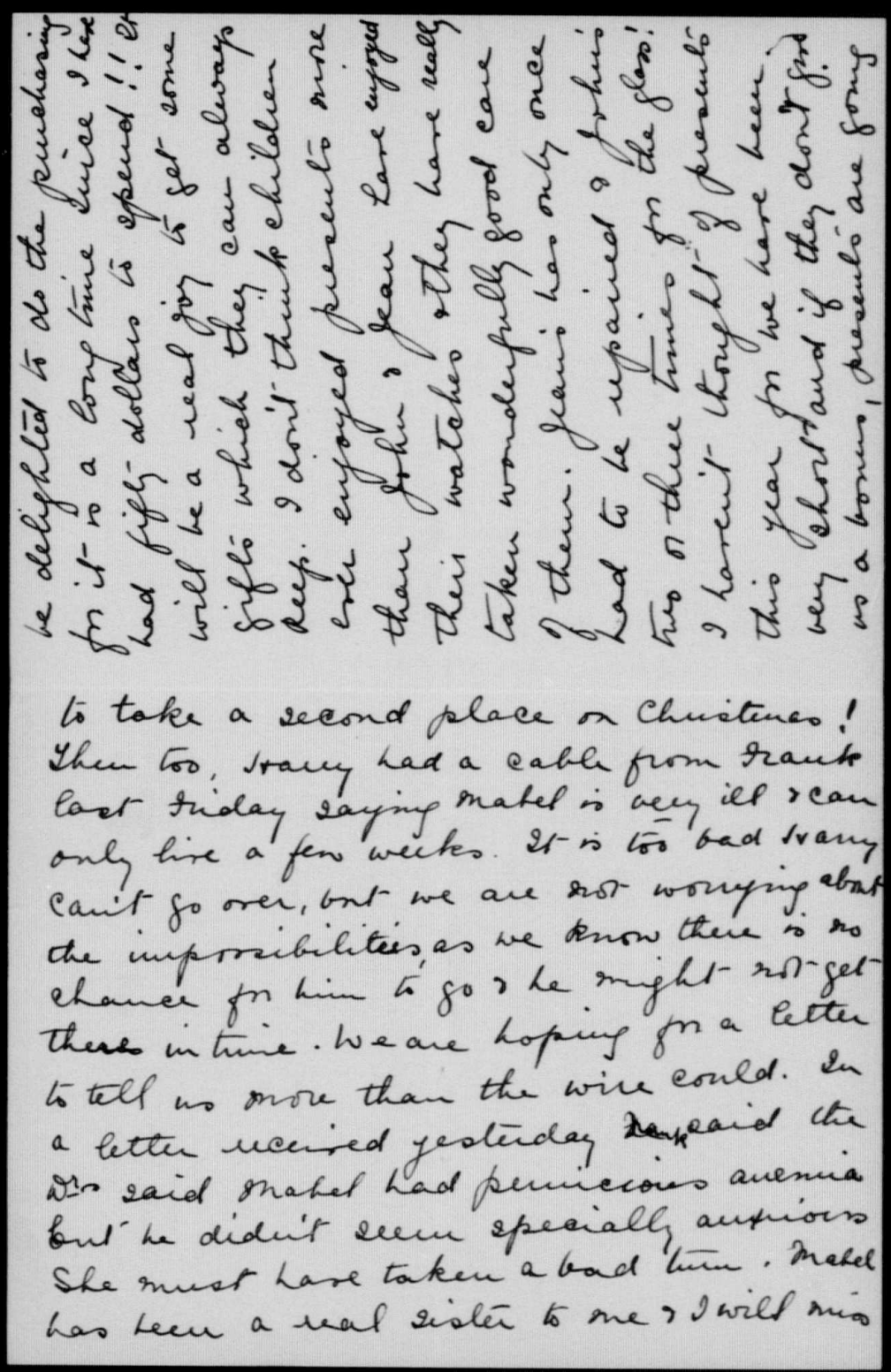
First of all let me thank you very much for your very generous cheque for the children. I will

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to take a second place on Christmas! Then too, Irany had a cable from Frank last Friday saying Mabel is very ill & can only live a few weeks. It is too bad Irany can't go over, but we are not worrying about the impossibilities, as we know there is no chance for him to go & he might not get there in time. We are hoping for a letter to tell us more than the wire could. In a letter received yesterday Frank said the Drs said Mabel had pernicious anemia but he didn't seem specially anxious. She must have taken a bad turn. Mabel has been a real sister to me & I will miss

0 0 0 1 2 7

Ottawa, November 25, 1925.

H. M. Lay Esq.,
Barrie, Ont.

My dear Harry:

I was deeply grieved to learn by your letter, just received, of Mabel's very serious illness. You know, I am sure, how I feel for you all in your present great anxiety. I wish there were some way in which I could help to relieve some of it.

I thank you very much for the helpful hint given me in connection with which I spoke. Please thank Jennie for her letter received this morning. If Miss Pearson should continue correspondence with her I wish you or she would write and say that you wish it discontinued and that unless it is you shall have to take steps to see that it is. If you don't do this you will receive letters every week for months to come.

With all good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

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 November-December 1925

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, November 25, 1925.

H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Am so sorry to learn of Mabel's serious illness. You know how deeply I feel for you and for your brothers and sisters in their great anxiety. Had thought of cabling Frank, but on reflection have felt it might add to his own anxieties at the moment. If you are writing please tell him and your sisters how much their feelings are shared by me.

W. L. Mackenzie King

D.H. F.S. 104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1925

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Ottawa, November 26, 1925.

My dear Jennie:

You will receive from the Compo Company of Lachine, Que., a souvenir of the recent campaign, which I have asked them to forward to you. It is a record of part of one of my speeches at Montreal, where there was an audience of between 17,000 and 20,000 people. It is estimated to be the largest political gathering ever addressed beneath the one roof. There was a vaster audience as well, who heard the address over the radio.

You may find difficulty in recognizing the voice unless the record is set at exactly the same rate of speed as the instrument which received the speech "over the ether." This record represents one of the very latest achievements in mechanical science, the combination of the radio and the gramophone, the one eliminating space and the other time, and I hope that you, Harry and the children will derive some fun and pleasure from this interesting souvenir.

Yours ~~very sincerely,~~

Willis

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

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 November-December 1925

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Yours very sincerely,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

the one remaining there and the other Susie and I hope that you Harry and the children will

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Form 85

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Barrie, November 28th 1925.

Rt.Hon.W.L.Mackenzie King P.C.

Prime Minister,

Ottawa,

My dear Willie,

Very many thanks for your kind telegram of sympathy which I am enclosing to Frank and also for your letter of the 25th received this morning. We are hoping against hope that the next news from England may be more hopeful.

Murray is with us to-day over the week end which is a very great pleasure He has been in Toronto on business connected with the Imperial Bank and returns to-morrow night. He was asking after you and discussing the Elections. Like others he is unable to account for the set back the Liberal Party received except the influence of the Canadian Manufacturers Association which is determined to retain its monopoly and will not tolerate even a gesture towards lower tariff.

With very much love from us all and again thanking you for your kind sympathy,

Yours affectionately,

W.H. Hall

C 21 000 000

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 November-December 1925

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Lay

Ottawa, December 10, 1925.

My dear Jennie:

Can you tell me how many children there were in father's mother's family (the Macdougalls)? My impression is that the family was a large one, of whom Uncle Dougald and Aunt Flora were two members and that grandfather was the second child of the family.

Can you tell me how many children there were in the family of mother's mother, and which child mother's mother was? (i.e. first, second, third or fourth)?

This data is required to complete an hereditary questionnaire which I have received from the United States, and which I am anxious if possible to have properly filled out. I enclose sheet which shows data requested and which may be of interest to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel"
Barrie, Ont.

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The more important data relative to my work on Premiers: Kindly oblige,
J.F.K.

Heredity Questionnaire

(Note: No names of persons or places or dates other than year dates are required. We wish to ascertain the quantities of time between births of ancestors of those investigated; this is our only aim.)

PARTIAL GENEALOGY of W. L. Mackenzie King

In the interest of eugenic science will you not kindly fill out the following blanks, accurately or approximately:

Year you were born: 1874

Year your father was born: 1843 Or about what year: --

Year your mother was born: 1843 Or about what year --

Year (or about what year) your father's father was born: 1814

Year (or about what year) your father's mother was born: 1821

Year (or about what year) your mother's father was born: 1795

Year (or about what year) your mother's mother was born: 1802

In the following blanks please give as near as possible the order in which each ancestor was born, whether the first child, third child, tenth child, etc; also give the number (or about) of the children in each family:

You were the 2nd child of a family of 4.

Your father was the 2nd child of a family of 2

Your mother was the 13th child of a family of 13

Your father's father was the only child of a family of 1

Your mother's mother was the 2nd child of a family of ..... . (large)

Your mother(s mother was the.....child of a family of.... ....

Often the date of death and the age at death of a party will, with other data, work to supply a birth rank; therefore, kindly give the mortuary data of any of the above. Give the name of the relationship butnot the name of the person:

Relation	Date died (year only)	Age at death

When executed please return to John F. Kendrick,1775 Cullom Ave. Chicago,Ill.

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we enjoyed so much having Murray with us for a couple of days. He & Mary had great talks. Nelson is to be with them for a week at Christmas as he hasn't time to come home. The news of Mabel is very hopeless. There has been a slight improvement since she went to Frank's but the Drs hold out no hope. At present she is quite paralyzed. They have two nurses. Marie is also there. It has brought back Mother's illness so vividly.

We had rather a nasty experience today. Harry brought the car from the garage but when we tried to start it the wheels locked so we got out & tried to shove it enough to unlock the wheels so that we could crank it. We unlocked it

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 15th '25

My dear Willie:

Your letter arrived yesterday but, far from being able to give you any information, I got considerable myself. However I went up this afternoon to see Mrs Dies, who was a Miss Baylis of Kingston. Her husband has just been appointed manager of the Royal Bank here. She said she met you, I think in Belleville, and told you she was a connection. She told me the other day that an

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last him the rest of his young life! I will send you a detailed account later I hope you will approve. The stores are a great temptation just now, but if we don't get a bonus, we can't patronize them this year.

Mr Forster gave a very good lecture (read) and spoke so nicely of Grandfather. He cut out the part referring to the rest of the family for which I was thankful. We liked his wife very much.

Murray was telling me that Miss Pearson tackled him & tried to get him to give you letters. She rang me up from Toronto asked if I had been able to do anything to arrange a meeting? I told her "Absolutely nothing". Have not heard from her since!

With best love in which Mary & the children join & very good wish for Thursday

from your loving sister
Jennie

all night, it simply ran away, took two of our gate posts with it. Fortunately we were behind wicket & in front of it BOULDERFEL but it is aggravating to have BARRIE battered car to pay for as well as the fence & two posts! It will have to stay like that all winter unless we get very mild weather as they can't work with cement when it is so cold. We ought to be thankful no one was hurt and also that the car is not smashed to bits! These unnecessary expenses are very annoying.

I sent off today a plum pudding which I hope you will have for your birthday dinner. Remembering the fate of last year's I

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decided for me would be more
likely to enjoy it more than at
Christmas! I thought the basket
would be useful at Kingsmere,
a fruit at Kingsmere, it is
only a trifling thing
but it is sent with a great deal
of love. We are spending
all the family will be there
every evening
fear and also
if it will be a
Guy Gale was
and Jean come
Christmas. It
manufacture
and Christmas

I went down to Toronto by bus last Thursday and spent some of your good money. John is the only one I am not quite sure of it was touch up between books stools but I will know by the end of the week. Either would delight him but I am waiting to get definite prices. I hope you will approve of the things. Jean is very keen on ivory for dressing so I got her a mirror, hat brush & nail scissors clamps, for Peach I got a watch for Nancy a waffon. He had such joy out of the last you gave him that so longed for another that it seemed the one thing most to be desired. This one ought to

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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OTTAWA ONT

BEST LOVE AND ALL GOOD WISHES FOR MANY HAPPY RETURNS

HARRY AND JENNY..

DEC 17 Recd

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 17, 1925

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Your loving letter, telegram and birthday gifts have brought me the greatest happiness. I cannot thank you all too sincerely for what they express of your kind thought and loving wishes. Love to all.

Willie

DH FS 104

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Cups & Saucers
Xmas 1925

Hon. W. L. M. King

To be filled upon receipt

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 20th 1925

Dear Jennie:

You should receive from Eller Brothers - 96-98 Yonge Street Toronto - a box which is coming to-day to be opened Christmas morning. If you don't receive it by Sunday or Wednesday I want you would have Harry ring up and ascertain if it has been shipped. It would relieve my mind if when it does come and you have received that safe you would

time, and with parliament meeting early in January and all that remains to be attended to in the interval, it would not be mine for an hour. If I could make a complete rest and change, I should like to take it, but I see no chance. I shall be thinking of you all on Christmas Day, and I do hope it will be for me and all a day of the greatest happiness.

With love and all good wishes. Ever affectionately Yours.

Willie

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send me a nice collection of Canadian national post cards you know. There is also a book which I am sending addressed to Harry and yourself. It is ready for the entire family, but forwarding for you.

My time does not permit me to write personal notes to each of the children, but I wished them to have something that looks like a Christmas letter so I am enclosing four large envelopes and you might place one of each as the appropriate place with the gifts you have secured for me. There is, you will observe,

one also for yourself, which contains the text that is taken from Dorothy.

When there are some extra cards to be also distributed, as the envelopes do not look very "Christmassy" they are in the little package which contains directions on the cover.

I wish very much I could be with you all on Christmas day, but it is even more difficult to get away at this Christmas season than any years. Instead I stay here and spend the day endeavouring to send remembrances of friends, they will have to be acknowledged for an indefinite

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through advice for the entire to your family
table this week-end, & hours or meet or day &
year of the main events of your family
history. Astrology is a science, older
than all the rest, and your exact date
including hours and if possible minutes
can give you some interesting data.
I wish I had secured more from mother
and father. It is amazing how little most
people know of their own family history
and ancestry, whereas there is no single
factor that determines in equal measure
all the trends of your life's behaviour and
predispositions

This is just a line to thank you
for all your goodness on my birthday
and also to thank you for sending after
the Christmas gifts for the children. I
hope you will all have a wonderfully
happy day. With best love. Ever affectionately
Willie.

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 20th 1925.

Dear Jennie:

Your birthday gift was the
first I opened on Thursday morning
and I can assure you it brought
me a very great deal of pleasure. I
am reserving the plum pudding
for Christmas - with instructions
that it is not to be consumed in
the interval - and the basket will
hold Christmas cards for a time
then flowers and fruit or other

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occasions. The last stories will add to the adornment of my tales on special occasions permit. I do hope very much if you & Jo & Bo made trouble, especially with Christmas so near at hand as well. and I thank You both with my heart for your goodness. Please thank Harry and the children for my behalf. The large parcel is safely sent away to be opened on Christmas morning, perhaps both papers received in good condition and on the one of my birthday.

Deb we also thanks You and Harry for the telegram of birthday greetings, and good wishes. Friends a large number, one of the hundred respects, but the ones from "home" are the most welcome of all.

I was glad, too, to receive Jean's letter and thank You for the words You took in the middle of family records. Black follow of the superstitions of smoking here. Mrs. Johnston. I remember smoking her pipe. She seemed to me such a nice person. In these days when science is making the headway it is in matters of psychology and physiology etc. then family records assume a new significance. I would

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 22nd 1925

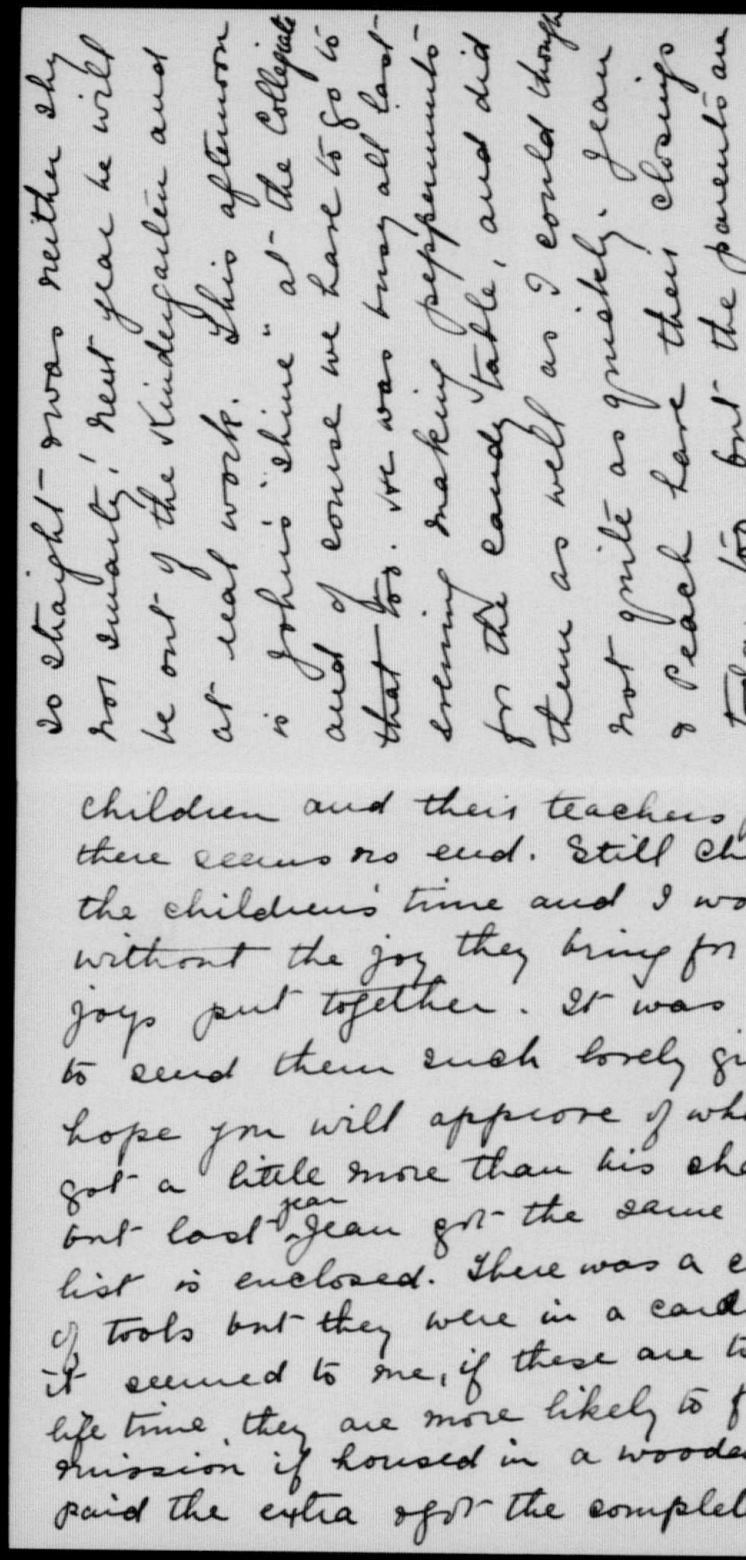
My dear Willie:

These are very busy days for the mother of a large family! Everyone seems to want attention at the same time, and they all come to me! Harry Sr. has a comparatively quiet time, but I don't doubt you would find it pretty disturbed! Harry's school closed yesterday and he sang a solo and led all the exercises! I was very proud of him for he held himself

remember the old father gave you? A watch for Peach seems extravagant but it is what she longs for would get in no other way, and I will see that she takes care of it. There is going to be great rejoicing on Christmas morning & I only wish you were going to be here to see the fun. However I hope you will get a little rest where you are and we will all send many loving thoughts and wishes which I am sure will reach you. We have seen you a little oftener this last year and you seem nearer to us all than you did a year ago. Perhaps a little adversity is good for us all! We hope we have had all that is necessary & that the new year may see new prosperity for all we love. All the children & Harry join in sending very best love to you in the hope that you will have a very happy

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children and their teachers presents etc there seems no end. Still Christmas is the children's time and I wouldn't be without the joy they bring for all the other joys put together. It was so good of you to send them such lovely gifts and I hope you will approve of what I got. John got a little more than his share this year but last year Jean got the same treatment! The list is enclosed. There was a cheaper set of tools but they were in a cardboard box & it seemed to me, if these are to do him a life time they are more likely to fulfil their mission if housed in a wooden box so I paid the extra for the complete set. Do you

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November-December 1925

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Another brief from Mrs Pearson came this morning I am sending it on.
J.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Christmas. (I couldn't get it all on that one page!) Harry is busy painting cards every evening nearly morning, & every spare minute. He has a wretched cold which we hope will be better before Christmas. So far there has been no word of a bonus & we have about given up hope!
This will be the last chance I will have to write before

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Christmas and I don't
doubt it will be all you
have time to read.
Again with my many
thanks and every loving
wish for Christmas.
From loving sister
Jennie

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Xmas 1925

—

Mrs. Harry L. Lay and family,

Xmas. Camp.

—

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

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 November-December 1925

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THE HON W L MACKENZIE KING

PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

MOST LOVING WISHES FOR HEALTH HAPPINESS AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM US ALL

JENNIE.

DEC 24 Rec'd

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BARRIE ONT 24 330 P 550

THE HON W L MACKENZIE KING

PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

MOST LOVING WISHES FOR HEALTH HAPPINESS AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS

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DENVER COLO DEC 24TH 1925

RIGHT HON W L MACKENZIE KING 1078

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

VERY LOVING WISHES DEAR WILLIE FROM THE BOYS AND MYSELF FOR THE MOST JOYOUS OF CHRISTMAS SEASONS WE ALL HAVE SUCH LOVELY LOADED GIFTS FROM YOU AND YOUR LOVING THOUGHTS HAVE ADDED GREATLY TO OUR HAPPINESS WE ARE THINKING VERY MUCH OF YOU AND ALL THREE SEND OUR FONDEST LOVE

315AM MAY

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DENVER COLO DEC 24TH 1925

RIGHT HON W L MACKENZIE KING 107

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

VERY LOVING WISHES DEAR WILLIE FROM THE BOYS AND MYSELF
FOR THE MOST JOYOUS OF CHRISTMAS SEASONS WE ALL HAVE
SUCH LOVELY LOADED GIFTS FROM YOU AND YOUR LOVING THOUGHTS HAVE
ADDED GREATLY TO OUR HAPPINESS WE ARE THINKING VERY MUCH
OF YOU AND ALL THREE SEND OUR FONDEST LOVE

315AM MAY

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William
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and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
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B143RD 59NL

TORONTO ONT DEC 24TH 1925

THE HON WM MCKENZIE KING 1182

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

JUST TO WISH YOU A VERY MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM US ALL AND MAY YOU BE SPARED TO US AS PREMIER FOR MANY A YEAR I AM LOOKING FORWARD WITH INTEREST TO THE SEVENTH HAVE ADMIRED THE STAND YOU HAVE TAKEN JIM IS UP FROM NEWYORK FOR A WEEK AND JOINS ME IN VERY MUCH LOVE

CORA.

453AM

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B143RD 59NL

TORONTO ONT DEC 24TH 1925

THE HON WM MCKENZIE KING 1182

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

JUST TO WISH YOU A VERY MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM US ALL AND MAY YOU BE SPARED TO US AS PREMIER FOR MANY A YEAR AM LOOKING FORWARD WITH INTEREST TO THE SEVENTH HAVE ADMIRED THE STAND YOU HAVE TAKEN JIM IS UP FROM NEWYORK FOR A WEEK AND JOINS ME IN VERY MUCH LOVE

CORA.

453AM

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 26th 1925

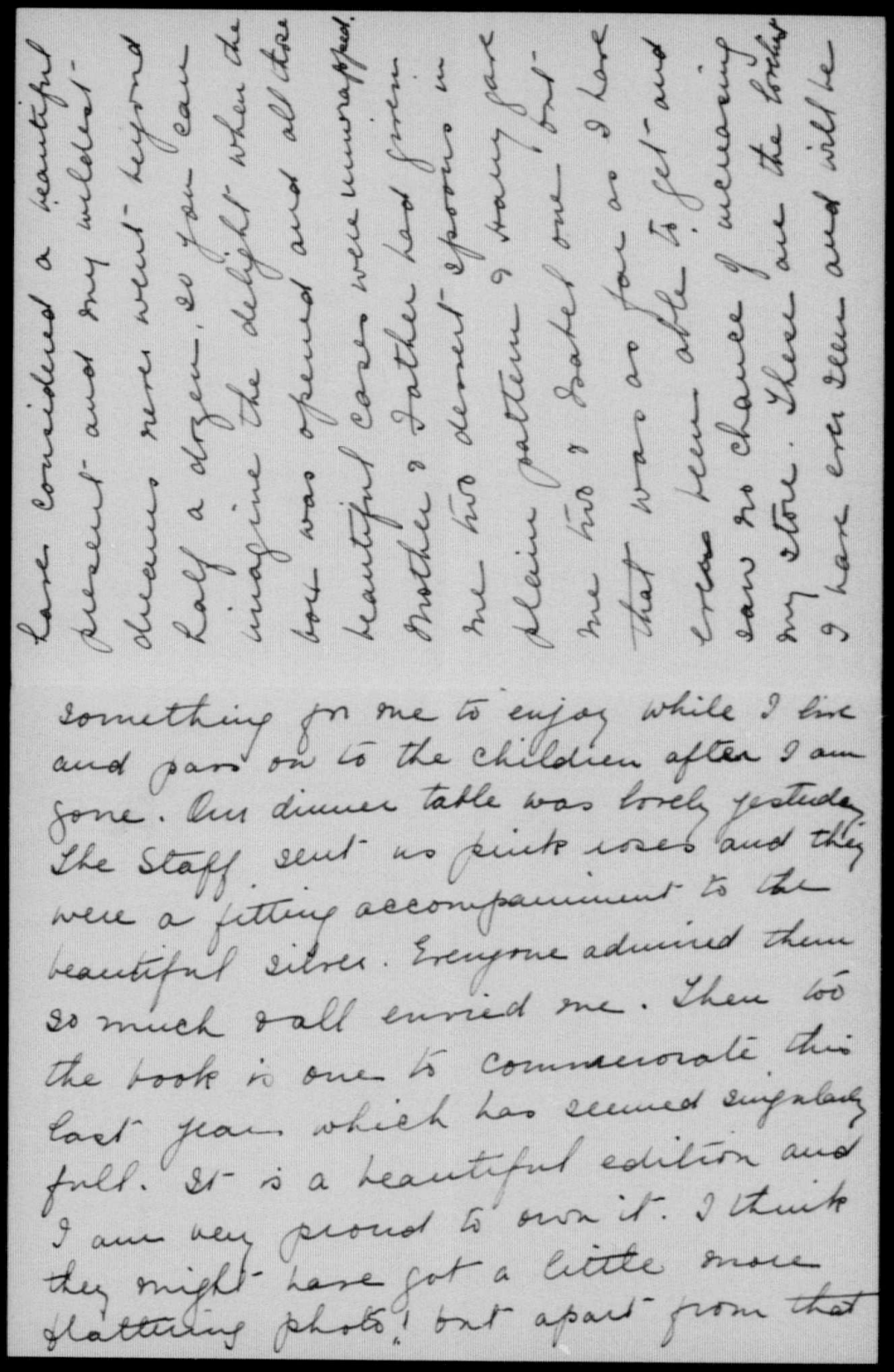
My dear Willie:

It was so good of you to phone last night. I was just saying to Harry that I would love to ring you, when we got your call! Certainly you did all in your power to make our Christmas a happy one and all your lovely gifts are very much appreciated. One of two pieces of silver I would

the book is one for even the subject to take a pride in. I read it with a great deal of pleasure and have read parts of it to the children. John, of course has read it himself. Then your gifts to all the children are so lovely. Harry could look at nothing but his waggon. She loaded all his presents on to it and put his money in the tool box on the back! She couldn't be bothered with his stocking or anything else unless he had his cart with him. She has it upstairs now and goes round the halls & through John's room having a glorious time.

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something for me to enjoy while I live and pass on to the children after I am gone. Our dinner table was lovely yesterday. The staff sent us pink roses and they were a fitting accompaniment to the beautiful silver. Everyone admired them so much & all envied me. Then too the book is one to commemorate this last year which has seemed singularly full. It is a beautiful edition and I am very proud to own it. I think they might have got a little more flattering photo, but apart from that

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November-December 1925

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and put the postage on but that explains the delay. It was only a trifle to show we were thinking of you, but I will not spend money we have not got when there is no prospect of making it up. None of the Banks got bonus this year & it seems mean when they have had such a good year. However we have so much to be thankful for that there should be no room for grumblers. Mabel has rallied slightly since she went to Hanks but the Dr says there is absolutely no hope never if she lives she would be a helpless invalid. I am so thankful she has been spared for Christmas though they are having a pretty hard time. I was so glad to get Mrs Patterson's card and also to hear her voice last night. Now I must stop. Harry shares with me all the loving thanks we send

From your loving sister
Jennie

It has splendid rubber tires so does not hurt the floors & he is having such a lovely time I haven't the heart to stop him. He sat down first thing this morning & spent nearly an hour writing his letter! It is his second attempt! Early in November I got him to write "Dear uncle Edward. I wish you a merry Christmas" but it took so long I never got another ff! Rosabel did hers by herself & I didn't correct it because it is far funnier as it is! We gave her a blue brushed wool outfit & she went off with Harry yesterday morning with it & the watch in

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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and so proceed like cricket
scarcely sit-still.' Jean is
delighted with her 'story as
she calls them, Mary 'Spare
the rod - The Knotts Relievers?
her the mitten Kind
she got - The Irish
Christmas. I am so glad she
is getting old enough to take a
pride in her room. Joshua's
tools were a great surprise.
We realize they
were thought of and is going
all Rinds of things he is saving
to make. I will endorse the
cut for Jean. they are
Stuff & be a continual joy to

him she has phoned all his chums to come see them. We gave him the Boys' Own paper for a year so he ought to be kept occupied. The cards with the reindeer are lovely. You get hold of such pretty ideas, which we never would see if you didn't send them. I was sorry about the children's candy. John thought it didn't require postage ~~dropped~~ it into the box without any. The mail clerk put it aside till one of us would come in, so it missed the mail! As soon as John told me we sent down

1925

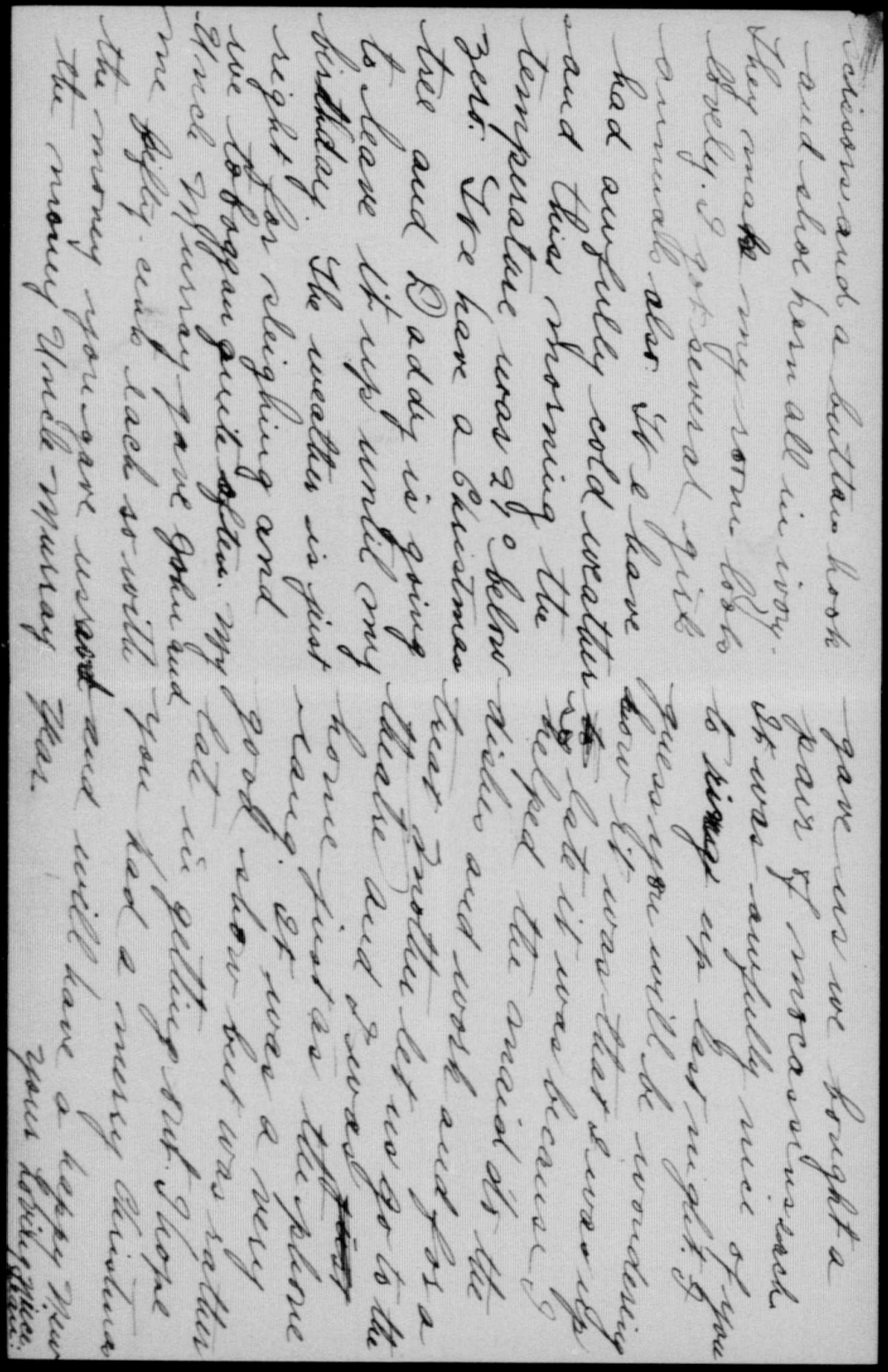
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dear Uncle Willie:-

Thank you very much for the lovely ivory pit. makes my dresser look lovely. Yesterday we had the Cornett family for Christmas dinner. Mother present that you gave her we used to-day at dinner and every body was admiring it. I got a lovely lamp with a pink shade and it shades my room nicely. I got a mirror, hat brush, manicur

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 26, 1925.

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much for the box of tools and the dollar. Every tool in the box will be useful. I am going to make a sled or plow today if I can. I am going to put the money towards a pair of moccasins. The "reindeers" were smart and I am going to try and copy them. I got many other things but I think Peach or Jean have listed them.

We have about two feet of snow here which means excellent sliding

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Broadside for over a yard.

Seeing that the car had done all possible damage Daddy is going to put it away.

We got the reports of the first of this years exams at highschool ~~one~~ month ago and I stood second. This time I expect to stand high again.

Wishing you a very happy New Year, lots of love and best wishes

Your loving Nephew
John.

The bay is frozen over and has been for nearly a week. I think we will have skating by the middle of next week. It has been fairly cold here but not below zero till ~~last night~~ last night when the temperature went down to 21° below F. That means 53° of frost and the paper says the probabilities are colder.

Yesterday we had twelve people at the table - Mr. Cornet (the minister), his mother, wife, and three children, and ourselves. We used your lovely present to mother and everyone thought the silver was beautiful.

I just came in from a skate at the rink. The ice was fair but it was pretty badly cut up in places. My skates have'nt been sharpened this season and are pretty dull. They are so dull in fact that I can't slide

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Dear Uncle Willie
Thank you very much
for the lovely watch and
dollar it is lovely
minutes to 10. it is lovely
one the strap is not
Barrie, Dec. 21, 1925

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Dear Uncle Willie
Thank you very much
for the lovely watch and
dollar it is now 2.5
minutes to 10. It is only
one the stranger

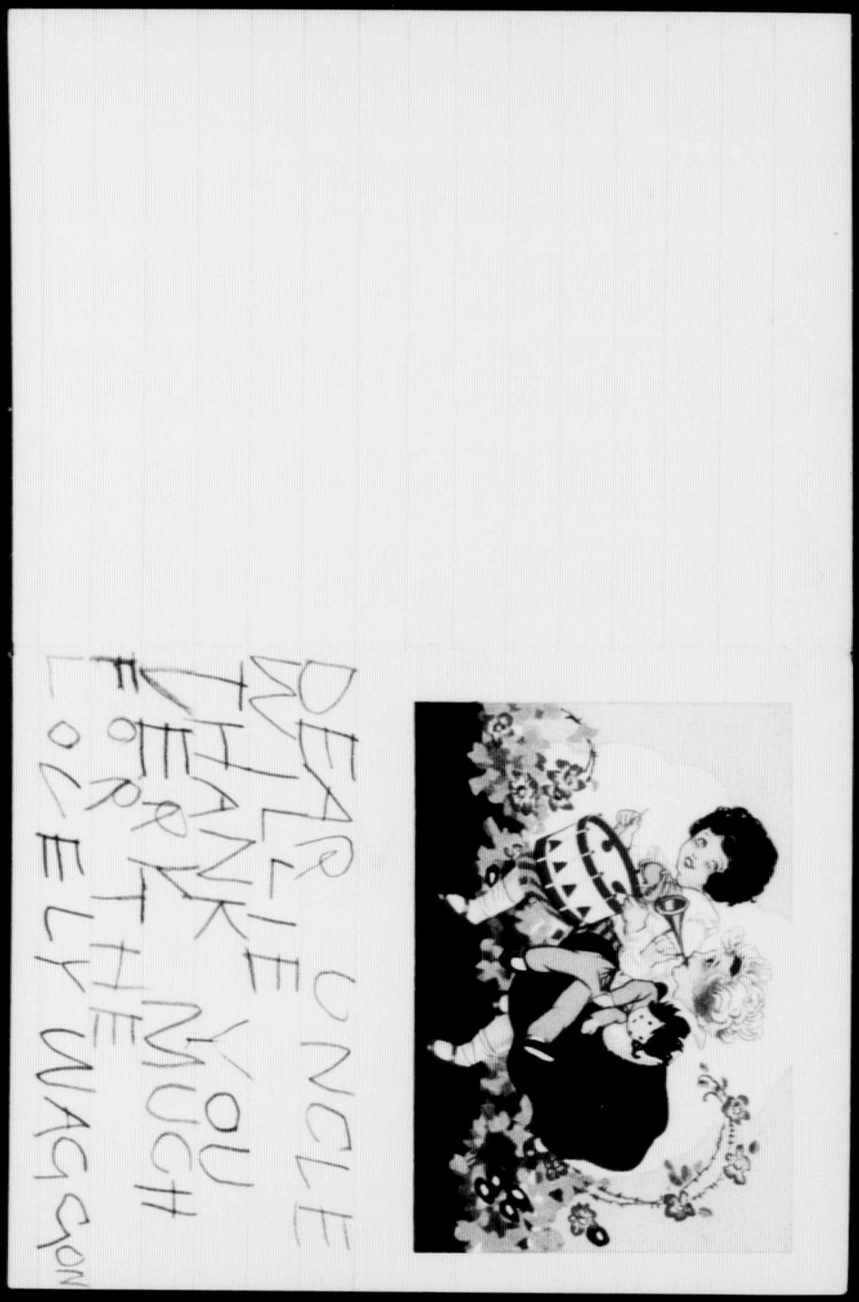
Barrie, Dec 26, 1925

Santa Claus has been very kind to me
and I hope you have had a merry Christmas
too. Mother got it
they had a struggle
with the other and
mother said that
I was to open mine
and tell them what
was in it. Daddy
said Uncle Willie
would be glad to
know I got it
safely. Love
kisses
XXXX

John W. & Kiernis Lots Canada; daddy and
of love, prue-and mother gave me a pair
the dearest Santa of overalls & a jacket
Claus I'd ever that and a pair of mitts and
we had to many toys a coat set the coat
to be given away buy pockets in stone
Bricks Children's on each side on
Annual and Pageant Christmas day daddy
Harry Little Orphans and me went up to
be given (Mrs. Clarke's my school teacher's
Boys. Stanley's house and gave her some
Annual and Pageant candy and nuts we
John a game of What were putting the mail
do you know about in the back of the car
daddy moved a box and

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REPEAT
REPETITION

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 November-December 1925

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AND THE DOLLAR
LOVE FROM HARRY

DEC. 26, 1925

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 November-December 1925

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, Dec. 26. 1925.

My dear Willie,

Let me again thank you for your kind Christmas wishes and for the beautiful copy of John Lewis' "Life" which is made so much more interesting and valuable to our family from its bearing your autograph. I hope my children in days to come will value it as a possession worthy of the honoured place it now has in our little library and of the affection which they have for their distinguished uncle.

the Dominion.

Wishing you much prosperity during the coming year and all happiness,

with love from Jennie and the children,

Yours affectionately,

W.L.M.K.

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 November-December 1925

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We were delighted to hear your voice last night and thank you again for your renewed good wishes particularly for your kind enquiries for Mabel. She is having every possible care in Frank's house with two nurses and a masseuse in addition to the assistance of my sister Elsie. While her condition is still extremely serious she has shown some improvement in the last two weeks.

Our dinner table on Christmas Day was most beautifully decorated with many pieces of your magnificent present to Jennie. Our guests joined with us in admiring them. I don't think I ever saw more beautiful silver and I congratulate Jennie most sincerely upon being the fortunate possessor of your gift.

The date for the assembling of Parliament is approaching and we fully expect to see you enjoying another term as Prime Minister. The evidences of returning prosperity are so patent that if an election were brought on again in a year's time I believe there would be a decided gain to the Liberal cause all over

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prosperity,
Yours affectionately
Harry Mabel

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 28. 1925

My dear Willie,

I cannot say how deeply touched I was on receipt of your kind telegram of sympathy this morning. I was prepared for the sad news of Mabel's death by receiving from Frank this morning a note telling me that the doctor reported she was getting worse daily and that there was no

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hope of recovery. I feel sure
that Mabel has suffered severely
during the last two years though
she never directly complained
So that in her case her passing
away has doubtless been
a merciful dispensation of Provi-
dence. Her going is the first
break in the circle of brothers
and sisters for nearly fifty
years. As a girl and young
woman she was bright and
vigorous, one of the leaders in
our family. I have lost in her
a sister who was most loving
and devoted who took the
liveliest interest in Jennie's
and my little family and
our circle of loved ones.

Let me thank you most
sincerely dear Willie for
the kindness and sympathy
of your message and for
your solicitude during Mabel's
illness.

Once more hoping that
the New Year will bring you
all happiness & enjoyment

● 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 November-December 1925 ●

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 28, 1925.

H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont

My dear Harry I have just learned in a cable from Frank of your sister Mabel having passed away on December 24. I cannot express too sincerely to you the very deep sympathy I feel for you and for all of your family. Fondest love.

Willie.

D. H. FS 104

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IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

Vancouver B.C.
Dec 29/25

My dear King,

So many thanks for your message of sympathy yesterday. It was quite a shock yesterday morning getting Jean's telegram that Mabel had passed away on the 24th. Of course we knew that she was very ill, but we hoped that she would recover; however perhaps it is all for the best as my sister Elsie wrote a few days ago telling us that if Mabel did recover, it would mean

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that she would be an invalid
for life, which would have
been a terrible thing -
I am afraid that they have
had a very sad Christmas
in England -
Delano has been with us for
the past week and goes back
tomorrow morning, as he has
to report for duty in the
afternoon, we have enjoyed
having him so much and he
has grown into such a fine
looking fellow, he likes the harp.
I trust that conditions in Canada
will so improve that it will
not be long before finances will
permit adding to our harp.

Audrey joins with me in
kindest regards to you and
the best of wishes for the new year.
I hope that the National Government
will remain in power -
Helen sends her love.

Yours sincerely,
W. L. Mackenzie King

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 November-December 1925

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 30th 1925

My dear Willie:

This is just a line to wish you every happiness in the New year. May 1926 have in store for you all that is best for your happiness, and may you have health with which to enjoy it. At present the future looks a bit uncertain

New York, before they told her mother. She said the cable simply said "a sudden seizure". Then too, old Mrs Bowlby's death is terribly sad. It seems an awful thing to live to such an old age & then end in such a fearful way. I am going to send a line to Grace Bowlby tonight.

Amy, our maid, left this morning for a weeks' holiday, so I will not have many spare minutes this week, but it was on condition of this holiday that she came back to me in the fall.

The children are all well, having a glorious time on the bay. They all join with Harry & me in sending best love and every good wish for 1926 to you dear Willie

from loving sister
Jennie

● 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 November-December 1925 ●

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but we will keep that every
day will bring
you will be
everything in
hope most
next week
than your
We have all
more than
your very
small kindness
Christmas
gone a long
very happy
had more
cares and
and I realize

of your time, thought and energy, to write
all the letters you have, as well as
send the messages & beautiful gifts
Mabel's death is a great sorrow but we
realize that it is infinitely better than
to live the life of a helpless invalid. We
will miss her sympathetic letters & her
same interest in all our doings. She has
been specially good to me and I will miss
her more than any of the others.
Did you see the notice of Bryce McMurrich's
tragic death? I rang up as soon as I saw
the paper yesterday & Mabel Robuts said
they were waiting for Helen to get home from

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Banff, Dec. 30th 1925.

My dear Willie,

I can assure you I appreciate most fervently your kind note of the 28th inst. You yourself will know what a blank is left in life by the death of a dear sister and I too always felt for dear Isabel that affectionate regard which I am sure, she as a sister returned. These feelings impress very forcibly on me, the reason I have often not regarded, of losing no opportunity of cherishing the

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love of dear ones while they are still with us. In the hurry & scurry & absorption of the business of life one is sometimes apt to forget this.

I know Frank and those at home will appreciate your kind words of sympathy. We value them the more because we know how difficult it is for you amid a thousand cares & pressing duties to find the time to give expression in this generous way to the feelings of affection which we know you have for us in this sad occasion.

Ever more thankful for our great friendship, dear Willie, believe me, yours very affectionately,

Mackenzie King

Rt Hon W. L. Mackenzie King P.C.
Ottawa

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 November-December 1925

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NORTH-EASTERN MINERAL SURVEY DISTRICT

WV

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF MINES
RESIDENT ENGINEER'S OFFICE
HAZELTON

Dec. 31st 1925.

Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King,
Laurier House,
Ottawa.

Dear Willie,

It was more than Kind of you to send me your telegram of sympathy of the 28th inst., and please accept my sincerest thanks. I might say that your telegram only reached me today, being forwarded on from Vancouver. We left that address in Vancouver some considerable time ago.

We sustain a heavy loss in poor Isabel's death. Her devotion to me and my family could not have been exceeded.

I wrote you in May last expressing my thanks for your Kind efforts on my behalf, in connection with the appointment I now hold, viz. Resident Engineer of the North-eastern Mineral Survey District of B.C. My permanent address is Hazelton, B.C. May and the Children are staying on in England for a while.

I heard quite recently from Harry that Jennie + the Kiddies are well. I hope to run across Nelson one of these days.

Again let me say how very grateful I am to you.

With Kindest greetings, Yours very sincerely,
Douglas Lay.

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 November-December 1925

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, Jan.6. 1926.

Mrsé H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Would be glad to send you ticket to Ottawa and return if you would care to come down for formal opening of Parliament Friday and Drawing Room Saturday night. Very sorry to have overlooked sending word earlier. Would be particularly glad if you could arrange to come.

Willie.

Chg. ~~Prime Minister~~.

D.H. 7.5. 104.

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 1926

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but it will serve to show
you we are thinking of
you & interested in all that
concerns you: Everyone
here joins in best love
and in every good
wish for tomorrow and
1926 Yours loving Jessie
Jennie

LW

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan 6th 1926

My dear Willie:

The children will be home in a few minutes for their dinner and as I am cook this week, I have to be on time, but I want to send a line to tell you we will be thinking of you tomorrow & wishing you all success. How sincerely I

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 1926

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hope you will be supported!
If you can only Roll on
for a few months it seems
to me, all dangers of defeat
will be over, for the country
seems on the right road &
prosperity and the purple
generally will appreciate
that. At any rate the purple
month in office will make
you that much stronger.
It was more than good
of you to write to me
the children as well as to

Harry one does appreciate very much your letters tall it means of time energy. I'm afraid I fall behind very often but when I have no help, the work and the company leave me very little spare time. Amy comes back tomorrow and I will be glad to see her though I have not minded the week alone.

This is all I have time for now

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

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1926 JAN 7 AM 9 29

RA11 10

BARRIE ONT 7 915 A

RIGHT HON MOKENZIE KING 017

OTTAWA ONT

VERY SORRY CANNOT ACCEPT MANY LOVING THANKS BEST WISHES WRITING

JENNIE..

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

JAN 7 Recd

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan 7th, 1926

My dear Willie:

It would have been a great joy for me to be with you today and I thank you most sincerely for your very kind offer to send me a ticket. If it had been at all possible for me to manage it I would have been on the train at this present minute, but with Amy away (she is to be home tonight) it leaves me no choice but to stay

It has turned very cold this morning so probably you will have the usual cold weather and balmy breezes! This mild spell has been a blessing after the intense cold but the bay is frozen today & there is good skating.

Amy joins me in sending best wishes for the coming session and in very loving thanks to you for your very kind invitation. I had completely forgotten the social side of the "Opening" this year, being more interested in what will happen.

Best love and many thanks

Yours loving Violet

Jennie

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July 1926

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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 1926

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Till she comes. If I had thought
if it at all, carlie, I might have
had some thing ready for the
Bank manager's wife and the
Prime minister's wife and the
is always very different and I
have nothing ready! Then too
with Markets, Christmas obligations to
Nancy has entertainments to put
street; and I should like to
Cabin problems to discuss on his first row.
We was not when from message
came last night- the time
he got home. the telegraph office
was closed but I sent a message
brief- thing this morning. Nancy

said at once for me to go and that I could get anything I wanted, but there would hardly have been time to shop and get off by the night train. Some time when you are entertaining in your own home I may get a chance to see them! We are all intensely interested in this session and it looks fair to keep you pretty constantly "on the job". It seems too bad you are not taking part in the opening but you have done the manly thing in not considering yourself. Let's hope you will get your reward

I had this letter from Cora a couple of days ago & thought you might like to see what she says about you. Destroy the letter when you have read it. How I wish I were with you. Harry is in Orillia, curling, this afternoon & I am just starting out on foot to pay a call at the other end of the town! It is bitterly cold & a blinding snow storm. Harry had a letter from Douglas the other day & he spoke so appreciatively of your winning his. We are with you heart & soul & hope you will win out. Best love from all your loving sister Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 14th 26

My dear Willie:

I don't know when I was as interested in anything as I am in the political situation at the present time. I said to Harry last night that I wished I had thrown discretion to the winds and accepted yours offer for it. It is a time of intence interest. I am glad you are not in the

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Notice for if they had been
saying the things to you
instead of about you-you when
you can't- replied, I don't
think I could bare stand it.
never before in my life have
I read all they said in
Parliament- but I never did
miss a word in Elgin's
Stair. I wouldn't
trail if you part
of the programme
afternoon. The Government
the Journal then
death Bruff, s

show it is not the Country they are considering. It must be a terrible time of strain for all, but especially for you. You are never out of my thoughts night or day and I only hope you win out & get a chance to show what you can do. I admire Bourassa: he must be an able speaker & seems to side with you. The entire is not for the ~~Progressives~~ Conservatives!

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, January 15, 1926

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Deeply grateful letter from Jennie and your wire, both received this morning. Your sympathetic understanding adds immensely to my satisfaction at outcome of last night's vote in House of Commons. I believe an interesting page has been added to the achievements and history of Liberalism in our country.

Willie

CHARGE:
D.H. / F.S. 104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family
January-July 1926

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SERVICE	SYMBOL
...sage	
...er	Blue
...essage	Nite
...Letter	N L

...hone of these three symbols ...ppears after the check (number ...of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

Form 6122
Replacing Form 1-TW

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, General Manager

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Money Transferred by Telegraph

JAN 15 1935

AM 11 24

MDA63 16

BARRIE ONT 15 1935 A

RIGHT HON W L MACKENZIE KING

PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL BELIEVE TIDE TURNED AND WILL BRING INCREASING STRENGTH IN HOUSE AND COUNTRY

HARRY.

JAN 15 Recd

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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 1926

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00 - 00 00 00

Ottawa, January 16, 1926.

My dear Jennie:

Your letter, with enclosure from Cora (which I return) brought me the greatest pleasure. I am truly sorry that I overlooked writing you at an early date about the opening. As a matter of fact, like you I was thinking more of the political situation than of any social features incidental to the summoning of Parliament. It would have been a particular pleasure to me to have had you here, and my time, too, was a little freer than it has been on previous occasions. However, I still hope that some other possibly more favourable opportunity may present itself, and that you will be able to be present at one of these formal state functions while I am still in office.

The vote on Thursday night was a complete vindication of the position I have taken in continuing in office pending a decision by Parliament and in not advising the Governor General to call on Mr. Meighen as the leader of the largest group. While I am far from being sure that it is going to be possible to carry on under circumstances as they exist, I am inclined to think that the Government will be sustained by an even larger majority on the vote on the Address and that by some plan of open co-operation with all

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the elements in the House opposed to Toryism we shall be able to put through the legislative programme at the present session, which will strengthen the administration in the eyes of the public. If nothing else is achieved there is at least a substantial gain in preventing the control of public affairs getting into the hands of the Tories.

The strain of the past few weeks and months has been very considerable and I have experienced an immense relief as a consequence of Thursday's vote. Also, having definitely decided on a constituency, which I think there will be no difficulty in carrying, another uncertainty has been removed. It is particularly trying to have the responsibilitity of the Government's policies and at the same time not be able to defend them in the House.

Let me again thank you and Harry for your kind wire, and with love to all,

Believe me, as always

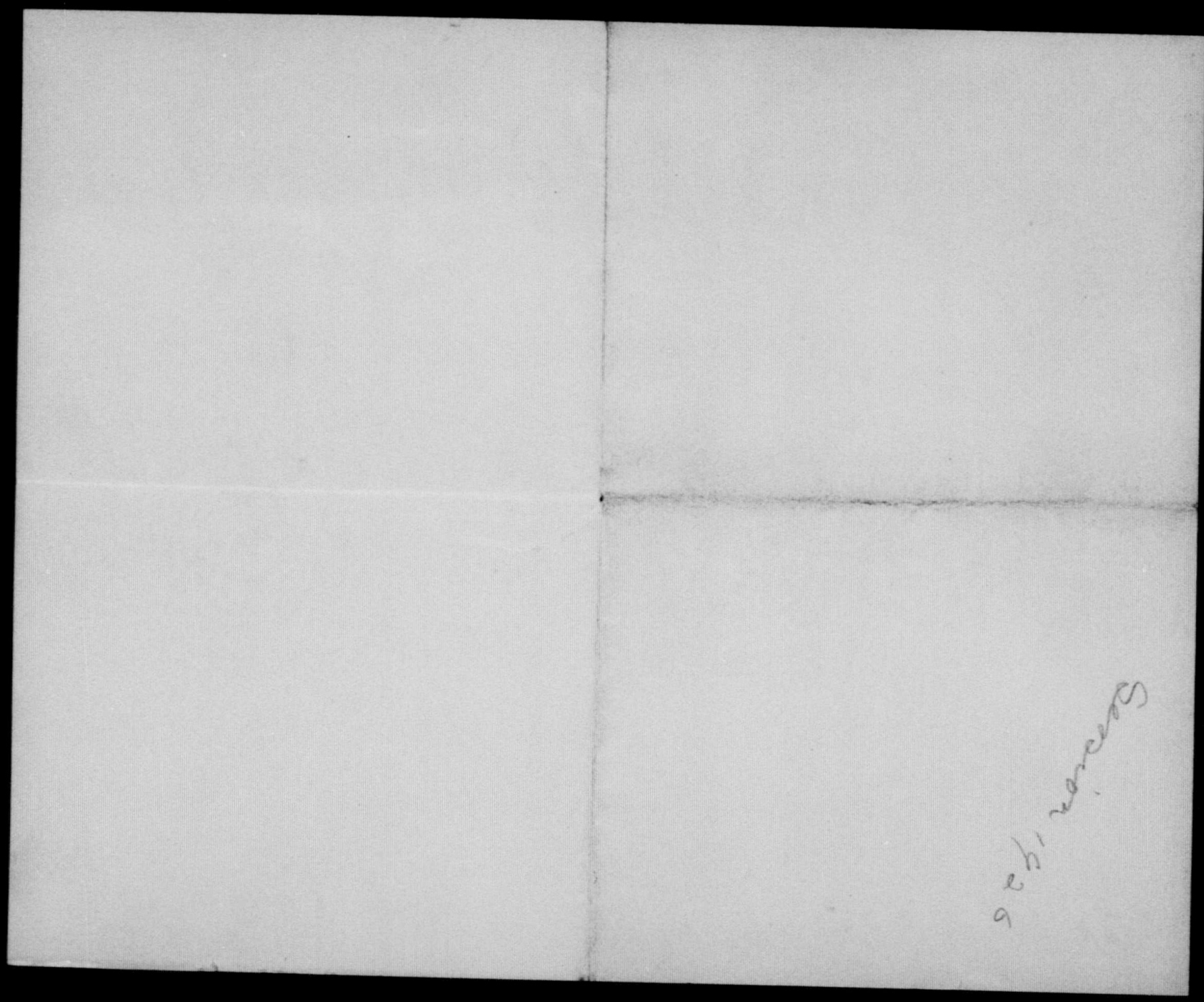
Yours very affectionately,

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ont.

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Ottawa, January 16, 1926

My dear Jennie:

Your letter, with enclosure from Cora (which I return) brought me the greatest pleasure. I am truly sorry that I overlooked writing you at an early date about the opening. As a matter of fact, like you I was thinking more of the political situation than of any social features incidental to the summoning of Parliament. It would have been a particularpleasure to me to have had you here, and my time, too, was a little freer than it has been on previous occasions. However, I still hope that some other possibly more favourable opportunity may present itself, and that you will be able to be present at one of these formal state functions while I am still in office.

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Let me again thank you and Harry for your kind wire, and with love to all,

Believe me, as always

Yours very affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ont.

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Ottawa, January 25, 1926.

My dear Nelson

Not being sure of your address at Christmastime, I omitted to send you the small enclosure which this note contains, and which I desire to send with best wishes for the New Year. I hope the latter is not too far in advance to make this small gift acceptable.

I received your card of Christmas and New Year greetings and was very much pleased to have the photograph of the Patrician and your own thoughtful words which it carried to me. I hope the New Year is opening up well for you.

With all good wishes and lots of love,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Mr. Nelson Lay,
C/o H.M.S Patrician,
Exquimalt, B.C

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H.M.C.S. Patrician,
Esquimalt, B.C.
February 1st 1926.

Dear Uncle Willie,.

Many thanks for your letter of the 25th January and the the enclosed New Year's present. It was very good of you to remember me while you were so busy with the election and all its uncertainties.

The Patrician has just some service work, so must close this letter.

Ever so many thanks for your New Year wishes and best wishes to you for 1926.

Your affectionate nephew.

Nelson Lay.

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time ashore. Smoking concerts and dances for the men every night. We were put up at all the clubs and entertained by the Naval Officers' Association and at private houses.

We have heard rumours that the Naval Pensions Scheme is at last to be brought up in the House. I hope its true because its about time something was done. The R.C.N. has been a permanent force since 1911. Even the Air Force have got their pension scheme through.

I must get on with

come back from a short cruise to Vancouver and New Westminster, three and four days at each place.

They hadn't had a man of war in New Westminster for 16 years, so we created quite a lot of interest. The ship was open to visitors each afternoon for four hours and we had an average of about 7,000 people each day. You simply couldn't move on the upper decks.

The officers and men were given a very good

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 4th 26

Dear Willie:

We are all sorry to see you are to be opposed in Prince Albert: No one doubts the Conservatives are behind the movement, but let us hope they will lose their money! We were sorry too, to see you were sick with a cold and hope you have

between 3 - 5, in the afternoon. besides all the children who touched everything in sight! He seems well & happy. Harry has been curling in the Bonspiel but didn't bring home any prizes! This is just a line to show you we are thinking of you & following in the papers all you are doing.

All here join in sending best love and hope you will have no worries over your election & no long distance

Jennie

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while recovered. I was sick
at the same time with a
worked cold. All this
last week Mary & I
sick and as I am
when any child is
don't get much sl
is a lot of scarlet
in town we were
that was what M
but it didn't de
and I think now
Germans measles.
and for a little w

this morning after two weeks in the house, and now Peach is in bed! This is the season for colds etc. so there is no use grumbling.

We have a tremendous amount of snow and I suppose you have in Ottawa too, though there is very little in Toronto.

Nelson has just got back from a cruise up the coast. He spent Jan 23rd, his 23rd birthday, in New Westminster He said they had 3,317 adult callers on board

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, February 8. 1926

My dear Willie,

Jennie asks me to send you a line to say that she is unable to do so owing to Rosabel's illness. She had been in bed since Thursday and the doctor on Saturday pronounced her sickness as scarlet fever. Harry, the week earlier, was down with what the doctor thought was stomach trouble but he now thinks it was a mild case of Peaches' complaint. She is doing well and the Doctor says there is no cause for anxiety and

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we can only watch her carefully. Recollecting vividly the terrible illness Nelson had as a boy we cannot help being anxious about Rosabel but all signs at present are favourable. We have to undergo the attendant inconvenience of quarantine. The other children are not allowed out of the house for five weeks and I have to board outside. Fortunately we have a good maid who will relieve Jennie of a great deal of the housekeeping and of it. Nelson writes telling us of your generous New Years present. He is hoping that the Department will inaugurate a Pension Scheme for the Canadian Navy. As the Permanent Force and I think, Air Force, have a Pension Scheme it is to be hoped that this important matter will be worked out.

We were all disgusted to see you were offered at Prince Albert. However your victory there will bring its compensation. I am glad to see the Progressives lining up to the support of them only hope of progressive legislation. Some of them here are looking to me Drury on the Tariff Board.

Hoping you are quite recovered and looking forward soon to reading your Speeches in the House, with much love from us all Yours affectionately Harvey McKay.

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Ottawa, February 9, 1926

H. M. Lay,
Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ont.

Am so sorry to hear of Rosabel's illness. Please give her and Jennie love and best wishes for me. I wish you would order some nice spring flowers to be sent to Rosabel with my love and good wishes. Ask florist to kindly send account to me. Hope your anxiety will soon be removed.

Willie

D.H. Fs 104

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 18th '26

Dear Willie:

One of the teachers at the Collegiate was asking John if he knew whether your book "The Secret of Heroism" could still be bought; and where. Can you tell me? She wants to give a copy to a friend of Burt Harper's. We sent

to school till after Easter as she is still far from strong.

It doesn't seem like 2 years since Mac died. To me it seems much longer. I sent a line to May last week as I haven't written to her since the children got sick.

All here join in sending best love and hope you are keeping well and will come see us when you can

With love Your affectionate sister
Jennie

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welcome to you was quite in keeping with the rest of the Conservative behaviour! What was the significance of the red carnation? I told Mary it was the Kappa alpha flower but that was all I knew. I am so glad you are back in the house and free to say & do what you like

Rosalie is out playing but I am not going to let her go back

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Ottawa, March 31, 1926

My dear Jennie:

I am sending you, under separate cover, two copies of "The Secret of Heroism," one from the first specially bound edition and another ~~the other~~ a later edition. I am glad to think that the children are becoming old enough to appreciate this little book which will be doubly interesting to them, inasmuch as it refers to Barrie as Harper's old home.

I am leaving this afternoon for a day or two's vacation by the seaside. I have not had a day off since prior to the General Elections and thoughtthe Easter Recess is short, I hope to get enough rest to put me in shape for the balance of the session. Had I more time I would write you at greater length.

Please let this letter bring the best of Easter Greetings to the children, Harry and yourself. Particularly will you be in my thoughts on Sunday

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afternoon, which brings the anniversary of dear little Belle's death on the same day of the week and month as the day on which she died. If all is well and the day is fine, I shall be in all probability looking out at the sun setting across the sea, as the day draws to its close.

Please tell Harry that I hope the Easter season will also bring its note of comfort and hope to his heart. His sister too will be much in his thoughts on Easter Sunday.

You will be pleased at the results in West Middlesex. It was a great victory. The Government is now getting more firmly established.

Again with love and best wishes and with many thanks for the letter I received from you a few days ago,

Believe me, as always, dear
Jennie,
Lovingly yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/WHM/C

P. S. I am not saying anything of the vacation to anyone as I do not want the papers to be again harping on "going to the United States".

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Ottawa, April 3, 1926.

Dear Mrs. Lay:

In supplying pages from the Canadian Magazine to accompany two copies of "The Secret of Heroism" sent you from the office, I regret that I omitted to notice there was a run-over from the second page. This I now enclose, and shall be obliged if you will kindly have it put with the other two pages inserted in the volume bound in green.

With apologies for the error, I am,

Yours respectfully,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel"
Barrie, Ont.

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

April 7th '26

My dear Willie:

Very many thanks for your note of good wishes for Easter and for the copies of your book which I am very glad to have. We have been enjoying re-reading it & it brings back many memories. John is delighted with the book and came in to my bed yesterday morning saying "Mother, this is really a beautiful book." He

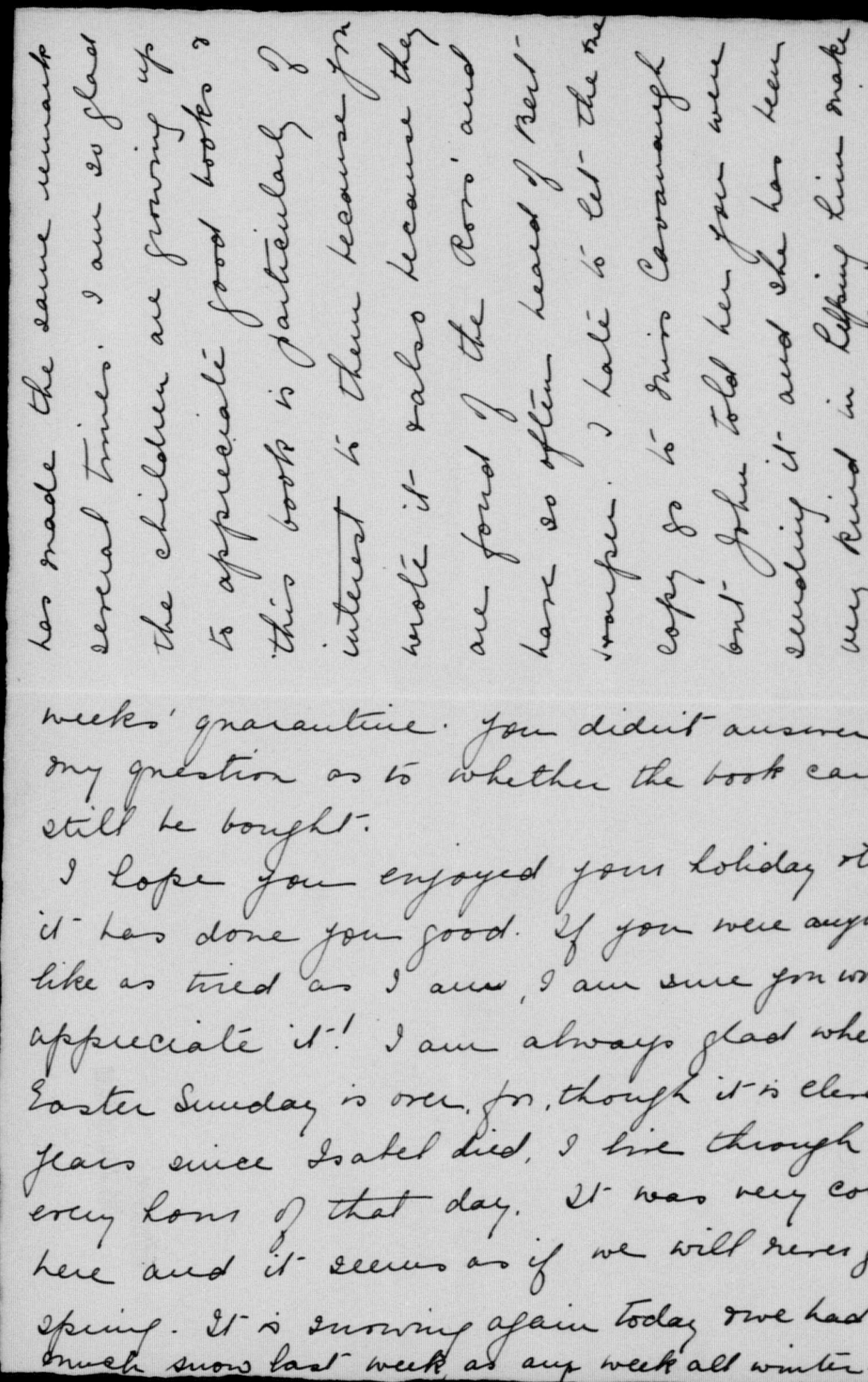
Mrs W. R. S. made our minister's wife, the president of the society, & myself Life members ($25.00 each) so we three had a tea here yesterday to say "thank you". A Mrs Bogart. I think the name was, of Newmarket was here with a friend and she said she would have given you fifteen votes if she had had them. She said she always prayed for you & your success as she knew you were a good man! She was very delighted to be here & told me how much alike we looked! Harry is having a euchre for his curling club on Friday evening so I am having a busy week, & then hope for a rest. Best love dear Willie & many thanks ever your loving sister

Jennie

Did I tell you Nelson is now Lieut Lay?
I see you have Mr Giddens back.

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has made the same remarks several times. I am so glad the children are growing up to appreciate good books & this book is particularly interesting because they are found in Labrador because they have so often read of the Ross' and Parry & Franklin search of Berlin & Paris Caravaneck told her from where she has been and the kind in Labrador kim make up for the time lost in Rio

weeks' quarantine. You didn't answer my question as to whether the book can still be bought.

I hope you enjoyed your holiday & that it has done you good. If you were anything like as tired as I am, I am sure you would appreciate it! I am always glad when Easter Sunday is over, for, though it is eleven years since Isabel died, I live through every hour of that day. It was very cold here and it seems as if we will never get spring. It is snowing again today & we had as much snow last week as any week all winter.

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Ottawa, April 16, 1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Loving Easter greetings to Harry, the children and yourself. May Easter Sunday bring great happiness to you all.

Willie.

CHARGE:
D.H.:F.S.104

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April 16
1926

Easter Greetings to
Uncle Mackenzie &
Dear Auntie &
With best wishes
from
John

We are late.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 31st

Dear Uncle Willie:-

Thanks very much for the copy of the "Desert of Waters" which you sent me soon after Xmas. I have very much enjoyed reading it so far, & hope I shall soon find time to read it through. I have read many reviews of the book & am anxious to see what the critics say. Daddy has not long left the office, & is getting dinner up for us. Ken Rankin has

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and we were able to bring them home on Monday. I had a dozen eggs in it and got eight chicks. That was pretty good because they broke two for study We set it again on Tuesday and Mr Cockburn, our Agriculture teacher, put in a dozen eggs that I had left when I got the chicks.

Hoping you are well and enjoying yourself

Lots of love from,
Your loving nephew,
John.

shiny blue-black and looks pretty "classy".

The Ottawa Scot started a signalling class under Sgt-Major Davidson here two years ago. I entered the Semaphore class and received a certificate and $5 for passing the required exam. This year I am in the Morse class May 13.

I am sorry for this interval but I was sick for a few days and am just getting better

We got our reports at school yesterday and I stood seventh. I am in the first form at Collegiate

We have an incubator over at school. We set it about four weeks ago Last Saturday the chicks hatched

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 17th '26

My dear Willie:

I hope you have been too busy to notice how long it has taken us to thank you for so kindly sending John a copy of "The Secret of Heroism" for his very own. He is delighted to have it and I don't know anyone who has more thoroughly enjoyed it. He is not specially happy in expressing himself again. Today is the first really warm day we have had but we are glad of a fire still. Kingsmere will be looking lovely now and will be restful after the city. Harry is working hard in his garden morning evening. I may go down to Toronto to spend a couple of days with Mrs Laird I haven't had a day off for over a year, unless you call the trip to Kitchener "a day off"! I don't, when the family has to be looked after. Nelson is now Lieutenant; I don't know whether I told you before. All here join in sending very much love & hope you will try & get up to see us some time soon. Again very many thanks from loving sister

Jennie

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Ottawa, May 22, 1926

My dear Jennie:

I was glad to receive your letter of May 17th, and to learn from it that the children appear to have come through the anxious period you have had fairly well on the whole. I think that now the prospect of summer is before us that with the chances if offers of more in the way of out-of-door enjoyment they will speedily regain their wonted health and strength.

I am sorry to learn that you have had such a strenuous time. Somehow or another you should arrange to get a little rest, for that is needed to avoid the ultimate breakdown which comes from over strain unless something of the kind can be had in the interval. The time that I was out of Parliament gave me a little chance to rest up some, and I have felt the better for it ever since the house opened. Of course, I am kept more than closely confined to the work of Parliament from day to day, and I am hoping that another six weeks will see the session over, when there will surely be a chance for a bit of a rest and a change.

I never recall a springtthat was so late in coming in. The days have for the most part been cold and dreary. I am hoping to go to Kingsmere tomorrow or on the

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24th of May, but unless the weather moderates I doubt if there would be much pleasure in a visit. It would be nice if you and Harry could arrange to spend a few days with me there in the course of the summer. I think you would enjoy seeing the improvements that have been made in the last couple of years.

I was greatly pleased to hear of Nelson's promotion, and hope when you next write him you will extend to him my congratulations.

It is difficult to say at the moment what plans it will be possible for me to make for the summer months. I ought to visit my constituency, Prince Albert, which, of course, means a very long journey and some speaking in the Canadian West. Then there is another Imperial Conference this year, which means leaving for England about the second week of September. What with distinguished visitors who will be coming to Canada in the interval; witnessing the departure of one Governor General, and welcoming another; to say nothing of speaking in different parts of the country, I doubt if there will be much in the way of real rest during the balance of the year. While there is much in the way of interest in another trip to the old land, I confess that my recollections of the last Imperial Conference do not cause me to look forward with too much enthusiasm to the prospect of another this year. Of course, everything is contingent upon our continuing to be in office. With the showing made on the Budget, however, the chances appear to be good, if nothing too serious looms suddenly into sight. If we weather this session our chances for continuance

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in office for some time to come will be materially advanced.

Please thank John for his very welcome little letter. I am glad that he has enjoyed so much "The Secret of Heroism". One of these days I hope he will find equal interest in "Industry and Humanity". Everything considered I think John did wonderfully well in his examinations at the Collegiate.

I hope Harry keeps well. Tell him that I envy him the opportunity to do any work in the garden. I am sure that your house and grounds will be lovelier than ever this year. I shall certainly watch out for the first chance to see them and you again.

With all good wishes and lots of love to yourself, the children and Harry, believe me,

As always,
Sincerely,
Your affectionate brother,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Houlderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/RAW

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 26th '26

Dear Willie:

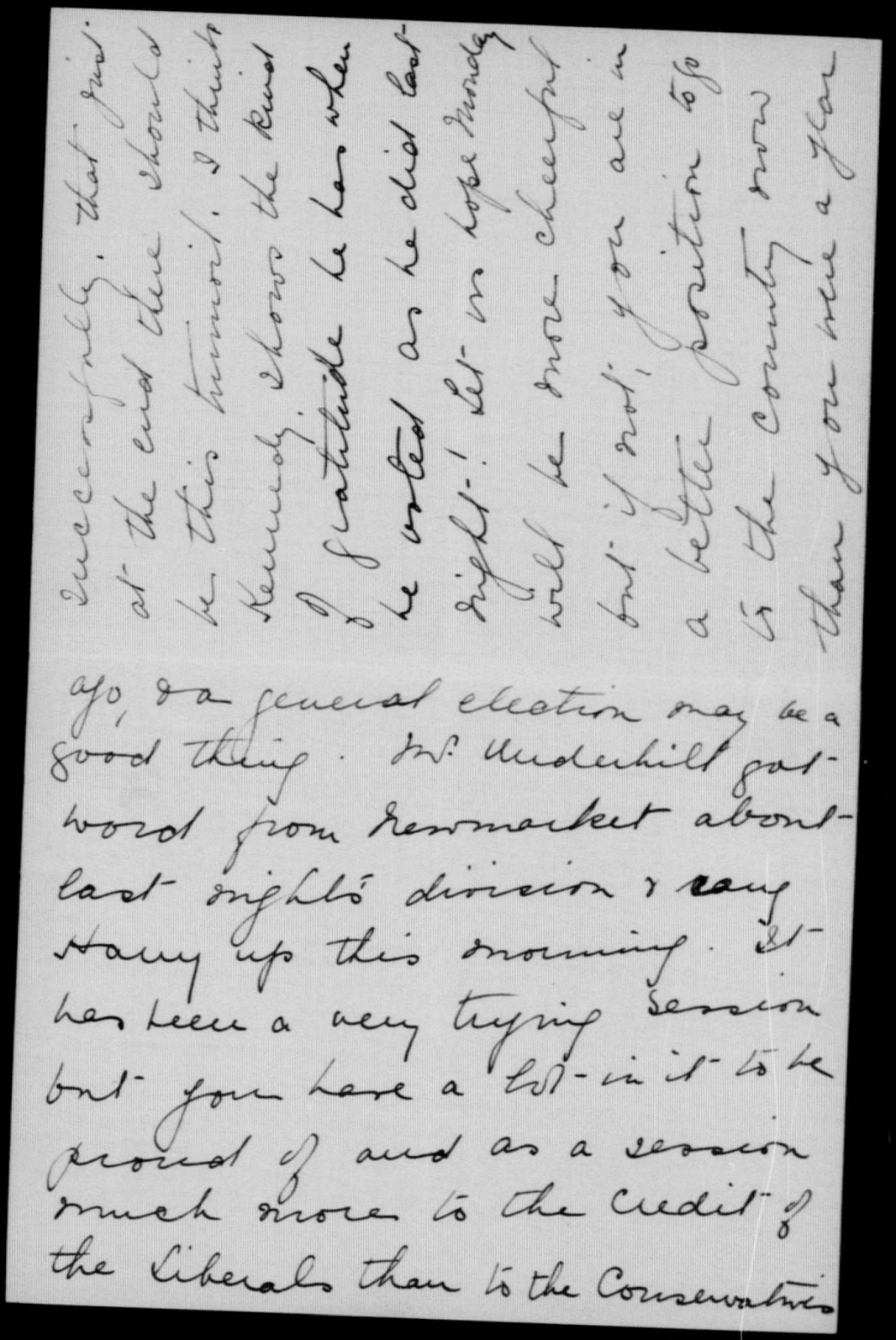
We have been watching with the greatest interest the proceedings in the House. You must be dreadfully tired and almost ready to throw up the game. It does seem a pity when you have weathered the session so far, so

the Jean's history papers this ? the questions were "who is the Leader of the House?", who is the Leader of the Opposition?" Jean couldn't answer the second & said no one in the room knew! I hope you will keep well. We are all well here now. Stacy & I have been in bed for the last two weeks with Jemima Flu. I am better now but none too frisky yet. Stacy & the children join with me in sending best love and good wish for ever.

From loving sister
Jennie

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ago, a general election may be a good thing. Mr. Underhill got word from Newmarket about last night's division & came hurry up this morning. It has been a very trying session but you have a lot in it to be proud of and as a session much more to the credit of the Liberals than to the Conservatives

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Dr. Grant Pyr.
June 30th 26

My dear Grant:

I can't tell you how much I am sorry to learn from a couple of days which I spent in Montreal that the reason you did not call on me was because of your serious illness. We were out at Murray Bay when Mrs. King's letter arrived telling us that you had undergone an operation. I don't know when I have felt as relieved as when I learned that the operation was over and done so well. You have suffered this year that

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it does seem a shame for
Could'nt have been left here
the season
we don't mind
and suits
but if seem
fair. I am
your with a
your have rem
thought for
a day since
sweet Love and
the thought
memorial
be the one to

Lee sick. Minnie Tolles is here
She is a bit too fat to suit me!
They say they had a wonderful dinner
party at Laurier House.

There are about a dozen people all
talking to me so I can't help this
letter's not being what I want it, but I
want to send our love sympathy
for it really is a shame to have things
go as they have.

Heaps of love dear Willie and know that
we are all thinking of you

Ever your loving sister
Jennie

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Barrie, July 3. 1926.

My dear Willie,

Jennie and I have been following with the keenest interest the course of the proceedings in Parliament. We are both very proud of the magnificent contribution you have made to the constitutional history of Canada. Every Liberal will be indignant at the treatment by the Governor General of the Liberal party and surely if there is any fair minded elector in the country he will protest against this infamous price of Tory favouritism when he casts his vote. The Toronto Star

We tried to get you on the phone last night but the operator at Ottawa said she could not locate you.

With best love and all good wishes for the coming battle in which Jennie and her children join.

Yours affectionately

Harry Lay

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has given splendid reports of the last days of Parliament every word of which was of intense interest. Please accept our very hearty congratulations on your last speech which bore print on the discomfiture of the unsworn Shadow Government. His "unsubstantial phantom." although Byng has played into Meighen's hands as much as possible he really has made you a gift of priceless value in the coming elections. I should like to see you come down to North York again on the Constitutional issue. Surely if they are not altogether disloyal to their grandsires' love of liberty they will give you the biggest majority you could wish. I should like to have been in the gallery during your speech. Drayton must have squirmed!

Jennie had a bad attack of flu recently being in bed for ten days but I am glad to say she is much better now and was able to spend 2 or 3 days with Helen McKenzie at Le Grasi Point, this week. We are hoping to see you in Barrie before the end of the Summer. and shall look forward to a chat on the iniquities of people in general but the redeeming features of the 7000 who haven't bowed the knee to Baal.

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

July 4th '26

My dear Willie:

Harry says he got a note off to you yesterday. We tried to get you by phone on Friday night but I fancy Ottawa wires were pretty steadily at work! We tried till 12 p.m. but Central could not locate you and I dare say you could ill have spared the time. We really ought to have your private phone number for we have no telegraph at night and it might be awkward.

as if I had had a present given me when I read the Globe on Friday noon & saw that Meighen had been defeated. I wish Vincent Massey & a few more wealthy men would start a good morning Liberal paper. The Globe ought to be boycotted by every Liberal but you can't do it when there is nothing to take it's place. The Star has some good reporters. Certainly the reports last week were well worth reading and given most graphically. We are wondering where you will run. It seems a shame to let a man like Lennox take that constituency from you. Still I doubt if you could win it honorably with so much dishonesty against you.

This is enough for tonight. You will have more letters than you can read & this is only to tell you we are always thinking of you wishing the best for you. all the family join in sending best love & hope to see you soon

your loving sister Jennie

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I wonder how you are feeling. I know you will be in your own opinion is that Byng has given you the best platform you could wish for! In Ontario the main issue will be Liberals for Liberals! I see the Conservatives are to be for King, this last business is to be a King's Loyalty Sloganized in Ontario "Conservatives for King" I don't know how you will have to in that but since the first - if he is for King by men like Byng, you must have made a wonderful speech! The worst, it seems a shame that we who are most interested in you alone you most should never be able to enjoy seeing & hearing you at your best. As long as things go along well with you I am content, but when reverses come I just long to be with you to be of help! And yet there is nothing I could do. This must have been a great month in Ottawa and there could never be a moment's relaxation. "Agnes" has been a pretty good sport! It was a sportsmanlike thing for her to do, to come back & size up her tips. Did you see that editorial about Roy in the Globe? He deserved every word of it but I am glad it was not written about any one else to me. I think for once he showed what he really is. It hasn't altered my opinion of him, I could quite believe him capable of just such actions. I felt

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Ottawa,
July 8,
1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

My 'phone message was intended as an acknowledgment of your kind letters and of a letter received from Harry. This is just a further line to let you both know how much I appreciate your goodness in writing me as you did and to give you my private 'phone number at Laurier House which is Rideau 180. The number of Laurier House itself is Rideau 4226. Unless I happen to be in my library, where the private 'phone is, you are more likely to reach me at any time on the other number as it connects with the servants' quarters.

I fear I was absent at Kingsmere the night you recently phoned.

I am too busy at the moment to write at any length but I am sending you, under separate cover, copies of the

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Hansard of the last two days. I am sure you will enjoy reading the debate which helped to defeat the Meighen administration and the bringing about of dissolution.

With love and best of wishes to the children, Harry and yourself,

Believe me, as always,

Affectionately yours,

WLMK/GR

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 12th '26

Dear Willie:

Many thanks for your letter & copies of Hansard which we have enjoyed reading. It is most interesting & we are glad to have copies to refer to in case of discussion. Of course everyone here is intensely interested in the Boys and I am mighty glad he doesn't belong to me! His conduct is unpardonable, but like him!

interested in all that concerns you. I am not at all clear about Meighen forming a Cabinet. I don't see how he can when he is defeated & Parliament dissolved. We are going to a Strawberry Festival at Drury's tomorrow night & I am going to ask him.

Thank Goodness for this cool weather after that awful heat. I am glad to have your 'phone number though I fancy you will not be very much at home in the next two months! If you can only keep well, this should be an interesting campaign. All the family join in sending best love

From affectionate Uncle
Jennie.

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I do hope you will be able to get to see us, but Buccaneers has to come first this year, but it may be possible to work in a visit in connection with Dr. Hart Reed's visit. We are coming. We must have a talk in Chinch yard. We were disappointed to miss Dr. Hart Reed & Lawrence Vallentine & we were particularly grieved the Liberals failed to run a candidate if they had supported him Boys would have been beaten. It remains to be seen what the Progressives will do.

I had this screed, enclosing one about three times as long, which I was to forward to you. Without opening it I am mailing it back to Dr. Pearson & hope you will approve. Mary said it was the only way to show her I had no sympathy with her. Burn this when you are done with it. She is an awful nuisance.

Helen McMurrich was up for a few minutes on Saturday. They are intensely

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 13th '26

Dear Willie:

I see by today's Globe that the Liberal picnic near Toronto is to be on the 24th July. Do you think you can spend the following Sunday (the 25th) with us. If you think you can, send me a wire as soon as you get this, so you can come and will give you as quiet a as busy a time as you like.

Best love from all
Yours in haste
Jennie

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I have promised my mind that Sunday off, take a I would rather ... be here if you ... makes no difference ... as long as she ... Thursday. ... lovely if we could ... you over the Sunday ... you know how ... pleasure if ... to us to have you ...

you will have to do as you think best.

We saw Drury this morning down town, & he said he "would very probably run again". He is going to Toronto this week to discuss matters.

We are having a S. S. picnic at the present minute & I slipped over from the park to get this off to you on this train. I do hope

0 0 0 2 2 0

Ottawa,
July 14, 1926

My dear Jennie:

I was greatly pleased to receive your two letters to-day. I lost no time in assigning Miss Pearson's communication to the waste basket, and should you receive further communications from her I hope you will throw them into the fire and not trouble even to return them to her. As is self-evident, she is quite insane and has to be treated accordingly.

My plans are still too indefinite to say what may be possible in the way of spending a Sunday with you in Barrie. If I can manage this at some stage of the campaign I shall be happy indeed so to do. Do not, however, count on me for a week from Sunday; there is too much of uncertainty to cause you to alter your arrangements in any way. If I find I can come, and you do not yourself mind the maid being away, I can assure you so far as I am concerned her presence will not be missed.

We have got a great campaign ahead, and I am looking forward to it with a good deal of interest. It will probably be a bitter and vicious sort of fight, but I believe we shall come out of

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it on top. However, that all remains to be seen.

With love and best wishes to Harry, the children and yourself,

Believe me, as always,

Very affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Toronto, Ont., July 31, 1926 192

To Mrs. H. M. Lay.
"~~Boulderfelty~~ "Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

I am speaking at Beaverton to-night. Would be glad if you and Harry could motor over. Sorry have to go on direct to Kenora immediately after meeting. Love to all.

Willie.

Chg: W.L.Mackenzie King.

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. GEO. D. PERRY, GENERAL MANAGER

R. 22/8 20 Chn

18 pd

From Barrie-Ont- 31st 1926

Rt. Hon McKenzie King -
Reaverton- Ont^o -

Wire received many thanks cannot manage tonight See you on return Best wishes and love from us both

Jenny

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August 17th '26

My dear Willie:

It looks now as if we are not going to see you this month. We rather hoped you would be here on your return from the west but this is no time for unnecessary visits! We were awfully sorry about the Beaverton meeting but the car was in the garage for repairs and had Peggy Thistle staying with us and half a dozen other reasons why we could not get away! We went to a friend's house & heard every word of your speech. To me it is simply marvellous to be able to hear

have had a lovely summer & ought to go back to school in good shape. Harry was to have taken his holidays this week but has postponed them on account of the quarantine. How I wish he could have gone west with you! It is a pity these things cannot be. It must have been a most interesting trip. Isn't it contemptible the way Meighen et al are saying now that Ajax was kept out of jail to help in the elections! What a tragedy Mr Boivin's death was. I don't know when I have felt so badly. It seemed such a shame that he couldn't have lived to triumph over his enemies. We are still hoping you will be up this way before the elections are long to have a talk! Many thanks for the copies of your speeches in the house. They are splendid. All here join in best love & best wishes for your success & hoping to see you soon. Your loving sister Jennie

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absolutely exempt from the personalities of the party one is concerned in. I think this, more than anything else is going to lose Meighen the election; & I lose it I'm sure he will!

At present we are in quarantine again with chicken-pox. Luckily Mary J. is the only one with it & the rest have all had it so we hope to be out at the end of a week. It is not a very serious trouble though he has been very sick but the worst is over today. John has been in bed too for the last week with flu but he seems better also & we hope by the end of the week to be back to normal. The children

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(1926.)

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.
August 18th

Dear Uncle Willie,-

Ever so many thanks for a very enjoyable visit. I've had a wonderful time and its been awfully interesting staying at Laurier House. Both Brown and Allen have been very good to

I'm taking the 5 P.M. train to Montreal this afternoon.

Yesterday afternoon Lawrence Burpee and his sister and I went out to Kingsmere with Allen when he went to bring Mrs. Brown back. We had a swim and then called on the Pattersons and went down to see the farm buildings which the Burpees admired very much.

I'm very sorry I won't see you before I sail but perhaps you'll be in England next year. Again many thanks. Your affectionate nephew, Nelson.

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nice to me and spoke very sincerely about Mother. There were only a few people there and I enjoyed it very much.

This morning I went out to the power house at Farmers and was shown round by George Debarats who is superintendent there. He's a son of the Deputy Ministers and used to be at R.N.C.C. with us. This afternoon I'm going to see the Parliament Buildings and call on Lady Schriber.

me.

Lawrence Burpee enjoyed his short visit too and asked me to thank you for him. We had dinner together on Monday night and stayed the night here. Then on Tuesday I spent most of the day with the Burpees and staying the night with them. Yesterday I had lunch at Lawrence Government House. Lady Willingdon was very

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 20-26

Dear Willie:

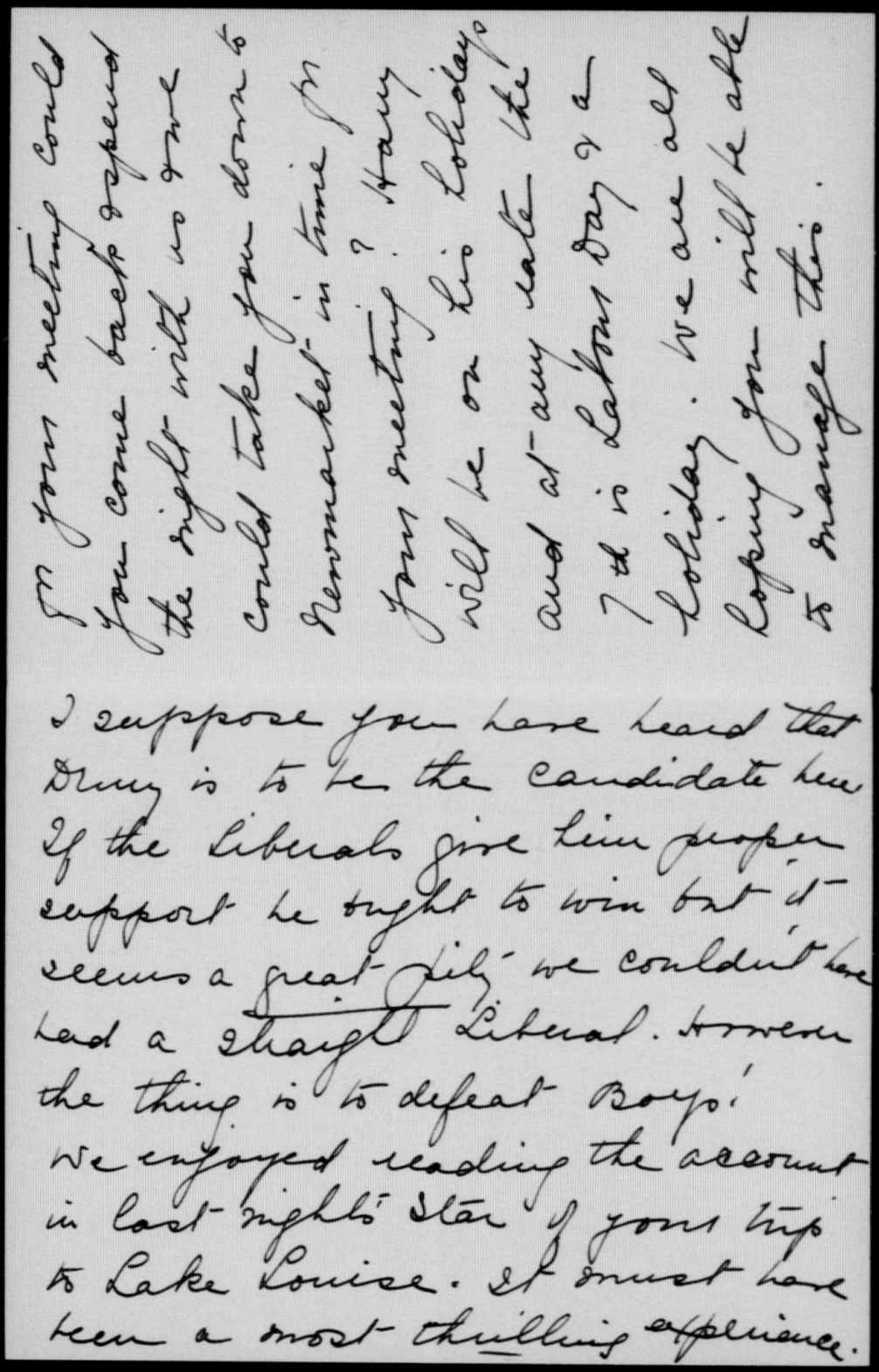
We see by the paper that you are in Bridgeland on the 7th Sept. in Kensington. Should be in Bow if the 8th. Bridgeland is 3 miles from Bow. If not 33 Grand - Avenue, Barrie. If we

I shall never forget my dear Uncle's kindness to us at Bon Echo. Summer home in the mountains with dunes!

You are having great weather for canoeing! I only hope it will continue. Anyway is better than intense heat. Nancy & I is ready better after rest & the family are well. We are looking forward to seeing you soon. Hope you are keeping well. All join in sending love from loving niece Jennie

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I suppose you have heard that Drury is to be the candidate here. If the Liberals give him proper support he ought to win but it seems a great pity we couldn't have had a straight Liberal. However the thing is to defeat Boyd.
We enjoyed reading the account in last night's Star of your trip to Lake Louise. It must have been a most thrilling experience.

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death very keenly but I think his marriage was a far greater shock. She was very grateful to you for your help about her brother. I don't know what has been done, but she appreciates your kindness just the same. Now I must go to breakfast so must stop. All the family send very best love to you. Hope to see you before the summer is over. With many thanks & best love yours loving sister

Jennie

to me a most wonderful evidence of the best kind of courage. Of course where there is danger I would rather face it alone than take another into it, but the man who could face that trip is a hero in the truest sense. There was a picture in the "Star" that was very like Mac also like Charlie Lindsey.

Mr. Underhill was up here last night and he was telling us that Nelson Parkin

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told him, when he was in Toronto on Wednesday, that he heard the Globe had been instrumental to have me made the Liberal candidate. Lays, probably the Globe finds it is easier for the Liberal party to get along without the Globe than it is for the Liberal party without the Globe to do Sir Wilfrid is very keen on having Donald Ross

made judge in the vacancy created by the death of Judge Sauce yesterday. Wasn't the death of Francis Coady very sad? He was a fine type of young man & everyone liked him so much. Their summer home is just about a few blocks from us.

Personally I was very fond of Sir John Willison, probably because he was fond of me, but politically he was anything but a friend. Hazel feels his

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, aug 23/26

My dear Willie,

I am passing on your message as to the great importance of the Liberals getting behind Denny here.

I believe it would be very advisable if you were to send a telegram or letter, emphasising this, addressed to say Stanley Underhill Underhills Ltd, or Donald Ross. Some of the local people are refusing to work for a Progressive or

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the ground that the Progressives in Parliament did not give their support invariably to your Government

I believe Denny can win with the help of the Irvines.

We were glad to hear your voice last night and to hear good reports of your trip.

I believe the signs are all favourable for a Liberal victory.

With best love from us all, Yours affectionately,

W. L. Mackenzie King

P.S. I wish I were not barred out of the fight here! W

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Leader of the Opposition

Woodstock NB.
August 24. 26.

My dear Jennie:

This is just a line to wish you a very happy birthday and many very happy returns. If I am not mistaken it is your semi-centennial. May it be a memorable one in every way filled with all that is best and most joyous to you.

I have sent you in a very big box a very small present, but I hope you will accept it with my

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C5

Chommer have a real and an abs. the engagement of the day pressing are left to us. I am glad mine are over this week more or I have been working pretty hard for some months past.

I do remember good wishes for your birthday anniversary and best love - love also to all the family &

Au-chaldien

Believe me, as always the fai

Yours affectionate brother

Willie

best love and best wishes on a occasion of this day

I would like to write you a long letter but I have not a moment to myself with the many demands of the campaign. Though I cannot write as I might I can never know I am ever how much you are and will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

I have just been reading your letter to Harry on Sunday night, and received yesterday another letter from you. If I can manage it at all I will spend a night at Ottawa during the last week of the campaign. I shall

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 24th '26

My dear Willie:

It was so good of you to phone on Sunday and I kept hoping you would, though feeling it would be an extravagance! Thank you so much for doing so. Your voice sounded very tired but I don't see how it could be anything else.

a Bank manager here, they are not supposed to do any work. If you could send Mr Rossachie Lin one it would fit him. Dr Hart is another petty one who will not even vote for Drury. I think we have a good chance of defeating Boys though they are working hard. Many thanks for your good wishes for the 27th. You can only be fifty once in a life time! Harry is taking this down to the early morning train so I must let him go. All join in best love & hope to see you on your return from the East. Your loving sister

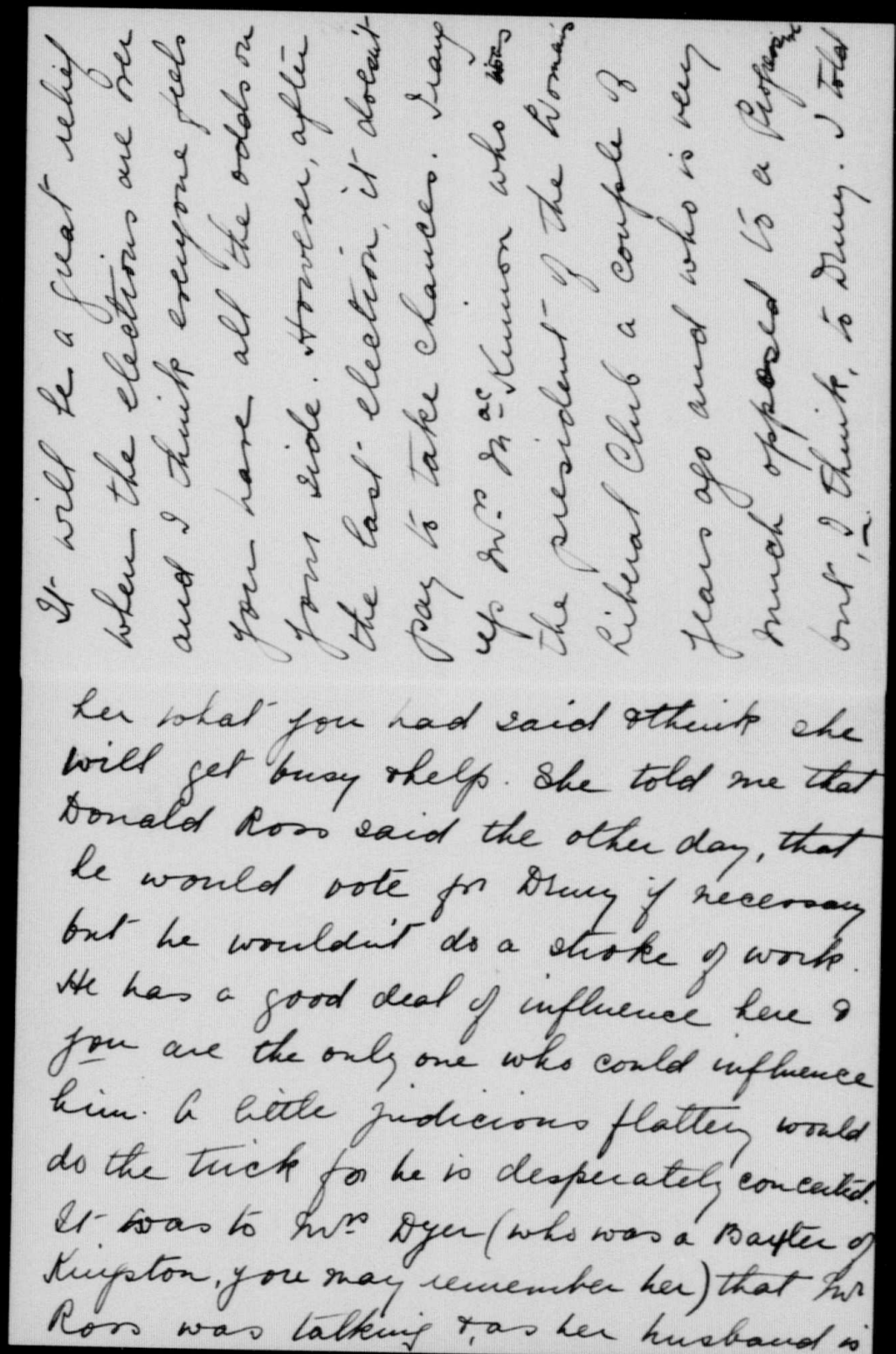
Jennie

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If will be a great relief when the election are over and I think you have all the odds in your favour. Hanrahan, after a fortnight, it doesn't seem like the last election. I have to take chances. I say to Mr. Kinnon who was the president of The Women's Liberal Club 6 years ago and who is very much opposed to Dunn. I think, however, I should be

her what you had said & think she will get busy & help. She told me that Donald Ross said the other day, that he would vote for Dunn if necessary but he wouldn't do a stroke of work. He has a good deal of influence here & you are the only one who could influence him. A little judicious flattery would do the trick for he is desperately conceited. It was to Mrs Dyer (who was a Baxter of Kingston, you may remember her) that Mr. Ross was talking & as her husband is

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Annapolis Royal, N.S.,
August 26, 1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

Love and best wishes dear Nennie for a very happy birthday and many very happy returns. You will be much in my thoughts throughout the day as indeed you always are. Love to the children and Harry as well.

Your affectionate brother,

Willie.

D.H.
Pass F.S.104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morrison Lay and family September 1926

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-September 1926

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from Collingwood where he spoke on Saturday night; was on his way to Bracebridge so had a couple of hours here. Mr. Underhill brought him down here from the train we had a nice talk. He looks very tired says, like you, he will be glad when the elections are over. After he left I rang up Mr. Mc Laren (who went over to Orillia the following sister with the Last year) we went down to the train to see Mr Robb off. As Mr. Maclaren said, outside of yourself & Mrs Meighen there is no man more talked of in Canada

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 30th 26

My dear Willie

It is certainly worth celebrating a semi-centennial when it is marked by such a beautiful gift. It was more than good of you to send such a wonderful present and I am so proud of having it, of having it from you. This morning we had a half hours

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visit from Mr. Robb sir was
with great pleasure I showed
him what a lovely present
I had had from you
birthday, Thursday
Ethel Kirkpatrick
their way from
I had the joy
also my dilatory
the D.T. were
and when I
Candelabra
"And he will
plum pudding
generally

It means much more to me than the
gift itself and I think perhaps you
realize ~~that~~. Nelson sent me a box
of roses and I told Mary my birthday
had been remembered from one end
of Canada to the other! It was very
good of you to write me also send
the telegram, when, as I know, every minute
of your time is so taken up. Many, many
very loving thanks for all your kindness.
It was a very great pleasure to meet
Mr Robb this morning. He came down

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Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family August-
September 1926

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even longer than that 2
yet it doesn't seem possible
it can be ten years.
Harry is taking his holidays
for this two weeks and we
hope to go for dives etc spent
in the time profitably. We
will probably go to the Exhibition
one day.
I hope you are not getting too
tired for, after the elections, the
Imperial Conference will be next!
Again many, many thanks dear
Willie much love in which
every member of the family join
Fond loving sister
Jennie

today than Mr. Robb. His budget
is certainly one of the drawing
cards in this election
campaign. Arthur BOULDERFEL BARRIE Kirk
was very funny this afternoon
He was telling us what a fine
speech he made at Aurora
the other night! He also told
us there wasn't a man in
Canada had the brain you had
& could speak as you did electe
He is a very important gentleman!
I cut out Roy's letter to Dhuy
& Dhuy's reply as I thought you
might care to see them. Dhuy
is not specially popular here

● King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-September 1926 ●

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but as Bill Robb told some of the
this morning, his running there
with Liberal s[upport], will
influence the R[eciprocity] vote
all over the co[untry]. I do hope
Borg is defeated for he is pretty
small in many ways.
We are all keeping fair well
he able to spend a night with
us, but if it means two nights
for you we are sorry to
press it: they should
spend a night in Middleville
night - but we will probably see
some meetings on Tuesday
announced for

pretty near the end of the struggle!

John & Jean are in Toronto with Hazel. They went down on Friday and are coming home Wednesday night. School opens on Thursday so they have to be back. It will be rather a relief to get back to regular life once more. There are too many transient visitors these days, especially if you live on the highway!

Have you remembered it is ten years today since Father died? It seems

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept- 3rd '26

My dear Willie:

If at all possible we hope to get down to see you at Newmarket on Tuesday afternoon. I am afraid from the way they have timed your meetings there is going to be no chance for a night- here. You must be really dead. As Mr. Greenwood sent me a wire about the Candlesticks I did not thank him. Will you do so?

have some chance.

You have had a wonderful trip through Quebec, everywhere the prospect seems bright. If only the Globe were as decent as the Star, what a difference it would make.

This is only to send our love and tell you we are thinking of you. We will all be deeply disappointed if you don't get up, but nothing counts this time except the election.

With best love from us all and hoping you are keeping fit

Your loving sister
Jennie

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Harry said you may be
Rex but he thinks you're
Mackenzie too will be
Millen Mc Municiel
Irvin Stewart up
Irvin Lay, & the
of you as "Rex"
becomes [illegible] Harris
Harry is having
is I think we will
early and perhaps
before the meeting
party on the
I hope will be

I am enclosing an extract from a letter from Cora which may interest you. The other you have probably seen but it shows how contemptible Lennox is when he would let a remark like that pass. We think Harry is going to win this time & Boys doesn't seem quite as cocky. I was glad to see the editorial in the Star today about him. A strong Conservative said the other night - that if Boys' skirts were clean they might

2

Wasnt Willie splendid in the crisis ? Werent you proud of him? I certainly was, and after he made that wonderful speech I felt awfully tempted to send him a wire, just saying ATTABOY. But I felt he had enough to take up his attention without any such interruptions from me. I feel sure he will win out, he is so immeasurably superior in brains and ability and every other way to Meighen that I cant think how anyone can contemplate Meighen being returned as Premier when they could get a man like Willie.

Of course in this conservative city one hears very little that is encouraging, but straws show which way the wind is blowin and I shouldnt be surprised at some changes even here

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Form 6123, replacing Form 1-TW

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO. Cable Service to all the World Money Transferred by Telegraph

22 88

OTTAWA ONT 1148 AM 25 [25 Sept 1926]

MRS H.M.LAY,

BARRIE ONT.

DEAR JENNIE YOU WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL HAS CALLED ON ME THIS MORNING TO FORM A MINISTRY WHICH I HAVE AGREED TO DO. AT 12 NOON I SHALL BE SWORN IN AS PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA AGAIN STOP. THE DEARLY LOVED ONES WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM US TO ABETTER WORLD ARE VERY NEAR US AT THIS TIME AS ALWAYS THEY REJOICE IN ALL THAT WE PUT OUR HANDS TO STOP. FONDEST LOVE TO THE CHILDREN HARRY AND YOURSELF .

WILLIE.

215P

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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 August-September 1926

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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Form 6128, replacing Form 1-TW

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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24

DH [25 Sept 1926]

OTTAWA ONT,25

MRS H.M.LAY,

BARRIE ONT.

NEW LIBERAL ADMINISTRATION FORMED AND ASSUMED OFFICE BETWEEN TWELVE AND TWELVE THIRTY TODAY LOVE TO ALL.

WILLIE.

220P

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

- 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 August-September 1926

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, September 25, 1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
~~Thunderbox~~ "Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

New Liberal Administration formed and assumed office between twelve and twelve thirty to-day. Love to all.

Willie.

D.H.
Pass F.S.104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-September 1926

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

RUSH

Ottawa, September 25, 1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Dear Jennie: You will be pleased to know that His Excellency the Governor General has called on me this morning to form a Ministry, which I have agreed to do.~~xx~~ At 12 noon I shall be sworn in as Prime Minister of Canada again. Stop.
The dearly loved ones who have been taken from us to a better world are very near us at this time as always. They rejoice in all that we put our hands to. Stop.
Fondest love to the children, Harry and yourself.

Willie

Chg: Mr. Mackenzie King's Office.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-September 1926

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, General Manager

Form 6122
Replacing Form 1-TW

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1925 SEP 25 PM 3 54

RA303 35

STANDARD TIME

BARRIE ONT 25 335 P.

RIGHT HONORABLE W L MACKENZIE KING

378

PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT.

DEAR WILLIE MANY THANKS FOR TWO TELEGRAMS HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON LORD BYNGS CHOICE OF A PRIME MINISTER ON WHOSE EXCELLENT ADVICE HE CAN RELY ALL JOIN IN FONDEST LOVE AND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS

JENNIE.

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE.

Sept 29th '26

My dear Willie:

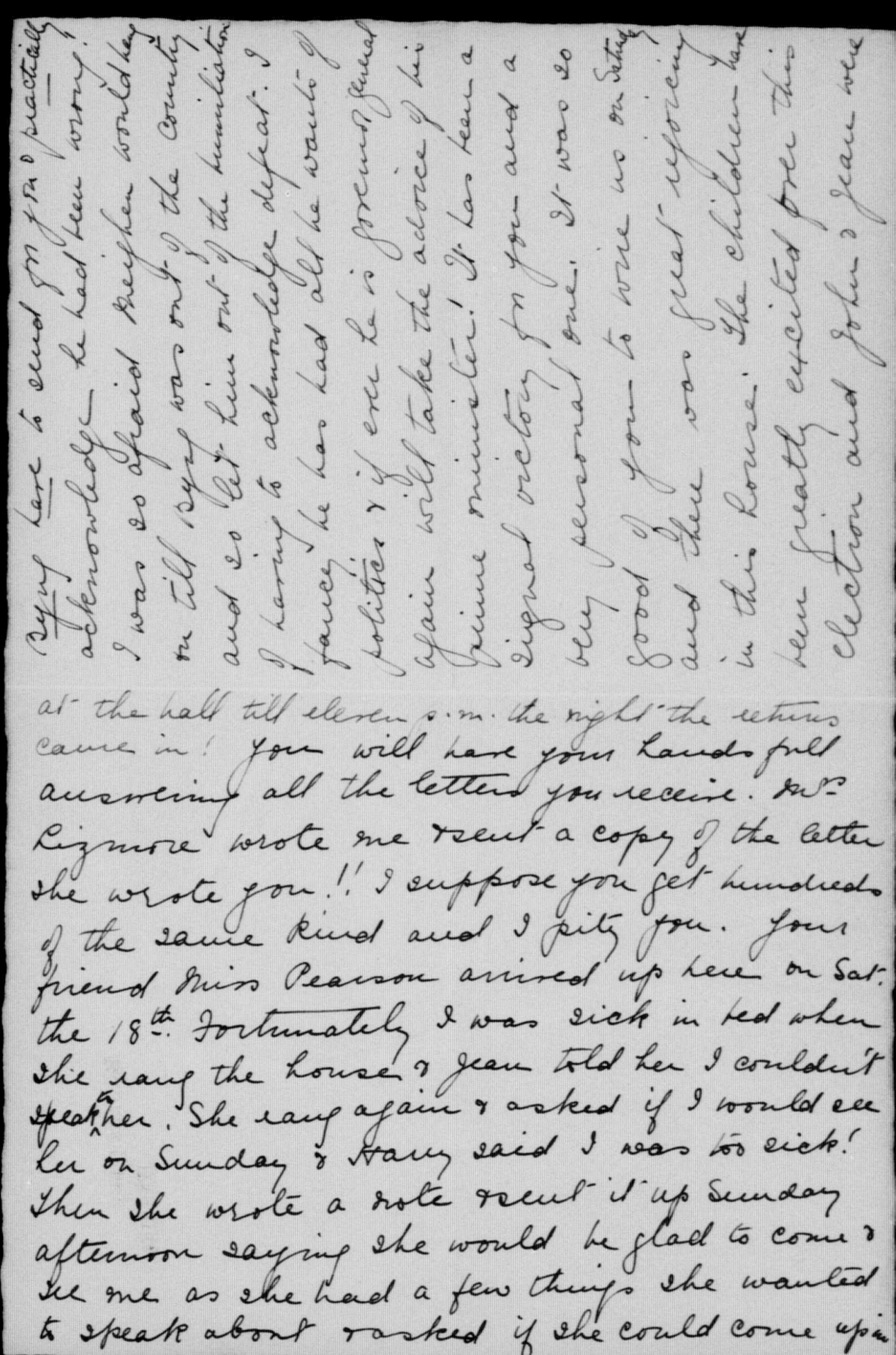
Every day some person rings me up & writes to say how delighted they are that you have had such a wonderful victory! It must be a tremendous satisfaction to you to know that your actions for the past year have been vindicated and that now you are free and able to do as you think best. I don't know when anything has given me as real a joy as having Lord

the evening but I never answered her note or took any notice of it & I suppose she went off on Monday morning. She will think we are rude of a kind!!

I had Ethel Ross Baird Thursday staying with me till Wednesday of last week. Ethel lives in Winnipeg & was bringing her daughter to "Brenden", the girls school here. She said to tell you that though her father was a Tory & her husband the same, she was glad you won! Since she left I have had an old lady, whose sister died last week, staying here, and just got her into a boarding house about an hour ago. It has been a desperately hard week which explains why I haven't

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at the hall till eleven o.m. the night the returns came in! You will have your hands full answering all the letters you receive. Mr. Lizmore wrote me & sent a copy of the letter she wrote you!! I suppose you get hundreds of the same kind and I pity you. Your friend Miss Pearson arrived up here on Sat. the 18th. Fortunately I was sick in bed when she rang the house & Jean told her I couldn't speak to her. She rang again & asked if I would see her on Sunday & Jean said I was too sick! Then she wrote a note sent it up Sunday afternoon saying she would be glad to come & see me as she had a few things she wanted to speak about & asked if she could come up in

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to acknowledge we are getting old!
We had a visit from Leonard Wookey last week & he said he had been down to see you. Harry said he could imagine your delight?! as Cora says if Leonard would only soft-pedal himself he wouldn't be half so objectionable. You will be glad to come to the end of this epistle so with heartiest congratulations and best love & Good wishes for continued success from all ever your loving sister

Jennie

P.S. Have just had a line from Nelson He says he is "the only Liberal on the Navy this side, so had the laugh on the others". J. K. S.

written to you sooner. I hardly had a minute to write myself, & time to see that the BOULDERFEL, children BARRIE did it. Harry got his letter off & Rosabel wrote hers out & has to copy it. John & Jean here had so many lessons that they never get done till time to go to bed, but now that I am alone again, we will manage better. It isn't want of thought, we are all delighted that you are going to the Conference & this is one time you ought to be there. The "Constitutional question" is a very real question and one where you can shine in discussing it. It will have to come up and I should think

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will be a very unc
curious for Lord
it will be possi
see Frank & Eu
for are there. F
received from
operation for a
which was very
he is quite well a
explains for with
England in a week
hope the trip will
every respect. The
much satisfaction
about for his being
receive the freedom
I wish with all my
for a good referal

October 3 1926

Dear Uncle Willie,

I thank you very much for the dollar and the quarter. I am going to do the same with my money as Harry is

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October 3 1926

Dear Uncle Willie,

I thank you very much for the dollar and the quarter. I am going to do the same with my money as Harry is

REPEAT
REPETITION

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I am very glad to see [illegible] Prime Minister again. When I was last presented this summer, Augustus Bridle, [illegible] thought I would like, but I can do the work better right now. Harry but a stroke that he had [illegible] out, under the expectant in the morning when he looked the forth was still there. After he had had the [illegible] and there was five cents instead of the tooth. To-morrow is John's birthday and I have brought a bell for him.

Your loving niece
Rosalie Lay

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DEAR UNCLE
WILLIE
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH
FOR THE DOLLAR
AND THE QUARTER

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I AM GOING TO
BANK THE
DOLLAR IN
DADDY'S BANK
AND THE QUARTER
IN THE PENNY
BANK. I AM GLAD
YOU ARE THE
PRIME MINISTER
FOR HARRY LAY
FROM
HARRY LAY

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Oct. 3 1926

Dear Uncle Willie,-

Thank you very much for the dollar and a quarter that you left for me when you were here on the eighth of September. I was very sorry that I had to miss you. It was funny that you weren't told of your destination before you arrived at Barrie, but it was a pleasant surprise to all concerned.

We were all very glad at the way the elections went, but I was very sorry for Mr. Drury and Harry Lifton were not elected. At the same time we gave Mr. Doyle a good scare here. I see that

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he is resigning his position as Conservative whip.

I hope you will have a nice trip across and a good time in London. I wish I had the chance of getting over so easily.

I will be fourteen at six o'clock tomorrow morning.

I must go to bed now so I close with love and best wishes for a "bon voyage"

Your loving nephew
John.

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Harry Morrison Lay and family October-December 1926

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Oct 3rd

Dear Uncle Wallie :- Thank you very much for the dollar and quarter you gave me. it is now safe in the bank. It will come in handy sometime when I need it. I was awfully glad when I heard you were Premier. You showed the Conservatives a few things that they should have known. John and I were staying with a family of hot tories and I didn't know until then what many Conservatives are like. However they didn't succeed in turning John and me from Grits to Tories.

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We know that the country will benefit greatly when it has a statesman and not a soldier as Governor-General. You and Chief Justice Anglin as well as many others must have given Lord and Lady Willingdon a grand welcome when they set-foot on Canadian soil. We have been having quite cool weather lately but I think it is getting warmer. Daddy is longing to be up North hunting. Wish he took his holidays earlier in the summer. Mother has been doing quite a bit of entertaining this summer so I guess she will be glad when winter comes so there won't be so many visitors. We are now back to school. I am in the entrance class and like my teacher very much. I guess I will close now, with love from your.

Affectionate niece,
Jean V. Lay.

P.S.:= I hope you will have a very happy voyage across the ocean.

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Barrie, Oct. 25. 1926

My dear Willie,

Many thanks for your cable dated 24th inst advising us that you had investigated the fact regarding the reported loss in the Mediterranean of H. Lieut. Lay. Fortunately we had not seen the report which would have given us great anxiety despite the fact that we hear from Nelson usually once a week. I am wondering if the officer of our name reported lost could be a cousin of mine, son of Amos Lay my father's youngest brother, his initials are the same as his name in such a connection brought very thrillingly home to us what a place he has in our hearts and lives.

I reached the retiring age, 60, this year but have had my term of service extended for "another year". In reply to my enquiry, Head Office write that my trust conditions will permit of further extension of service at the end of the year! I can't afford to retire on pension so hope those conditions will exist for some years to come!

We are following with great interest the reports of the Imperial Conference. Those are somewhat meagre in the Canadian papers. We shall look forward to your return next month and hope we may have an opportunity of a chat. It is awfully good of you to ask Jennie. We love the Canadian Parliament. opening & I hope that Jennie at least will be able to attend. Love from us all and Regards and thanking you for your kind message with best wishes Yours affectionately Harry Lay

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Nelson's though his name is Harry.
Your cable was phoned to Jennie
from headquarters & she phoned
me at the Bank last night.
As Jennie has no doubt told
you our house is under quarantine
due to Rosabel getting diphtheria
She has been under doctor's care
for the last ten days & steadily
improving So we hope by the
end of the week to be out of
quarantine. Apart from anxiety
on Peachie's account Jennie
has had a difficult time
acting as nurse in addition
to her usual household cares
To add to the load she had
just let our maid out for a
week's holiday!

We are glad to know you are having such a splendid visit and are wondering if you can find time to look up Gina, Frank or Elsie. They know every moment of your time is valuable but will as you know give you a warm welcome if you can squeeze out two opportunity. Visitations in London are great.

[Gina's address:- "Waldron", Plaistow Lane, Bromley, Kent. Frank:- 1 Hurst Court, Sutton, Surrey - Elsie:- Holy Trinity Rectory, Ramsgate, Kent.]

I appreciate very much indeed your thoughtfulness and kindness in looking up the report mentioned in your cable and taking such prompt steps to assuage any anxiety we might be feeling in regard to Nelson. The very mention

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 3rd '26

My dear Willie:

This is just a little line to say "welcome home" after your wonderful trip to England and France. I hope the actual trip has been a pleasant one and that you have had a little chance to rest on board ship. You will have to plunge at once into such an active life that you need a few days rest doing. Very many thanks. Also many thanks for your last cable from Paris. It was awfully good of you to cable. I got the message at 10.30 on the morning you sent it. Isn't it wonderful? I had decided that it would be impossible for me to manage a trip to Ottawa this year as this last illness of Peache's has been the last straw. She is still far from strong but the Dr coming every day for a month & having living out the hotel has meant quite an additional expense I don't feel that I have the right to take a couple of hundred dollars just for pleasure when there are so many necessities. From the less I thank you most sincerely for the kind invitation and we will all rejoice with you in the hearty welcome you will receive. All the family join in best love and heartiest congratulations

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It is so bad the Opening comes so soon, for you will [illegible] have got your [illegible] to have to [illegible] uniform regularly four days shall be [illegible] will take [illegible] to be in [illegible] have no chance [illegible] anything not about [illegible] there seem to [illegible] of changes, [illegible] short time for [illegible] away dif- will [illegible]

time to catch up again. The Provincial elections are nothing short of tragic. I didn't think the liquor interests were so strong and it seems a terrible thing that so many years' work should be set back. I really think the motorists are going to feel it most, for the roads will not be safe when every fool driver can further fuddle his brain with liquor.

We have enjoyed so much the papers you have so kindly sent us and they have kept us well posted as to what you were

I wish we might have arranged for you being present at the Opening - it was a very fine affair, and went off well, I believe, however. That you will enjoy coming down the drawingroom, and on the date fixed for February 8th that must suit you splendidly. Veils and feathers are the thing, now. The big fan should come in handily. I shall try to arrange that Harry can come up, to bring you and Harry down. It might be an idea, however, to say nothing of this to anyone meanwhile, and if it can be arranged to keep the matter quiet. Your last letter I can't come on this Saturday preceding so as to be here over Sunday. I shall arrange a reception at Laurier House for the Wednesday night following the drawing room. Possibly their Excellencies will be present. They will be sure to want you at Government House for lunch or dinner. This is all I can tell you at the moment. I hope, dear Jennie, you Canadian visit will be a very happy one and that this

Thanks for
Jelly, 5 cts for Stiles
Dentatine to our canine Mom

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 11. 1926.

My dear Jennie:

I want you very much for your birthday letter and gift and all that both express of your loving thought and good wishes. You cannot imagine how full of life and sparkle all the little stones of jelly looked when I had them set out on my table. They were, in fact the English named a "jolly little army" on the march. His Excellency the Governor General has received the

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a note to say that he is coming to see me at 4.30 this afternoon. I am staying indoors on account of a heavy cold - and I am going to have some of this jelly for 5 o'clock tea. I took one glass as a last drink the night before last, to aid in breaking up the cold, and it did good work. You have really gone to far too much trouble in planning for my birthday. but I thank Jean and Harry and the little people more than I can say for all their thoughtfulness of their love and yours. and I thank Jean again for your loving letter.

I am enclosing my cheque for $50.00 to cover the gifts to the little folks. You will know what they will like most. The amount is not large but it may serve to get something they would like. While in Paris, I secured the small bracelet which I brought back with me for Jean and Rosabel. I shall send them along this week and shall be glad if you will just have with the other gifts for Christmas. I am sorry just to have had time to secure anything special for the boys, either you will be able to do more, but may get this corner something that will serve as a souvenir of the occasion.

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

Now Jean will be a good one for
Harry, the children and yourself.
This year has been a strenuous
one for each of us in different
ways, but we have reason to
be thankful to a kind Providence
that has brought us through
the many vicissitudes so success-
fully to the close.

I am sure you have been sharing
my thoughts of dear Mistress at this
time. It is hard to realize that
this ~~blood~~ year have come by since
She was taken away from us

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sufficiency of this world to the soul beyond. Her spirit seems very near to me at times and I have a strange comfort in the assurance it has been ever at my side. Indeed it seems to me that I have had an instrument in very much that has taken place politically and that others have been working through me for the victories that have been achieved. That dear mother is ever near & you and your little family dear Lay are very sure. Indeed the family remains as one though divided for awhile.

Again with many good wishes for a very happy Christmas & all and fondest love. Believe me dear Jennie

Yours sincerely
Willie.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
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town. Helen got me the two in Toronto but I hadn't time to get more as Helen is now in New York. I only wish I could send you some of the lovely things you send me but smile as much love goes with the homely trifles!

We met Mr. Boys at tea yesterday. She said he had seen you & shaken hands. I have never been introduced to him but he came over to me & said he hadn't seen me for so long he would have to shake hands!! I didn't think he knew me.

I will let you know later what I secure for the Children. This is just a line to say thank you. Best love from all & hope you are better soon. Loving Sister Jennie

THOROUGH

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 20th 26

My dear Willie:

Very many thanks for your kind telegrams and their contents. We were ringing the telegraph office to send one message to you for your birthday when the operator told us she was just copying a message from you! It is very good

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I fear you & send such a greeting
present to the children
when your dear Dad's keen
so very generous
want you to
think of devoting
thing more for
for these present
so lovely. That
I expected some
but from Brown
in which it is
I really mean
give to the children

to have one that coupled with the lovely things from Paris have delighted us more than I can say. We are specially short this year as we have had so very many extra expenses and illness costs a lot. Peach is not very strong yesterday came out in a nice crop of shingles! We just have to build her up & take care of her. She makes me think of Isabel so often. We had great fun getting your box of jam ready. Tried all over to get Santa Claus for "lifters" but couldn't get any in

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 21, 1926.

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 October-December 1926

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but I just had to decline. I feel too tired to entertain or be entertained and want to rest all I can: that I am trying to do by keeping as much about at Laurier House from now till the end of the year as possible. I have accepted Their Excellencies invitation to dine with them at Government House on Christmas night.

A pair with the best of wishes and love of love to all for Christmas Day 1926 and the New Year 1927

Jan, dear Jennie
Your loving brother,
Willie.

hope the Christmas season will be very happy. I shall be glad if you find it possible to put them on the table on Christmas Day.

Please you will all have a very merry Christmas, and that then the New Year comes it will bring with it much true happiness to you all. I wish I could be with you and Harry and the children on Christmas Day, but it is really not to be impossible for me to get away. Lord and Lady Willingdon invited me to spend the week end, - including Christmas Day - Tuesday & Monday. with them at Government House

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 23rd '26

My dear Willie:

We sent off today a box of "eats" which may afford you a little amusement & which we hope you will enjoy. All the family had a hand in the collection, and it is sent with our best love. Daddy & Jean gathered the raspberries, John made the baskets, Peach helped with rest are on the way. I got a "made over" bicycle for Stanley as he has ridden Peach's ever since she got sick & now has to hand it over! He got least last year so gets most this year but that is fair? the children will not know! They think you have not asked me to see about them this year & are very free with suggestions of what I should get if I get the chance!!

Your lovely letter was a very great pleasure but I have only time to thank you for it as it is nearly midnight & I have been "at it" since six a.m.!

Heaps & heaps of love and Christmas wishes from all here.

& from your loving sister

Jennie

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 October-December 1926

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the candles you sent us, as the
has been home
& glean & stay
their sleigh is
office!! It is
advantage not
car in this
the snow is so
drive that we
I sent for a
back for you
in the cottage(?)
own room. I a
it did not get

time. It was held for some other things which were coming here, so I asked Nellie Douglas to have it sent direct to you. You will know when it arrives. ~~that~~ It is to be added to the "collection." We all join in the hope that Christmas will be a very happy day for you and ~~that~~ each succeeding year may bring added happiness. You have been so generous to us all that I wish we could do more to show our appreciation. However we send heaps of love.

I will let you know about the gifts for the children later on. Only one is here on the

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 31, 1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

A very happy New Year, dear Jennie, to Harry, the children and yourself. I send to each and all my fondest love and best of wishes.

Willie

J.S.104

~~Chg. Prime Minister's Office~~

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
December 1926

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 16, 1926

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Will you be good enough to buy for me gifts for the children for Christmas. Will send you for purpose same amount as last year. So glad you liked Conference souvenirs. Love to all.

Willie.

Pass
F.S.104

● King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie. (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family October-December 1926 ●

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 24, 1926

Mrs. H. M.Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Every loving wish, dear Jennie, for a very happy Christmas Day to Harry, the children and yourself. You will all be very much in my thoughts throughout the day.

Willie.

D.H.
Pass F.S.104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family October-December 1926

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec. 27-26

My dear Willie:

All the lovely presents and cards telegrams etc have added in no small way to our happiness this Christmas season. You have been more than generous to each and every one of us & we all send very loving thanks. Yesterday we went to Church in the morning & Sunday School & Bible Class in the afternoon & by the time I got Peach & Mary to bed at night & the rest of the much of an attraction to allow concentration on letters for any length of time and as the snow may come any time, I told them they could go! It has been a wonderful Christmas season with beautiful sunshine and not too cold weather. We had a lovely Christmas day with five homeless ones added to our six. The table was lovely with all the beautiful silver you gave me last year and the lovely candlesticks which are going to be a continual joy and add so much to the table, or wherever they are. I really hoped you would

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family got home safely
I was too tired to write
I didn't really feel
I didn't know what to
relaxation made
Lord Attlee weary
has been a year
nights with
and it must
answer I
is grumble!
We rang
Christmas morning
Central said
so we concluded
asleep stiff

soon as you came in! about half an hour after we had been talking to you Central rang & said you were cut out! She seemed very surprised when we said we had been talking to you, so I suppose you must have called us! Thank you so much for all your good wishes and all the beautiful gifts. The children will write to you tomorrow if not this afternoon. They have just finished their letters to Nelson & gone out on the Bay which is a sheet of clear ice. The new skates were too

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 October-December 1926

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I hope from Will not object to my selection for Jean & the most wanted; she wanted skating set; received same Christmas. I got her this winter so could run about this so and ran them was writing her wanted this is Jean's present when she was 5 or 6 years old & got my dress & Willie and myself told me maid) told me she did come of the purchasing for me in Toronto. I couldn't go down myself & she is staying there was glad to help out. All are presents you can be proud of and all are the things the children have wanted most I don't know what Santa Claus would do if he

me when I go to Ottawa! Then between John & Jean, to even up their amounts, Nellie Douglas got me a lovely second hand set of Ina Long in a cabinet which is going to give untold pleasure to us all for years. Peach has skates & boots & a toboggan & many a real bicycle! I will give you a detailed statement when I get the items from Nellie

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Dear Uncle Willie Dec. 28 1926

I thank you very much for the lovely [illegible] and the lovely [illegible] I am sorry I forgot something for mother for my other [illegible] I did not [illegible] for me. The [illegible] and the [illegible] Lovingly.

Dear Uncle Willie
I thank you very much
for the lovely [illegible]
and the lovely [illegible]
I am sorry I forgot something
for mother for my other [illegible]
I did not [illegible] for me. The
[illegible] and the [illegible]
Lovingly.

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 October-December 1926

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REPEAT
REPETITION

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 28. 192

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much for the lovely skates, boots, book, and Watch set. I am using the skates right along. The bay here is frozen about eight inches deep and there is absolutely no snow on it. Yesterday there must have been a couple of hundred people at least on the skates. The rink wont do much business unless it snows soon! I have an iceboat which I made myself. It goes well when there is enough wind to pull it along.

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 October-December 1926

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We had five people in to dinner on Christmas. We made a merry party from one-thirty to four o'clock. After tea the Smith boys came over and we played games and sang songs. We made so much noise that Aunt Nellie Douglas could hear us in Toronto when she rang mother about eight o'clock. To-morrow night we are having the Bank staff and some others in for dinner. Jean is quite indignant for she had wanted a birthday party!

It was lovely of you to send me an autographed copy of "Jack Miner and the Birds". It is a mighty good book and teaches you a lot of interesting things. The Mah Jong set is very beautiful. Last night Mother, Peach, Harry, and myself had two games. Peach won one and I won the other. We do not play right as we have not a set of rules yet. Aunt Nellie is getting a copy for us in Toronto. She got the set for mother at a unique shop in Toronto.

Harry is delighted with his bicycle. He learned to ride on Peach's while she was sick. If he were allowed he would be riding his all over the house.

I hope you enjoyed going to Government House. It was quite an honour, as was getting a cable from the King.

With every good wish for a very happy New Year,

I remain
Your loving Nephew
John.

● 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 October-December 1926 ●

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December 28th.

Dear Uncle Willie :-

Just a few lines to thank you very much for the lovely skating outfit, card and slave bracelet. The slave bracelet is awfully pretty and everybody admires it. There is ice on the bay so that the skating outfit comes in very handy. Yesterday Douglas Smith, a friend our mine and myself skated about ten miles up the bay. It was great fun & we had good appetites when we came back. We are trying to get Daddy and mother to come out on

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[illegible] and also that we
[illegible] talking to you about
them to skate. It had been a
Christmas tree and Santa Claus
leaving it on [illegible] table was
Right "as usual" there were
[illegible] as always. Jane
[illegible] as pleasant
[illegible] Thursday
[illegible] Christmas
[illegible] Eleanor
[illegible] Dec. 27th
[illegible] Lucky as
[illegible] close soon.
[illegible] Jane & Grosvenor
[illegible] Feb. of next
[illegible] Yours
[illegible] Jean. H. Lay.

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, Dec. 28. 1926.

My dear Willie,

Let me again thank you for so kindly remembering me at Christmas with the beautiful scarf. I have used it frequently and both in point of comfort and in beauty it is a splendid addition to my wardrobe. It was very good indeed of you to remember all the members of the family so generously. The beautiful candle-sticks you sent to Jennie are the

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admiration of us all and of our friends. We had a small dinner party on Christmas day - when they were used - and are also to have the members of our staff at dinner tomorrow when Jennie will put them on the table again to enhance its appearance. The children have written your themselves to thank you for their presents which all took a practical shape and are enabling them the more thoroughly to enjoy their Christmas holidays.

I hope you had a very happy Christmas. You must have been glad to find yourself at home again after the strenuous life at the Conference. Frank writes regretting that your public engagements prevented your giving him the pleasure of meeting you again. The poor Globe is shedding tears over the break up of the Empire but fortunately the British Statesmen who put their hands to the conclusions reached do not have misgivings but are rather inclined to take an optimistic view of the future of the Commonwealth.

I trust the coming New Year will find you fit and happy and blessed with prosperity and success throughout the year. The children join me in very much love, Yours affectionately, Harry Lay

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 29. 1926.

My dear Jennie:

It is just four years ago today, since I became Prime Minister of Canada, so I am celebrating the event by writing to thank you, and my wife and daughters for the beautiful Christmas gifts and loving letters which came from you all and to wish you one and all a very happy New Year.

I was delighted with the array of good things to wish

and to know are associated with this particular year that has meant very much to us all, and to myself in particular.

I would wish you at greater length - the time has not been as well spent - the few remaining hours of the year have many pressing demands upon them, and I am hurried to a close after the strain of the year's work, and am aiming to take a little rest. I received the Christmas over 2000 cards from all parts of the globe and all kinds of people. A cable from the King & Queen & one also from the Prince of Wales. - about 200 or more cables & telegrams. You can imagine how hard it is to make due acknowledgements.

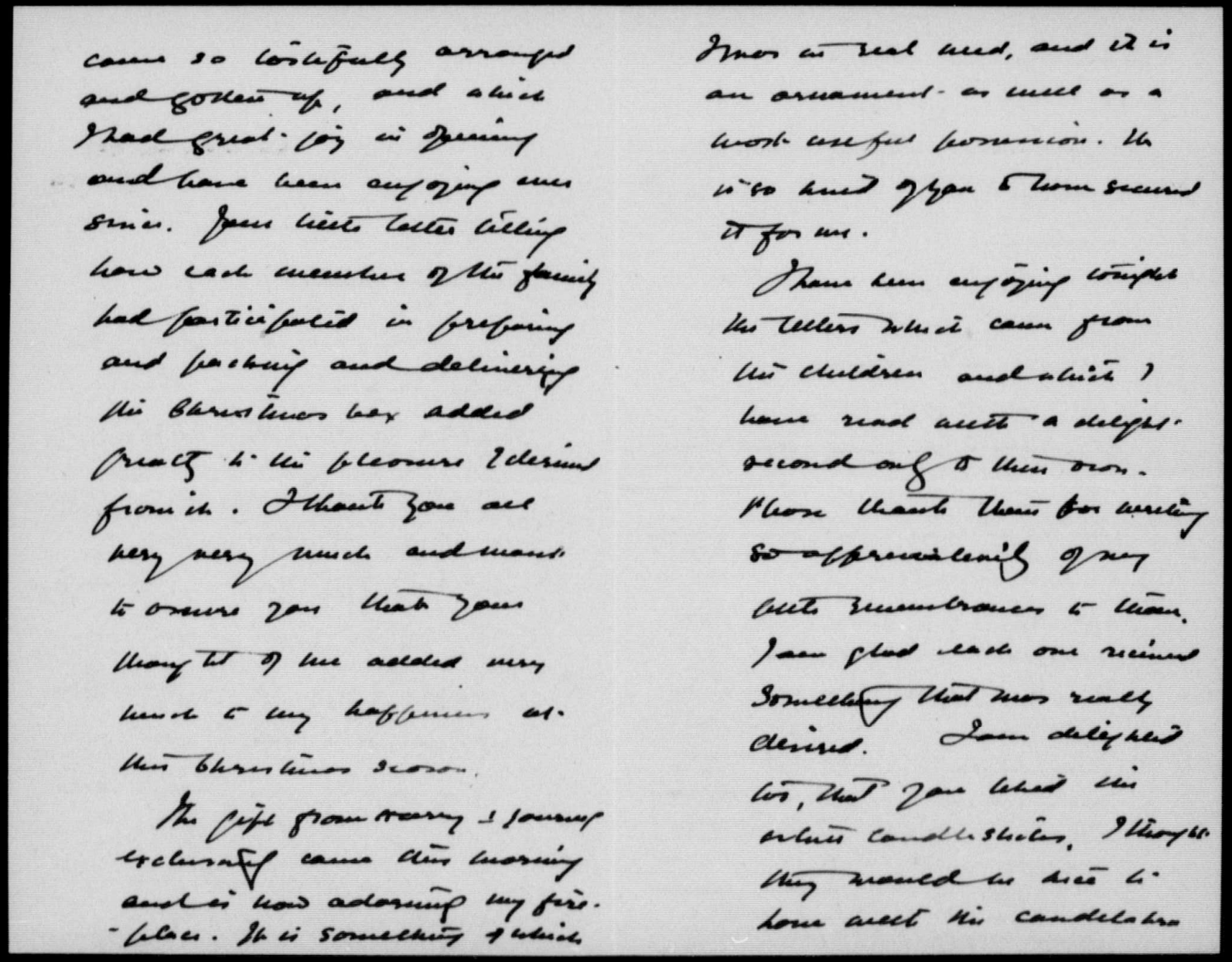
With renewed thanks & fondest love & best wishes to all for 1927

Believe me dear Jennie, as always Your loving Uncle Willie

P.S. - Yesterday - Sunday - I went through the whole of the mail you sent me & enjoyed it, and will keep it for a time.

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 October-December 1926

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come so beautifully arranged and gotten up, and which I had great joy in seeing and have been enjoying ever since. Jean likes better telling how each member of the family had participated in preparing and packing and delivering the Christmas box added greatly to the pleasure I derived from it. I thank you all very very much and want to assure you that your thought of me added very much to my happiness at this Christmas season.

The gift from Mary & Jessie Lockwood came this morning and is now adorning my fireplace. It is something of which I am in real need, and it is an ornament as well as a most useful possession. We wish we had you to have secured it for us.

I have been enjoying tonight the letters which came from the children and which I have read with a delightful recollection of their own thoughtfulness of my little remembrances to them. I am glad each one received something that was really desired. I am delighted too, that you liked the silver candlesticks. I thought they would be nice to have with the candelabra

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 31st '26

My dear Willie.

Every good wish from each and every one in this house, for all happiness and prosperity in 1927 May it see the fulfilment of many of your desires and be in every way a most satisfactory year. Above all may you have good health for it seems to me, all else

luckily only went to his amplito. He said he got one leg out - rolled over. He's a little chap his eyes were alone at the time & got into a crack. He has a cold but that is all. I was in bed myself with a cold yesterday. Peach is much better & the shingles are almost gone. Hope all sickness will end with 1926. I see by the Star you are to be in Toronto on Feb. 3rd. I wonder if there will be any chance of your coming up here. I hope so.

All the family join in best love to you dear Willie and in many thanks for all your kindness in the past year. May all blessings be yours in the new year

Your loving sister
Jennie

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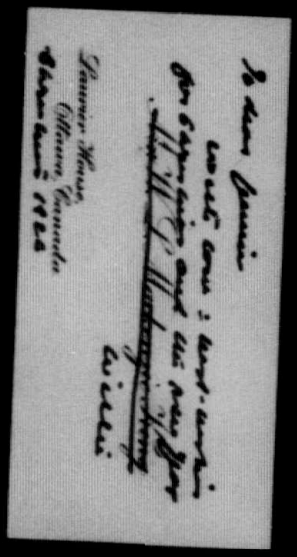
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is comparatively warm when
your parents left Calgary
U. I hope you
a little west of
Decem, though
here so much
take that there
Chauvet's
Boxing Day
If the holiday
children go back
on me to get a
They are having
Tuesday or the
a whole week's

we haven't had since we came to Banff. They are all enjoying your Christmas gifts to the full. You would be very proud of your niece Jean if you could see her in her white outfit! So many people here said how pretty she is!! She is so happy & feels so fine!! They are on the bay from morning till night - should be healthy. Harry Jr. got into the water the other day & it is a marvel he wasn't drowned. When I told him he should thank God for saving him he said "He didn't save me; I saved myself"!! However he added to his prayers at night - "thank you God for not letting me drown"! He was in 14 ft of water out-



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 October-December 1926

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C3

Esquimalt B.C.
January 2nd

Dear Uncle Willie,-

Ever so many thanks for your telegrams with their Christmas greetings and for the very nice present. It's very good of you to remember me each year, especially when you are as busy as you have been this year.

I spent a weeks at

out here are getting rather uncomfortable because they don't see much hope of advancement and at present there is no pension. I should like very much to hear what you think about the prospects of the R.C.N. and the advisability of remaining in it.

I was very sorry Mother couldn't get down for the opening of Parliament. She's wanted to for years but something always seems to crop up to prevent her.

Best of wishes, Uncle Willie for 1927 and again many thanks for your good wishes and gift.

Your affectionate nephew
Nelson Lay.

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We expect to go on some sort of a cruise next month - probably south to San Francisco and San Diego. It will do everyone a lot of good to get away from Esquimalt. We're not at sea enough during the winter and as we're the only ship out here there is no competition to keep things up to the marks.

What is the Canadian policy ~~tow~~ toward Naval Defence to be? Are we going to have Canadian ships and men or is everything going to be turned over to the Royal Navy? The officers

Christmas in Vancouver with my Aunt Audrey. Had an awfully good time there, dances etc. There was a hockey game in Victoria on the 27th so I had to come back to play. We're an United Services team in the local amateur league. There is no professional hockey on the coast now so we get quite good gates. That's rather important because running a team is a very expensive thing out here. The arena charge a lot for practices because they have to use artificial ice.

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Send
Doris

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 10th. 27

My dear Willie:

Your letters of Dec. 29th and January 1st were very much appreciated as were also your phone & telegram on New Years day. It is so good of you to show us you are thinking of us all so constantly & I can't tell you how much pleasure your Kindness gives us. As we grow older the people who really matter in our lives

They all had a lovely holiday, thanks largely to your generosity, and seem better for the ten days in the open air. Mary & I went down & skated a couple of times on the bay with them & enjoyed it so much. The children were delighted when they heard you could skate & John immediately wanted to know if you had tube skates. He is so proud of his. I enclose a memo. of my expenditure. The Mah Jong set is a beauty which Nellie Douglas got for us at an antique shop. It is a $20.00 set in a lovely cabinet & we have had several happy hours with it already. It is a great thing to get a game they can all play together

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John shoes rubbers 7.75
Jean coat 8.50
cap. 1.30
Ronald shoes rubbers 6.10
Topsy Jam 3.75
Mary bicycle 15.00
Neal Jerry (John, Jean, Ronald) 8.00
$50.40

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a word for it. I don't know that the Braid can say anything much worse than the Chronicle. Many wons he will fire up the Clerk & take the mail out. I can't grudge us that yet! The "Star" carries the circulation.

We had the Inspection last week & many worked at the bank till between 1 & 2 a.m. the first 3 nights of the week. One of the staff was in the hospital, with Pneumonia so it made it harder than usual. If it were not that we really need the 2nd - that we really need the money I would be glad if many were out. If the Banks fix day and getting a sooner each year

and one more of us are Rain or a great treat. Caroline, Dad, Jack & I is a [illegible] & always remember we had at "Wood[illegible]" [illegible] in Hon. Jennie, that with dishes & it had which were empty remember in? It's Baked were no we for- enjoyed for years. will for an knock Ra Jane as the children I am bookings for the finest pleasure a little visit with month if all goes Branning Room does as me at all, except & spending money,

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looking forward with the greatest pleasure to the reception at Laurier House. That, I hope, will be the occasion when I shall have always. I can say. Everyone wanted to see the house in which you have lived so long and I would enjoy that little letter from Mr. Manning to find out what Mackenzie King was like. Now I must say goodbye. Hoping to see you soon. Yours sincerely Cora Lay.

lined coat she could wear while I was away!! People are awfully kind but you can't quite accept that kind of assistance & keep your self respect! I wish Harry could go too but that is out of the question this year at any rate. It seems longer than five years since you became Premier but at any rate they can't put you out for another five years! The Globe makes me furious every time I read its editorials. Aren't they contemptible? Did you see the article on Friday or Saturday of last week about Premier Bruce? They might just as well say, point blank, that they can't believe

which have not all been written yet. I have very little time for letters with this energetic family to feed & see for! They are worth all they demand of time & patience & I wouldn't change with anyone.

Best love dear Willie from each one in this house and many, many thanks for all your loving kindness

Your loving Sister
Jennie

men in the Bank. Not one of my family will go in if we have any say. $4,000 a year after forty years service is handed enough to look forward to and there are hundreds who never reach that. Keep your eyes open for any job that is going & letting for a man of Harry's ability & faithfulness. I am glad to have him to look for a job before he is asked to get out.!! Last year was such a hard year in every way that it rather took the pep out of us, but we are looking forward to 1927 with every hope of success. For one thing we are truly thankful- we are all well again.!!

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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I had a sweet little letter from Mrs Lair and she told me how delightful they were with you. She copied your poems. She copied it and said it had given her so much joy. She wanted to know if you were going to be in Ottawa. Then is a possibility that I may be able to go out there for a short visit. Then in a letter from Quebec Clarence the pleasure I had spoke of Christmas and how Ruth would be with them, and Dr. King [illegible] also said Rob [illegible] from Ottawa. [illegible]

must ask you many questions
as you proceed; I see the weather
is the same as it was when
you were here. The cornfields are so tiny
yet. The [illegible] and cattle
are in the same enclosing a clump
of trees in the distance. Then is a
[illegible] where the old house
used to be. I have a meeting of the cabinet
at 9 and another at 11
this morning & then a dinner
engagement with Mr. Lapointe
at 1 o'clock. Then I must
[illegible] to make a speech
before 3 and another

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2 2 0 0 0

Ottawa,
January 15, 1927

My dear Jennie:

I have been thinking over what would be best in connection with your visit to Ottawa, and if the following proposal fits in with your plans I should be glad if you would let me know, and we will carry it out.

As you are aware, I am going to Toronto, to be there for Thursday, February 3. The banquet is being given that evening, and on the following day I have engagements there including a speech to the University of Toronto students. I shall have to return to Toronto Friday night as there are many matters requiring attention before Tuesday, the 8th, and in all probability we shall have a meeting of the Cabinet Saturday afternoon.

It would give me great pleasure if you could return to Ottawa with me on Friday evening, and I could bring you with me in my private car. The Toronto banquet committee are sending you an invitation and I really think you would enjoy this event. My idea would be that you regard your visit as commencing on Thursday; spend Friday in Toronto, come with me to Ottawa and be with me here Saturday and Sunday, and as long as you can stay in the following week. Parliament will reassemble on Tuesday February 8, but will not sit on Wednesday

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evening, which is the night I have preempted for my reception at Laurier House at which Their Excellencies will be present. If you are here a few days in advance it would give you time for a little rest as well as recreation, and I think you enjoy the reception even more than if you came down say at the beginning of the week.

I had once thought of running up to Barrie on Saturday afternoon, bringing you down on Sunday night, but this I have concluded will not be possible because of the many matters requiring attention on the eve of the reassembling of parliament. Please, therefore, think over the plan here suggested, and let me know as soon as possible what you think of it.

The Drawing Room has been fixed for the night of Saturday, February 19. I should be glad to have you stay on for that event if you can spare the time, or to have you come down specially for it if you wish to go back after the Reception and take in the Drawing Room later; but I am taking you at your word that of the two events you would prefer the Reception at Laurier House, should the occasion arise that you must choose between them. It has been necessary to delay the Drawing Room because of the Senate not meeting during the first week of the reassembling of parliament. I am inviting to the Reception only the members of the House of Commons and their wives; as the former number about 245 I expect 500 guests.

I hope that Harry will come with you. I think that if he asked, the Bank would grant the short holiday.

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If you can meet me in Toronto as suggested, I will see that when returning you are sent back in my car. I shall not be able to return with you; but I should like nothing said of this meanwhile.

I was greatly pleased to receive yesterday your long and interesting letter.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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wanted an influential name to use as reference. It had to be some one who was not a relative. I told her I was sure you would not mind her using your name. She was perfectly delighted, but I think that was what she was wanting. I have to go back to my lad upstairs so can't write more just now. Many, many thanks. Will write again later on. With much love in which all the family join yours lovingly

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 18th. 27

My dear Willie

Thank you very much for your lovely letter which came yesterday. I didn't get a chance to answer it last night as Harry Jr. has been very sick. The Dr. says it is 'flu and I was really alarmed when his temp. kept up to 105° this

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could have managed it this year. I will be glad of a couple of days before your reception and it will be a real rest for me as I am pretty tired. It is awfully good of you to plan so fully for my happiness. Harry will go to the banquet. I hope but he is hardly in a position to get off for longer than that. We simply can't manage it this year & he is delighted that I am going to have the holiday. Margaret Ross is very keen to get in to St Lukes Hospital, Montreal, &

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 1st '27

My dear Willie:

I am planning to go back with you on Friday night unless something unexpected happens to prevent me. I will not believe I am really going till I am on the train! From the account in the Star last night you seem to have your days pretty well filled. They didn't send us tickets &

the deputy minister (I forget his name) is called for the Star. We have been wondering who would be here from the Star. I don't know who is trying it but likely we will hear tonight.

Harry is curling in a Bonspiel and they are glad of cold weather again. It was 32° below, last Wednesday.

All here join in sending best love & hoping to hear from you on Thursday

Your loving Uncle
Jennie

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Harry wrote to Nelson Rockefeller.
and Arthur to Kirkpatrick Dawson
his letter & I wrote asking
Harry me to go as his guest
and Lora to go with us. He
comes we could do anything
but accept. But we would
rather have Dawson
we are going
for the night
come back by
Friday. It is
since I have
holidays and
The children
while I am

was in bed Saturday & Sunday but is off to school again today. She is a bit strong & the least excitement puts her temperature up. They are all very much excited at the thought of my visit to you! I think they have told everyone in town. Certainly everyone knows, & I haven't told them! It is a big event, to visit the Prime minister.

Mr. Boys' case against the Star is on today and everyone is wondering how it will turn out. Now Mr Bureau is subpoenaed as a witness for Boys, &

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, Feb.2,1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Delighted to receive your letter this morning. Am looking forward to your returning with me to Ottawa on Friday night. Best love to all.

Willie

FS 104

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, July 10. 1926

My dear Willie,

Your kind telegram received yesterday for which very many thanks. Rosabel is doing splendidly the doctor says, and will probably be out of bed this week. Jennie and She send them love. Jennie hasn't told Rosabel about the flowers yet and think we will get some for her from you for Valentines Day next Sunday.

We all appreciate very much your thoughtful kindness. Your hours must be fully occupied just at present with the miserable tactics of Meighen & Co. One gets more indignant every day with the attitude of the Globe. It is too bad we haven't got a good Liberal morning Paper.

With best love and good wishes

Yours affectionately,

Harry Lay

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C 2 2 0 0 0

By the Sea,
February 24, 1927

My dear Nelson:

I shall have to wait till I see you to have a talk about the Canadian Naval Service, as it is a subject on which, as Prime Minister, I am hardly in a position to write.

I see no reason to assume that our Canadian ships will lose their identity or ever become a part of the Royal Navy, though how rapid the growth of our own Naval Service may be is, at the moment, more or less uncertain.

I would prefer that you should keep this communication to yourself, as other persons may draw from it conclusions which are not warranted by any expression of view it contains.

Let me thank you warmly for your kind wishes for the New Year, and with all good wishes to you at all times.

Believe me,
Yours very sincerely,

Lieutenant H. Nelson Lay, R.C.N.,
H.M.C.S. Patrician, Esquimalt, B.C.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb 27th '27

My dear Willie:

If I had a strenuous time while I was with you, it has been even more so since I came home! Rosabel was very sick for three days, her temperature keeping up to 102-104 and her pulse racing along at 120-130 which is really quite alarming. Then she seemed much better on Wednesday & I thought Thursday would for every day I have thought it would be possible to work in a letter, but it has been pretty much twenty-four hour duty. I do hope you are getting a rest and not worrying about anything. The change will surely do you good and you needed it so very badly. I am afraid my visit added to your burden, but I had such a wonderful visit and you were so good to me that I can find no room for regret. It came the only two weeks I could have got away and I

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be an off day for letters etc. but at 8 a.m. I got a hurry call that Miss Ross (Sir John Ario's sister-in-law) our special protégée had learned yesterday- the heartless brutes. I went & see her, & found the clothes had been burned completely off her back & her hands & arms were badly burned. I went got the ambulance & with her to the hospital and left her laid out for hours while they shaved her

burns. It was just noon when I got back home after a very trying morning She is nearly eighty so I don't know what the outcome will be but she is doing remarkably well considering the fact that she hasn't an inch of skin on her back from her waist up! Last night I got anxious about Rachel & the D. came down about ten and says she has a slight touch of pleurisy & will be in bed for a week at least. Now you know why I haven't written

This card-week but it's getting better
for with every day change it's a
warmer climate for a little
while though the weather hasn't
been so good in Atlantic City they
may I never write some other
letter so will say Goodbye for the
present: My very sincere and
loving thanks to you for the
birthday gift and for the
kindness to me
while a person treats me
like people Kindness is much
appreciated by me realize how much
they admire and love you and
I hope you may long be spared to
enjoy all your many friends
Kindness to me in sending me the
dividend for the Canadian Pacific
Railway Co. I shall always
cherish your gift as a
token of your love for me
Sincerely yours
Mackenzie King

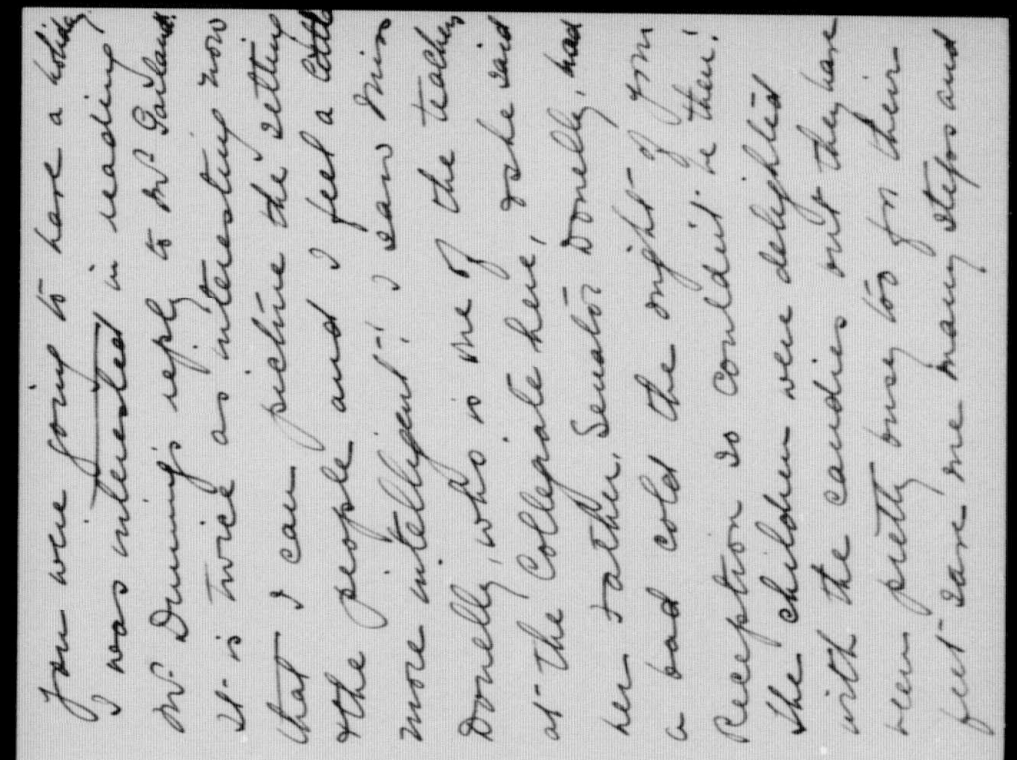
came home first
week I shall
Chateau
Laurier
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Ontario
a change was
I am going
Castle
and you can tell
for we can
have been so
I hope Dr. MacDonald
Kin with that
clock with the
ly was so good
ing up on Sunday
we shall be
and daddy glad

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they help me a lot. I hope to get a maid next week. I wouldn't have minded King without for a week or two under ordinary conditions, but this last week has been exceptional. They all (the children) got pins & certificates today for not missing a Sunday at church for the year. This is John's eighth year, Jean's & Rosabel's seventh & Kay's third when they have been at church 52 Sundays in the year, except on account of sickness when they are counted present. It is a pretty good record when you consider the distance they have to walk in all kinds of weather. We have had a tremendous lot of snow

Ritz-Carlton Hotel,
March 2, 1927

My dear Jennie:

I was very pleased to receive here your letter of February 27, and am sorry to learn that you had had such a busy and anxious time since your return. I hope little Rosabel is quite better. Please give my love to her and to the other children.

I had a bit of a temperature and a chill the day after I arrived here, and Dr. McDougald, who was with me, insisted on getting in a doctor and a nurse for a day or two. I think there was really no need for either, but having had a thorough going over by the doctor, as well as being fixed up in other ways, I am now inclined to think that the step was a wise one. I did not put off coming away any too long, as I was thoroughly tired out, and might have picked up any infection.

I am now feeling much rested after ten days here, and am looking forward to returning to Ottawa at the end of the week. I am planning to stay over, on my way back, at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, to have my nose examined. There is trouble

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in the left sinus, as there was ten or twelve years ago, and I may have to have a slight operation, but nothing in any way to occasion concern.

Dr. McDougald was very pleased to have your kind remembrance of him. Both Dr. McDougald and Senator Haydon, who are with me here, greatly enjoyed meeting you, and speak often of your visit.

I am glad you enjoyed the ten days, and only hope they gave you as much pleasure as they afforded me. I am only sorry that I was so tired most of the time, but I saw you understood and I did not try to attempt more than I was able to manage.

With fondest love to Harry, the children and yourself,

Believe me, as always,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

P.S. Do I owe the little Syrian woman $48.50. Her account is for that amount.

Feb.14.	1 doz. serviettes		$11.00	
	3 prs. towels @ $3.		9.00	20.00
" 19	6 oblong filet mats			
		@ 2.25	13.50	
	4 filet oval @ 3.75		15.00	28.50
				48.50

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March 6. 1927

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much of the lovely box of candies which you sent to us via Mother. They were very good and it was very good of you to think of us.

Mother has just been looking over with us some of the letters she received in Ottawa. They were very interesting. I liked the different invitations a great deal. Some of the coats of arms on the cards and envelopes were very interesting

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We were very sorry to hear that you were sick. I hope you are better now. As you probably know, Teach has had a touch of Pleurisy this last week. She has been in bed since last Saturday night. She only got up on Friday. The result is that she is a bit spoiled.

Yesterday morning Mr. Cockburn, my Sunday School teacher, another boy, and myself walked across the bay to gather some spruce-boughs to decorate the platform for a play the Ladies' Aid are putting on in the Church on Wednesday night. The snow was very sticky and it was hard work pulling the heavily laden toboggans back two and a half miles

The play is entitled "The Prodigal Son," and is a dramatized version of the parable. We will get free tickets as a reward for our work!

Mother says I have to go to bed as it is nearly half past eight, so I must close. With love and best wishes

your loving nephew
John

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 6th '27

My dear Willie:

I was indeed sorry to hear that you had not been well but to me it is a wonder you kept up as long as you did. I am truly glad you have had a medical examination for it gives you a more secure feeling. I think it would be wise if we all, as we grow older, could be examined periodically. I hope you will find nothing seriously wrong with your kid-

sooner, but have been very busy? Knew there was no such. Rosalie is up today for the first time & if she will be careful should be all right now. I am sending to Germany for a maid but it will be a month before she gets here. I am getting her through a Lutheran Clergyman in Wildemay and Mrs Jo. Seagram is getting one too. If we can get the papers (immigration) through quickly they ought to be here soon, as if you see the papers you will know what they are! It is an experiment but I think it is worth trying.

Poor old Miss Ross is suffering a great deal and I go up to the hospital nearly every day. As it is 1½ miles each way, with bad walking, it is quite a task. I often wish for Allan!

Did you notice the death of Allen Davidson, Mrs Ross' brother, last week?

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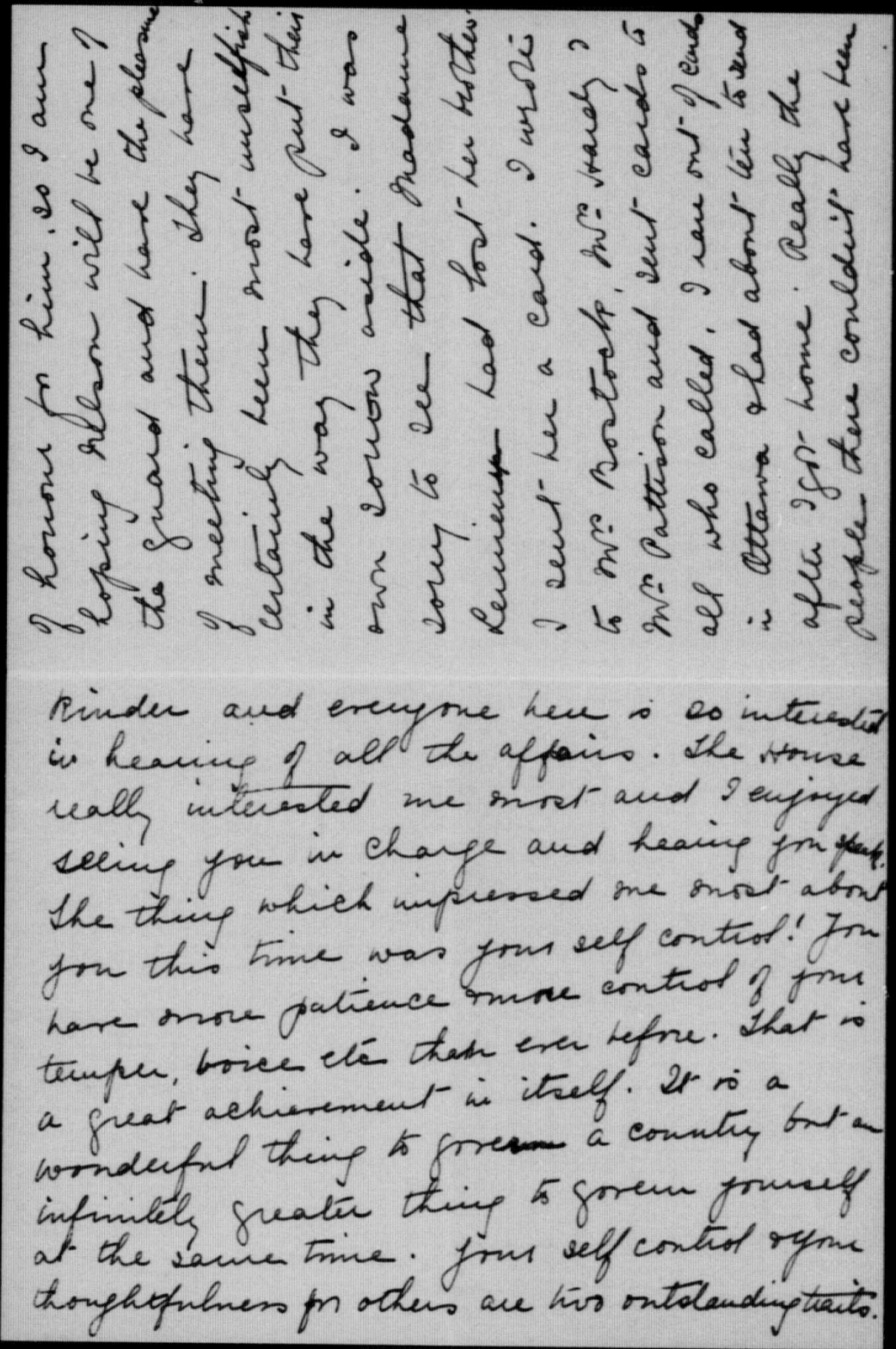
...cians. It was fortunate for me that I got there just when I did! If it had been a week later everything would have been different. I had a nice little note from Mrs Edgerton and last week the enclosed letter came from Lady Willingdon. I thought you would be interested in seeing it, but want to keep it. I think she has been very sweet. I think the bill for the lace etc is correct. I gave a memo of it to Mr Martin and also the receipts for the plain linens I got which came to $6.00. I got a box of candies for $1.50 & a dozen plate doilies for $1.50 so there is $1.50 owing for and I enclose it with this. Am mailing the doilies separately. Should have attended to this

I had a very happy visit and enjoyed every minute of it & I believe it has helped me to take hold of the difficulties of the last two weeks & overcome them with little effort. We were weighed this morning & I weigh 152 a lb more than I did before I went away. Harry has lost five lbs and only weighs 136 which is much too little. He has been walking too much I think. You know his wheel was stolen & he hasn't got another yet. It is only nine o'clock but Harry has gone to bed & I am going too. We have been up late every night this last week & it has been a strenuous time. I hope to hear you are quite yourself again. All here join in best love your loving sister
Jennie

I sent her a card and had a nice little note from her.
The children have been writing to you. I told Rosabel she had better re-write hers but she was so distressed at having to sacrifice her dog which was the great joy of the letter, that I let it go! She is very weak, & everything is an exertion. The children are very good at helping me, and I find the greatest difference in the work since they do not have to be waited on, but can lend a hand instead!
I see the Governor General is going out to the Coast and Nelson says they are to form a guard

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I know for him, so I am hoping Alban will be over? the grand and I will have the pleasure of meeting them. They have certainly been a most unselfish own sorrow to see the sorry to leave Laurentian Lad I sent her a card to Mrs Bostock, Mrs Pattison and self who called, I is Ottawa glad after I got home people there could

Rinder and everyone here is so interested in hearing of all the affairs. The House really interested me most and I enjoyed seeing you in charge and hearing you. The thing which impressed me most about you this time was your self control! You have more patience more control of your temper, voice etc than ever before. That is a great achievement in itself. It is a wonderful thing to govern a country but an infinitely greater thing to govern yourself at the same time. Your self control & your thoughtfulness for others are two outstanding traits.

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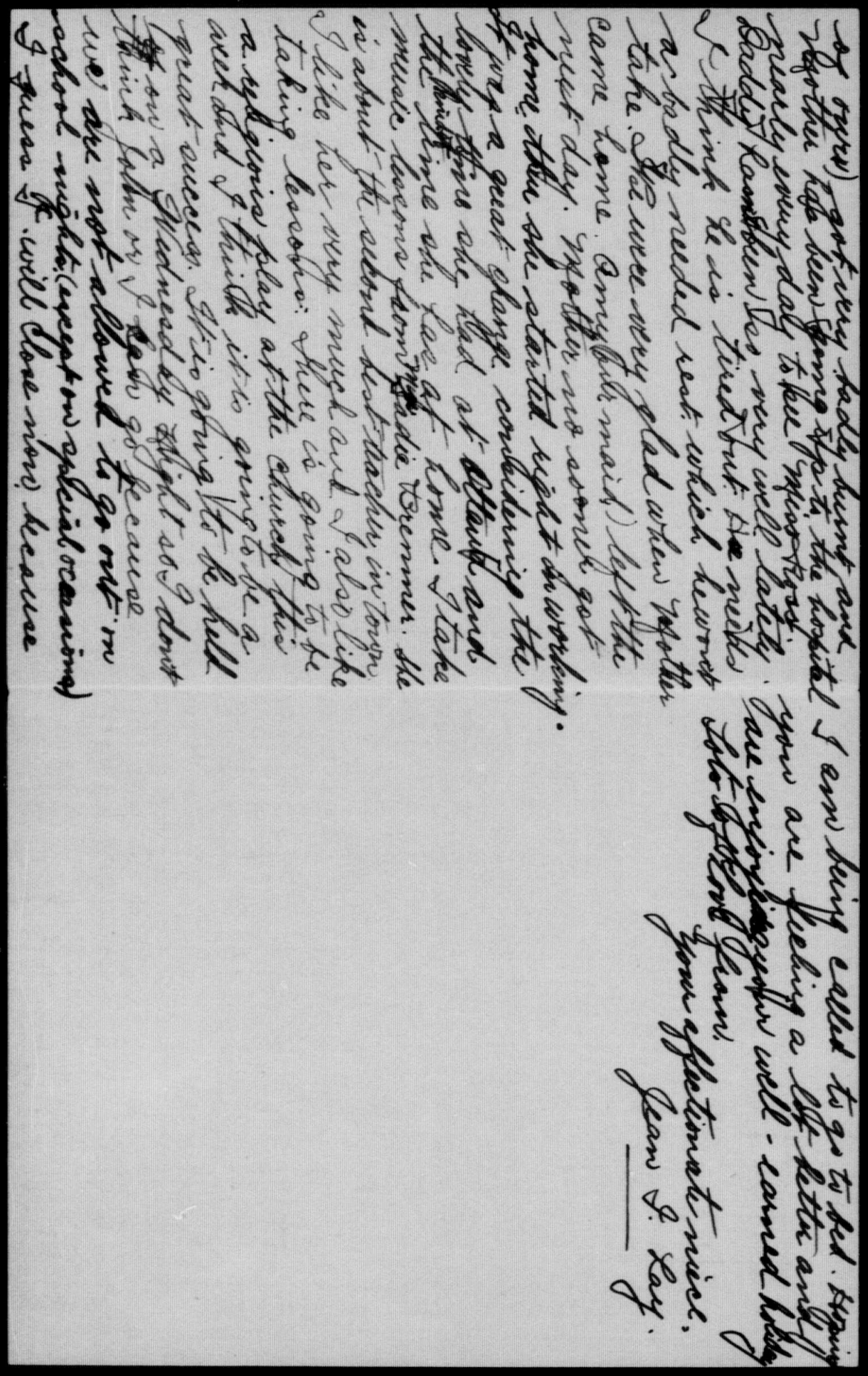
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"Boulderfield" Barrie, Ont.
March 6th. 1927.

Dear Uncle Willie :- Thank you very much for the lovely big box of candies that you sent home to us. There was a great demand for them and they are rapidly disappearing. I was very sorry to hear that you were not feeling very well, but I believe it will do you a lot of good to get a holiday. We have no maid now but Mother is sending to Germany for a German maid who can't speak English. I don't see how we will be able to understand her. You should come to our place and help us when she comes. It has been quite warm here for over a week and the snow is going very quickly. Yesterday I saw three crows and a robin which is I think a pretty good sign that Spring is not far off. Much love from

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March 11, 1927

My dear Jennie:

I thank you for your welcome letter received some days ago. Will you also please thank John, Jean and Rosabel for the little letters received from them and which gave me very much pleasure. Just as soon as the session is over I shall try to find time to write each of them a line, but I want them to feel that I appreciate each of these communications. I was quite interested in Jean's history paper with its references to grandfather. She evidently has memorized to good effect the conventional textbook.

I had a pleasant stay at Atlantic City, but spent most of the time either in bed or in catching up with correspondence. However, I feel much refreshed by the change, and I hope you feel equally so with respect to your little sojourn in Ottawa. The letter from Her Excellency is a very nice one indeed. I am returning it with this communication.

Many thanks for the particulars regarding outlays for linens, etc. That reminds me that it is only since my return from Atlantic City that I learned that the little set of breakfast dishes, egg-cup, etc.

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were a gift from you to me. I was quite delighted when I saw the set, and wondered where it had come from. I am sorry not to have known sooner, and not to have thanked you before this. Let me do so now very warmly. Besides giving me much pleasure in themselves, I shall never use the set without thinking of the pleasure your visit brought to me.

There came from Jenkins a day or two ago a box containing two coffee cups of the kind of which my dining room set is made up, in red and gold. I have not been able to make out by whose directions they were sent. Can you enlighten me? The Martins did not seem to know, and I have assumed they must have been some order you placed in Toronto, either on your own account or mine, or someone else's. Please tell me when you write again.

I do hope Rosabel has quite recovered from her illness. I am afraid she is not very strong and will require much care. I hope, too, that you yourself are not overdoing it, though I know how difficult it is to avoid this.

With fondest love to all, believe me,
Affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 16th '27

My dear Willie:

Many thanks for your letter of March 11th. I am glad you feel a little less tired; it is a great relief, mentally, to have overtaken at least part of your correspondence. Life is twice as hard when once you get behind with the everyday duties. Even if you were in bed while at Atlantic City, the change would

going to help me till my German comes: that is if I can be bothered with her! These country girls are so clumsy & stupid. I am at marmalade making & she can't do the simplest thing right. I thought if I had her, I might get some of Spring sewing done, but she can't even cut up oranges properly! However she does the rough work that relieves me somewhat. We made five pints of maple syrup last week but it has nearly all disappeared. It is delicious & I hope we will get a lot more. I want to make some sugar.

Rosabel is back at school & the others are well. I hope you will keep better. Best love from us all to you dear Willie from your loving sister Jennie

Give my love to the Gutteridges.

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do you [illegible] I feel
I know it- it is [illegible]
my kappa little [illegible]
you which made
in the monotony
I have been disappear
ach since I got home
have walked about
daily to the hospital
We are having
weather part
walks are cleared.
has his bike out
first time she does
think will she could
I do so, for he

is so happy. He gets off on like a veteran sits so straight. Poor Daddy is bemoaning the loss of his bike (which was stolen) now that it is possible to ride again.

I am glad you like the little egg set. Mrs Patteson & I got it shortly after I went to Ottawa but I left it for a parting gift. It is only a trifle but I hope it will be useful. I am sorry to say, I know nothing about the cups from Jenkins. Possibly by now it will be straightened out.

I got a young girl on Monday who is

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 15th '27

My dear Willie:

All the other members of the family are in bed, but there are two men papering the maids' room so I cannot go to bed till they depart! It has been such a lovely day that Harry & the children were out all day and were dead tired tonight - so went to bed at 8 2d. I am hoping my German maid will arrive any day now

thousands of people would have a day out of doors.

Poor old Miss Ross is still in the hospital & I go every day to see her. Her back is healing wonderfully but she is so old that it is a lengthy process.

Nelson was appointed to command the Guard of Honour to the Gov. Gen but fell in his cabin & cut his head open, the day they were to arrive, and spent the whole week in hospital. He said in his last letter that he was better & would be on duty on their return.

We are sending you a taste of our marmalade as an Easter Greeting with best love. My intentions were good, but I had'nt time to do it up as I wished to. All join in best love dear Willie from your loving sister Jennie

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and will be glad to see her
as I have been alone ever
since I came from
Ottawa except
when I had a
has done me
the Hornes, is
I am sure
that the Sebastians
has been a
I hope
now to get
up steam
celebration.
next Thursday
The days go so quickly that

July will be here before we know it.
Mr. Stevens was telling Harry Saturday that
they have asked you to open the
Fall Fair here. It would be lovely
for us if you could do it, but of
course it is a small concern com-
pared with what you are accustomed
to. I hope you will be able to get
up to see us soon but I know you
need a rest more than anything
else. Kingsmere will soon be lovely.
Yesterday was such a glorious day that

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 18. 1927

My dear Willie,

We all appreciated very much indeed your kind telegram to Jennie with your Easter greetings to all the Lay family. We very sincerely reciprocate these and trust that in spite of sadnesses which Good Friday and Easter are bound to bring us that

be much obliged if you could be so kind as to have a copy of Hansard sent me so that I might perhaps follow up the matter.

I misunderstand she quoted Lord Elgin as supporting her view. My father writes "about this stage Lord Elgin made his entry in his diary published after his death, as to our "bullying the poor Chinese" He was rudely awakened afterwards ... and had himself to direct as stringent 'bullying' to save his treaty, ... truly observing: 'I am China's friend in all this.' Two years afterwards in 1860 it was Elgin who ordered the destruction of the Emperor's Palace at Yuen Ming Yuen as a punishment for Chinese treachery under a flag of truce

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you will have enjoyed the
rest of the holiday and that
the messages of hope which
Easter brings will chasten
the sorrowful memories of the
anniversary of dear Isabel's
passing away. Your beautiful
cards to the children were
productive of much pleasure
to them. They also received
cards and eggs from Nelson
so the season was one of
pure joy to them.

I was much interested
in Miss Macphail's letter
to the Grey School. I
ventured to write to the Globe
relating some of the facts
connected with the treaty
of Nankin of 1842 - which
should as they did at the
time enable Great Britain
pursue the Charge of forcing
Opium on the poor Chinese.
I notice in the press that
she made reference in the
House at Ottawa to criticisms
in her letter and I should

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, April 23rd 1927

Rt. Hon W. L. MacKenzie King,
Prime Minister,
Ottawa,

My dear Willie,

Please accept my thanks for the copy of the House of Commons Debates of Monday April 11th -

Jennie and the children join me in best love,

Yours affectionately,
Harry Lay

P.S. I understand the people here have sent you a pressing invitation to open the September Fall Fair. If you come there will be an enormous welcome! They will show Toronto how to do it.

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-August 1927

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Form 85

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Barrie, May 6th 1927

Right Hon.W.L.Mackenzie King,

Prime Minister,

Ottawa,

My dear Willie,

The other day Donald Ross called and said he was an applicant for a judgeship and would we drop you a line etc etc. You have known Mr.Ross longer than I have and are quite aware of his ability to fill the position desired.

I am forwarding a clipping from yesterday's Telegram. Mr. Irving Robertson noticed a short article recently which the Globe published and asked me by telephone for a letter on the hoary opium question. It was written hurridly and several compositor's errors occurred most of these I think I have detected.

Jennie joins me and the children in much love. We are all interested in your new sheep ranche and poultry farm.

Yours affectionately,

WLMcK

P.S. I hope youmay when the time comes [redacted] be able to run down here for the Fall Fair opening.

WLMcK

MAY - 7 REC'D

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Jennie joins me and the children in much love. We are all interested in your new sheep ranche and poultry farm.

Yours affectionately,

W.M.Law

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Yours affectionately,

WMLaid

P.S. I hope youmay when the time comes still be able to run down here for the Fall Fair opening.

WL

MAY - 7 REC'D

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REPEAT
REPETITION

Toronto Telegram
May 5/27

Shows Britain Did Not Force Opium on China

H. M. Lay Produces Indisputable Evidence in Clearing Up False Charge

Mr. H. M. Lay, of ~~Guilin~~, writes to The Evening Telegram on opium smuggling as follows:

There appears to be a confusion in the minds of some as to two different questions. No one defends opium smuggling and no one denies the evils of abuse of the drug though there are undoubted authorities who claim opium smoking is less harmful than alcohol to the Oriental.

To deplore these evils is well but to place the responsibility for them upon England whether the charge is made in the Encyclopedia Britannica —or in the rural mail[illegible] delivery is not in accordance with the facts.

BEFORE ENGLISH TRADE.

In the Dictionary of Political Economy edited by Sir Robert H. I. Palgrave, F.R.S. (MacMillan and Co., 1913) we find under opium: "It is known that the poppy was intensively cultivated in China and opium imported from abroad many years before the English became concerned in the trade. It is frequently alleged that the Chinese wars of 1840-42 and 1856-58 were waged in order to compel that country to receive Indian opium. Two of the best authorities, however, Mr. H. N. Lay and Sir Thomas Wade, strenuously deny that this charge has any basis of truth. They affirm that opium was a mere incident of the first war, and had no concern whatever with the second."

LORD ELGIN'S MISSION.

These two gentlemen were attached to Lord Elgin's mission to China in 1858 and were intimately connected with the negotiations with the Chinese at Tientsin and Shanghai.

Mr. Lay in a survey of our relations with China, published in 1893 quoted from the British Blue Books in support of his contentions as to the war of 1842. Captain Elliott having ordered all opium ships to comply with Lin's demands and the merchants having surrendered 20,283 chests of opium wrote to Lin as follows:

CAPT. ELLIOTT'S LETTER

Sept. 2nd, 1839.

"All opium has been delivered up, all vessels engaged in the trade have been required to depart. The flag of this country does not fly in the protection of a traffic declared unlawful by the great Emperor and therefore, wherever Chinese officers desire to examine all or every particular ship or vessel suspected to have opium on board, Elliott will take care they are accompanied by officers of his establishment, and if after strict search any be found assuredly Elliott will not presume to offer the least objection, though the whole cargo be immediately seized and confiscated." He will not oppose expulsion from the country of offending merchants. He proposes: "That no English firm shall in future be permitted to transact business, or to reside in China till Elliott shall have forwarded to the high officers a plain declaration signed by each member thereof, and countersigned and sealed by officers of the English nation, setting forth their solemn determination to have no concern direct or indirect, with the opium traffic, neither to permit or knowingly sanction any persons under their control to have any, and further, that full knowledge of the new regulation, that they will be forthwith expelled from the Empire if it shall be proved to the satisfaction of Chinese and English officials that they have broken faith in the least degree."

TRADE NOT PERMITTED

Further, "Every vessel arriving shall make solemn declaration that she has no opium on board, otherwise she shall not be permitted to trade."

This and other extracts from the official extracts given by the late Inspector-General, as he says, "prove incontrovertibly that so far from there having been any disposition on the part of her Majesty's representatives to constrain the Chinese to receive our opium as, in defiance of a ransom for the lives of H.B.M. superintendent and subjects who had been imprisoned and threatened with death by the Chinese high official."

The above facts may be found in Parliamentary papers 1809-40. The treaty of 1842 contains no stipulation for the admission of opium. Neither in the tariff of July, 1843, is opium named, nor in the supplementary treaty signed Oct. 8, 1843.

HIS VIEWS BROAD-MINDED.

"How then," asks the late Inspector-General, "can it be affirmed that opium was forced on China by England in 1842-3?" Any one who will read the narrative of the Earl of Elgin's mission to China and Japan in the years 1857-58-59 by Laurence Oliphant, private secretary to Lord Elgin, cannot but be impressed with the broad-minded views of Lord Elgin and the entire absence of any desire to force opium on the Chinese. Oliphant in his opening chapter says "The Arrow case" derived its interest from the debates to which it gave rise, and its effects on parties at home rather than from any intrinsic value of its own, so does it now mainly owe its importance to the accidental circumstance that it was the remote and insignificant cause which led to a total revolution of the foreign policy of the

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PROCEEDED FROM CHINA.

Thus, strange to relate, the declaration which led to our first war proceeded not from ourselves, but from the Chinese Government. It was proclaimed nine months after the close of the opium question by the surrender of all opium in our possession. Lin commenced hostilities four months after its settlement upon other grounds; those hostilities were carried on by him for three months and culminated in the formal declaration of December 6th.

"Our submission in the matter of opium inspired Lin, who was the embodiment alike of Chinese haughtiness and detestation of the foreigner, with the notion that he might inflict still further humiliations. Elated by his first success, Lin was fain to repeat the treatment meted out to Lord Napier, with the view of harrying Captain Elliott out of the country. He was resolved on making the 'Barbarian' lick the dust."

OUTRAGES AND INSULTS.

It was not until after a long series of outrages and insults that Lord Palmerston for the first time insisted upon the Emperor paying the value of the opium delivered up "as a ransom for the lives of H.M. superintendent and subjects who had been imprisoned and threatened with death by the Chinese high official."

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GLADSTONE'S POSITION.

It is significant that Mr. Gladstone, who had denounced in such strong language the China wars of 1840 and 1858 as carried on by Lord Palmerston, joined his Ministry in 1859 as Chancellor of the Exchequer. "Gladstone's private friends," says Morley, "wondered how he could bring himself to join a ~~minister~~ Minister whom he had for three years used such unsparing language as had been common on his lips about Lord Palmerston."

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H.C. Service III



Quatsino Sound
May 6th 1927.

Dear Uncle Willie:-

In a letter from home a few weeks ago Mother mentioned that she thought you'd like to have a copy of a photograph I had taken at Christmas, so I'm sending one along.

We're in the middle of a five weeks cruise, one of the main objects being co operation with the Marine

We hear all sorts of rumours here. The whole R.C.N. is to be scrapped or that we are about to start a building programme! We're always hoping it will be the latter of course. They'll have to get some new ships soon though. Patriot & Patrician are just about finished.

I'm hoping to get some leave this summer. If they send me to England for this course I'll be able to take it in Barrie on my way across. Perhaps you'll be able to pay them a visit. Mother must have had a wonderful time during her visit to Ottawa. She says Lady Willingdon was very kind to her. I was very sorry to miss them when they were here. Best of good wishes. Yours affectionately nephew Hal Lay.

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to return early in June.

My two years in Patrician finishes next August and I expect to go back to England. I applied for a Torpedo course nearly a year ago but so far haven't heard whether or not I'll get it. I shall hate to leave this coast, its a wonderful station, but you get awfully out of touch with modern naval affairs.

I don't think I've thanked you for your last letter. I was very glad to hear your ideas of the R.C.N. and of course I haven't mentioned to anyone the fact that you had written about it to me.

and Fisheries in the protection of the Pelagic Seal. It ought to be very interesting because none of us have been as far north before or had anything to do with sealing or whaling operations. This is the first place we've touched. The arm of the Sound we're anchored in, Winter Harbour, is practically land-locked and makes a wonderful natural harbour. Surrounded by mountains which come right down to the beach and not the slightest sign of any inhabitants.

We go as far north as Prince Rupert touching at the Queen Charlottes and expect

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 17th '27

My dear Willie:

This is just a line to ask you if you can tell whether an application for two maids from Germany, ever went through. A man phoned me about three weeks ago saying he was the Immigration Officer from Ottawa, asking particulars. He said the maids should arrive in two weeks. I have been alone ever since

will write when there is a little more leisure.

as prettily done up as I had hoped it would be, but life is too strenuous for frills. It was so good of you to send cards to all the children. They did appreciate them though it seems impossible to get them to write letters. They really have very little time & have been very good helping me in their spare minutes. Rosabel is in bed again today. She needs a thorough change but that is impossible so we just have to try & take care of her. Hope you are well. Saw you had Their Excellencies for dinner last week. Mary & I are invited to meet them next Sunday at Arthur Kirkpatrick's. Best love from

all from loving sister Jennie

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the day after I came home from Ottawa, and I began to feel much as you did at the end of the session! It is three months since Aunt Sarah left us, and I have been constantly busy ever since! I am beginning to wonder whether the Canadian people are really awake! I am trying to get one day's work done, and I wonder if I will ever! I find out what application we

it may help to keep my head up! Mrs. Joe Seagram & I sent applications.

We were glad to see in today's paper that you have a Liberal victory in Sudbury. People are beginning to wake up. To hear Donald Ross talk you would think he was the only man who ever worked for the Liberal party. It will do him good to think a while!

I wonder if you got the manuscript I sent you at Easter. It was not

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 24th '27

My dear Willie

It was a great pleasure seeing you again and meeting so many of the people who were so kind to me in Ottawa. I was particularly glad that Harry had the chance of meeting them too for he is so unselfish in his

Lare discovered a cancerous growth on his hip but it is too late to operate. They thought he was "going out" on Sunday but he rallied and was a little better towards night. Hazel was telling me that her brother Will Wright is applying for the position of post master in some place in British Columbia. Duff Pattullo is supporting him but the local member wants his man appointed. If you can do anything to help Will I would be glad. There is no

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desire to leave me here a
good time. What a very
nice face Mr. Ross has.
That is a cute way of
putting it. But the Rundles
Gentlemen in his experience
must appeal to everyone.
I thought you looked
much more married and
less stunned than when
I saw you last. Hazel
only regretted that the
children did not

and you see them. They all looked so nice and I was very proud of them!! Harry went over to Hazels for them but by the time he got them you had left. Hazel lives just a couple of blocks from Ethels. Sir John Willison was very ill on Sunday. He was in the hospital for three weeks and there is not much hope of his recovery. Hazel told me in confidence that they

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at Kingsmere before July. Ethel's tea was a great success. Lady Willingdon was so sweet to me. Came across the path and kissed me & asked Arthur to put a chair for me beside her. Ethel was terribly worried and after nodding & gesticulating several times, beckoned to me to go to her "When there are so many distinguished people here, you more away"!! For one ont a Drulock would be so crude. I told Lady Willingdon that it was wrong Ethel & I moved off as soon as I could. You would never forgive anyone but Ethel for such an insult. but it is just her unfortunate nature. Mrs Ross was so sweet too and said that while she was in "marble halls" she wanted all her friends to be sure and go to Government

one I love more than Hazel and she & the Dr were always so good to Mother, Father and Isabel. Will Wright has always been a strong Liberal, as Hazel was till she married the Dr! and if it were possible to give him the appointment without doing anything you shouldn't I would be delighted. Hazel didn't say anything to me but the Dr asked her if she had told me about Will! This morning I had a visit from Mrs Lee, the wife of the man who had something to do with

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dynamiting the Cathedral
Church bill. She said a
petition was going to
on the 1st of June. So
so from Kelso, so
it- visit- the man
suffers, but his
I think that is
tremens this morning
I was very
you for getting
formation about
I am going to
at once, for a

would have done it long ago if I had known anything definite. The reason I am taking a German is that they can work and that is what I want. It is only an experiment but Mr. Seagram has had good luck with his girls he has had and I hope this girl will be a comfort. My experience with Old Country girls has not been encouraging. I have wondered so often about Martin and his wife and how you are getting on. I hope you will have a good rest

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Monroe. They are evidently
very fond of [illegible] four and I don't
wonder that [illegible] there is mutual
affection [illegible] they are both
charming and [illegible] for [illegible]
keen a true [illegible] friend to them.
Mary Everett was down
at the Ball. I asked her
why she didn't speak to [illegible]
but- she said [illegible]
dare.' She has [illegible] trot- keeps
engaged to [illegible] Commander
Anderson at [illegible] Cayo Borden.
We had a nice little talk
with Commodore and

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Stars was final-
ly rainy a
fine talk with Mrs Prieville
when the Governor
Good bye, and
y mine- stop
see about dinner
the family at
and they
helpers. It is a
such a bad
holiday. All
much love to
Willie and
Thanks to

Andrew hoping to see you soon

Your loving
Jennie.

P.S.

Did you see that Dr Cane, a brother of Mr Cane of Newmarket, died on Sunday in Toronto General? He is being buried today at Newmarket. He was a Dr in Allandale after he came home from the Yukon where he was postmaster.

Dictated at Kingsmere.
June 11, 1927

My dear Jennie:

I am sorry not to have had a chance of writing you since my Toronto visit. I was particularly sorry while there to have missed seeing the children and I hope you will tell them so. On account of engagements which the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Hoey had for the evening I was obliged to leave with them at the hour I did, and was really very sorry not to have seen you all to say good-bye.

I would have been glad, too, could Mr. and Mrs. Lay have seen the Little folks.

I intended when in Toronto to call at the Hospital to ask for Sir John Willison, but unfortunately the number of my other engagements prevented this. While I have always appreciated his friendly relations with our family, I have seen so little in the way of public expression of them, that I really cannot say I was much pained by his decease. Indeed, his reference to myself and the

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Government, particularly with reference to the Lord Byng incident, were anything but what they should have been on the part of one who wished to be strictly accurate and non-partisan in his writings.

All appointments to the Post Office come under the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission. I would have little influence with that body, but as the Postmaster General sometimes has, I have passed on a word to him which I hope may be helpful to Hazel's brother. The appointment itself, however, rests with the Commission and not with the Government.

I note what you say in your letter about the visit you had from Mrs. Leo. Martin and his wife left for the Old Country about three weeks ago. Since then I have been managing as best I can with Mrs. Perryman and a new maid who came out under the direction of the Immigration authorities. The latter is proving excellent. I knew nothing of her until the arrival of her steamer, when

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Mrs. Patteson learned through the Ottawa Office of a chance to obtain her and secured her for me. Just at present she is at Kingsmere with Perryman and myself and doing very well! I have come out here to get some material in readiness for July the 1st and also to overtake arrears of correspondence which run back to the days of the Imperial Conference.

My sheep on the farm are doing well. The old ones have just been shorn and look rather odd without their coats. The little ones are a source of continuous delight. Sometime I hope it will be possible for you to bring the children down to see Kingsmere. The place is beginning to take on a pleasing aspect.

With love and best wishes to all,
Believe me, as always, dear Jennie
Yours affectionately,

WLMK/HMM/C

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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children nearly fainted in the parade but they were bound to get their medals so had to march. They have all passed with honors and Jean will be going to Collegiate after the Holidays. She was writing her Entrance exams till the 30th June so we could not have gone away even if we had had the chance. I hoped to hear you speak in the afternoon but had to go with the children and Harry was the

Mrs L.H.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 23rd '27

My dear Willie:

You will think I am utterly ungrateful but there is never a minute to write letters. The most important item of news from my point of view is that I have a maid! After being alone since the day I got home from Ottawa, it is a tremendous

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relief to have done so as a little of the rough work. Then has never been a word from the German Reformation but when I heard Reformation was coming Rome, I simply concluded it be alone. Perhaps God in at first this Reformation, on his way to Scotland. We grew a shipload of Rous boys dont Rous get Rous boys his beard be but it will is two feet long. came since he was

home so we are hoping he will be here at least a month.

It was more than good of you to phone me on July 2nd. You must have had a wonderful time in Ottawa, and indeed I think all Canada celebrated to a remarkable degree. You will now be rushed again, preparing for the Princes and Premier Baldwin. I hope the weather will be a little more bearable. Wasn't the heat on July 1st, terrible? The

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Later was Eleanor's 9th whole celebration here, he was very busy all day & evening, the children (John & Jean) heard the evening talk & I had to stay at Rome with the other two. This brother business is a pretty steady job!

Nelson looks very well. We say he can't join one of his photos in his Eiends' uniform and wonders whether for-it; We are

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De Grassi Point
August 8th
1927.

Dear Uncle Willie,-

It was very nice of you to ask me to stay with you in Ottawa. I'd like to very much, especially because I've never been in Ottawa and have heard so much about Laurier House and Kingsmere.

I'm coming down to try it!!

I'm looking forward very much to seeing in you in Ottawa.

Your affectionate nephew,

Helson. Lay

P.S.

I sail from Montreal on the Ascania on the 19th

H.H.L.

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of Wales looked awfully tired. He'll be glad to get out to his ranch.

Mother & Father are motoring down here this afternoon to take me home. I came up from Toronto with Arthur McMurrich and am staying here with Mrs McMurrich. She's ageing very quickly but still takes a great interest in her numerous families. The others are all very well. Aunt Helen says she saw you dining in Toronto with H.R.H. and she'd like to know how you manage to get so fat. She'd like to

Ottawa by the C.N.R. train which leaves Toronto at 1.30 P.M. and arrives in Ottawa at 8.40 P.M. on the 15th of this month. Shall I come to your house at once? There's a great friend of mine, (who went to Naval College with me) Laurence Burgee, who wants me to go to his house so if it isn't convenient for you to have me, I can stay with him.

We all enjoyed the Garden Party very much and it was nice seeing you there. The Prince

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perhaps when you come up to the Exhibition.

Mrs Seagram & I want to get two maids from Germany. I am enclosing the forms for you to see. Mr Gretzinger said to find out ~~from you~~ through me if the Govt would let them in if he personally selected them, and We are very keen to get them as they make splendid servants for a place like Barrie. Mrs Seagram has had two and liked them very much. Will you be able to find out if they can get in, and let me

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 10th '27

My dear Willie:

Nelson is delighted at the thought of seeing Kingsmere and Laurier House and we think it very kind of you to propose it. He sails from Montreal on the 19th. We hate to let him go even a day earlier, but

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Harry Morrison Lay and family
August 1927
January-

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work it when
Chancellor is there
He seems to
feel so glad
tment this
le a great one!
very much
Queen to him
you will
time with
Baldwins. We
ly made a
ere and seems
if is well with you. Mr. King is glad
he gets the chance to talk
with you. He
talk on his
his appointment
time will be
Thank you
for your Rem
I am sure
enjoy your
Premier Bal
has certainly
great hit Ren

so jolly and happy. We were so glad to have the opportunity of meeting him & Mrs Baldwin. I think I was more interested in them than in the Princes. I sent a little note thanking her of thanks to Mrs Ross for her kindness in inviting us as I think most of the guests were Toronto people & those whose names were in the books at Government House.
We are hoping to see you later on;

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so interested in you.

Harry, Nelson and I are going out to Sir John Andrews this afternoon so I must go and get ready. Again many thanks for your kindness to Nelson & hoping to hear about the maids as soon as possible, with much love from all the family

Your loving sister
Jennie

know as soon as possible? I have a maid of sorts but am going to change as soon as Nelson leaves, but will wait for the German if I am sure of her. I hate to bother you but it means a lot to me.

We were up in Penetang yesterday where Miss Gibson has a lovely home. We left here about three and were back by ten. They are taking their eldest

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Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - J
Harry Morrison Lay and family Ja
August 1927

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daughter Grafanel; Mrs G
Scotland in Septe
Ada Wilson Rumpelle was there
and Rodge Gibson, Frank
were as fine. Tom
Seagram [illegible] so
Lorna [illegible] beautiful
and they [illegible] au
where they [illegible]
mufflon [illegible]
It is nice [illegible]
of cook. The
to Paris and

before they come home to Kitchener for Christmas & then to Costa Rica for the rest of the winter.

Wasn't it funny to see Annie and Mary Chalmers at the Garden Party? I haven't seen Maggie Crawford since we left Berlin and would never have known her. They say Tom Turnbull has been very ill. We went in to see Mr & Mrs Tait on our way home. They are always

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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1927 AUG 11 PM 2 10

RT HON W L MACKENZIE KING

333

PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR MESSAGE WILL ARRIVE OTTAWA SUNDAY NIGHT

EIGHT FORTY

NELSON.

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Form 2A-TW

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK
		P-2100-L

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, August 12, 1927

Lieutenant Nelson Lay,
c/o H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie, Ontario.

Am glad you will be down Sunday night. My chauffeur will meet you at station and bring you to Kingsmere for night. Would suggest bringing only handbag to Kingsmere. We will go in to Laurier House next morning. Baggage can be sent on there from station. Will be glad to have Lawrence Burpee spend Monday night with you there if you would prefer this to spending that night with him. Love to all.

Willie

DH
FS 104

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

August 27, 1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Renewed good wishes, dear Jennie, for many happy returns of the day. Jenkins Galleries are sending you Monday silver tray to match your silver service. Sorry, owing to delay engraving, not to have had it Barrie today. Fondest love.

Willie

Rt.Hon.W.L.Mackenzie King
DH FS 104

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 2nd 1927

My dear Willie:

Yours beautiful tray came yesterday afternoon and I am truly delighted to have such a lovely present. It is just the size I have always wanted and will be useful in a thousand ways besides being always a joy to behold. Many, many thanks dear Willie

To go back to my birthday, I had a very happy day doing the "daily round" and everyone was very good to me. Mary gave me a lovely sweater coat, Hodgson a tea cloth of himself, John made me a basket, Jean gave me a night Rosalet a fancy tape line & Mary 3 pair of silk stockings. Then I got gloves from Nellie, a scarf from Helen, a hankie from Kate Hodgson & a doiley from Ray King also ten of twelve letters so it was a very "successful day" as Father

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for all your Ri[illegible]
I see it- this
season. I was
hear your voice
morning and w
on having a wo
I did hope you
coming up but
tried you many
it- is only upl
should be out-
have had a re
Christmas year
one year can

No one is likely to forget this Jubilee year, and most of the remarkable events have been of your planning. I don't know that you had any hand in the big storm! but practically everything else has been arranged by you. It has been a remarkable year when you think of all the big men who have been here and all the outstanding events which have taken place. Canada will surely be better known, for having you as Prime Minister

fluence! I didn't tell them that if I had any, I would exert it against him! I would hate to see him appointed over Judge Winnen, but I told them I had already written you, which I had. Donald Ross may be a clever lawyer but he is a mean & narrow man. However I suppose he has his friends!

John & Jean ~~Hospatel~~ have been doing splendidly with their swimming & diving. John couldn't make the speed 25 yds in 23 sec. which is necessary in order to get the bronze medal. He did all the other life saving & diving tests, as did Jean, but Jean need to say! For all this Kindness I am truly grateful. We would have enjoyed being at the Ex. but our car is really hardly up to the long trips. It is being fixed up now in the hope that we may go down Monday, Labour Day, early in the morning, & bring John & Jean home. John is with Cora, & Jean with Hazel till Monday when they come home for school on Tuesday. They will both be at the Collegiate Harry & Peach at Central. We have had a lovely summer but

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away and we have had all too little of it is. I do hope September will be a good month and that you will be able to enjoy Kingsmere for several weeks yet. Do you remember what lovely weather we had the last year Mother was there? It was well on in October before you had to come home.

Did I tell you that a deputation asked leave to wait on me? I knew it was to get me to write you about the judgeship so asked if that was it & was told they were very anxious to have Donald Ross appointed & thought I might have some in-

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had 95 pounds for her 25 jobs
so made it easily. John did
it in 32 but could better
that. It is splendid for them
to learn while they are young.
They have had a splendid
drain here training the children
Prone afternoon there were
over one hundred, all leaving
"Australian Camp, Ala."
Nelson had a perfect trip
visit in Ottawa and said
for were more than good
to him. We a card
Monday morning saying the
had arrived Sunday night

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We will have finished [illegible] ? Kingsmere Rannie Howard ? [illegible] is to tell the people at Lone. I have rather a good joke I want to tell before I close. This morning as Jean was leaving for [illegible] Hazelo. I told her to order Donald Duck [illegible] she needed shampoo [illegible] Sent C.O.D. to Mazelo. "What does that mean? Care of the Doctor?" Poor Jean. She shall never hear the end of that.

we are hoping to see you this month, perhaps for the fall fair. Many thanks for the trouble you took about the maid. I got word that "Marta Martyke" would come to me, but I haven't heard when. I still have Theresa.

Again many thanks for all your kindness and much love in which all the family join. Excuse hasty finish.

Yours loving sister
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 15th '27

My dear Willie:

We were all very disappointed that you didn't get up for last week-end! I don't know why we were all so sure you were coming, but I hardly went out of the house for the three days for fear I would miss you if you came up! I fancy they kept you pretty busy. It was a great celebration for the University. Cora said as I can judge he is the cleverest man in the party. Having an assured income must mean freedom from many worries that a man in different circumstances would have. I am glad I heard him speak when I was in Ottawa. I don't remember much of what he said but remember the man very well. It seems to me "Unions" was the subject under discussion! It is a pity Guthrie couldn't have remained. He was quite

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she sees you in the distance
at the dinner party
looking very well.
today's paper that
is going to another
this time in the
has certainly been
of celebrations.
is if we would
to any of the evening
but we couldn't
Ann can is about
we are still going
another this year,
means to make

travelling by train. Harry left for his holidays on Monday & I went to town with him to do some shopping. so he couldn't very well get away the week before. He has gone hunting & it is the first holiday away from home he has had for four years. I am so glad he has gone for he seems very tired.

What do you think of Bennett as leader? I should think he would be even more bitter than Meighen in debate and certainly he can talk! So far

have been so well all summer that I thought I could eat raw tomatoes, but will never try them again! I suffer despately and have lost seven pounds in the last three weeks. I am on the mend now & with care will soon be able to eat again. It is a wretched business. Be thankful you have a good stomach & take care it!! It doesn't pay to get too tired. I was glad to see you had a few days rest at Kingsmere. I don't see how you stand the everlasting strain. We were greatly thrilled at the account of your conversation by wire with Premier Baldwin! This has certainly been a wonderful year.

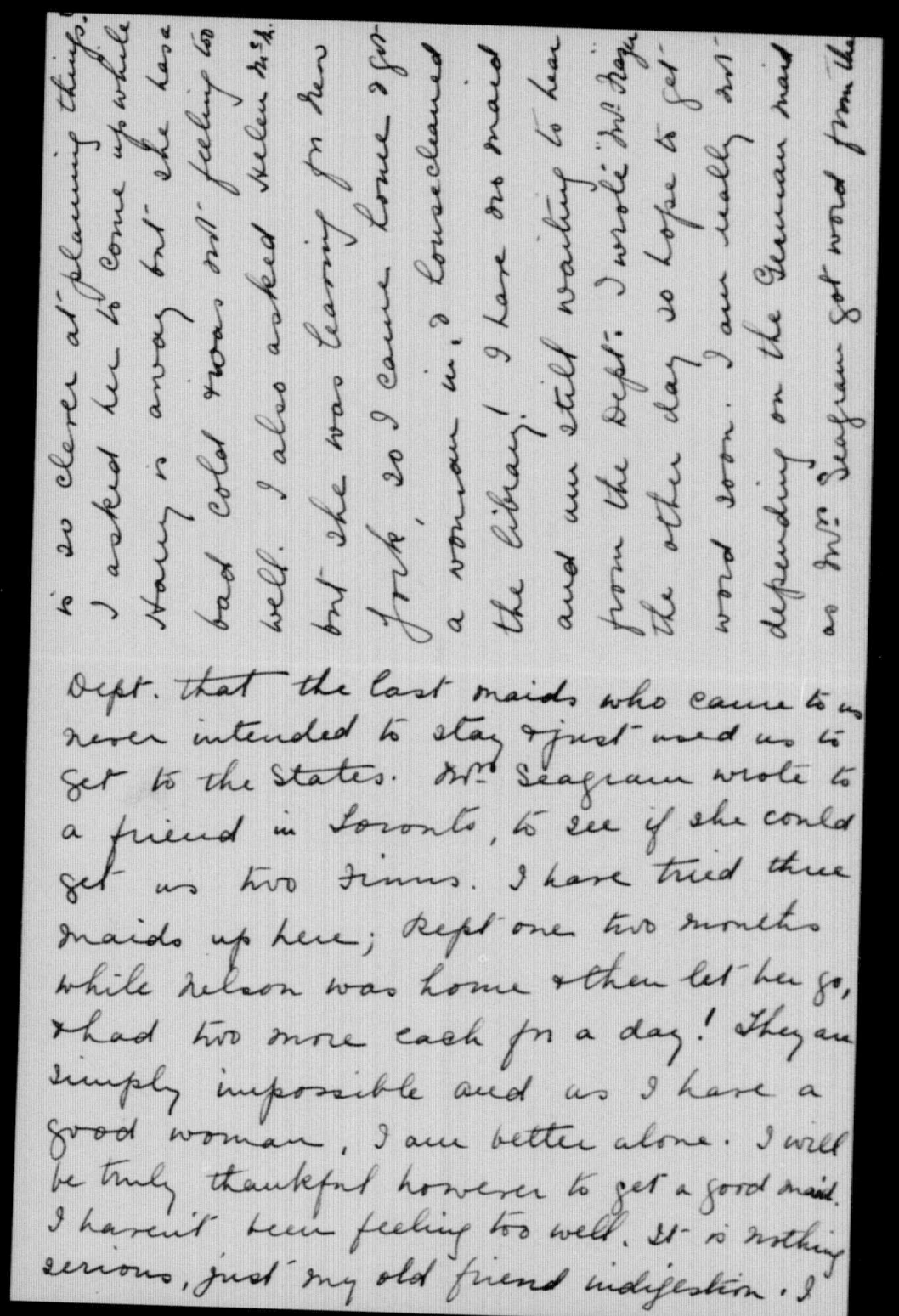
I must go to bed as it is getting late. We still hope to see you soon, but I know when you don't come that we are not adding to your weariness! Still we are all longing to have you come. All join in best love to

Ramuleos! It must have been rather trying for the losers but there were five of them! I would have hated to end with three votes!

Cora was up with us for nearly two weeks in September and we thoroughly enjoyed having her. She is good fun and besides that she turned in and helped me sew. She made Jean three dresses & Rosabel one each one. Of course I helped but she really made them. I was wishing I had had some of your things for you are going to let me have for the

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is so clever at planning things. I asked her to come up while Nancy is away but she was a bad cold from which she is well. I also asked Helen Mc.K. but she was leaving for New York, so I came in, a woman in, to the library! I looked and am still waiting to hear from the Dept: The other day I wrote "Mr Regan" so hope it gets word soon. I am really quite depending on the Dept. as Mrs Seagram

Dept. that the last maids who came to us never intended to stay & just used us to get to the States. Mrs Seagram wrote to a friend in Toronto, to see if she could get us two Finns. I have tried three maids up here; kept one two months while Nelson was home & then let her go, & had two more each for a day! They are simply impossible and as I have a good woman, I am better alone. I will be truly thankful however to get a good maid. I haven't been feeling too well. It is nothing serious, just my old friend indigestion. I

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October 23rd 27

My dear Willie:

John has just come in from a trip to Walkerton, where he went with Miss Donnelly, one of the Collegiate teachers and a daughter of Senator Donnelly. She was going home for the week-end and asked John if there was anyone in Walkerton he would care to visit: There was wild excitement when he found he could go for it is two years since he was there last.

eight weeks longer, with the chance of a possible repetition of the last experience. I have waited since last February sans sick of it. It is a shame to tell you all this but I wondered if they couldn't cable to do something to hurry things up. If it takes Mr. Gillies as long to forward the application as it did to approve it, it will be Christmas before I get any help!

Then another thing to pester you about! Miss Burke, who is one of John's & Jean's teachers at the Collegiate, came to see me on Friday night. She said her father John L. Burke is in the Department of Naval Defence, under Mr. Brown. She said under Mr. Borden he was getting

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Nancy got home Thursday morning. I was sorry he didn't stay longer but he was afraid his mother would sport as it was cold. Then the previous Friday! As it was, we got rid of it as soon as we possibly could, for the weather has been so mild it would not keep. We had a good week and then [illegible] more but an inch of it was left of their new coat of snow. It's about time, and la coulaine was after getting me, was all done but this one. She take this one to set the place into shape for winter.

You will think I am always bothering you but I want to know if you can help me about this servant. I received word in August that "Marta Martyke" would come to me, and for the last month I have been watching daily to see her arrive. Then Mrs Seagram got word that they had not sent for hers (they had enquired about the first who came) so I wrote to the Department on the old list and asked them what had been done about mine. On Friday last I received the enclosed reply! To say I was wild is to put it mildly! To begin with I didn't ask for this man's approval! I got the approval through for last July. I do not feel I can wait six or

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John is just commencing Roman and loves it. He hates Virgil & Cicero, but Harry says, once he gets into it, he will enjoy it.

I must go to bed for these are long, busy days. I have often wondered whether Kate is still with you or whether she departed when the Martyrs did.

All the family join in sending very much love with many thanks for all your help

Yours loving sister
Jennie

Gladys Wookey is to speak to the Canadian Club here, sometime in November. J.

along splendidly but can get no chance with Mr Bloom. He has been a life-long Liberal etc etc. She said if he could have ten minutes' conversation with you, all would be well, but he can't get past your secretary! I told her I would write you what she said, but that I knew you never interfered, even for your friends, with any other ministers department. I wouldn't bother you about it only she asked me, straight out, if I would write you & I couldn't very well refuse! I suppose you get thousands of the same appeals. I see you are to be in Hamilton with your cabinet, around Christmas

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time. Keep in mind that there is a very long waiting for you here if ever you can make time to come up. We would love you for Christmas, but I am not going to count on that. If you can come I would be truly glad to see you if you could make it.

We are fine and well. Lilian is 5 & 5's and has $50.000. Hazel got 5's & was telling me she signed will be dead if she good deal if she was interested in, went through John was interested in Physics. She must have often

right up to then means for many a day!

John Sutcliffe is coming to Barrie to speak in the continuing Presbyterian Church tomorrow night but we have Dr. Pidgeon & Mr. Gundy speaking in ours, so I am afraid we will not hear Jock! He is to give a lecture with slides on "Robbie Burns County" I hope he will have no flannies to ask! The children are all well and no one has to be home from school which is a great relief. We are glad Jean seems to be doing so well in languages at Collegiate for she isn't a student! She loves her music but we didn't think she would get on in her other studies as she has so far.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 31st '27

My dear Willie:

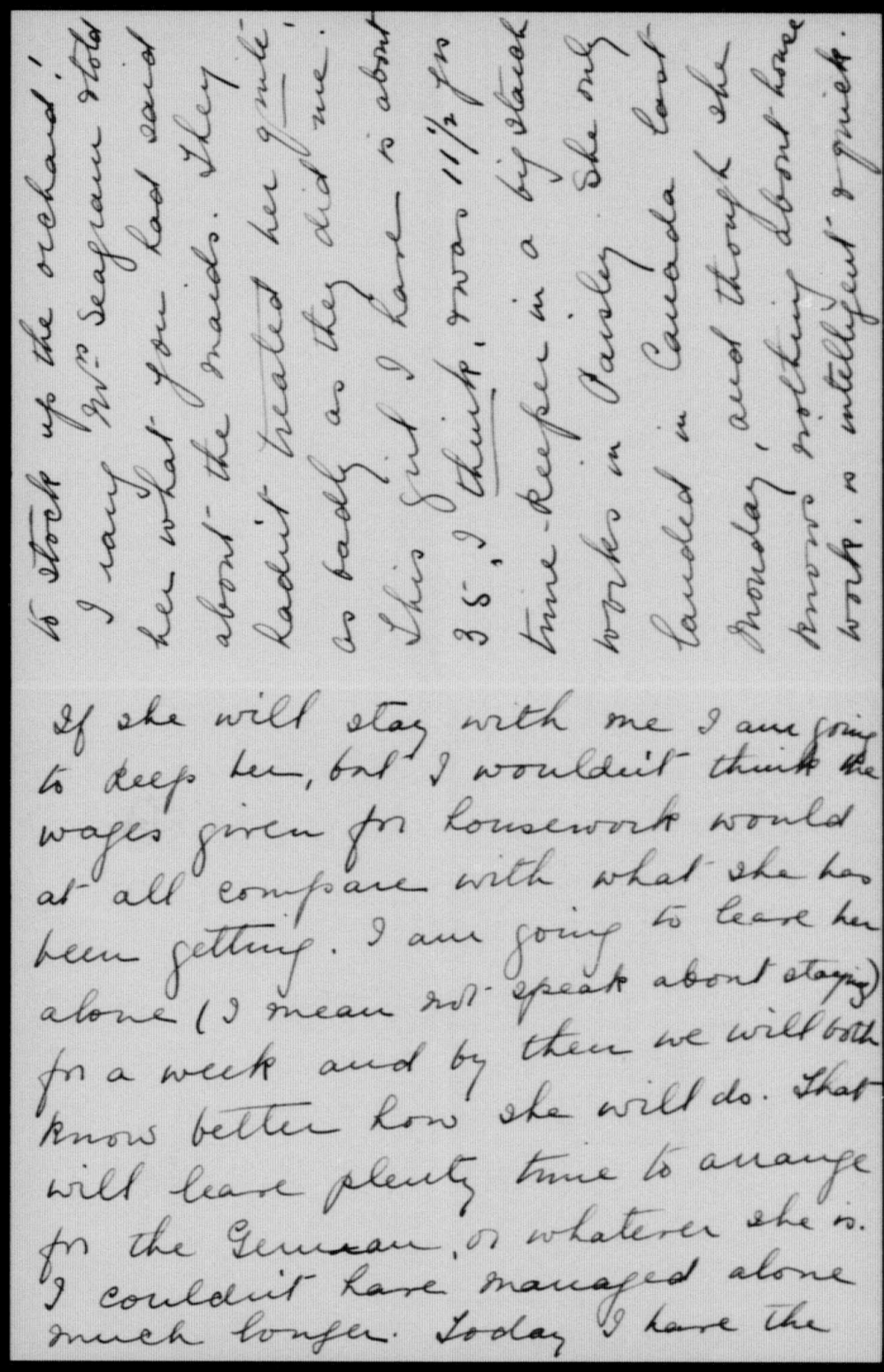
It was more than good of you to phone me on Friday night and I loved having the little talk with you. The children were intensely interested in hearing about the lambs and asked all kinds of convenient-inconvenient questions! They want many

from every member of the family

woman here are house cleaning & then I am going to rest. It will so soon be Christmas and all that means in the line of extras! Hasn't this been a wonderful fall? We are still using tomatoes from the garden and fresh flowers are all over the house. I never saw anything lovelier than the hills. I am sure the Willingdons must have changed their ideas about our climate! Will write again later on, but wanted you to know how much I appreciated the trouble you have taken. With best love

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is stuck up the creek!
I rang Mrs Seagrave
her what you know
about the maids.
Rabbit treated her
as badly as they did
this girl I have
35, I think, was
time-keeper in a
works in Canada
Canada, and thought
knows nothing
work, so intelligent

If she will stay with me I am going to keep her, but I wouldn't think the wages given for housework would at all compare with what she has been getting. I am going to leave her alone (I mean not speak about staying) for a week and by then we will both know better how she will do. That will leave plenty time to arrange for the German, or whatever she is. I couldn't have managed alone much longer. Today I have the

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I hope your Conference will be a great success. We are enjoying reading the accounts and also seeing the pictures in the papers.

Again thanking you for all the trouble you have taken and with much love from each and all

your loving sister

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 4th '27

My dear Willie:

You are too busy for a long letter just now, but I am sending you a line to tell you I will be glad of the German maid as the Scotch one prefers office work!

John is in Toronto for the Thanksgiving holiday. Cora phoned last night asked

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him to go down [illegible] the got a
vicle with a friend [illegible] Theo
morning, much [illegible] & his daughter
Cora is going to Europe for
three months, leaving the
end of January. [illegible]
The boys are [illegible]
trip and she was [illegible]
excited about it. [illegible]
Jean was appointed [illegible]
president of her [illegible]
Collegiate Hostel [illegible]
quite pleased. She [illegible]
the Labour Pro doing well.

Harry[St] went in for a swim on November 1st which isn't bad for Canada! We are still picking fresh flowers every day, but I fancy they will end now as we have snow today.

Did you get a picture of the family, which was enlarged from a snap Mr. Kilgour took?

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Ottawa, November 16, 1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Following Mr. King's instructions, I have enquired of Immigration Department concerning the maid ~~M~~ named Marta Martyke, and learn that she was medically examined on November fifteenth at Danzig and is due to sail from there.Stop. Have asked Immigration Department to cable for information as to when she will arrive Barrie. Stop. Endeavoured to telephone ~~this information~~ to you but am informed telephone lines from Toronto out of order.

W. H. Measures

DAYLETTER
Chg: Prime Minister's Office

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 18th '27

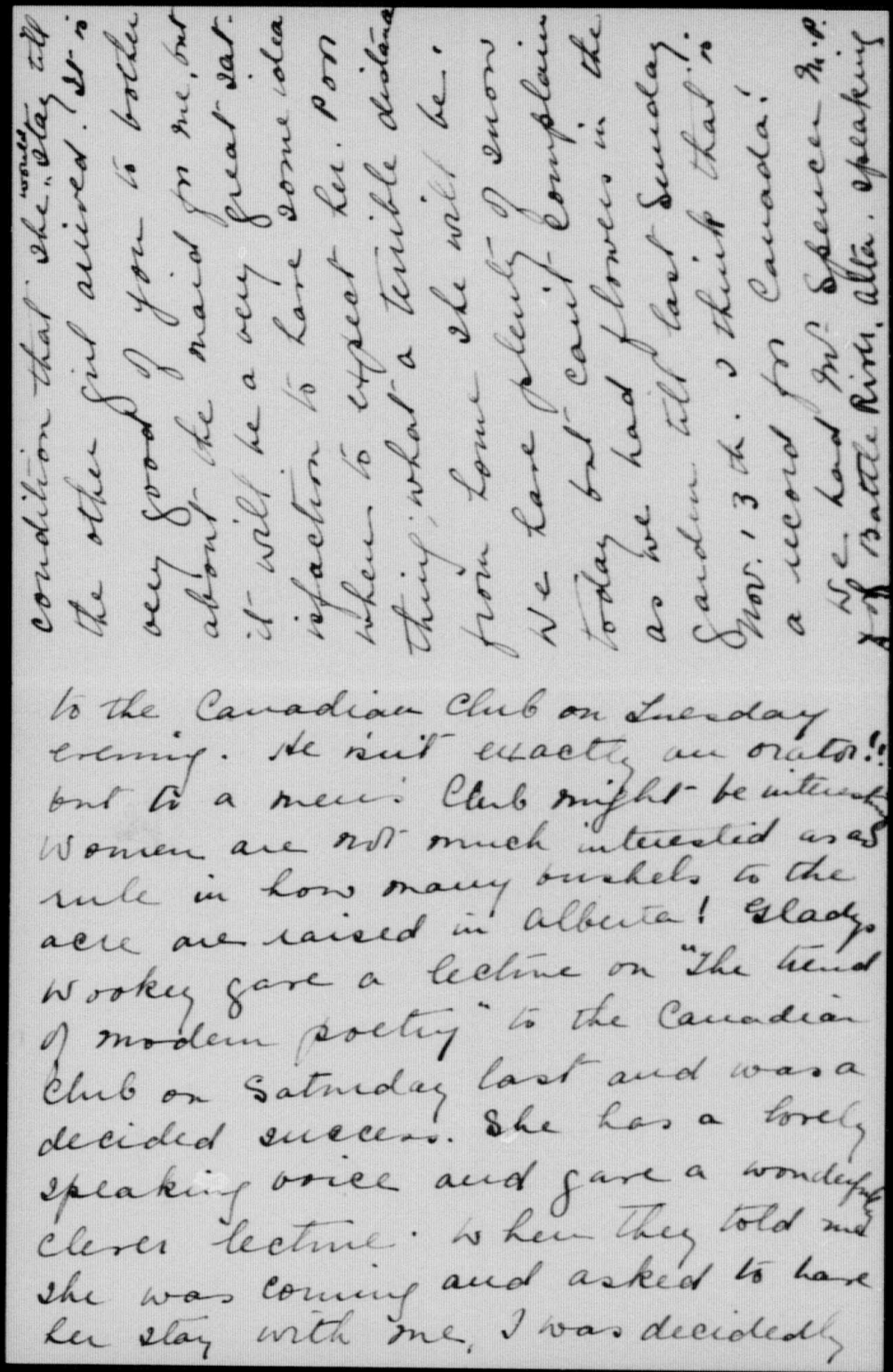
My dear Willie:

Many thanks for the wire from W. Messages last night. I'm afraid you have been worrying about my being alone. I have a maid who is to stay till my Glenn comes. She isn't very strong and would not do permanently but with a little extra help, is a comfort for the present. I took her on

nervous, but was very proud of her before she finished. She has her own car and motored up by herself. The girls of today are fortunate. I see by today's paper you were speaking in Montreal last night and are to dine with President Coolidge next Wednesday you certainly live a busy life. The conference of Premiers must have been most interesting. We read the accounts each day. We were much amused

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to the Canadian Club on Tuesday evening. He isn't exactly an orator!! but to a men's Club might be interesting. Women are not much interested as a rule in how many bushels to the acre are raised in Alberta! Gladys Wookey gave a lecture on "The trend of modern poetry" to the Canadian Club on Saturday last and was a decided success. She has a lovely speaking voice and gave a wonderfully clever lecture. When they told me she was coming and asked to have her stay with me, I was decidedly

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get at it. I had a note from Helen Mc M. saying they were afraid for a few days that ~~Mr.~~ Temple was going as Mr. did but he was a little better. They all seem to have high blood pressure.

Many, many thanks for all your kindness, and much love in which all join

Your loving sister
Jennie H. Lay.

Miss Pirie's daughter is at school in England near London & Nelson had her at Douglas Lay's for tea one afternoon.

Mr. Forke's remark about the division of the Premiers into two classes, the ones who asked for something and the ones who ~~and the way you were going to deal with them~~ did it! You have some very clever men in your cabinet and they show to advantage in a Conference like that.

I hope you are keeping well and not getting too tired. There seems so very little time for rest.

Did you see the enclosed item in the Star? Mr.

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Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.
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Confirmation dress my attention
is it. It was down in a corner
and I minded it and for
may have done the same.
Ethel Kirkpatrick had a
tea on Sunday last to
announce, formally, Ethel's
engagement to Ernest Hammond
Burnham, a son of Thos. H.
Burnham who owned the house
on John St. She phoned
and asked Nancy, me to
go down but I didn't care
to. I could have dressed
down with Claudia but
after she was so

Lady Willingdon was there. I wouldn't bother going! I see Mrs Osborne is with Lady Willingdon in Toronto. She is so charming and everyone will like her. Certainly the Willingdons are doing everything in their power to please the people. They seem to know the right thing to do and say at all times.

Jean is to be presented tonight with her medal for passing the swimming test last summer and I am finishing a dress for her to wear, so must-

Ottawa,
November 28, 1927.

My dear Jennie:

Christmas 1927

As Christmas is drawing near, I have a feeling that I can save your time as well as my own if I send you at once some money wherewith to purchase Christmas gifts for each of the children. Accordingly, I am enclosing $50. In case you should be visiting Toronto at any time in the immediate future you will be able to pick up what you think the little folks would most appreciate as coming from me. If you find that you need a few more dollars to secure the right thing in the case of any one or two or three or four of the four, do not hesitate to run beyond this amount. It is, I regret to say, not very large, and I shall be glad to increase it somewhat if by so doing it is possible to secure something which will be really prized for so small an allowance. Please feel free to divide up the amount in any way you please.

You will be glad to have seen by the papers that I have just published another

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book. It is entitled "The Message of the Carillon". I have thus far received only three copies from the publishers, and they are advance copies and not quite in final form. As soon as additional copies are received, I shall send you one of the first, and as a sort of forerunner of Christmas for Harry and yourself. I think you will like this book. It contains a number of my addresses, with some of which you are already familiar and many of which you will be reading for the first time. Some of them contain personal touches which will bring to your mind associations of Woodside and Grange Road. Altogether, I think you will like the book.

Will you please reciprocate this anticipation of Christmas by writing me as soon as you can of what you yourself would most like to have, and also if there is any little remembrance which you think Harry would also appreciate. I expect to be much pressed during the next month and am really anxious to have all my Christmas gifts and cards before my birthday.

I was delighted to receive in Washington the letter which you sent a

few days ago with its news of the children and of your visit from Gladys.

The portrait by Miss Shackleton is not at all what the press seems to think it is. I have not thought it advisable to use it in the book.

I have just returned from Washington, where I had a really memorable visit. I imagine the newspapers will have already made you familiar with its chief incidents.

With best love, dear Jennie, to the children, Harry, yourself.

Believe me as always,

Your loving brother,

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

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special things to, were a diamond ring to me and something to Gina. Everything else went to Elsie.

I was very much surprised to hear you had got out another book as neither Harry nor I saw any notice of it. We have both been very busy lately and we read the papers rather sketchily! We shall enjoy reading it and also having it to add to our already interesting collection of books "by the same author" - and other members of his family. If I had any facility in writing, I might add to the collection! We shall look forward to receiving the promised copy and during the holidays the children will be able to enjoy it with us.

We are so thankful all the children

Ottawa, 1927

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 1st '27

My dear Willie:

Very many thanks for your welcome letter and its generous enclosure. It is very good of you to send me this substantial cheque for the children each year and I know they appreciate your kindness, as Harry & I certainly do, even though they may not express their appreciation in very successful terms! I am going to try and go down to Toronto one day early next week. Cora has asked me to do so as she sails from New York on Janry. 7th so will not be up here again. There is no choice of gifts to be had

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Rice and I like it there better than ever. Things from you are always welcome, but I'd like it best of all if you are present when they are opened. It's always fun to show you what we've got, and I'm sure you'll enjoy seeing the children's faces when they see what Santa has brought them. Uncle Willie is a favorite with them, as he is with all of us, but I'm afraid the gift is a poor first to that of being a favorite with Santa Claus. Christmas is getting very close and this open weather makes us forget how near it is. We had our first Christmas gifts yesterday. Elsie Kay sent Mary a lovely little chest set, with their crest on it, which they used at home, and Mary was delighted to get it. To me she sent a beautiful little brooch set with diamonds & sapphires & pearls. I fancy it is one of her most precious possessions but she says she is getting old and, now that Mabel is gone, she wants the things she prizes to go to the ones she loves best. She has always been especially good to me, and Mabel was too. The only ones Mabel left

I don't know where Santa Claus would be without Uncle Willie as a background. I fancy the children look upon you as a sort of Santa Claus! Christmas is getting very close and this open weather makes us forget how near it is. We had our first Christmas gifts yesterday. Elsie Kay sent Mary a lovely little chest set, with their crest on it, which they used at home, and Mary was delighted to get it. To me she sent a beautiful little brooch set with diamonds & sapphires & pearls. I fancy it is one of her most precious possessions but she says she is getting old and, now that Mabel is gone, she wants the things she prizes to go to the ones she loves best. She has always been especially good to me, and Mabel was too. The only ones Mabel left

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and it was too late to start in again.
I hope you will keep well and be able to enjoy the Christmas festivities. I love Christmas and the joy the children take out of it. It is certainly the children's day!
Very much love from each and all in this home and again many thanks
Your loving sister
Jennie

P.S. Nelson had this paper done for us in England & after paying duty, it cost us about half what it does here. J.

are well and able to be at school last year is a perfect night-mare to look back on.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

On one point I want to relieve your mind at once. There will be no visit for me to Ottawa this year to arrange for. You spoke of it when you phoned, but I can't even think of it. Perhaps another year it will be possible but for this year I have had all the treats we can manage. I hope to have "Marta Martyke" to teach, and if she ever arrives, I hope she will develop into a treasure for keeps. Then we have had other expenses such as painting the house etc and I have a lot of work to catch up with after the year of sickness &

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Thanks Goodness I am
myself and able to take
it in life once more.
this is to have Parkin'
observations removed as
they are in very bad
to that house is the
Cora the secret service
had been taken
of this Govt never did
but found the manuscript
the they should be common
the Canadian Expeditionary
the place etc. Signed
letter. Dr Brent be
no help. I
letter myself
an interest
the next th
travels Sat
the doctor's
condition,
place for
We flew
with the
letter from
people that
said that
any thing
to Washing
they said
the talk of
from Cobalt

most gratifying to you to see it such a success.

Hary is busy every spare minute getting his cards ready for Christmas and I am trying to get the things off to England early in the week. Nelson will probably go to China for Christmas but in case he doesn't we have to send his things c/o G.P.O. London and they are forwarded to his ship "Tiger" wherever it may be. That means a few days longer so I am trying to be finished this week with all my Xmas gifts. Our days are full enough without these extras.

I must get to work now. I started this last night but had to go to bed before it was finished; there were a number of interruptions

Ottawa, December 7, 1927.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Dear Mrs. Lay,

I have just received the enclosed communication from the Acting Deputy Minister of Immigration, Mr. F. C. Blair, stating that the domestic servant from Poland, Marta Martyke, sailed for Canada yesterday on board the S. S. "Estonia".

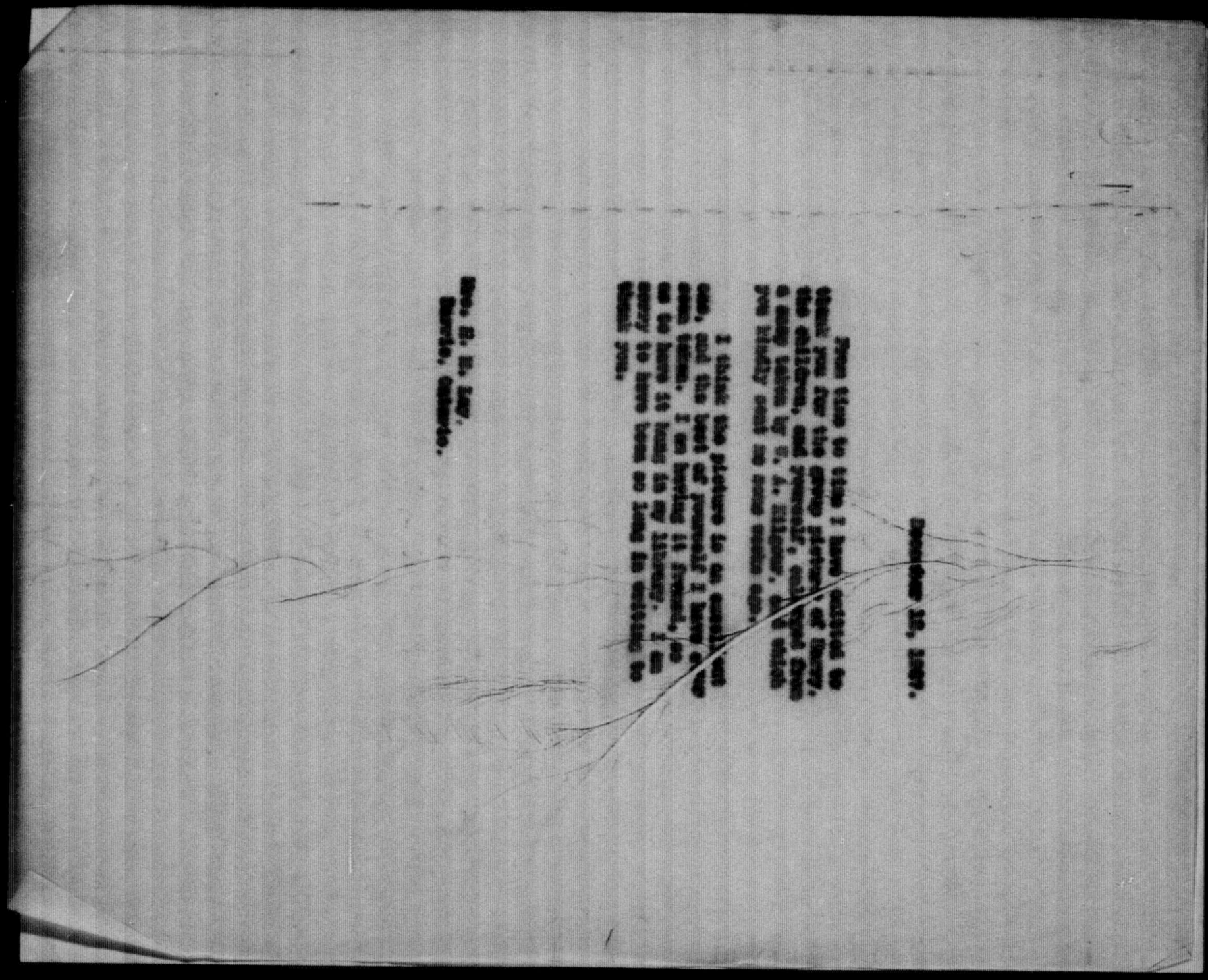
Yours faithfully,

W. H. Measures

Private Secretary.

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me to suggest that if I were asked! I got a lovely walnut desk for Jean for $15.50 & a sturdy oak for Harry for $10.20. They are to be delivered on the 22nd That leaves me $11.50 for Peach & there are two things she longs for — a music roll and a doll's travelling trunk! It seems extravagant to buy a doll's trunk but if it is the thing that will give most pleasure I am sure that is what you wish me to get. I saw the kind of trunk & music case I want, so can write for them & her allowance will cover them. It is going to be a wonderful Christmas for the kiddies & I only wish you were going to be here. I feel that these are all gifts to me and when your book is coming so well that should surely do.

Hon. Chas. Stewart was speaking here on Friday & Harry said he gave a splendid address. He spoke to the

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 11th '27

My dear Willie:

Some people from Camp Borden were here for tea & had just gone when you rang up. Now it is after ten so this will only be a note: It was more than good of you to phone and I was delighted to hear your voice. It is so long since last I saw you.

I wish you wouldn't bother with a Christmas gift for me but

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I know you will appreciate
your kindness very much. I
couldn't bear you very well ar-
first - but though I
true if I had
confess I have
they are not
anything for
a joy to me
helpful. How
to start me
you ask me
like I would
that, it would
to you for years
do love pretty
is serving me a

for Christmas though I don't expect it will be an electric one. Whatever you send please let it be for Harry one for we are one! I hope you will approve of the things I have got for the children. First they wanted a radio but we decided it would be better to wait till we could get one without a battery, which needs to be re-charged every month and renewed about twice a year. Then as I told you John's ambition was a fret saw but Charlie Lindsey has lent him his for as long as he wants it so I got him the drill, lathe & shaft for $12.75. The electric motor to go with it was $8 but I have one for my machine, so it will do, she will be delighted. Then Jean & Harry wanted nothing so much as a desk to do their lessons on & begged

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 14th 27

My dear Willie:

This is a little early to be writing for your birthday but I am going to try & go to Toronto tomorrow morning so might be late if I put off. All in this home join in wishing you a very happy birthday and many, many happy returns of the day. This has been, perhaps, the most long time to finish it but always while knitting I have pictured your room & thought of you. I send it with a great deal of love. The tray cloth is to fit your breakfast tray & I hope you will use it for that. The little brooch, I am sending you because I think you will prize it. It was Father's father's & Granny King had it made into a brooch after his death. Father gave it to me, perhaps because I nursed Grandma through her two illnesses & perhaps

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wonderful year of your life
though there have been other
which have been almost as
full. You will never forget
this Jubilee year and it
should be a memorable
history. I am so glad
forward to receiving your
new book which, in itself, is
a great achievement, and
when it has been crowned
with an ailsa craig
it makes it all the more

remarkable. You must have a great feeling of satisfaction when you look back & review the events of the year. The outstanding event to me was my visit to you, and it has helped me over some very strenuous times since! Just after I came home I started to knit a cosey to keep your cocoa a little warmer when they take it up to your room at night. It has taken me a

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day will be a very happy one for you all
and your dear parents
with health happiness and
prosperity;
Christian is quite
knock too quickly
I have if Claude
plum pudding
I will have
kitchen a good
Marla" so may
if then! No
three times
to be! Mrs Seaf

word that we may expect them on Monday or Tuesday & the local railway agent is to get a wire when they leave Montreal so we will know in good time. I wish she had delayed her coming one week but we will just have to do our best during the holidays. It is a terrible distance for the poor things to come.

It was very good of you to phone on Sunday night and though it was

I thought you might like to see what Jean thinks of her great-grand father! Jean this when read J.K.L.

IV.

History Jean Lay

William Lyon Mackenzie.

William Lyon Mackenzie was a very small little man and was a Liberal. He lived when the Family Compact was in power. He was manager of a printing office. He spoke openly against the doings of the Family Compact One day some young men (probably the sons of the men in the Family Compact broke into Mackenzie's office and dumped his press into the river. They were fined and Mackenzie got enough money to continue the Colonial Advocate. He led a rebellion but was defeated at Montgomeries Tavern. Mackenzie was banished to Naval island.

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0004

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, General Manager

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

STANDARD TIME

DEC 17 AM 8 51

RA45 10

BARRIE ONT 17 840A

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING

009 LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

LOVING GREETINGS ON THIS YOUR BIRTHDAY FROM ALL AT BOULDERFEL

HARRY.

FORM 6124

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
September-December 1927

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 17, 1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Renewed thanks, dear Jennie, for your loving birthday letter and gifts all of which have brought me great happiness today. Stop. Fondest love to all.

Willie.

F.S.- 104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
September-December 1927

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must hear from me again before Christmas for all my plans have been upset, but you will know the reason. Heaps of love dear Willie from all here & every good wish for Christmas & the new years from all in this home. Again many thanks for all your kindness and much love

from loving Auntie
Jennie.

Excuse haste. It is 7.30 a.m.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 22nd '27

Dear Willie:

We were delighted to receive in Tuesday's mail your copy of "The Message of the Carillion". I haven't had time to more than glance at it but am looking forward with the greatest pleasure to reading it later on. Very many thanks.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. W
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - J
Harry Morrison Lay and famil
September-December 1927

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Thanks also for the phone message the night before. Cause at night. We love more love than ever from this end of the line.

I have Rosabel in bed, a very sick little girl with bronchial pneumonia? me short which is to be more serious. She has been in bed since Saturday & I have been with her all day Monday (continuing

everything possible for her. We were quite alarmed about her on Sunday & Monday when her temp. kept at 104° but she is much better & we hope to have her up in a few days.

Marta arrived Sunday night & is a very nice girl, strong & good looking, about 18 years old & can't speak a word of English. The combination of Marta & Rosabel is rather trouble this week. You will probably

want, as I know so little about them. The last I heard was they were working to keep a second-hand Ford for $45.00!! Mary says there are lots to be had!

I must go to bed. Give my love to Mrs Pattison which let a merry Christmas for me. I will be writing later on for your birthday which is drawing very near. I am glad you are well. There is no greater gift. Best love from all the children. If you don't approve of any of my gifts for the children, I have lots of time to change. Many thank best love from all your loving sister

Jennie

Canadian Club in the afternoon but I had a Missionary meeting & as it was the annual meeting & election of officers, & I am treasurer, I had to go. I was sorry not to meet Mr Stewart but may have another chance. I see the opening is to be on Jany. 26th I would love to go but, for one thing, I will have this new girl (I hope I will) and for another Cora made me borrow her seal coat last year and I can't go down in a muskrat after that!! She said she would lend it to me this year again but I didn't want to take it-

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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last year, and certainly will
not do it again. I hope to get
my mss done over by next fall
and then it will be safe for
the next ten or fifteen years!
Cora is so good with her. She has
do love being with her. She has
a lovely flat - 9 & 6 are used to
and has some fine pictures.
She asked if you
the British Ambassador
Athens and Constantinople
were. She thought
have met them

in China. She is to be a month in
Constantinople will have a wonderful
trip. She sails on the 7th January.
Will you thank Mrs Thomson for sending
me the information about Marta Martyn.
Mrs Seagram got word that they would
arrive in Halifax on the 16th and we
might expect them on the 19th or 20th.
Mrs Seagram also got her maids photo
so I am hoping mine will come tomorrow.
The maid I have is here till the other arrives.
I really don't know what Arthur & Lyn

(Copy)

The Canadian Bank of Commerce,

Barrie, Dec. 23rd, 1927.

Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King,
Prime Minister,
Ottawa.

Dear Willie:

We thought you might pass the enclosures over to the Immigration Department.

Our German maid says this man was on their steamer and endeavoured to induce her cousin and self toaccompany him.

In view of similar experiences with the last maid imported, it raises the question whether there is not a system whereby agents on these boats endeavour to get hold of girls. The Department might think it worth while making enquiry.

We have ignored the communication.

Yours affectionately,

(Signed) Harry (H.M.Lay)

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER



RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to:

Ottawa, December 24, 1927

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

A Merry Christmas and fondest love to all.

Willie

FS 104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family September-December 1927

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Barrie, Ont.

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FS 104

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
September-December 1927

REPEAT
REPETITION

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Christmas Day, 1927

My dear Harry:

The gifts which have come from Jennie the children and yourself, and all the loving wishes and kind thoughts which came with them, have given me the greatest possible pleasure at this Christmas season. I cannot thank you all too heartily for remembering me in such a generous way.

The stem glass vases will be a great addition to my table; I have often wished I had something of the kind, and I shall derive a fresh pleasure from this gift every time that I see them on the table. Jennie's hand-worked cushion has already found a place for itself which adds to my comfort and will add, I expect, to the comfort of many a guest as well.

I am looking forward tonight to having the plum pudding for dinner, and from day to day shall be using the ketchup which came from Jean. Let me thank you, too, very warmly for the little water colour sketch which you have done so splendidly. I am glad to have this little painting bearing the

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initials of the artist. When I dropped in at the Patteson's, they showed me the card which came from you and Jennie and which they were delighted to receive. We all thought it quite beautiful. I can see that your sketch is from the same spot, which I assume is somewhere in the near vicinity of Barrie.

I hope you are all having a very happy Christmas Day. It was a great relief to learn from the 'phone that Rosabel is improving so splendidly. I have been sharing all your anxiety; I do hope it will be completely relieved before the year is out.

You will agree, I think, that this has been a very wonderful and memorable year for us all. It has brought Canada more to the forefthan ever, and Ottawa, as the centre of Canada. I shall always feel that July the first marked the real birth of our country as a nation, with its inauguration of the Carillon, and the broadcasting, from the Tower on Parliament Hill, of the music of the bells from sea to sea.

I do hope that the new year will be a good one for you and Jennie and the children. Please let this letter bring to you all my kind thoughts for this Christmas Day, and my fondest love and best

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wishes for 1928.

E. H. Lay, Esq.,
"Bonnicastle",
Barrie, Ontario.

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Christmas Day, 1927

I have written so many letters to 'Boulderfel' this morning, that I hardly know what to add in my letter to you, except to say to you, as I have to the others, how much pleasure I have received from the beautiful gifts which have come to me from you all at this Christmas Season.

I am looking forward to having the plum pudding at my Christmas dinner which, like you, I am having at Laurier House, on Monday night instead of on Sunday. The Governor-General invited me to dinner at Government House for Sunday night, so I shall be having two Christmas dinners, which is pretty good.

I hope you will all have a wonderfully happy day.

Master Harry Lay,
'Boulderfel',
Barrie, Ontario.

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Christmas Day, 1927

I was so glad to hear from your mother over the long distance telephone that you were so much better, and were going to be able to be down stairs for Christmas Day.

I was so sorry to hear you had not been well, but so long as you get quite strong again I suppose we will all soon forget about the sickness; at least I very much hope so.

I have written to Joan and John about the lovely presents that came to me from you all, but I want to send this little line in addition to you, just to thank you personally and to bring my best love to you.

I hope you are all having a very happy Christmas Day.

Miss Rosabel Lay,
'Boulderfel',
Barrie, Ontario.

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Christmas Day, 1927

I want to thank you and Jean and Rosabel and Harry for all the lovely gifts that came to me from 'Boulderfel'. I think you and your mother and father, and sisters and brother have been more than good to me, and you certainly have added a lot of happiness to my Christmas.

I shall look forward to hearing from you about your own Christmas, and of what you received in the way of presents, and how you spent the day. I am sure if you have at Barrie the lovely sunshine which we are having here, it will be a very happy one.

With my love and best wishes, and many thanks to you.

Master John Lay,
'Boulderfel',
Barrie, Ontario.

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Christmas Day, 1927

Dear Jean:

Your mother tells me that the bottles of ketchup which came dressed like a lot of little soldiers at Christmas time, were all made by you yourself. I want to thank you very much for this lovely Christmas gift, which I know will add to my own pleasure and to that of my guests on many occasions in the New Year. It was very sweet of you to make this ketchup for me, and to do it up in such a pretty way. I imagine you have also had something to do with the plum pudding, and the beautiful way in which it has come wrapped up.

I have written your mother a little line asking her to thank you and the other little folks for all the lovely gifts which came to me from Boulderfel this Christmas, but I am adding this line to you just that you may have a letter of thanks direct from myself.

I have you are having a happy Christmas Day.

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Miss Jean Lay,
'Boulderfol',
Barrie, Ontario.

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00044

2 5 4 0 0 0

Ottawa, December 27, 1927.

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Manager, Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ont.

My dear Harry:

I thank you for sending me the correspondence regarding the effort on the part of one Gottleib Hinz, of Chicago, to have the servant whom you recently employed, taken to the United States.

It is quite clear that this man either conducts himself, or represents some agency that is stealing these women, either for service or other purposes in the United States.

I have turned the whole matter over to the Immigration authorities, with the request that a thorough investigation be immediately made. I wish you would tell your maid, meanwhile, that this is being done, and that she had better hand over to you any communications she may have, or may come to have, that they may at once be put in the hands of the authorities. I am awfully glad that you brought this matter promptly to my attention.

Yours very sincerely,

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 September-December 1927

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is having a glorious time. The noise is awful, a sewing machine running all the time!, but I haven't the heart to stop him. He has just brought in a pillar he has turned out & it is remarkably well done. He is decidedly clever with his fingers & has a good brain back of them! He is a good speaker but the worst letter writer I ever came across! Jean is delighted with her desk which is walnut and very pretty. She has it set up in her room and feels very fine. With the ivory lamp she got you gave her another Christmas her room is very pretty. Hamy thought I was foolish to get Ronald toys, but she will so soon be past them, and give so much joy only them, that I couldn't resist the temptation. It was lovely to have them

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec, 27th '27

My dear Willie:

As soon as my visitors got out last night, about 7.30, I went to the phone to send a night letter to you, but found the telegraph office was closed! Such is the joy of a small town!

We all had such a happy day and it was largely yours generously which made it so. First of all let me thank you most sincerely for your splendid gift to me. You certainly are more than good and when I think of all you have given to the children and how good you were to me last winter, it makes me feel guilty in accepting so much. I will

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love to get into [illegible] Jimmie's tree the
lovely things, but I can take
some home with me, the joy will
be many times increased. I am
sure I shall [illegible] a dozen times over
Betty and I had good dinner
plates to [illegible] with them,
Betty but the blue, it would
make a very beautiful table with
my lovely silver. The table was pretty
yesterday, I had beautiful red
roses, which the centre, I then the candles
the Bible class [illegible]
stroke relieved the [illegible]
We had old Jimmie D. Cavan
who is our D's associate, and a little
friend of Peachie's and some
other friends [illegible]

Rosabel had to stay in bed but we brought her crib down to the library when she could see the tree stockings and she was quite happy. She is much better today and we hope she will soon be up and about once more.

We all love the picture you sent Nancy. It is a good likeness of you but apart altogether from the personal value, it is a very pretty picture. The sepia tones are so soft & pretty & the frame blends perfectly. We all think it a decided acquisition! The children are all most enthusiastic about their presents. Nancy sat down at once and wrote to you & I will enclose the letter. but made him write another which isn't much better! As for John, he has never left that machine alone since he got it; and

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gets a scare it will do him good!

Did you know that Will Harper, the architect in New York, died very suddenly last Wednesday night-? He died in his sleep, Helen Ross said, and was buried at Cookstown on Christmas Day.

The children were delighted with their letters from you & didn't have to feel quite so guilty as they would have, had they not written their letters to you!! It is an awful job to get their letters written; in the holidays they want to play and in school time they have to work!

Did you find the little brass plate which is off the dressing table at Kingsmere? I came across it when going through some boxes. Must go as Rosalet is will say good bye. Again many, many thanks and every loving wish for the New Year from everyone in this home. May 1928 be, in every way a year of happiness & profit.

Your loving Uncle Jemmie

yesterday for she could play with them in bed, and had a fine time with anyone who would buy from her! Nelson had a little store which Cora gave him when he had Scarlet Fever and I have never forgotten the joy it gave him. The dolls trunk is really a good one, & big enough to be useful for years to come. It may help to keep the place a little tidier! I got Hailey a sleigh with what was left and will send you a detailed statement after the New Year!

Now last but not least is your book of which I am very proud. I read the "Message of the Carillon" last night & thought it very fine; the

BOULDERFEEL
BARRIE
THOROUGH

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Barrie, Ont, 21 Dec 1927

Dear Uncle Willie

I am so happy this Christmas

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Barrie, Ont, 27 Dec 27

Dear Uncle Willie

I am so glad that you
like your Christmas
present. I did not
know what to get
you so I got this
instead.

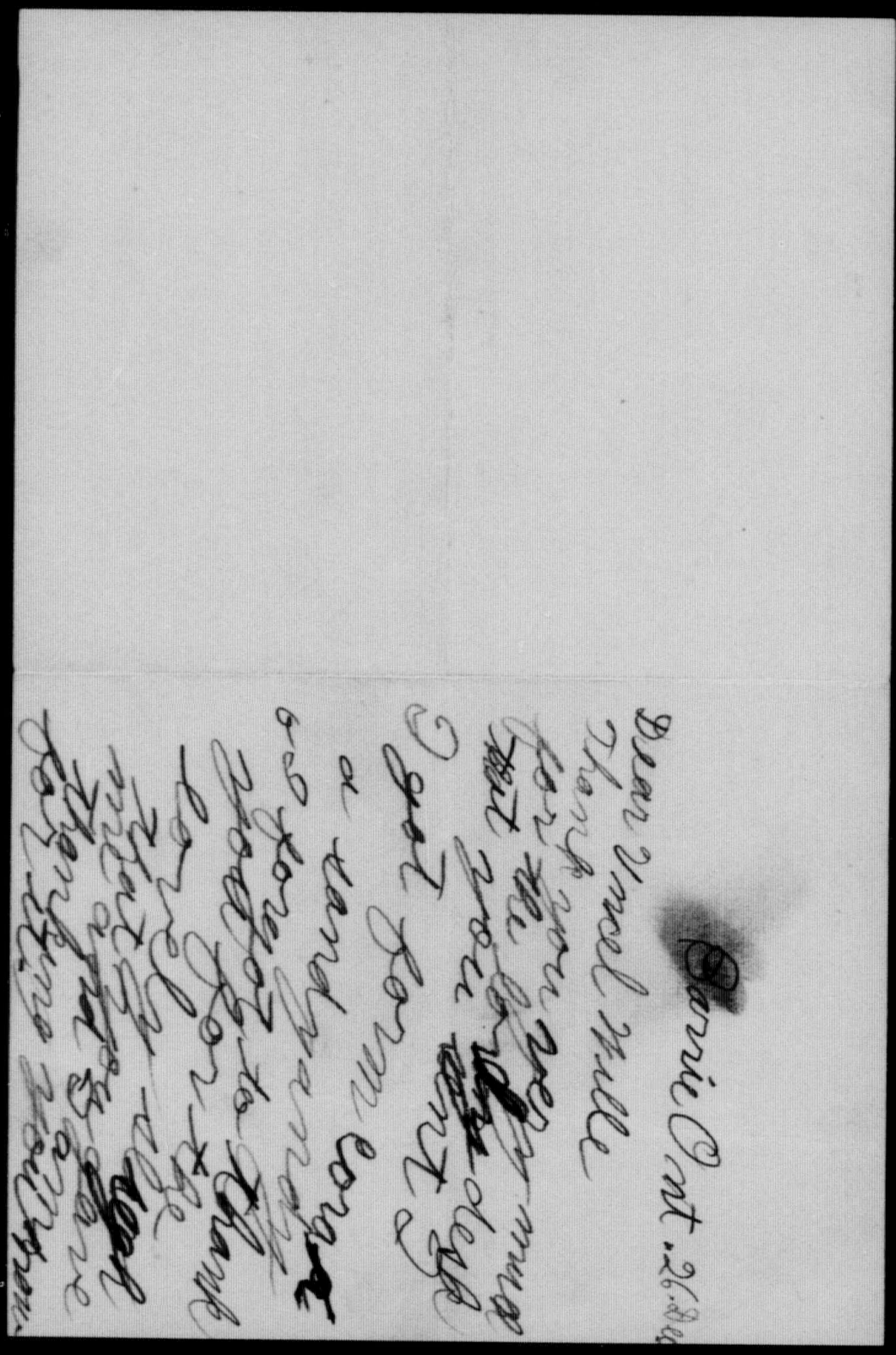
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and I got two handkitchiefs and a painting
book from Jean and a bicycle bell
from John and I got a whole lot
of presents and I am so glad
and I give you all my best love.

HARRY M. LAY.

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Dec. 27 1927

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much for the lovely tools you gave me for Christmas. A lathe has been what I have been wanting for a long time. As soon as we had got all our presents downstairs, I took the lathe, drill, chuck and shafting upstairs and set it up. I connected them to mother's sewing machine motor and after I had caught on to the knack of running them, I started to work. Before dinner I had practically turned out a small pillar. It was't very good, but I will improve with

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I wish you could come up here and have a good skate before the snow comes.

Last night Jean, Harry, Marta (our German) and I went to see "What Price Glory" at the theatre. It was very good and well worth the money.

I hope you had a good time for Christmas and I send you my best wishes for the New Year

Your loving Nephew
John

practice. Cousin Cora added to the set with a saw which, I think, belonged to one of her boys. I haven't had it working yet, so I don't know how it will run.

We were all very lucky yesterday. I got two knives, two ~~pencils~~ books, and about a dozen books. We spent most of the afternoon yesterday skating on the bay. It only froze over on Saturday, so it is not very safe. We are going down again this morning and I am going to take my bobs and sail down and harness the wind. I haven't an ice boat this year, so I won't have all the fun I had last year, but sailing on a sleigh is good fun.

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[1927?]

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much for the share I had in the present you gave Mother for me. It was very good of you to give me such a lovely present because I'd rather have that kind of present than almost any other I can think of.

To-morrow I have to

We have to make one this year. We have to have to have ten weeds 5 being noxious and the same with weed seeds. Its quite hard to get the weeds pressed decently. I guess I'll have to stop now so again thank you very much for your present. and I hope you got your umbrella safely

Your loving niece,
Rosabel.

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7.30 AM. ~~It~~ tomorrow Norman had to stay at our place to-night as the rest of his family have gone to Toronto and he had no place else to go.

We have been having funny weather here. Sometimes it rains and then the sun comes out. by predic~~a~~tion about the day you were going to Montreal, turned out right in Barrie at least.

Did you ever have to make a weed collection?

give an oral at school. I wonder if you ever get any of the squakings before a speech that I get before an oral?

Do you ever do any riding? Last night I was out for about half an hour. Mrs. Smith sometimes lets me ride her horse.

Tomorrow John, Jean and Norman Phillips are going to Toronto at about

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. W
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Boulderfel,
Barrie.
Dec 27.
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Dear Uncle Willie :-

I do not know how I am ever going to thank you for the wonderful present you gave me. I am writing on the desk now. It fits my room to perfection and is the color of my furniture. Sapsy loves his desk but I like mine better. We had a wonderful X-mas and we all got so many lovely presents. We brought the Kit downstairs into the library and Peach was allowed to come down

We have electric light to and many other bright things on the tree. I am afraid that if you came in to our House at present you would take a fit. Our presents are scattered everywhere and paper is strewn all over the floor. I guess that all comes with Christmas though. I guess I must close now, but every time I come to this desk I will think of you.

Love from
Your affectionate niece
Jean

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I think she is much better. She also likes that picture of your and your Mother to rest on. Another great deal looking at that one. I wonder if you could get another print of it that I wanted because the fourteen of us are the Canadian one. The fourteen acquire about five minutes to admire all right. Please to do [illegible] that I will do [illegible] we had our tea. Excellent work on this [illegible] might we took them with us. [illegible]

We have been frozen pictures and are now for two days it has been called "[illegible] until skating on it [illegible] Daddy Rice [illegible] "[illegible] weather afternoon. Daddy Rice [illegible] "[illegible] front door with us to. [illegible] Mrs. had a lovely time [illegible] [illegible] dinner but didn't [illegible]

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Barrie, December 28. 1927

Dear Willie,

Please accept my very sincere thanks for the beautiful little enlargement of yourself and a group of your sheep which is mounted in such an appropriate and tasteful frame. I don't know anything that could have given me and us all more pleasure. The picture is surely symbolical of the part which you take in the life and wellbeing of Canada. It has been much

Canadians to consider service on the sea an honourable career.

Thanks very much for your prompt action in regard to the domestic problem. Jennie has also written you. I sincerely trust the girl we have will prove willing and ready to be taught. It is rather hard for Jennie to make her understand the ways of a household with which she as a foreigner is entirely unfamiliar.

We were delighted to have a copy of your new book.

With very much love from us all, and wishing you a very happy & prosperous New Year

Yours affectionately
Harvey Lindsay

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admired by all who have seen it. I appreciate very much indeed your remembering me this Christmas time with the kind wishes which you have expressed so affectionately I would also add my acknowledgment to those of Jennie and the children for the wonderful Christmas gift which they are reporting on. The children certainly think they have an uncle second to none! It was more than good of you to remember Nelson, who was to spend his Christmas with Gma. Speaking of Nelson reminds me that I am sure we shall all be pleased if the press despatch in todays papers is correct, that two new destroyers are to be built by the government. to take the place of the obsolete Destroyers Patriot & Patrician I believe the announcement will be received with great satisfaction by the Country at large. I have sometimes wondered if I had made a mistake in letting Nelson take up a naval career which might have little future in it for him, but I hope as the years go by there may be the necessary development to encourage young

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 30th 27

My dear Willie:

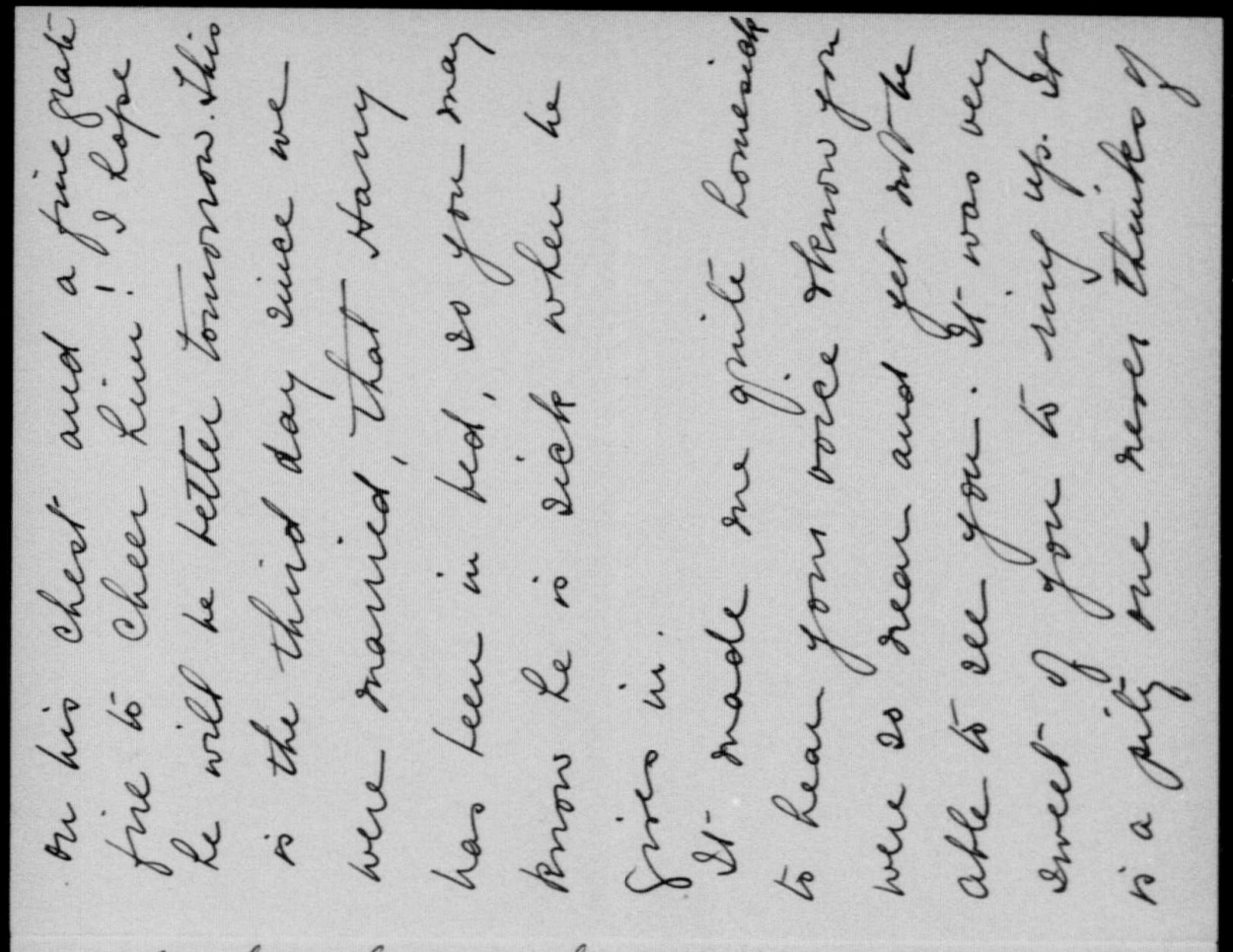
You don't know how disappointed I was that we could not go down to Newmarket to see you today. When the Dr. came he said that there were sounds in Hanjo chest but no sign of pneumonia so far. However he has too high a temperature too rapid a pulse to be out of bed, so there he is with a mustard plaster

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dear his cheerful and a fine flake
fine to cheer Kin! I hope
he will be here tomorrow. This
is the third letter tomorrow. This
were married day since we
has been married, that Harry
Brow he is in bed, so you may
Grieve in. I'm sure he will be
St made up to hear from you
to hear you were so near
were so near you
able to see
sweet of you
is a pity

all the things there are to talk about, when you unexpectedly go to the phone! Cora called up to ask for Peach on Tuesday night. She leaves on Tuesday next for her lovely trip. Had you any names that might be of use to her? Now I must go as Harry wants me to get the mail before three p.m.

Best love dear Willie and again many, many thanks

Your loving sister
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 9th 28

My dear Willie:

I have been long in sending you the promised "itemized account" but I know you are not worrying over it! We have had a very strenuous two weeks and only now am I beginning to see daylight. Mary had a slight touch of pneumonia and had she not gone to bed on Friday, the Dr said would have been down with general pneumonia. As it was, there was a great deal of congestion and it seemed to me I never stopped making mustard

quite ill and not able to be downstairs and that makes it doubly hard.

The enclosed letter came to me the other day. I don't know the girl at all but remember her first husband quite well. I didn't know what to do with it so send it on!

We are having very mild weather and most of the snow is gone. I am thankful to have it mild and to be able to use the car. It cannot be a bad winter even if we have two months of cold weather. I always think of Father saying "the back of the winter is broken" when January comes.

I hope you are well and that you will keep well for the busy time ahead of you. I am looking forward to getting to Toronto in the near future and will let you know the result. Many thanks for your letter & the clipping which delighted the children. Best love from all your loving sister

Jennie

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plantes! We is better and up? went down to the Bank for an hour this morning but has coughed ever since. She's Bank up to relieve him! Dare Downey is - five years older than Muriel he thinks. Muriel is here last I saw Kie. most interested in Keeping Off for and four days. Excepting Mrs. corners in admiration the Carillon "The Good Shepherd" who knows his sheep & sheeps Prom him! I read most of "The Message of the Cross" by Parker almost to tracy while Tea we enjoyed it. together. I think it is especially remarkable that you should have been able

a book in a year so filled with outside engagements as well as home duties. I am so glad I got my little visit with you last year for it seems to have been the only possible time I could have got away from home, and it has left so many bright memories to cheer my busy days. I was saying to Hary the other day that it was a good thing I had not set my heart on going to you this year, as things have turned out.

Helen was so pleased that you went to see her and she needs all the brightness she can get for hers is a life of duty, not always appreciated either. Her mother has been

"BOULDERFELL"
BARRIE
ONT.

June 1927

John Drill 4.75
Shaft 1.50
Rathe 6.50
Belt .30
Counter sink 30 + two bill hooks in Barrie
Jean desk 15.50
Rotated trunk 3.75
Store 4.00
Harry desk & chair 20
sleigh 25. Bought in Barrie
49.75
25.
Cash enclosed
50.00

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Three hasn't been a day since Christmas when everyone of the children has not used all those presents. The little 9 hasn't had been a perfect blessing, for Peach could play with them while she was in bed. They all love every one and well they might! Jennie

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should get what you would really and genuinely like.

With fondest love and renewed wishes to all,

Affectionately yours,
Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

January 12, 1928.

My dear Jennie:

I have just received your letter of January 9 and its enclosure. You will have somehow to divide up between the children the balance of the Christmas account which you were kind enough to forward, but which I return as belonging to them, not to me. I should think the best way would be to draw lots for the shin-plaster.

I am indeed sorry to learn of Harry's illness, but tremendously relieved to know that he was wise enough to go to bed in time. I am coming to discover that whenever one is fatigued, and particularly over-fatigued, one becomes very liable to infection of different kinds, and that the wise thing to do is to anticipate possible adverse consequences by getting as much rest as possible in bed before becoming ill. It saves more time

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in the long run. I hope Harry will soon be up and strong again, and that throughout this year you will be relieved of the strain, through illness and other causes which, it seems to me, you have undergone almost continuously. This is, I fear, going to be a very busy time for me, as in addition to the opening there will be a new Leader of the Opposition, and there will be coming to Ottawa within a week or two of each other, Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for the Dominions, Mr. Cosgrave of the Irish Free State, and Mr. Kellogg, Secretary of State of the United States, all of whom will have to be entertained at Government dinners and looked after more immediately by myself during their stay in the city.

It may amuse you to know that I had to fire my butler a few weeks ago for misconduct and general unfitness, and that his wife and other members of the staff are leaving as a consequence very shortly. If the worst comes to the worst I shall keep the home fires burning in the furnace, and go and live at the Chateau or the Roxborough until I get a chance to look around.

I hope your new maid is working out satisfactorily. I told the Immigration Department to have their officer call on you and to interview her. In conjunction with the United States authorities our Department of Immigration is going into the matter of which you wrote me.

I am so glad the children liked the presents you got for them. Let me say one further word in reference to the gift which I wished you to secure for yourself. Fifty dollars will not go far with regard to buying the kind of china you will wish to have. Please, therefore, do not be tempted to secure a larger quantity of a cheap variety for a smaller quantity of a good variety. I should like you to get something that you will be proud to keep as your own, and later, to pass on to the children as something which belonged to you. I shall be glad to add to what you may buy from time to time, and to make an immediate addition on account of some subsequent anniversary, if that will help to round out the half-dozen of any particular dishes you may wish to secure. I am most anxious that you

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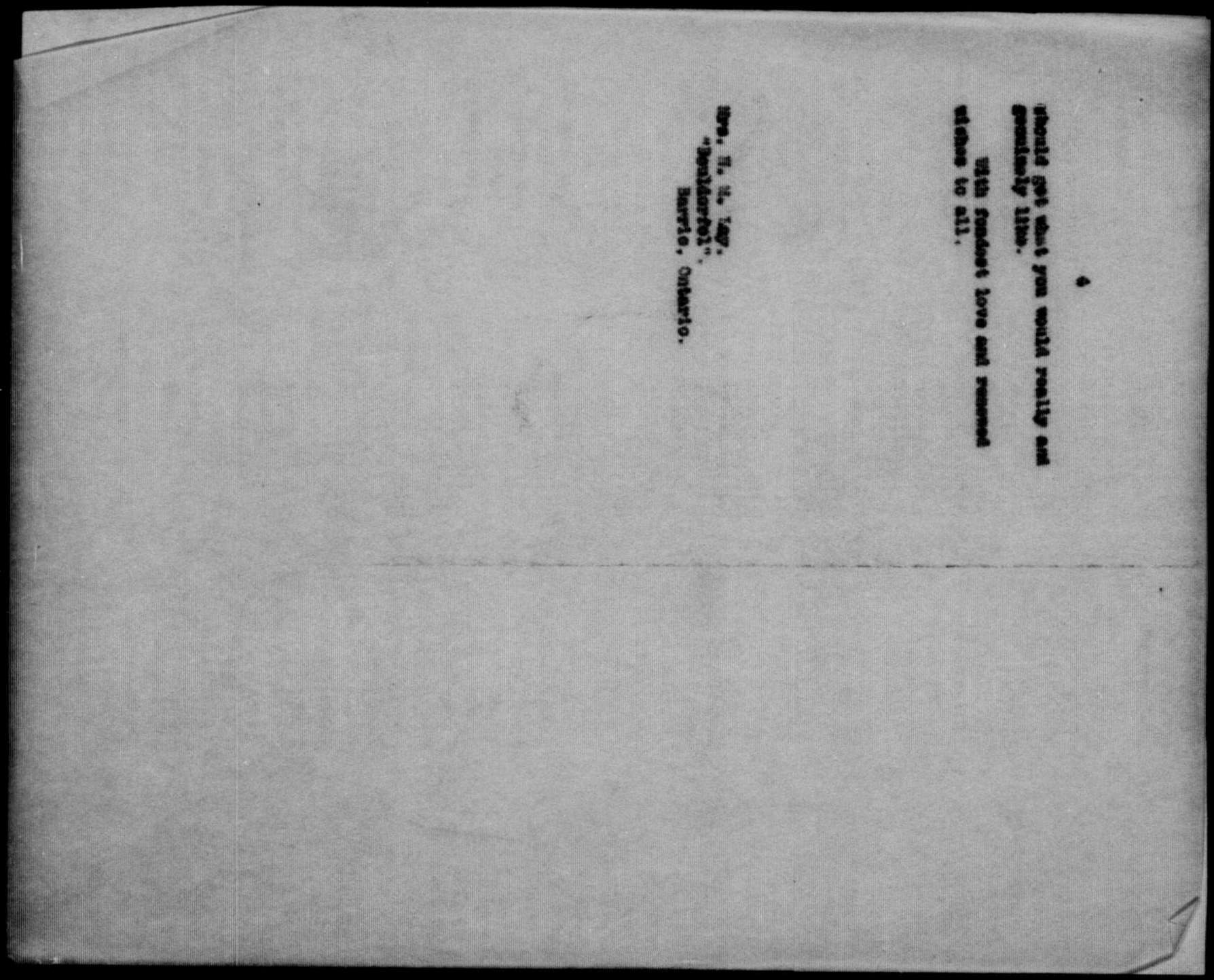
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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 30th '28

My dear Willie

Each day I have tried to get a letter off to you but there seems to be little time during the day and by evening I am too tired. We have been greatly interested in the happenings at Ottawa and it is all so much more interesting to read about when I have met so many of the people, and know the buildings. You must be very busy and I hope you are not being worried at home when you have so many other things to think

came home with tonsilitis and she is still sick. She only one who hasn't had a meal in bed is myself! Evidently I am the toughest! I think this clear cold is infinitely healthier weather. It was 20° below this morning but lovely and bright. You have had some pretty stormy weather too. The day you had that storm in Ottawa, we got over a foot of snow here and had to dig the car out! We are using the car this winter as much as ever as daily exercise is hardly equal to the long walks and his daily work. You will be able to show Mr Cosgrave some real Canadian winter Ottawa must be lovely with all the fresh snow. It will be a year on Friday since you banged at the King Edward and my visit to you. There

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about. I don't think it at all "funny" to have to give your butter and have a general upset. Good heavens" make a fuss! - Good heavens" what a difference in the price. I do hope for your sakes, my dear Annie, dear, that you do hear more. My son Richard is in fact on trial but if the verdict, may be some thing else. I am sure you are all thankful that the girls had no trouble coming here. They are settled & quite happy. There is no intention of either of them leaving for the present. Before they came I had signed a paper for them to sign saying that they would not expect more than $16 - $18 per month for the first year, as they knew nothing. When I went to pay the girls the first month's wages they refused to take it saying that they would not take it as they knew I could not afford it. I told them I would not take it as they had come to help me and I would not have it. Good heavens" what a difference in the people. I do hope for your sakes, my dear Annie, dear, that you do hear more. My son Richard is in fact on trial but if the verdict, may be some thing else. I am sure you are all thankful that the girls had no trouble coming here. They are settled & quite happy. There is no intention of either of them leaving for the present. Before they came I had signed a paper for them to sign saying that they would not expect more than $16 - $18 per month for the first year, as they knew nothing. When I went to pay the girls the first month's wages they refused to take it saying that they would not take it as they knew I could not afford it. I told

wouldn't work for less than $30.00 or $33.00! I told her I wouldn't give her more than $20.00 (which is the current wage here) for the first year, and I would not give her that unless she would stay a year. She said she would stay but I have a feeling that they are just watching their chance to get away. It has been hard for me as ever since she came, some of the family have been sick and to try & look after the invalids & chase after her is too much. Harry is better and at work but is far from his old self. John had a sharp attack of tonsilitis after being up a couple of days & is back in bed with Flu. He has really been very sick and has been three weeks from school. Then last Wednesday Jean

send him a letter of introduction to you as he would like to meet you in Ottawa. He said he "wanted to see the Wodlieffs" and we were wondering if he met them in India. I haven't written the letter yet but you will know he is Gina's brother-in-law if he arrives in Ottawa. Gina has been more than kind to Nelson. He unfortunately took flu & tonsilitis and spent his Christmas holidays in bed at her house! He was delighted to hear there were to be two new ships. He hasn't heard yet whether he is to be allowed to take his torpedo course. I fancy this will be enough for this session!! Best love from all the family, dear Willie, and I hope you will keep well and enjoy the session.

Your affectionate sister
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

are so many happy memories as I think over those days. It is lucky for me I went when I did for it was the only fortnight I could have been away all year. I am going to keep Rosabel home from school till Easter at least, and see if the play & open air will build her up. She has a polar bear coat which defies the worst cold so I am never afraid to let her play outside and she loves the snow. You were going to send me a fur lining if it is still in existence perhaps some day you will send it along and I will make Jean a coat!

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I am going to try Frenchie
to be here with Sicily
there be ready for a
the chauffeur comes. I am
forward to getting down
some day soon
not get anything that
what I want, for years. I
wished for years. I
the one cup I want
always hoped to get
if it is still in existence
to look for dinner
to one wish gratified
have for Thanksgiving
money in the Bank
account so it cannot
for anything else!

rich when I look at my bank book!
The children are all using their presents every day & John's lathe has been a great joy to him. He doesn't turn out any very wonderful pieces but is learning to use it quite well and has made doll's furniture etc for Rosalee as well as many pillars etc for building blocks. It keeps him interested & occupied and certainly that is good for a boy! All the other gifts are equally appreciated & I only wish you could see them.

I had a letter from George Spence, Gwin Lay's husband, saying his brother Sir Reginald Spence was going home to England from India via Canada in March or April and asking if I would

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 13th 1928

My dear Willie:

It was very kind of you to have the papers about Ivanka forwarded to me to look over. I hope they arrived back safely. I used the same envelope as there was no one large enough here. I don't know whether I shall keep Ivanka or not. She is lazy and doesn't seem to improve. I don't know what their intentions are but they are very plausible & say they want to stay with us. I like Ivanka well enough but she doesn't do the work. How are you getting on? I hope you are settled with good help.

We had a week with no one sick and now Mary & Leo German measles and had generous Mary going to ever make a good business man. What he would have been had he not had Mother to push him on, is hard to say. We have much to thank our parents for and I only hope these children will be able to say the same!

What a terrible disaster that was at Hollinger. Those poor men had not a chance in the world it is wonderful that even twelve escaped with their lives.

I have been living over my days with you. Last Valentine's Day Madame Lemieux had a luncheon for me and Mrs Patteson her Tea and on Wednesday was your second reception. It doesn't seem possible it is a whole year ago.

The other night I suggested to Mary that he could do his lessons at my desk! "No thank you. I don't want Uncle Willie to think I don't use my desk"! He is a cute little chaps and clever but — lazy! about work. He has lots of energy for everything else and is the most willing of the children. They all send much love and hope you will have a happy Valentine's Day. Mary is quite better. Best love from affectionate sister Jane

me by the generosity of its criticism.

We are having glorious winter weather; clear cold with plenty of snow. The winter cannot last much longer and I will be glad to see the end. I am very tired, but well.

A friend sent me a copy of "Saturday Night" with the little sketch about mother. Is the Jean Graham who writes that page, a sister of Jo Graham's? It is a very good copy of the portrait. Mother may have had a great love of the arts, but I think it is much more to Father [illegible] one one appreciation of poetry & the arts. He was the one who truly appreciated that side of life and Mother did too, though not to the same extent, but certainly it is to Mother you owe your capacity & business acumen. If Father had had a little more of that he would have been much better off. He was

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February 17, 1928.

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive your letter, also the Valentine you enclosed. Please thank them for me, and tell them that this Lincoln remembrance brought me much pleasure.

I, too, have missed you very much at the Opening of the House this year. I have, however, been very busy and am glad that the first week is over. Everybody seems to be glad that the Session is over, and they have one unanimously with them.

I hope your account of the Valentine letter from your letter at the end of the week to expect. I have also had a very busy week myself, and all three of us are somewhat behind with our correspondence duties.

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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-October 1928

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000479

March 8, 1928.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Dear Mrs. Lay:

The Prime Minister has asked me to send to you the enclosed communication from Mr. Forke, Minister of Immigration, together with copies of reports with respect to Gottlieb Hinz, with whom Martha Montik has corresponded. The reports show that Martha Montik is a niece of Mrs. Hinz.

Mr. King thought that you would be interested in reading the enclosed reports, and would be grateful if you would return them at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. Measures,
Private Secretary.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 28th '28

My dear Willie:

It was very good of you to let me be the bearer of such joyous news to Mr. Ross for it certainly is a joy to be able to give good news. Mr. Ross was so excited he didn't know what to say & stammered & stuttered like a schoolboy! You know he has a very soft voice & he started off with his usual "purr" but when I told him that you had rung me up and told me to convey to him your congratulations on his appointment as senior judge here, his purr completely changed and he said

the others took them so we will only ten days in quarantine. I let Peach go to school for half a day Monday, Tues. & Wednesday of last week but she came home with a temperature of 102° and the next day had a crop of things broken out on her arms! Now she stays in bed for breakfast and I am going to let her play & do no studying or anything that can be a strain. She is so like Isabel in a great many ways and I feel that this is the time to prevent later ill health. Did you see that Bess Dunnet died last week? It wasn't in the "notices" but there was a little paragraph about her in Friday's Globe. We sent flowers, for both Harry & I were fond of her. Ethel Ross was here a week ago and she said you had been more than kind at the time of her mother's death. They are trying to

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"Heavens!" the [illegible] Jennie! Isn't it really time. I am to be the "judge"! etc etc. By then he got a breath and said his delighted he was didn't disturb her had been [illegible] finish but I think Judge Rose; and great the man whose Vance could it correctly. I say him of the office no comment on talking him the man but I don't enough for all [illegible] Mr Ross are going to write out

said Ottawa was calling me, for just a second I wondered if you could be sick. It was an unusual hour and I was not thinking of Judge Rose! It was a great pleasure to hear your voice. I intended to write to you on Sunday to thank you for the Kingsmere article, which we all enjoyed, but Mr. Shortt & John Dexter came down after church and that finished all chance of writing. I was helping Hardy with the church money till after eight last night and as I was tired, couldn't get my mind working to write. I have only been out of the house eight times since Christmas so have decided that every day when possible I will go out if only for ten minutes. I think when last I wrote Hardy had measles. For a wonder none of

[illegible] is one way, but in another, one
Land. There has been a lot of violence
around there. Do you remember Rev Mr?
Ross who used to be minister at Chinguacousy
Mr whom you preached in one occasion?
He is settled in Lindsay a few miles from
here, Stacy was telling me today that he
has small pox badly. Poor man. I
always feel sorry for country ministers.
I will [illegible] down to have my eyes
tested [illegible] glasses etc for a birthday
card for Mary Oklahoma. She has a
birthday next month [illegible]
All the children send best love &
for and join with Mary me in the
hope that we may see you soon. Yes
Mary thanks for your kindness in
singing me up and also for the papers
the underwood clipping may arrive yet!
Again best love from affectionate uncle
Jennie

Personable [illegible]
Forbes but [illegible]
Ethel says. She
interested in
doesn't want
Kitchener is
he first [illegible]
Say we he has
baby nor
daughter for
had the [illegible]
seen. After
took him to
all through it
I enjoyed me
reading I a
seen for years
came in for a
remarks. [illegible]
very well and
well too! I did

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till first before Tea so only was able to ask him in after Tea chinek.
he had it all arranged to drive down to Toronto two weeks ago but it turned very cold the day we were going so we had to put it off. The roads were very bad and we heard that two Kennebec cars were pitched up in ditches. It would be a shame for anyone to get hurt on a trip like that so we decided to wait for another day. Harry can get off for a week in March & we will then hope to make the trip very nicely. We have been very busy here. Mother & Dad are both well & send their love. Marta is doing a little better. She told me the other day that her "Uncle" in Chicago was going to lend another girl money to come to Canada if she could get a passport. As the Uncle is, as kind of as poor as a church mouse I don't see how he can lend the money unless he is the tool for some one else. The girls are both sending him their wages each month and are most particular to send "American" money. That has evidently been drilled into them. Marta told me the other day that they were "looked after" in Halifax, Montreal & Toronto and could hardly speak to anyone! I hope your new household will be a help and not a worry to you and that you will keep well. This has been an easy

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night? That is quite a nice little addition to their incomes!

I had a letter from Grace Bowlby Fennel saying Mrs. Fennel was going South with Evelyn as soon as she could get ready to go. Grace will miss Bessie very much for they were great friends.

We had Prof. Chant lecturing to the Canadian Club last Thursday and I had a little talk with him. Tonight Rev. John Burke is to speak on "Some aspects of Canadian Nationality" but I am afraid I will not be able to go. They say Re delivered a wonderful oration at Sir Wilfrid's funeral and is a splendid speaker. Am sorry to miss him. Best love to you from all the family and hoping you are well

Your loving sister Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 8th '28

My dear Willie:

We are again in quarantine! This time Jean has German measles and she has had a good dose. They are not being as strict with quarantine as they were at first and only kept Mary home from school the first half of this week & then, as he had had it, let him go back today. Jean has been in bed since Friday but got up for a little while this afternoon. I am not writing to tell you this interesting fact, for it doesn't bother us now to have one child sick, but I wanted to tell you that Donald Ross has sold his practice to Donald MacLaren, a young lawyer in Toronto whose parents

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appointment. I fancy it is well he got it, for he has considerable influence! While I am on this subject I may add that Gordon Longman is going to write you about some business which I don't understand. I told him it was much better to write himself to do it at once.

Friday

We are having a terrible blizzard today & the drifts are four & five feet deep. We have a terrible amount of snow. Certainly March is "acting true to form"! It is not an unmixed evil to have to stay in a day like today!

We were interested in reading about Sir Wilfrid's chair and that it had been so beautifully repaired. I recognized the picture of it.

Did you see the enclosed, in the "Star" last

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DAUGHTERS INHERIT ESTATE

Kitchener, Ont., March 7.—The will of the late Mrs. William Roos, Kitchener, who died on January 31, 1928, has been filed for probate. It disposes of an estate valued at $130,000, which is divided among her three daughters, Mrs. H. J. Sims, Kitchener; Mrs. F. J. Baird, Winnipeg, Man., and Mrs. T. A. Mackay, Sarnia.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 18th 28

Dear Willie:

It was very good of you to have the letters about Gottlieb King sent to me, and I was glad to have the opportunity of reading them. I also let Mrs Seagram see them. They are pretty feeble, don't you think so? It was rather good his wanting to get the girls to Windsor so that he could get them a good place in Canada! My own opinion is that the Steamship agent is the man with the money, & the one to watch. Marian's uncle is only a tool. The girls are not doing so badly, now that they know they have to stay, and

You must be thankful the debate on the Budget is over. I read most of the reports and enjoyed them so much more than I would have had I not known the men who spoke. Dr. Motherwell was very funny & I could picture Lim speaking. Also Bonnassa who probably infuriated most of you! It seemed such a waste of time, to stop at eleven when you were so nearly through!

Harry, Jean & Harry Jr are at church as they allow those who have had German measles to go out. The worst of all this sickness is that their studies are so demoralized. You can't expect them to do well at exams when they miss so much school. It is to be hoped this is the end!

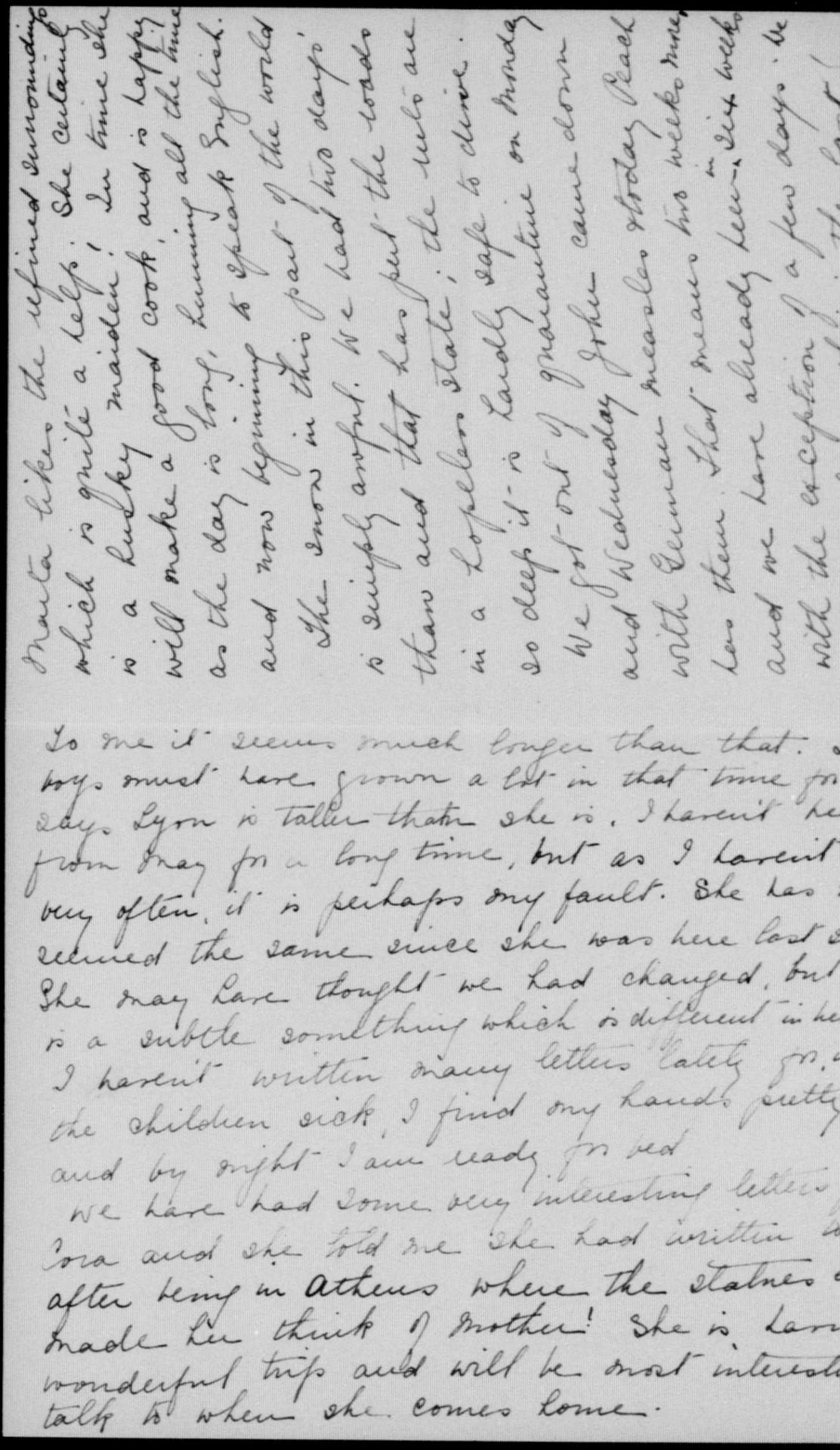
All join in best love to you dear Willie and hoping you are well

Yours loving sister
Jennie

Excuse envelope.

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Marta likes the refined surroundings
which is quite a relief. She certainly
is a kidkey! In time she
will make a good coop, and is happy
as the day is long, running all the time
and now beginning to speak English.
She knows a great part of the world
in this part of the country.
We had two days
at Stake; the roads are
Lovely Lake to drive.
I generally take on Monday
Lyon came down
Lyon arrived Tuesday Peak
arrived his weeks time
in this weeks time
already keen, six weeks
reception I a few days. We
this is the last!
Today dinner Mar. died.
Sept. Years

To me it seems much longer than that. The boys must have grown a lot in that time for May day. Lyon is taller than she is. I haven't heard from May for a long time, but as I haven't written very often it is perhaps my fault. She has never seemed the same since she was here last summer. She may have thought we had changed, but there is a subtle something which is different in her letters. I haven't written many letters lately for, with the children sick, I find my hands pretty full, and by night I am ready for bed.

We have had some very interesting letters from Iona and she told me she had written us from after being in Athens where the Statues etc made her think of Mother! She is having a wonderful trip and will be most interesting to talk to when she comes home.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 18th 28

Dear Willie:

It was very good of you to have the letters about Gottlieb Hing sent to me, and I was glad to have the opportunity of reading them. I also let Mrs Seagram see them. They are pretty feeble, don't you think so? It was rather good his wanting to get the girls to Windsor so that he could get them a good place in Canada! My own opinion is that the Steamship agent is the man with the money, & the one to watch. Maria's uncle is only a tool. The girls are not doing so badly, now that they know they have to stay, and you must be thankful the debate on the Budget is over. I read most of the reports and enjoyed them so much more than I would have had I not known the men who spoke. Dr. Motherwell was very funny & I could picture Lim speaking! Also Bonnassa who probably infuriated most of you! It seemed such a waste of time, to stop at eleven when you were so nearly through!

Nancy, Jean & Nancy Js are at church as they allow those who have had German measles to go out. The worst of all this sickness is that their studies are so demoralized. You can't expect them to do well at exams when they miss so much school. It is to be hoped this is the end!

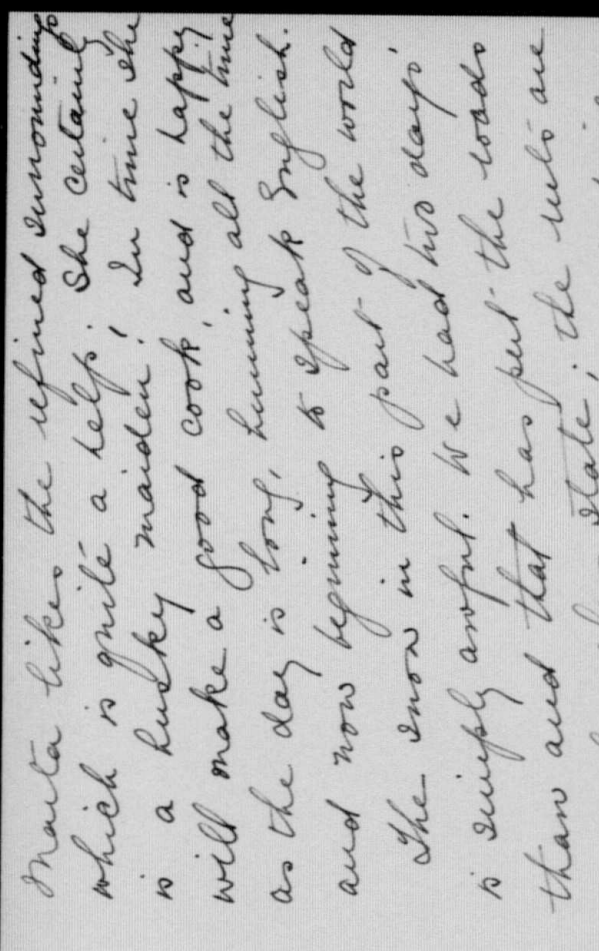
All join in best love to you dear Willie and hoping you are well

Your loving sister
Jennie

Excuse envelope.

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Marta likes the uniformed surroundings which is quite a help. She certainly is a kidley maiden! In time she will make a good cook, and is happy as the day is long, running all the time and now typewriting to Spencer Brydges.

The snow in this part of the world is simply amazing. We had two days' thaw and then a Lapplander's blizzard. We got out of it - it is so deep it is impossible to clear. Nearly everyone on Monday and Tuesday stayed at home. Peach and Wednesday Arthur came down with Gerald Hope to dinner. We have had some very interesting letters from Ora and she told me she had written to you after being in Athens where the statues etc made her think of Mother! She is having a wonderful trip and will be most interesting to talk to when she comes home.

To me it seems much longer than that. The boys must have grown a lot in that time for they say Lyon is taller than she is. I haven't heard from Gray for a long time, but as I haven't written very often, it is perhaps my fault. She has never returned the same since she was here last summer. She may have thought we had changed, but there is a subtle something which is different in her letters. I haven't written many letters lately for, with the children sick, I find my hands pretty full, and by night I am ready for bed.

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is terrible up here, but from Churchill down the roads are clear.

Tuesday night Harry had his curling Club, "The Thistles" here for euchre. There were 51 so I had a busy day as I had to make everything but the ice cream. They presented me with a beautiful bunch of roses & Jean & John, who helped me, a box of candies & gold pencil. I enclose two of the tallies; one Harry had painted on a card before he noticed the printing on the wrong side.

Dr. Norman Anderson is in the Sanitarium at Allandale & Mrs. A. is staying at the Hotel here so she is coming for tea tonight. St. Andrew's, Toronto, is paying all his expenses & giving him 3 months leave.

This is all I have time for now. Hope you are well, as we all are at present. Best love and many many thanks for my most beautiful present. Your loving sister

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 29th '28

My dear Willie:

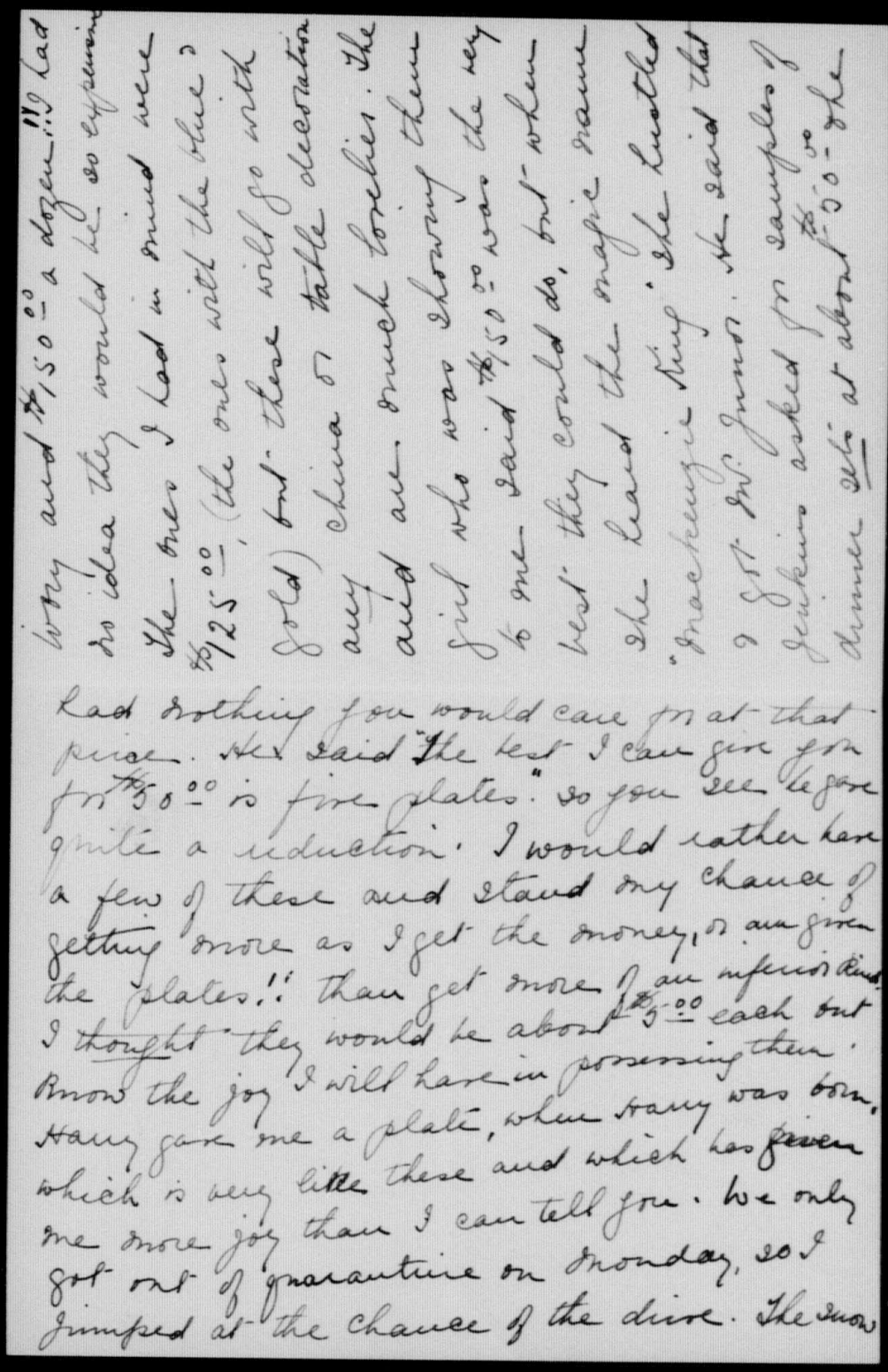
Yesterday we drove to Toronto with Mr. Stevens, & Harry & I went to Junor's. We had only a limited time so after we had waited half an hour at Jenkins' to speak to Mr. Tom Jenkins, we decided to look at Junor's ourselves. I hope you will not be disappointed with the plates I got, but they were so beautiful I could not resist them! They are gold &

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Had nothing you would care for at that price. She said "the best I can give you for $50.00 is five plates." so you see before quite a reduction. I would rather have a few of these and stand my chance of getting more as I get the money, so am given the plates." than get more I am uncertain of. I thought they would be about $5.00 each but know the joy I will have in possessing them. Harry gave me a plate, when Mary was born, which is very like these and which has given me more joy than I can tell you. We only got out of quarantine on Monday, so I jumped at the chance of the dive. The snow

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa; Easter Sunday,
April 8, 1928

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Love and best wishes for a joyous Easter season to all.

Willie

FS 104

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Easter Sunday
April 8th '28

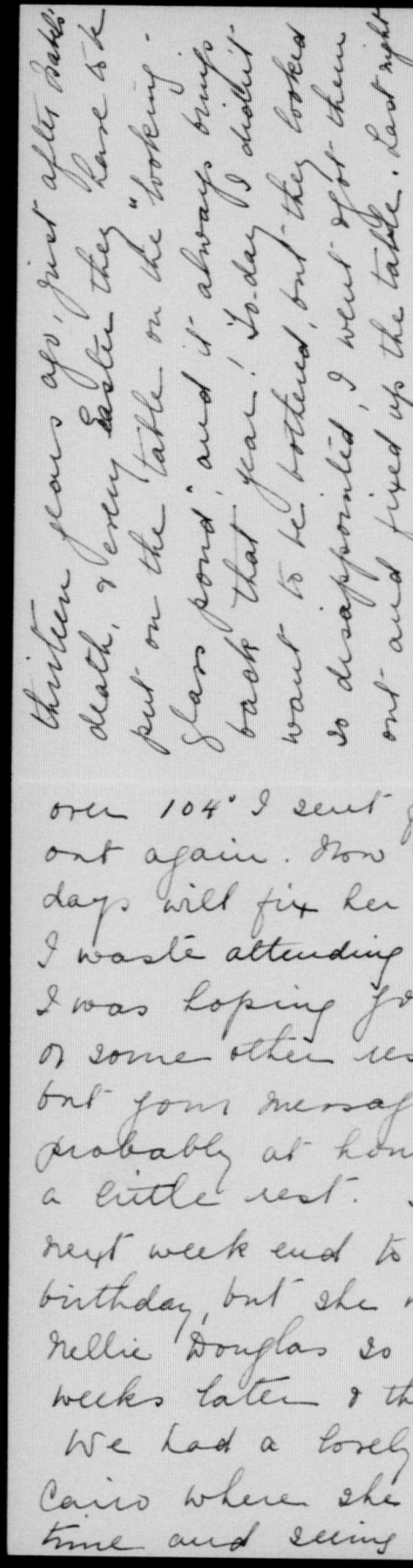
My dear Willie:

We had just got home from Sunday School when your loving Easter greetings were phoned me. Thank you so much for thinking of us all and sending good wishes. You have been much in my thoughts this last week. Easter always makes me realize how quickly the years are passing and that there are only two of us out of the six left in the fight. The children still have two of the little ducks Father brought to them certainly writes a most interesting and clever letter. Ethel Kirkpatrick was expected to arrive in Cairo the week Cora was. The world isn't so big after all."

We still have quite a lot of snow. Today has been horrible with snow & wind. Good Friday was a glorious day & Harry worked all day at his hot beds & rolling the lawn. He is seriously thinking of building a greenhouse and, as he says, "doing what he likes for a few years before he dies." It seems a pretty big venture but he loves the garden & would probably "make it go". Everyone who has seen my plates, thinks they are beautiful. They are what I have longed for for years but never expected to own. Ever since I got them I have wondered whether it was extravagance, but under the circumstances don't think so. I hope you will see them some day soon. Another "thing" that is much admired is the picture of you & your lambs. It is certainly a most interesting picture to have. The one in the paper is only slightly different. I suppose you will soon be able to go to Kingsmere again. All join in sending best love and many thanks for loving Easter wishes. Yours loving sister Jennie

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over 104°. I sent for the Dr.! In two days he was out again. How Peach has it - I suppose three days will fix her up! It is the loss of sleep, three I waste attending to them, which worries me. I was hoping you had gone to Atlantic City or some other resort for your Easter holidays, but your message is from Ottawa so you are probably at home. I hope you will work in a little rest. I expected to go to Toronto next week end to be with Helen Mrs. R. for her birthday, but she is going to Atlantic City with Nellie Douglas so I will not go till a couple of weeks later & they will probably come back with me.

We had a lovely long letter from Cora from Cairo where she seems to be having a wonderful time and seeing everything worth seeing. She

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 16th 28

My dear Willie:

We will all be thinking of you tomorrow and Wednesday when you are entertaining the "thousand Liberal women". I can't tell you how disappointed I am not to be one of them, but this year, I couldn't afford to go. Had it been possible for me to

enjoy it all.

The children went back to school this morning & I am glad the holidays are over. I expect to go to Toronto the end of the week to spend a week with Helen if I can manage it; then the Nellie are coming back with me. I have been sewing hard, getting the children's things ready so I can enjoy myself with a free mind! We are all well and send much love and all good wishes for the success of the Convention. With best love

Yours affectionate sister
Jennie

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So are the "Bakers" wife & husband certainly kept me there but as the Premier's sister. She was quite keyed me up. Bill first-rate & engaging friends. I couldn't manage I do hope you will have good weather for us always a lot with the bureaus

a gathering. I can picture Laurier House, lovely with flowers, and you receiving the throng of interested and idolizing women! Some one in Ottawa the other day (I didn't know her name) told me she was going and was so excited about it. It all means a little more crowded into your already full day. but I hope you are well & that you will

week when you were discussing Government House expenditures! It must have been very interesting. He said you looked very well. We are all hoping you will be able to come up and see us before long. It is over a year since you were here.

I have been at church three times today and am dead tired so will not write more tonight. Best love dear Willie and again very many thanks for your kindness in entertaining Sir Reginald & also letting us have a word with you. All the children & Harry join me in sending best love

Your loving sister

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

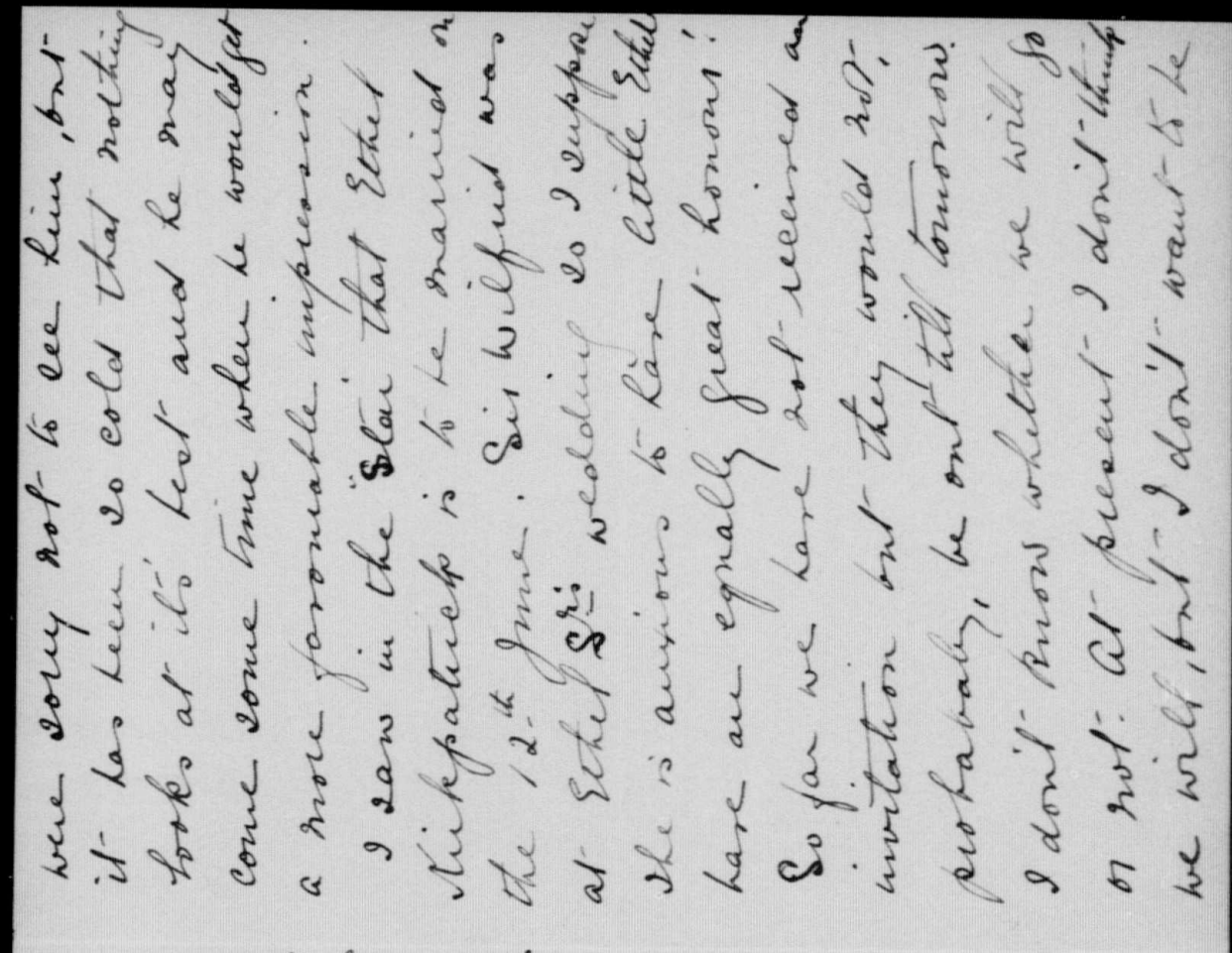
May 13th 28

My dear Willie:

It was very good of you to call us and let us have a word with Sir Reginald. It worried me when he talked so long and I realized what it would mean! When the phone rang and they said Ottawa was calling I thought it was because it was "Mothers Day"! I had completely forgotten Sir Reginald! We will be interested in hearing what he is like and how he impressed you. Evidently his brother George thinks he is something to be proud of! We

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mean. I hope this summer to get down to call on Sir William at Newmarket. We have a better car than we had last year. We used our old one all winter & then traded it in for another car, second hand, but a good car Maclaughlan Buick and one, we hope, will not always be giving us trouble. It is much easier to drive, though it is a larger car, and I am hoping to drive it to Toronto this week. Helen & Nellie were to have come up for lunch on Friday but Mrs. McM. was not so well so they couldn't come, so I hope to go and see them.
I was speaking to a Mr. Wallace at church on night and he said he was in the House last

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May 18, 1928

My dear Jennie:

I have been so busy lately that I have had no chance to send any acknowledgment of several kind letters from you.

First of all, let me say that I was very pleased that you were able to secure at Toronto the kind of dishes for which you have been looking, and which will give you real pleasure. That was wholly in accordance with my wish. I do not know where Jenkins got the idea of a set of the character referred to by Junor; he must have misunderstood the order for plates, as including an entire set.

Sir Reginald Spence arrived with his young friend on Saturday night. I took them for a drive on Sunday morning to all points of interest in Toronto. At the conclusion of the drive I had them for luncheon at Laurier House. They left at four o'clock for Montreal. I liked Sir Reginald very much, and think both you and Harry would also have enjoyed meeting him. He was delighted at having a few

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words with you over the 'phone. He spoke particularly of Nelson, for whom he has the highest possible admiration.

I suppose on Sir William Mulock's account I should go up to the wedding of Ethel Kirkpatrick's daughter. Ethel brought me from England a silver and cut-glass ink stand, in recognition of a general letter of introduction which I gave her while travelling abroad. She has written me expressing the hope that I would come up for the wedding. I have two or three important matters to attend to in Toronto, and it is just possible that Mr. Robb, the Minister of Finance, and I may go up for two or three days.

It looks as though our Parliament will be in session until the 1st of June. After that,I shall hope to have a little more time to myself. I was glad to hear that Harry is laying out a conservatory. Whether it is a financial success or not, it will be a source of the greatest possible interest and pleasure to you all. I think, too, it is well worth while having the children become interested in matters of the mind.

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With love and best wishes to all,

Believe me, dear Jennie,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 6th '28

My dear Willie:

We were so glad to get your letter last week and again wish to thank you for your kindness to Sir Reginald Spence. I am sure he appreciated the honor of lunching with the Prime Minister of Canada and it was very good of you to give us your precious Sunday to him. At this time, especially, you need all the rest you can get for it has been a long Session. One thing, it has not been hot, which I should think you would appreciate. I must say we could stand it a little warmer

Cross' death in the Globe. I have looked through the papers but there appears to be no other reference to it. It is coming closer when men one own age & who have been so closely associated with us, are taken. I always think of Charlie when Mac was sick, and how gentle he was.

I am going to drive a party of ladies to Cilliia and as it is raining the prospect is not pleasing! Still I have promised!

It is to be hoped the Session will end soon. Will you let me know whether you will be in Toronto on Tuesday?

Mrs. Leeds, a friend who has just got home from England, was here on Monday night. She told us he saw you in wax at Madame Tussaud's(?) in England! He says they have made you shorter than you are, but very like you.

Must go now. Best love from all the family hoping to see you next week. Yours loving Jessie.

Jennie.

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-October 1928

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but this is much more comfortable
weather to work in. I go up to Sethel
I hope you will enjoy the visit. I think Si
Kirkpatrick's wedding the weekend
William, as well as the others, would
love to have you. We are wondering
whether you will come on here? We
are all hoping for some decent weather
for it is a long time since we had
here. I don't know whether we can
so down or not. We have had
one of Canadian
had mumps; Jack
were phoning for
in even since. We
at Brios Carichis and
were kept away from
did not take it, as
on now & her mumps

John had not been near Harry so they allowed
to let him board down town as he writes his matric
this year it would mean a years loss if he didn't
get it. He wrote a test in algebra yesterday got
100%.
Harry St has gone back to work today. He has had
three weeks holidays, working in the garden & at
his green house, and I think the open air has
done him good. He only weighs 140 lbs but is well
and looks more like himself than he has since
he was sick. I don't know whether he can get
off next Tuesday, to go to Toronto but Hazel wants me to go with
her, and if I can make up my mind to go, I may
take the bus down Tuesday morning. I don't want to go,
so far I haven't got my present for Ethel but will
try tomorrow.
I was very, very sorry to see the notice of Charlie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 20th '28

My dear Willie:

Did you see in the paper the notice of Mrs Mc Minnich's death? She died at noon yesterday. Helen rang me last night and I am going down in the morning to be with her during the funeral. I thought you might not see the notice & knew you would not like to miss

We are looking forward to seeing you in the very near future. John is busy writing exams and Harry starts next week. Jean heard yesterday that she has passed successfully but does not know her standing. Harry & I are just going out to Col. Pinchen's as he wants to show Harry his estate! Wouldn't you like to go to Camp Borden when you are here? It is only a half hour's drive. All send best love

From lovingly Jennie

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it.

Florence Sims, Madge Gibson, Emma Davidson and I are going for the Christmas holidays to Lord Lansdowne's. Had a letter last week from Mrs. Ross asking us to stay with her. Ethel Rose is taking her daughter Muriel Ross to Englewood next month to spend the holidays with her daughter Muriel Ross who is leaving her daughter Jessie there at school.

Muriel Madge Gibson and I are also going across to Ireland to spend the holidays with Muriel's daughter Elsie.

Donald Ross was here last night & told us about the "Rustic cottage" you are to be given when you go out to your Constituency. You will soon have enough houses! It will certainly be very nice to be able to have some spot to retire to when you want some privacy, but I'm afraid you will not get much rest while you are there.

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"Dictated at Kingsmere"

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

June 22, 1928.

My dear Jennie:

I cannot be too grateful to you for writing me of Mrs. McMurrich's death. But for your letter I should, up to the present, have known nothing of it. I seldom look at the Birth, Marriage and Death column of any paper, and having been at Kingsmere the last two or three days seeking to overtake an arrears of correspondence and other work, I have really seen little or nothing of the newspapers other than the front page of the "Ottawa Citizen".

I have telegraphed Helen to-day and shall write her to-night, or by Sunday at the latest. It is really most unfortunate, as at the time of Arthur's death and also of Bryce's, (or was it Temple's - I really do not recall if either of the two boys is still living), I was very late in getting any word to Helen. I should like at least to have sent a wreath or a letter before the funeral.

embarrassing to myself, to the Government, or to the party. I have since received assurances which would seem to leave the way open to my accepting the cottage, and subsequently donating it for charitable purposes of one kind or another. It is a very nice thought on the part of the constituents, provided they do not expect me to entertain them at the Lay's during my sojourn in Prince Albert.

I am greatly pleased to know that the children are all doing so well at school and in other ways.

My best of love to Harry and yourself and all the little folks,

Yours affectionately,

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

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too much in the woods and too near the water to be habitable at any time other than July and August without running the risk of developing colds and rheumatism; also in the month of June the mosquitoes by the lake are so bad as to make some days almost unlivable.

What further is more embarrassing is the absence of adequate accommodation for the ~~amount~~ number and kind of people who come to see me in the summer months. I have no place to discuss matters privately with visitors, and no adequate accommodation where more than one or two people happen to arrive at the same moment. The larger house is well suited for summer purposes, and is really a very beautiful location. When I have it all in shape I hope the children as well as Harry and yourself will some time come down and pay me a little visit.

Oddly enough, I knew nothing about the rustic cottage until a day or two ago, and then rather threw a wrench into the machinery by telegraphing that I hoped nothing of the kind would be considered, as I was afraid its acceptance would prove

I was sorry not to have seen more of Harry and yourself the day of the Kirkpatrick-Burnham wedding; but the occasion was not one which lent itself to much in the way of conversation. Sir William had been in Ottawa on the Saturday and Sunday previous, and had asked me to be his guest for the day. I knew that he had made plans for the evening, so could not suggest sharing any of that time with you and Harry. I shall certainly get up to Barrie at the first favourable opportunity, as I am anxious to see the children again, and also the progress which Harry is making in his new venture. Though I do not write very often, and see little or nothing either of you or the children, you are all constantly in my thoughts, and I continue to look forward to the time when we shall have a chance for some real good talks together.

I am making some changes and additions to the Herridge cottage which I secured some years ago, as I intend to make that my place of summer residence. I find my own little cottage by the lake deficient in two particulars, now that I have many and important obligations. In the first place, it is

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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Standard Time

RIGHT HON W L MACKENZIE KING

567 PRIME MINISTER OTTAWA ONT

HAVE WIRED DEPARTMENT TWO MAIDS DISAPPEARED TODAY

JENNIE LAY.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 12th '28

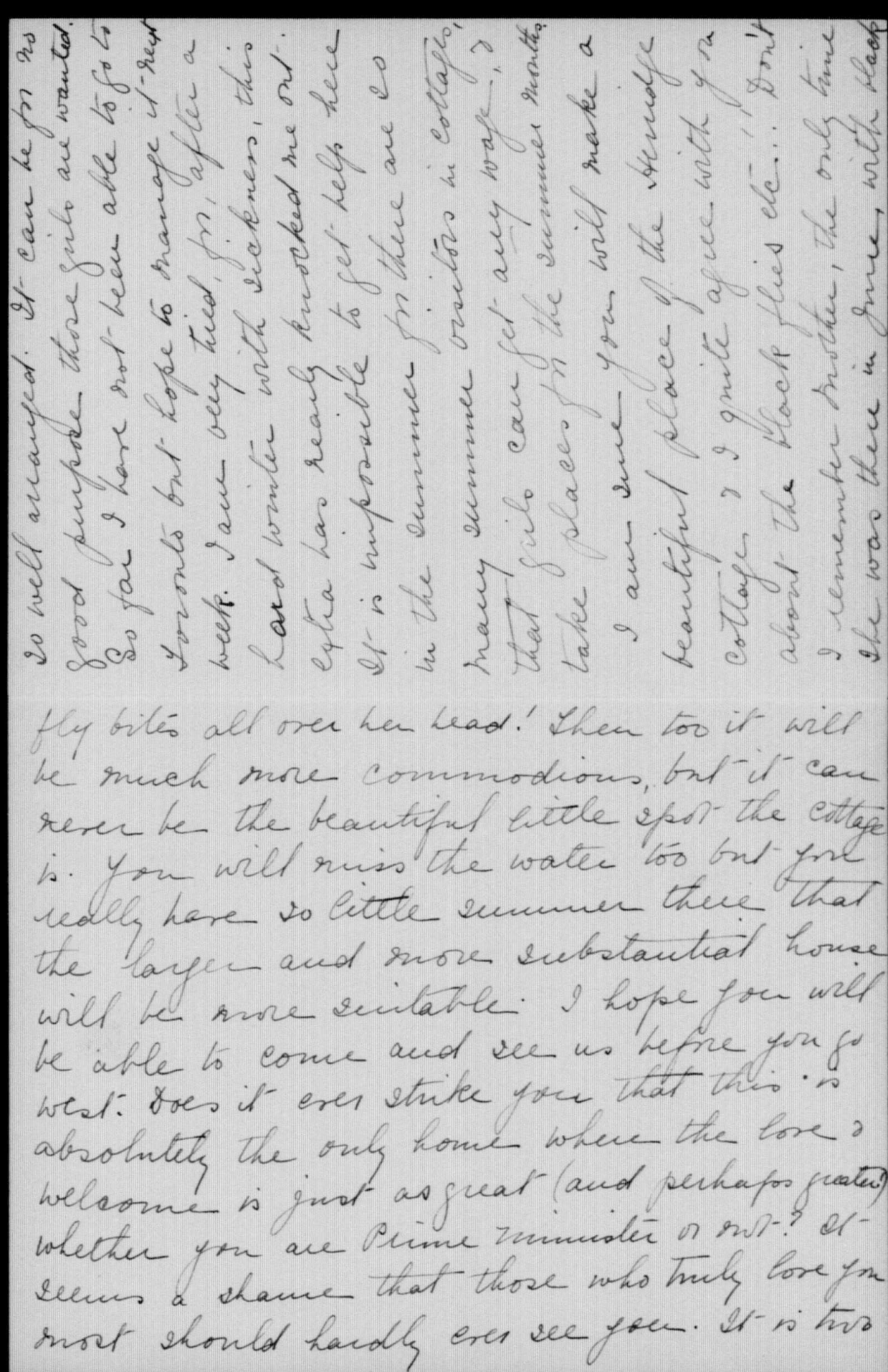
My dear Willie:

Thanks you so much for having Mr Messmer ring me. It is too bad those girls got away, especially just at this time when I need them most. I fancy their phoning us from Windsor & saying they would be back, was just a scheme to put us off the track & give them a chance to slip across. At any rate they have not returned and it makes me furious to think they got ahead of us. There must be a very well organized gang of smugglers to have things

years since you were here and the children as well as Harry myself are so looking forward to having you. Did you see the notice of Annie Chalmers' death at 619. Avenue Road last Sunday? I hadn't looked at the papers for two days & was shocked to see she was dead & buried, for I had met her on Yonge St. two weeks ago & had a little talk with her. Helen Mr. M. was so pleased to get your wire. I went down on Sunday night, the 24th, with Arthur & Ethel Kirkpatrick who had been here for tea, and stayed the night with Helen & Nellie Douglas, so that we three might be together once more before Helen's home was broken up. I also went down for the funeral & stayed upstairs with Helen. Must go & wake the children see about breakfast! Very much love & many thanks. Love from all from loving sister Jennie

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. W
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - J
Harry Morrison Lay and family Ja
October 1928

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do well arranged. If Cam be for us
Good purpose those spirits are wanted.
So far I have not
Toronto but hope
week. I am very
Last winter with
extra hard ready
It is impossible
in the summer
many summer
that girls can
take places
I am sure
beautiful place
cottage I quite
about the Black
I remember
the was there in

fly bites all over her head! Then too it will be much more commodious, but it can never be the beautiful little spot the cottage is. You will miss the water too but you really have so little summer there that the larger and more substantial house will be more suitable. I hope you will be able to come and see us before you go west. Does it ever strike you that this is absolutely the only home where the love & welcome is just as great (and perhaps greater) whether you are Prime Minister or not? It seems a shame that those who truly love you most should hardly ever see you. It is two

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 31st. '28

My dear Willie

We are all delighted to see you are going to Geneva next month and hope you will enjoy the trip. It will be one more experience in your already full life, and will make your term as Prime Minister even more remarkable than it has been. You certainly have not had an uninteresting time!

I should not be hard to trace them through their uncle in Chicago and I would like to see them sent back to Poland. All their clothes are here, as they took absolutely nothing with them. I hate to think they got ahead of us and the Government! It was pretty good work which stopped them at Windsor on July 4th!

Is there any chance of your coming up before you go west? Camp Borden ask us every time they see us, when you are coming up. They are having a field day on Friday; couldn't you be here? Breakfast is just ready so I'll get this off on the early train. Best love from all here & hoping to see you soon Yours affectionate sister Jessie K. Lay

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progressing? If they are anything like as slow as the men are with our farmhouse you will not be finished till Fall! What are the Pattisons doing this summer? Marta never came back to me, but through the kindness of Col. Robert Henry of the Salvation Army, I have a very nice Scotch girl. Col Henry was here for some celebration, & to oblige the local S. A., we entertained him and he showed his appreciation in this practical way! He happened to be here the Sunday Marta was away. I wonder if anything has been heard of those girls. It

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 14th '28

My dear Willie:

We see by the papers that you are on your way back to Ottawa, and I want a line to reach you before you sail. From all accounts, and if you speak truly, you have had a most enjoyable trip west, and it ought to make you feel a little more

little over two miles, & paddled back as fresh as when she started! She also came second in the big swimming meet in the race for girls under 16. John is in the Bank for this month and I miss Linn in the house.

Hope you will see Nelson, but of course he may be away. He is to be transferred from the "Tiger" to the "Repulse" on Sept. 1st.

All join in sending best love & the hope that you will have a very happy trip

Your loving sister

Jennie

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waited for your coming trip.
The summer is going very fast-
and your visit will be the start in the
House before [illegible]
hope you will [illegible]
trip over, for [illegible]
lot in making [illegible]
your certificate [illegible]
travelling. [illegible]
you to phone [illegible]
Bay and I will [illegible]
your voice [illegible]
much disappointed that you
couldn't come to see us, but
we realize there are some things

which have to be done. We are now looking forward to seeing you on your return.

The children are all well. Yesterday was our Civic Holiday, so I took them all down to Toronto. We called in to see Hazel then went on to Eaton's had lunch and did a little shopping & were home again by six o'clock. I wasn't one bit nervous driving our big car so must be in pretty good shape myself! We go in for a swim every morning at seven and the water has been beautifully warm. Jean swam across the Bay last Thursday - a

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En route, Ottawa to New York,
August 17, 1928.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barry, Ontario,
Canada.

My dear Jenny,

It was a great happiness to have the little talk I had with you between two and three o'clock this morning. Your voice is still very clear to me, and our conversation, brief as it was, was almost as good as a little visit before going abroad. It is a great mission I am going on at this time:

1 - The signing in Paris, on August 27th, on behalf of Canada ~~for~~ the Peace. I am glad that that event will coincide with your birthday. You will recall that ~~on~~ Armistice Day was dear old Max' birthday.

2 - To represent Canada ~~at~~ the Council of the League of Nations at the end of August and early September, at Geneva;

3 - To represent Canada at the Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva in September;

4 - To open a Canadian Legation in Paris at the beginning of October;

5 - To make an address or two in England before returning to Canada.

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I doubt if ever before, excepting possibly the time of the signing of the Peace at versailles, Canada will have been so intimately associated with the life and politics of Europe.

I am happy to think that the association is one of World Peace and good-will.

I am enclosing a cheque which I will be glad if you accept as a birthday gift from me on August 27th. I shall be glad if you use it in such a way you may desire, but I would like it to have some permanent association with your birthday. Perhaps it might go towards and addition to the dishes which you bought at Christmas time. It carries with it my fondest love and very best wishes.

Please give my best love also to Harry and all of the children.

You will all be much in my thoughts while I am absent on this trip. I am enclosing an itinerary which will give you my addresses while abroad.

Again with fondest love and all good wishes,

I am, as always, dear Jenny,

Your affectionate brother,

Willie

P. S. - I have written Sheaver regarding his letter to you, telling him his name will be considered, but I cannot promise more.

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I T I N E R A R R Y

Date	Place	Hotel	Engagements	Cables, Address, letters to:
1928				
18 August,	Lv New York	SS Ile de France		**Cables:** "Stadicona" Paris. **Letters:** c/o Hon. Philippe Roy.
25 "	a.m. Ar Plymouth	"	Meet Sir Wm. Clark on board	
25 "	p.m. Ar Paris	Hotel Crillon Place de la Concorde,		Commissioner General for Canada Rue Francois Premier No 1
27 "			Sign Multilateral Pact	
28 "	p.m. Lv. Paris			
29 "	a.m. Ar. Geneva	Hotel de la Paix		**Cables** "Canadof" **Letters:** c/o Dr. W. A. Riddell, Can. Advisory Officer, 25 Quai du Mont Blanc
30 "			Council of the League of Nations	
3 Sept		"	Assembly of League meets	
10 "			Canadian Delegation Dinner	
11 "	Lv	"	Various	Motor Tour
24 "	Ar	"	Hotel de la Paix	
27 "	p.m. Lv	"		
28 "	a.m. Ar	Paris	Hotel Crillon	c/o Hon. P. Roy as above
1 Oct		"	Afternoon Reception at Legation Evening Dinner to Diplomatic Corps	
5 "	a.m. Lv	"		
5 "	p.m. Ar	London		**Cables:** "Dominion" **Letters:** c/o Can. High Commissioner
27 "	Lv	"	Empress of France	

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August 17, 1928.

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Please give my best love also to Harry and all of the children.

You will all be much in my thoughts while I am absent on this trip. I am enclosing an itinerary which will give you my addresses while abroad.

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Prière d'Écrire **TRÈS LISIBLEMENT** le Télégramme

Rapp 73

N° _____

Mots _____

à ____ h. _____

TAXE PRINCIPALE . | | | |

TAXES ACCESSOIRES | | | |

TOTAL . . | | | |

TÉLÉGRAMME

pour _____

Mentions de service **NON TAXÉES** à transmettre en préambule.

INDICATION DE TRANSMISSION :

DESTINATAIRE: **Mrs. Lay, Barrie, Ontario, Canada.** **Paris, Aug. 27, 1928.**

TEXTE: **Fondest love best wishes dear Jennie for many happy returns of the day**

Willie

EXPÉDITEUR

HOTEL DE CRILLON A PARIS

R. C. Seine 97.180

Adresse Télégraphique:
CRILONOTEL-PARIS

mots reçus mots.

Signature.

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had a tea for the Camp Borden officers and their wives last Thursday & Cora met several men who knew Capt Courtney and were so interested to hear about his rescue! We had about ninety people here & more than once we wished you could have been here as it was really a very nice tea!! We had a call from a friend of Mrs who is selling magazines "Mrs Blackader" I think she said her name was. She seemed to know you very well & also had crossed the ocean on the ship on which Bryce Mrs Murrick was the D; I knew him very well, so that Helen & I could not get rid of her for nearly three hours! She was very disgusted when she had to leave with a subscription to her magazine! Your letter, written en route to New York, reached me when I was very sick in bed

4

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 2nd 28

My dear Willie:

This is the first chance since my birthday, I have had to sit down quietly to write a letter. Your generous cheque was the first gift which reached me with its good wishes on my birthday and just after breakfast your cablegram arrived. It was very thoughtful of you, in the midst of such excitement & work, to stop and send a line to me. We were all

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Harry's greatcoat is at last complete and he looked quite it- stroked with chequerboard squares and carnations and a fine astrakhan collar. The worker stayed with us a week, if his health and a knowledge of cars stood it, he said. Can stand it, he said. We are all fine. It is a holiday. It is fine weather, and interesting last; and we have had a good fire in the stove the warmth. I do hope for we seem to have short season. We are down for our early start for several days as the water have been so cold, there

is not much fun returning from the lake in a wet bathing suit when a cold wind blows. I had another letter from our friend Shaver asking me to call or see him or phone him if I went to Toronto. I tore up his letter as I have no intention of "going thoroughly into the matter" as he desires!

Sept 5th '28

This is as far as I got on Sunday and now I want to get it off or you will be on your way home. Cora has been talking to me all the time I have been writing so my letter may show signs of it! I had a most wonderful surprise today. Harry gave me an electric toaster for my birthday but told me there was something more to come. At noon today the most beautiful seal coat trimmed with skunk fur, arrived for me. I was quite knocked out for it is more than I ever felt Harry should give me, but a thing I have longed for

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 24th '28

Dear Willie:

This is just a line to greet you at Quebec and give you our love. I have written to Ottawa but am sending this, on the chance of your receiving it when you land. It tells you we are thinking of you and hoping you have had

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a good trip. We hope to see
you soon again
from London and Kent about
from Montclair Queens
abroad and in England.
All are well and send love
We to you
from very London
Jenny Quebec
Jennie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct: 24th 1928

My dear Willie:

This is just a little note to send our love to you on your return home. It seems a long time since you went away. We have followed with pride and pleasure the accounts in the papers, of your doings abroad. These accounts have not been as full as at some other times but probably that is because your sojourn in England was

have had to miss school this fall! They are all growing & John has got a razor! He was sixteen a couple of weeks ago and got his license to drive the car! You will notice a big change in all the children. It is twenty-three years tomorrow since Hazel & the D^r were married. I have just been writing her. We have all been much saddened by the death of Winnie Ballantyne's youngest boy Ab, 17, who died a week ago of infantile paralysis after only a week's illness. Her other two children are married. We will hope to hear from you soon & to see you whenever you can come. Sir William Mulock was here to see us for a half hour a couple of weeks ago. He was talking of you most of the time! Best love dear Willie from all the family

Yours loving Sister Jennie

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Portsmouth by the eighteenth so there is a bare chance you may have seen him. He said Ethel Ross Baird was sailing on the 19th. It would be strange if she was on the same ship! I hope you will find everything in good shape at home. We have had such wretched weather the last two months that it would have been no pleasure to be at Kingsmere. There must be some good weather in store.

Mary & the children are well. The greenhouse is flourishing and beginning to look like one! Thank Goodness none of the children

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-October 1928

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

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HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. — W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Quebec, October 27, 1928.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Delighted receive your welcome letter. Am greatly looking forward visit Barrie near future. ~~Meanwhile~~, fondest love to all.

Willie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 31st '28

My dear Willie:

It was so good of you to wire me from Quebec & then phone from Ottawa and I always feel a thrill when I hear your voice over the phone & think that hundreds of miles separate us & yet we can so easily reach each other! I am so glad you have had such a wonderful trip and are feeling better for it. As the Globe says "it is well to feel that way when you come

She has rented the house furnished & has gone to New York for a little visit. Temple has been very ill but is better. I haven't been any too well myself this fall. My stomach seems to have given out completely & unless I stick to bread & milk I pay for it. Usually I get over these attacks in a couple of weeks but I have had about seven weeks of it this time. However I must be strong for I am able to keep "on the job."

Do you know a Mrs Anderson at 108 Waverley St. Ottawa? She wrote to the girls' school here about her two daughters and Miss Elgood asked me if I knew anything about who they were, as they don't want to make any mistake in the girls they take in. I told her I would try and find out for her. Harry has been selling "mums" &

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home to unfinished work!" I
wish we had a
paper in Toronto
so friendly in a
Sir. Got this
and now it is "Hal
receiving all the
neighbourhood". I
knows they never
is one! Did you
editorial in the
you speech! I
called down,
he called it. I can't
to do it. I can
being so mean.
Harry & I were
Club last night -
they had, or were

to address the Club. I want you to know that I had no hand whatever in suggesting it, though, of course, I would dearly love to have you do it. It would be lovely to hear you talk on the League of Nations & I know you would get a splendid reception.

We had Cora with us for a couple of weeks & really I don't know if anyone who is more entertaining. She came home on the ship which rescued the "Whale" in mid-ocean. Her description of it was thrilling. She had a wonderful trip and said your letter was the greatest help to her on several occasions. Then we had Helen McMunnich for a week.

John is going down to spend Thanksgiving with Cora. She was with us during the Exhibition time so promised John a visit at Thanksgiving. Jim gave her a portable type-writer so she gave John her old one and he is beginning to use it quite well.

This will be about all you can stand for one epistle! We are all looking forward to seeing you & hearing of your wonderful trip. Harry & the children join me in sending best love, & again many thanks for our loving Leslie

Jennie

carnations and making a very little money on them. A man down town BOULDERFEL BARRIE handles them for him as he doesn't want to be too aggressive while he is in the bank. It is really an awful lot of work for there is the extra furnace to look after as well as the flowers but Harry loves it & up early every morning & out watering his plants. I hope he will make a success of it financially for he has put a lot of money into it.

You will be quite pleased with the look of it when you come up. I think too you will find

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the children have grown con-
siderably. I am so thankful
they are all at school & well.
Rosalie got 90% in the three
examinations which I have
been this month in literature
Canada, English & History. In the whole year Cath
she missed 90% in the three
exams. She got 70% in literature
for the whole year. Cath
got 70% in history & 70%
half afraid I was
to 20 short.
In a letter
Ironclays he
(Father Ross) we

to see him & have tea on board it was so rough the "Repulse" couldn't land & even lower a boat to send word to shore. It was too bad for they sailed next day so Nelson never saw them at all. He must have got back to Portsmouth the day you sailed for home. He may not get leave (Canadian) till 1930 or '32. It seems a long time but it depends on the special course he is taking.

I had a letter from May yesterday. She & the boys seem well & May says she is doing a lot of practising & getting up some new music

In Nelson's last letter he said he rang up your hotel in London as soon as he got in and you had just gone He was desperately disappointed.

Mrs Aird told me yesterday that she had had a note from your secretary saying you couldn't speak here. I'd like to hear you in Toronto but don't know whether I can manage it this time.

We are all well, and looking forward to seeing you & hearing something of your wonderful trip. I hope you are not working too hard & undoing all the good of your trip. Toronto is coming to its senses!

All join in sending best love dear Willie Your loving sister Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 16th 28

My dear Willie:

We see by the paper that you are at Kingsmere so I hope you are having the glorious weather we have here. Yesterday & today have been like spring. Harry & I are going to drive to Toronto this afternoon & Harry is going to the complimentary dinner the Bank is giving Sir John Aird, while I will spend the time with Hazel & Cora. We will come back about midnight which is the part

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I don't like, but we can't have the children with us for ever. Harry is growing up with a mind of his own. Two weeks with me! Dear Rob from Harry me to spend 2 1/2 at Government House. Harry is going down to the ... is a social day ... I will go with ... Mrs Ross invited ... morning for ... the night of the 21st ... them! I have a ... after long ... I had such a ... Mrs Ross asking ... we will dine ... but will come back at night. ... him. We are ... Harry is ... House. Harry ... luncheon ... will be any ... at the fair. ... Dennie this time ... are counting on ...

Harry & I are. It is a long time since the children saw you last.

The enclosed letter came to Harry a few days ago and I am sending it on to you to see if you can do anything. You may remember old Dr. Stalker. He was one Dr. in Walkerton & was very kind to Brother Jim was a fine boy in every sense of the word, and should be reliable in every way. Of course it is about fifteen years since we knew him but if "the child is father of the man" means anything, you couldn't go far wrong in appointing him.

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Ottawa, November 16, 1928

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Am planning to leave Toronto for Barrie at 4.50 pm Friday next arriving 7.52 pm, and to spend Friday night and Saturday with Harry, the children and yourself. Would like to stay over Sunday as well but feel I must return Ottawa night train Saturday. Love to all.

Willie

FS 104

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 18th 28

My dear Willie:

We are all delighted to hear you are coming up on Friday. Jean was here when we got home from Toronto yesterday morning, and the children were all greatly excited. They all came dashing out to the car to tell us the good news! We went down for the banquet to Sir John Aird and as it was

day nor hour was specified.

Thank you so much, too, for the papers which came on Saturday. Harry read aloud your speech & we could picture the proceedings from your graphic description. Your picture in the "Citizen" is one of the best I have seen. We also enjoyed reading the account of the Armistice Day ceremonies which must have been most impressive. If at all possible I am going to try & go to the ~~Ladies~~ Women's Canadian Club but don't know yet whether we can manage it. Jean is keen to go with me & we may try & go.

All send best love and are looking forward to the great pleasure of having you in our own home.

Your loving sister
Jennie

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twelve, inviting him when Harry [illegible] to me, we decided to [illegible] children spend a few more hours above, and would [illegible] the roads are [illegible] strong then, [illegible] drakes them [illegible] drive down to [illegible] dan on Wednesday. So far we haven't seen the [illegible] reception is [illegible]

Just at this [illegible]
so I am going [illegible]
and ring Bill [illegible]
and if convenient we will go to

Afternoon - dance and some hours of [illegible]
Monday a.m.

I [illegible] and the rest to me
[illegible] on pony. Then was a ride then for tea
morning [illegible] me & Jean Hunter with Ian and
the children, while Henry was at the office Hunter.
We ran pony & trap down & the roads are [illegible]
[illegible] and the car [illegible] on home about three
of night: quite a fine [illegible] and we ran
nearly [illegible] under the water & to bed.
[illegible] was more than good pay [illegible] up. Probably
Mr. Ross doesn't have [illegible] the fine [illegible]
in the afternoon [illegible] quite unusual
we [illegible] I [illegible] the city. Well we [illegible]
the [illegible] road [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] a motor was [illegible] & is gone, beside the [illegible]

1995[illegible]

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 27th '28

My dear Willie:

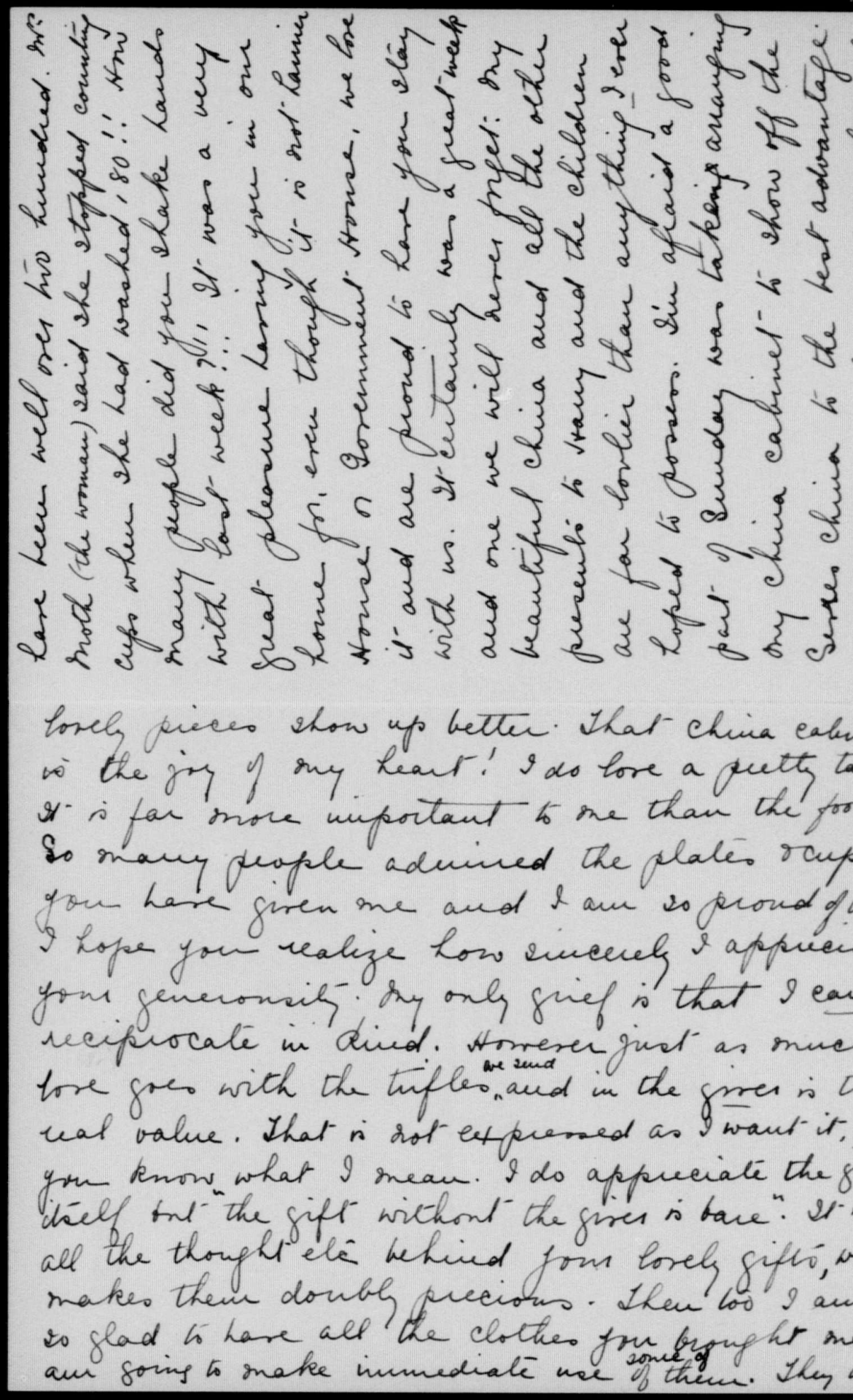
It is getting late but I don't want another day to pass without a letter going to you. We all enjoyed your little visit so much but I was sorry it couldn't have been longer and more of a rest. I would like to have let you sleep for two or three days and not see a soul or do any thinking! Such a thing would be impossible but it is what you need. Everyone has said how very kind you were and how much they enjoyed meeting you. We counted up the people we remembered having been here and got 168 so there must-

be a great help in reducing the N.C.O.P. Did you see Saturday's Star-Night's Stars? The photo of you & John is particularly good I think. Also Mr. Knowles interview. The other interviews, by the Star, with Judges Ross & Wismer is not so good. Mrs. Wismer rang me up & told me the Judge said that story of Father "walloping" you, "was manufactured out of whole cloth" as he never said such a word. He hoped you wouldn't think he had. We were at Judge Ross' for tea on Sunday afternoon and he was saying how much he had enjoyed meeting you. I meant to write Sunday night but after Church in the morning & tea in the afternoon & some friends at night I was too tired to write.

I enclose the letter I received from Mayor McBride. Keep it if you care to. It is very nice. I also send

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have been well over his knocked. Mrs Roth (the woman) said she stopped coming cups when she had reached 180!! Now many people did admire the plates & cups with! last week? It was a very great pleasure to have you in our home for, even though it is not Canada Harvard & Toronto, we love it and are proud to have you stay with us. It certainly was a great with us. It certainly was a great pleasure and one we will remember for beautiful china & the joy it has given us. pleasure is many fold. Not only are for earlier than Christmas & hoped is possible. We had a lovely part of Sunday afternoon, we have my china cabinet filled. Mrs Stephen China is a hobby with her & I think a lot of the

lovely pieces show up better. That china cabinet is the joy of my heart! I do love a pretty table. It is far more important to me than the food!" So many people admired the plates & cups you have given me and I am so proud of them. I hope you realize how sincerely I appreciate your generosity. My only grief is that I can't reciprocate in kind. However just as much love goes with the trifles we send and in the gives is the real value. That is not expressed as I want it, but you know what I mean. I do appreciate the gift itself but "the gift without the giver is bare". It is all the thought & love behind your lovely gifts, which makes them doubly precious. Then too I am so glad to have all the clothes you brought me. I am going to make immediate use some of them. They will

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King is progressing favorably.
I must go to bed as all the other members of the family are asleep.
Best love dear Willie and again many, many thanks for all your kindness. The children will write later in the week. Their lessons keep them pretty busy. They are all very proud of their beautiful time piece and their associations. All send best love Yours loving sister
Jennie

We all hope you will bring Mr Baldwin with you next time. Everyone liked him so much. J.

the letter Mrs Seagram received from that maid, in case it may be useful in following up some of these smugglers. I notice an article in tonights Star where some Catholic priest speaks of these girls as-sisting their destinations.
I had a lovely long letter from Cora telling us how much she had enjoyed her visit with you here and also the trip down. It was more than good of you to give them dinner on the car. Rosabel and Harry are still talking of the pleasure it was being in "Uncle Willie's private car". Rosabel says Harry didn't behave as well as he should! I am sorry you didn't hear Jean play for I wanted you to see how well

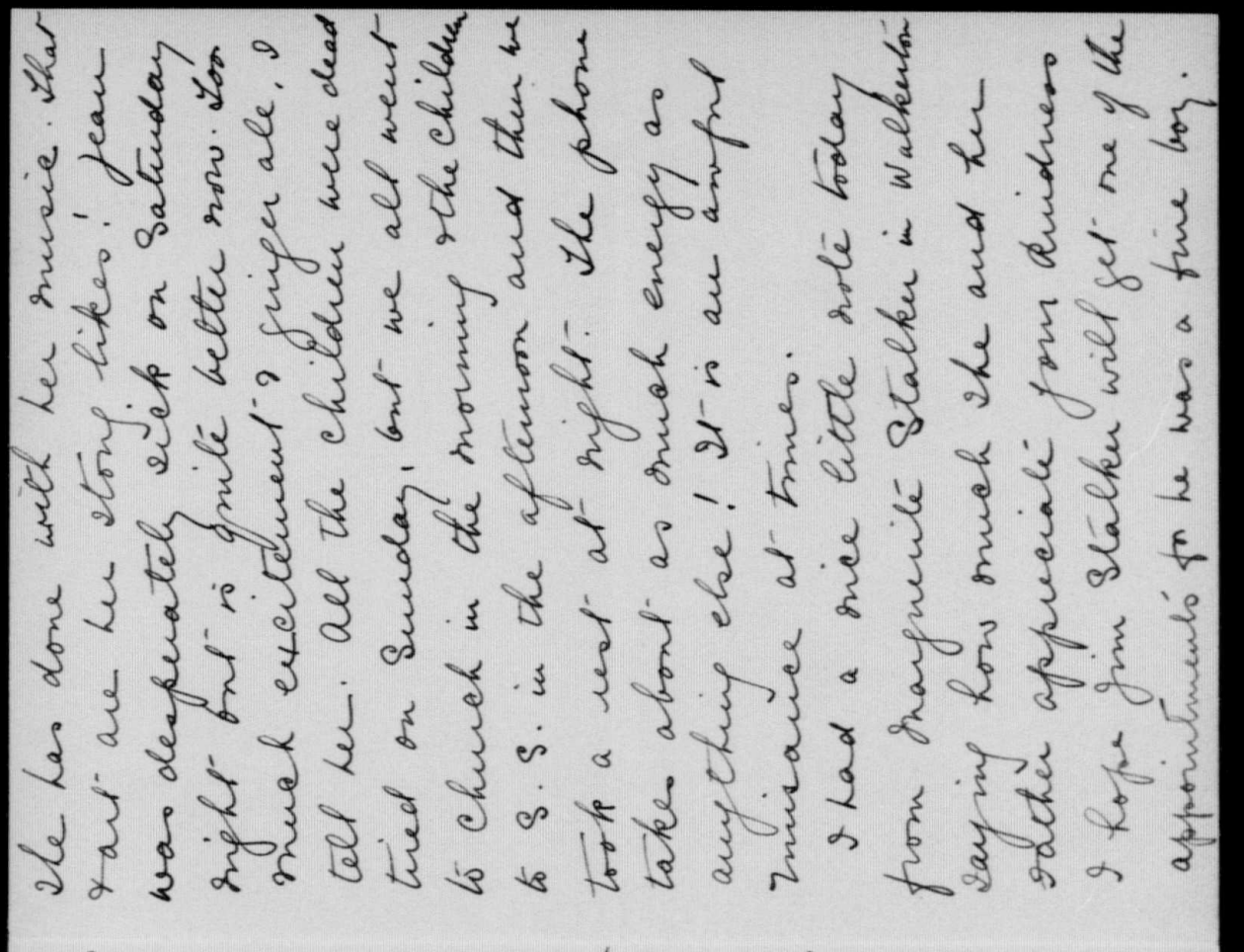
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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So many people have told me that they heard your speech at the City Hall, so perfectly, and everyone thinks it was an exceptionally fine speech. They say your voice over the Radio was such a contrast to Mayor McBride whom you could scarcely understand. Mrs Sims told me she didn't think she missed one word of your address.

I hope you enjoyed your dinner at Government House and that you got a good sleep after it. I don't see how you keep it up! It is well you got the report you did from the London Doctor for it relieves your mind of any suspicion of weakness. We are glad to see the

LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

November 28, 1928.

Dear Jennie:

I had meant to send you and Harry a line on Sunday, but the afternoon being bright and clear, I drove out as far as Kingsmere, and in the evening went to Church. As each day has passed, I have felt that I must not longer delay in writing to tell you and Harry how very much I enjoyed my visit with the children and yourselves. It was in every particular a very happy event, and increasingly so, combined as it was with the memorable functions in Toronto, and the presence of you and Harry at the City Hall, Winter Fair, and Government House.

The visit to Barrie seemed to be a natural finale, and the most pleasant of all finales, to a year which has been one more or less of real triumph, more especially when

of Christmas itself, and from then on enjoy the thoughts of others, as they come expressed in greetings from different parts.

This is only a line, dear Jennie, but it brings to Harry, the children and yourself, my warmest thanks for all your kindness, and, as well, my warmest love.

Yours affectionately
Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1928

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one reflects upon the momentous character of the events abroad, and the heartiness, on every side, of the welcome home. I confess it compensates for much that has been very arduous and difficult, and sometimes not a little trying, in the years since I succeeded to the leadership of the Liberal Party.

It was a great delight to me to see you and Harry and the children all looking so well, and to find how splendidly the young people are developing. If they got the pleasure out of my visit which I did, I am sure it will be an event which will hold its place always in their memories.

I thought your house and grounds looked very pretty, and I was more than pleased with Harry's Conservatory. I confess I already feel an attachment to it not wholly unlike that which I feel for Kingsmere. Apart from the interest and

benefit to Harry himself, it is a splendid thing to have the young people growing up with a love of flowers and plants, and an understanding of all that ministers to their growth.

I much enjoyed meeting the different friends who dropped in on Saturday afternoon; and it was particularly pleasant having Cora and Harry and little George all associated with the visit. We had a pleasant journey back to Toronto, though I confess that I was sufficiently tired to ask to be excused to snatch a rest for a part of it.

Now begin the preparations for Christmas. I think I told you that I am starting in at once with my cards, and already have a very considerable percentage of them out of the way. Might I confirm you in your decision to do the same. I am going to try this year to have everything completed within ten days

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November 29, 1928.

Dear Mrs. Lay:

The Prime Minister asked me this morning to write and say how much he appreciated your having sent to him the letter of November 24 from Mayor McBride. Mr. King asked me to say that he was delighted to receive your letter, and also the note from Mr. Lay.

I have taken the liberty of keeping at Laurier House a copy of Mayor McBride's letter, which I shall put amongst other valuable and historical papers relating to Mr. King's recent visit to Toronto. Mr. King thought you would like to keep get the original of the Mayor's communication, and I am therefore enclosing it herewith.

In sending this note, will you permit me to convey to yourself and to Mr. Lay my kindest remembrances.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. Measures,

Private Secretary.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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quickly. I am sorry you didn't hear Jean play for I am quite proud of her. She had her room in perfect order to show you her ivory pieces to look which you gave her for Christmas but we didn't do any of the things we meant to do. All the children are very proud of their time pieces and they have been shown to everyone who has come to the house. I must go to bed. We have been at church twice today & had Dr. & Mrs. Millar for tea so are tired. Harry has been very busy taking over the Standard Bank. They closed the Standard office yesterday & that, with our visitors, made a full day. Hope you are getting a little rest for you looked very tired. Best love dear Willie in which all the family join, from loving sister Jennie

3rd LH

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 2nd '28

My dear Willie

We are sending on the local papers with references to your visit here. Mr. Boys must have called on both papers & given them the information about your call on him, for neither Harry nor I thought of it again. Everyone here has spoken so kindly of you & all were charmed with your manner & personality.

Today we had a call from Dr. & Mrs. Millar of Toronto she was speaking

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table, and having a few flowers is a help.
We were quite delighted on Friday when Harry came home with the news that he stood 1st in his class. We came up from 15th so it is quite an achievement. We is a cute little chaser! He said he was as much surprised as we were but added that he had tried! Did he leave his gloves in your car? He thinks he did but it really doesn't matter as he has mitts.
John was usher in church tonight took up the collection! He was quite excited as it was anniversary service & the church was crowded. It is hard sometimes to realize that the children are growing up so

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 13th '28

My dear Willie:

We all think you are more than generous to give us another present after the beautiful things you brought home to us. None of us expected or hoped for anything more, for we were delighted with all we got last month. I hope you will be pleased with what I did. Cora and I 'phoned Charlie, and his stenographer's husband is in the wholesale radio business. He said the cheapest battaryless radio would be $135.00 but he gave me a five tube one with batteries, loud speaker etc for $60.00 He took us to the store & showed

it is so darkened [illegible] then set it up
in his own place so that we could hear
it, and it was splendid. It is to be
delivered here in [illegible] perfect condition for
$60.00 and I hope [illegible] for the will and feel
that I have been [illegible] praying!" You said
serenely but I tried to make it fifty-
but could not. I set a good looking speaker
for that figure. The whole family
will get untold joy out of the radio
and its little stories." We can hear
Uncle Willie yearly [illegible] Nora was so
excited as I was and glad
as I would be [illegible] home before [illegible] phoned
I had all come [illegible] I think Harry feels that
About the dog. I [illegible] to keep him off the
it would be hard [illegible] but he feels the blame
flowers beds etc but [illegible] don't like dogs! I feel
on me & says I do [illegible] that it would be
that it would be [illegible]
to me, who already [illegible]
do! This is all [illegible]

now. I am getting Xmas things off on this train
so have to hustle. Will write you tonight or tomorrow
All send very best love and I know the delight
they will have when they see the gift you have
sent us. Hope you are getting through with
your Christmas work. Your loving sister

Jennie

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spared for many long years, to your country and to those who love you dearly. I am so glad you were able to get up for the day, for it makes you so much more human to the children and not so much a glorified Santa Claus! I don't want them to think of you as that, and yet you are so good to us all that if they don't know you they can hardly be blamed! We have so many lovely things you have given us and I feel guilty taking the radio as well. It will be a constant reminder of your loving thought for us, & something the children have been wanting for years. I didn't want it till the Jubilee celebrations when I realized what a joy it would have been. I must not begin another page so will send best love and every good wish for your most happiness Your loving sister Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 14th '28

My dear Willie:

This is a little early to be writing for the 17th but if my letter does not go this afternoon it will not be waiting to greet you on Monday morning. Every one in this home joins in sending best love and every good wish for your birthday and the new year it opens. You have just completed a truly remarkable year and though there doubtless have been worries and crosses, the joy

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and success me
out - May I then
seems to have
after another,
so much the
respect - that
them! I hope
may be even
if that is
with happiness
I wish it were
to send you a
for the occasion
have to make
one of sentiment
value. The little
is over. Would

his first earnings and gave to Grandmother Mackenzie. Mother gave it to me when I was a young girl in Toronto. It had a topaz in the top but that was lost, so the pencil has lain in my jewel box unused. I had the plain gold top put on & was going to put "K" on it but thought you might prefer "M" so left it blank. It only came home from the jewellers when I was in Toronto, though I took it to him a month ago, and now I can't get the proper size lead in Barrie. This is an awful place to try and buy anything! I know you will love the pencil because Mother loved it. I hope you will use it. It is a convenient size for a vest pocket. It goes with my very best love and the hope that you may be

December 15
28

Dear Uncle Willie:-
This is to wish you many happy returns of the day. Every night I look at my clock and I can see it grow plainly in the dark. Last night I wound it. Last night was the night to

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December 15
28

Dear Uncle Willie:-
This is to wish you many happy returns of the day. Every night I look at my clock and I can see it grey plainly in the dark. Last night was the night the wind blew the

REPEAT
REPETITION

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 November-December 1928

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Sunday School entertainment over yet so the dear
And I had loving wishes need to worry about getting
Then a visit. Everybody was nice to see Daddy with
us looked so loving & [illegible] John that you address
[illegible] for Thursday [illegible] to carve he would have
Christmas tree and we [illegible] to wear [illegible]
brought [illegible] the [illegible] Christmas
last every body [illegible] the servants
may [illegible] Sunday. Our prayers have every
wish are [illegible] Christmas and a
very well and [illegible] Dear, love
to give them [illegible] and
Merry Christmas
Perrumain [illegible]
[illegible] going to have little

Your loving niece
Rosalie D.
Lay

135963

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Ontario,
Dec. 15th.
28

Dear Uncle Willie:-

These are just a few lines to wish you a very happy birthday, and a bright and successful New Year.

Your birthday and mine come much too near Xmas; mine a few days after and yours a few days before. However, I never lack a good birthday. I wish you were here for yours, and Xmas.

My clock, that you gave

I must close now, wishing you once again many happy returns of the seventeenth.

Your affectionate niece,
Jean.

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me, is running fine and Poor John is outside washing
is admired by everyone who sees it. He says the penalty
comes to the rowboat for it For must [illegible]
certainly is a beauty!" It Rodell during
Suzanne & Katherine had Katherine
on my days, and during the Katherine rides
day we cruised over some Their Aunt
and dreams. Yesterday is an Christmas
about to my room. Please excuse my writing
writing a flame pencil on More days
the pen. This Darryl and is the
word stubborn. (Your are Eunice and not stay in
Richol? Yours so nice to see Katy your
them and go on board the getting about
car again. I liked Christmas, Ann Lyon
THE Ottawa immediately and Lyon's ?
Ottawa you are very for Ann
fortunate to have him for Eunice and
your secretary. all that Ann

H. M. LAY
"BOULDERFEL"
BARRIE
ONT.

Dec. 15, 1928.

Dear Uncle Willie,

I am wishing you a happy birthday and a happy New Year. Last Thursday was my birthday, and I got a bugle from Rosabel, and a little hot water bottle from John, a scarf from Daddy, a pair of cuffies from mother, and a Book of Games from Jean, and a cheak of a dollar from Malson, and four shinplasters from Cousin Bora. I hope you are as lucky as I am.

Your loving nephew,
Harry M. Lay Jr.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
December 15, 1928.

Dear Uncle Willie;-

This is to wish you many happy returns of the seventeenth. Time is rolling on pretty fast. It dosn't seem any time since Mother was stuffing that cushion for you last year, and we were all buying Christmas presents. Now it's time again, and there are only ten more days to pick and choose.

A week ago yesterday we had our Opening exercises at school. Scholarships, graduation diplomas, and athletic trophies were presented, and there was a demonstration of dancing by the girls and one of Gym

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Miss Wegenast from Kitchener, and
a great admirer of yours. As I may have
told you, this first couple of chapters
reminded me "King at first"
I didn't know who was talking to!

Again thanking you many
times for your
kindness in sending me
Adding best wishes for a Happy New Year, and
Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Remain
Yours appreciatively
John

P.S. We know the number of letters
you receive at this time of year, so
Mother says to say that none of
real letters need be answered.

work by the boys. Would
be put on a short play in which
I was a politician. As
the presentation
for playing
circulation.
meet the Senior
Boston Parkinson's
Literary Society are
Christmas Tree, in which
five nations are
French, German,
The Dutch girls
Spanish, and Latin. All
are going to dance. I
in the senior German
going to lead the German
"Stille Nacht, Heilige
Our Leader is a

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, General Manager

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

15 10 STANDARD TIME. 1928 DEC 17 AM 9 20

BARRIE ONT 17 910A

RIGHT HON MCKENZIE KING

OTTAWA ONT

BEST LOVE AND ALL GOOD WISHES FROM ALL AT BOULDERFEL

HARRY AND JENNIE.

● 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 November-December 1928 ●

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 17, 1928

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Dear Jennie: You will be pleased to know that the loving message of greeting from Harry, the children and yourself, was the first to be opened by me this morning. It has given me the greatest possible pleasure. I cannot begin to thank you for the precious gift which came with your loving birthday letter and which was opened a little later. Your thoughtfulness generosity and affection have ~~added~~ brought great happiness to this memorable anniversary. ~~With~~ Fourth love to all.

FS 104

Willie

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, December 17, 1928

Master John Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ont.

Dear John: Will you please thank Jean, Harry and Rosabel for their loving birthday letters received this morning, and also accept my best thanks for the loving letter received from you. I cannot tell you how much ~~yours~~ the kind thoughts and good wishes from you all have added to the happiness of my birthday which is, I can assure you, a very happy one indeed. Fondest love to all.

Uncle Willie

FS 104

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Dec 17-1928

Dear Jennie:

I cannot express to Mama how grateful I am for your loving letter and the precious gifts which you have sent. No expression of your love could have been greater for I know that appreciation is as real a joy as it is to us, and I can think of few things that could happen for either of us a deeper appreciation than your gifts to us. I shall treasure it always and shall endeavour to be

that when it comes on it you will be one of yours.

Mama is very quiet this morning but has had a comfortable night. Tomorrow will be Sunday. Love to the children, Harry and yourself. The letters from the little people, like yours also, have added more than words can express to the happiness of today. Lovingly Sunday. Love to you all

Ever affectionately yours

Willie

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family November-December 1928

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Laurier House,
Ottawa.

Mr. Mackenzie King desires
to acknowledge with thanks
your kind Birthday Greetings
which he deeply appreciates.

December 17th
1928

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 23rd '28

My dear Willie:

This is just a little line to greet you on Christmas morning. All the family join in sending best love and every good wish for Christmas and the new year. We sent off a few trifles yesterday and hope they will arrive in good shape. They carry with them a very great deal of love and the hope that you will use them. I did not have time for candy this year as the maid has been home with them to! I wish it were possible for us to do a little more for you and for others too who have been so good to us.

We are going to have Dr. Ross and some young men from Camp Borden - possibly Dr. Reeds for dinner at one on Christmas day - my best lovely silver & china are going to make the table beautiful. This has been a wonderful year for me and I feel I have much to be grateful for. Now I must get my letter off to Nelson done to Cora. Again best love dear Willie and may you have a very Happy Christmas. I can't tell you how delighted I was that you were pleased with the pencil. I hope you will use it. Merry, Merry Christmas

Yours loving sister

Jennie

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Then which rather t
John & Jean are... wor
and I have had my
all going to be well
Harry has not been a
Carols this year. The
taking over the Stati
head up his evenings,
the Greenhouse has
spare time. We don't
the result has been
think four carol is
Straughy enough, w
looking for a subject
paint for my calcl.
was the picture I e
set aside for Harry

is specially beautiful at night when the snow seems to show up wonderfully. We have such a very pretty one from the G. Patterson's. a lot of beautiful cards this year. There must be a fortune spent on cards each year.

We are looking forward to the children's delight when they hear the radio. We had the organ come down late last night & put it in the library where it is hidden behind the table. It has been up in the maid's room where no one goes. It is going to be a wonderful entertainment all through the year, if only it doesn't take them from their studies & Jean from the piano! Harry & I both think you are far too good, for the presents you brought from the Old Land should have sufficed & the children fully expect



1928 DEC 25 AM 10 54

RA311 13

BARRIE ONT 25 915A

RT HON MCKENZIE KING

187

OTTAWA ONT

OUR FIRST MESSAGE IS LOVE TO YOU DEAR WILLIE MERRY XMAS FROM ALL

JENNIE AND HARRY.

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RA311 13

BARRIE ONT 25 S15A

RT HON MCKENZIE KING

OTTAWA ONT

OUR FIRST MESSAGE IS LOVE TO YOU DEAR WILLIE MERRY XMAS FROM ALL

JENNIE AND HARRY.

Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 127, Mr.
and Mrs. Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family
November-December 1928

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REPEAT
REPETITION

December 1928

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

My dear Willie,

Just a word or two of added thanks for the very handsome Christmas present from Paris. The beautiful Sevres inkstand will always be a valued souvenir of our distinguished relatives famous visit to Paris to sign the Kellogg Treaty as Canadian Prime Minister. I shall always value it not only as a gift of wonderful beauty but for its historic associations.

We all enjoyed your little visit to Barrie and the incidental advertising which some of the Lays

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have received in this connection is quite amusing! John is much respected now by his schoolfellows! We were at Judge Ross' home for afternoon tea on Sunday together with Mr. & Mrs Alex Cowan and your visit was the chief topic of talk.

We all sincerely hope that next time you come it will be soon and you stay long enough for a decent rest. Everyone comments upon how well you looked but we thought you showed signs of fatigue and of the strain of past months.

Jenni is writing so I will not add more but again thanking you for your kind remembrances to us all, and with very much love,

Yours affectionately
Harry Lay

P.S. Many thanks for your help re Mr. Stalker I sent your note on to him.
10th.

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Boulderfel
Barrie
Ont
Dec 26/28

Dear Uncle Willie;-

Thank you very much for the radio and the five dollars. You were very generous to us, and I am going to put the money, along with what Uncle Murray gave us right in the bank. I have an account now of over one hundred and twenty dollars, and your gift will give it a nice little boost. Until then I am carrying it in a leather bill fold sent to me by Aunt Elsie from England.

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there is a lot of static now. Still the music is very good If the radio has done no other good, it has taught me quite a lot of geography for I have looked up a lot of stations on the map the man gave Mother when she was buying the machine. It sounded funny yesterday when we got Duluth at the end of Lake Superior, and the announcer gave us the time an hour behind what we were. The same thing happened from Chicago this morning.

I hope you have had a very merry Christmas and will have a very happy and prosperous New Year.

With lots of love from
your loving Nephew
John.

I got a lovely lot of presents yesterday. Santa Claus gave me a scarf, Daddy and Mother a set of ski-harness. Nelson gave me a very interesting book on the Navy. Cousin Cora gave me two framed photos of famous paintings which she got in Rome and which are very lovely. Besides these I got numerous smaller presents such as handkerchiefs, etc. As a family we got an agregate of 14 lbs of candies.

As I am writing this letter the United States Army Band is playing in Washington, D.C., in the the Auditorium of the War College, broadcast drough Cincinnatti, Ohio, and heard in Barrie, Ont. A moment ago it was quite loud, but

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. W
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - J
Harry Morrison Lay and famil
November-December 1928

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 26. 1928

My dear Willie,

My faith in Santa Claus was more firmly established than ever when I received yesterday those wonderful presents from you. The tortoiseshell desk set is the handsomest I have ever seen and I don't know how to thank you sufficiently for the three beautiful pieces. I should have felt more than grateful for any one of them and then to top it all you send me Homes + Gardens a very fine periodical which will be a source of great delight for twelve months to come. Please accept my very best thanks for all of these and

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for your kind note and Christmas greetings. I very sincerely reciprocate your kind wishes for the Christmas season and the coming year. On all hands one hears expressed the opinion that 1929 will also be another record for Canadian prosperity and I am sure the Canadian people are satisfied that in your hands the steering wheel of the Argosy will guide aright its precious freight.

The proclamation of penny postage is a splendid evidence of existing good times and a happy sign post by which to enter the New Year.

While we congratulate you most heartily upon the splendid position which you and your Government occupy we appreciate the heavy load involved and the serious responsibilities. I most heartily wish you a continuance of the sound health and strength you now enjoy and that the New Year may in every sense be a very happy and prosperous one.

Once more asking you to accept my best thanks not only for the gifts for myself but for those beautiful presents which Jennie and the Children are themselves thanking you for.

Yours very affectionately,
Harvey

P.S. I omitted to mention also your telegram of yesterday morning which we all appreciated and for which please accept our hearty thanks.

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Dear Uncle Willie—
Thank you very much
for the lovely radio and
five dollar bill. We had
the radio going yesterday
and we could hear
quite a few stations
in the kitchen and
living room and
yesterday and to-day
we could have
[illegible]
I'm glad there is
a chance to go
to Ottawa
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

REPEAT
REPETITION

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Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King
Prime Minister
Ottawa
Canada

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 26th 28

My dear Willie:

This is "the day after" and I have spent the morning tidying the library. Yesterday we took out sacks of paper etc, but everyone was so good to us, & there is such a large family, that it means a lot of debris!

I don't know how to thank you for your wonderful kindness to us all. Your cheque for the radio has just come & it really seems too much. The radio

Christmas for I felt my beautiful dishes were more than enough. It is certainly most generous of you. We used the little coffee cups for our dinner and had the dishes piled on the table and wherever I looked I saw evidences of your generosity. Then too, all your gifts were so daintily wrapped, no one knows better than I do, what that means in time and thought. It is wrapping up the things which seems to take so much time. I would not have been so rushed this year if it had not been for sickness all through the house, but that

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will be a continual source of
entertainment. And the children
can use their
the machine
The latter is
a matter, the
his stolen one
wilder excitement

the children
Music they
from a radio
been asking
shocked for
saw the radio
out to Kate's
for things is

a radio!!!" We heard the whole pantomime
of "Cinderella" it was so pretty and we have
had music from all over the States & Toronto.
Wasn't it strange that the first thing we
heard over it was the bulletine about the
King's health? I think I will enjoy it about
as much as any one! And now to thank you
for my beautiful dress. It is one of the loveliest
I have seen, and fits me perfectly. I can't
afford to get any fatter, but I don't intend to
if I can help it-! I put it on last night and
paraded for the benefit of the family and they
all admired it very much. I really didn't
want you to give me anything more for

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and I have to go out to tea tonight but we would both rather go to bed!
We have just had a wire from Miss Pine congratulating us on our anniversary! We are twenty-two years married today, so we are quite an old married couple.
Miss never forgets and I don't think any of us will ever forget her arriving with the nurse-baby that morning!

This letter sounds very stupid, but I am tired today and will do better another day but wanted you to know how much we all appreciate your great kindness. The first thing in the morning we had your wire & the last thing at night your phone message, and I would like you to know how much you did to make our day such a very happy one. All the family join with me in sending best love and thanks and hope you had a happy day and that this last week will be a restful and happy one. Heaps of love & best thanks again dear Willie

Your loving sister Jennie

is something which can not be avoided. Jean is still in bed but John is better and will be out tomorrow I hope. The rest of us are better but it was no joke last week when Wyndham was away & I wasn't too well myself.
We had a happy Christmas though not as hilarious as usual! Two of the officers from Camp Borden were to have been here but were ill with flu so we just had Miss Ross & Miss McArthur who is the superintendent at the hospital, but that made eight, which is quite a party. We all got a lot of lovely things. Miss Gibson gave me a dozen

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
THOROUGH

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beautiful letter of Irene with
art work & photo, and Cora
was more than good to all of us,
I sent her a cosy muleh like
yours from Rome, a pudding.
and she planned. She was
away from home at 9am - making
time 7 9 Americans like would appreciate
it. Father gave me a beautiful
hand bag which he bought with his
own money which Jean embroidered
a red Spaniard and her
gave me a pair and me
Sat. carols by candlelight
minster & Cathedral
I think of you
you! The candles from the Queen's

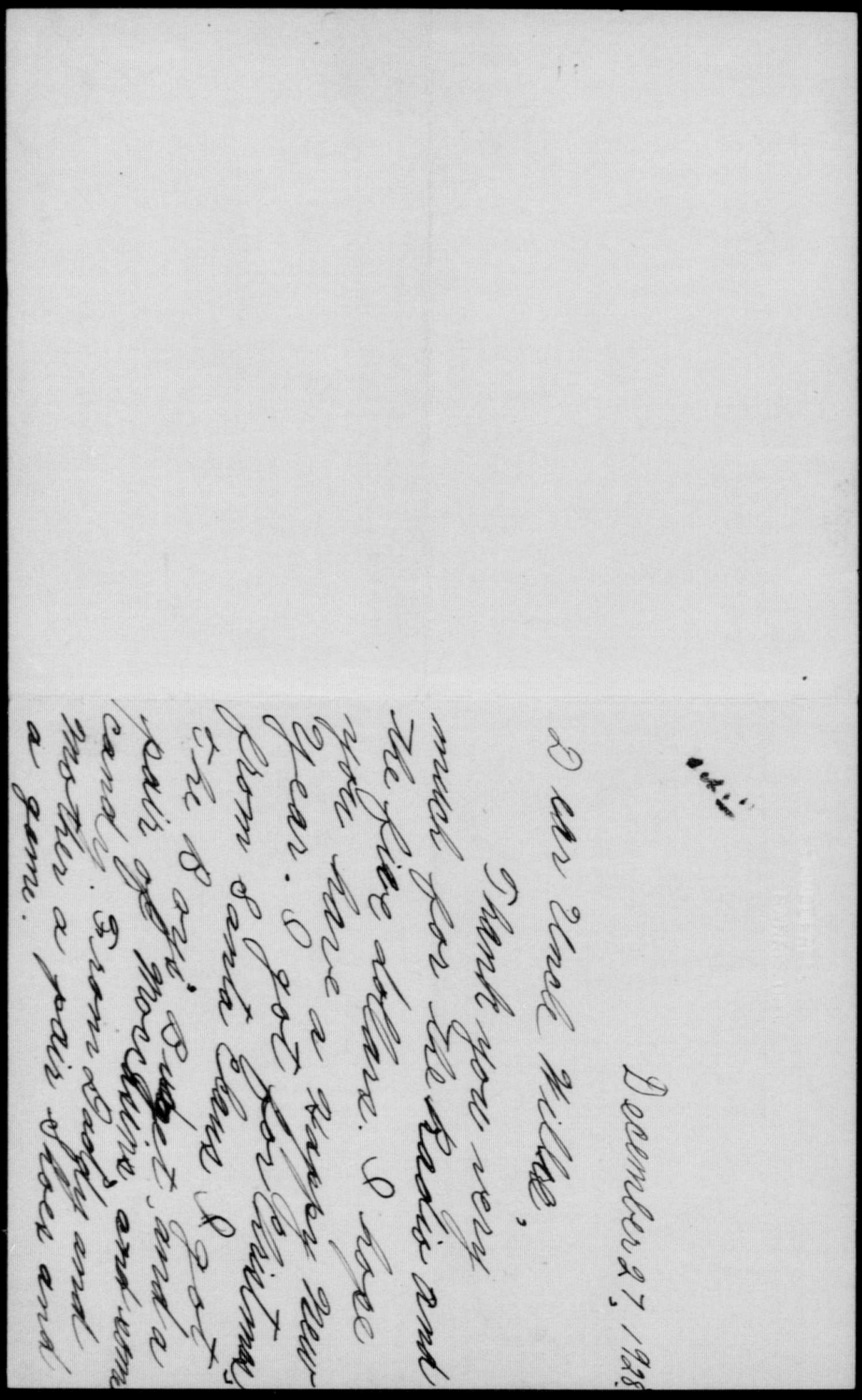
wonderfully kind. I don't think ever before has the King seemed so real or meant so much to the average citizen as during this last illness. The Queen must be truly thankful to have all her sons at home with her. The anxiety is just as great in a palace as in our own homes.

The children will all write to you in a day or two but they are all tired cranky today after the excitement of yesterday. Jean will be up I hope tomorrow but she is staying right in bed today. At present I am listening to the band playing in Lincoln but it is toned down to "house size"! I think this radio is going to be a great comfort during the holidays.

I was glad to hear Mrs. Patterson's voice last night to know you were not alone. Sometimes it is a comfort to be able to be alone, but not on Christmas Day! Harry

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Thank you very much indeed. Yours
sincerely
Jean Graham Brown
Secretary to
Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King.

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 November-December 1928

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V

BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE,
Ontario
Dec. 28/1928

Dear Uncle Willie:-

I intended to write to you the day after Christmas but had to go to bed with an attack of flu. I want to thank you now for the beautiful radio. It was such a wonderful surprise. We have it set up at the far end of the library and mother's room is just above. I have been in bed in mother's room and have heard the loveliest music just as plainly as if the station were in the next

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room. Another big surprise was when I opened an envelope addressed to me and found five dollars from you. They are now residing in the bank. You have been far too good to all of us!!

Mother's Parisian? dress is simply gorgeous and just fits her. She looks lovely with it on. On Christmas night I tried it on and just felt like some princess in a fairytale.

Daddy's desk set you gave him is beautiful and Daddy is quite proud of it. I have just finished looking through "Homes and Gardens," which came yesterday. The cover has a picture of two big pointsettias & this delighted Daddy because he grows them. It is an interesting and helpful magazine and certainly won't be passed over at our place.

We have a big Christmas tree and the house is decorated with bells, holly, and evergreen sprays.

I can hardly write because nearly every fifth word I write I cough and my pen shoots in all directions. I must close now, thanking you again very much for the lovely presents.

Your loving niece,
Jean.

P.S. I will try to write a better letter sometime when I feel better

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 28 - 28

Dear Willie:

Jean has been struggling with a letter to you, but she is too sick to be spontaneous. She is up, but that is all. Shu is better and has been out so the family is gradually improving! I hope you will keep well and not get any of the floating germs. The radio is continuing to be the greatest source of entertainment. Even Harry S. tuned in to get the stock quotations! It seems to me the most wonderful invention of our

right way! The general public can scarcely hope to better the times so the Liberals should be in for years to come. I was sorry to see Sir Lafontaine has had flu.. It is a nasty thing and though this year's epidemic has been of a mild nature a good many people have been pretty sick.

We have our Bible Class tea this afternoon and I am just going up there but wanted to add a line to Jean's letter.

Best love dear Willie and all good wishes for the new year. All the family join in sending best love.

Yours loving sister
Jennie.

Haven't had a line from Ray, but the children got a box of candy & Harry & Jos. a book all addressed by Ray. I wrote her before Christmas so may hear from her soon. J.

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time. Last night we heard the
Westminster chimes from England!
It is too bad
today, but one
we cannot hear
another clock
is the chief trouble with the trip.
We must have suffered a great
deal. Both of your messages to the Queen
have been very fine. I do
hope all the King's family
be a thrilling time!
feeling more at home
after each effort. We
Every! I feel sad sadly
but a few nights from
up again. Many
this will reach you
to be with you
Chrisitmas Eve
all the time.
heavy - the
Everything is
but it is very dreary.
for it must be
fuel coming
phone service,
dear. Both of
We are all
in bed with the 'flu.
today, but one
We could hardly expect
Nothing else
It is too bad
Westminster chimes from England!

weeks, I have had pretty broken sleep. Last night I had twelve hours in bed so "Richard is himself again"!

Harry is taking this with him to get it on the 8.40 a.m. train, so I must close. Best love dear Willie, many many thanks for all your loving thought of us. All join in every loving wish for your happiness, health & prosperity in the new year ever your loving sister

Jennie

1928 did, and I can only feel the greatest thankfulness that we are still an unbroken circle. It is a wonderful year to look back on and helps to make the forward vision more promising.

We are having snow a-plenty this morning and the children are hoping for skiing and skating. I am glad it has kept mild so long for it will make the winter so much shorter. Do you remember how Father used to say that "the back of the winter was broken" when we got to New year's day? I suppose you in Ottawa still keep up the New Year's day calling. There is none of it here and we have ceased to miss it. I am counting on getting some of my Christmas notes written this afternoon for there has not been much chance to acknowledge

BOULDERFEL BARRIE

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Sick this last week.
Harry is working away in his office
He had a good day yesterday 300 of
eleven dollars worth of flowers!! We
has disposed of all the cut flowers
he has grown which should, I think,
up a business that will be quite profitable
Ever has time to attend to it.
This is so far as I know at present.
and now it is 9 o'clock and I must
front page of the Star
receiving at Rama
afternoon. I was
but it is rather
visit from Jennie
to love receiving
Toronto.
We had quite a
Sir William Holo

when Willie Mulock died. I also wrote to Ethel but haven't heard from her.

The returns of the Toronto elections are coming in and it looks as if Mr. Baldwin may be mayor again this year. His name sounds better than Sykes at any rate.

I think I'll have to go to bed as I can't keep my eyes open! It was sweet of you to wire and also to phone this morning and they all wanted to have a word with you. Id. I simply had to go to bed Wednesday and it was only eight o'clock! The maid was away all day and I was "all in". You see, the unfortunate part of being a mother is that the sick child always sleeps with her! so that for the last three

little improvement we feel repaid. They were so delighted that you liked the result of their efforts. This has been rather a trying holiday season for nearly every home has some one sick in it, but the radio has been a wonderful entertainment. Last night the chimes from New York City were really beautiful. We were not sure what station we had, & hoped it was the Carillion at Ottawa till we heard the New York station announcement. It is truly a marvellous thing to have all the wonderful music from those far away places, right in your own home. We have certainly been very lucky this Christmas and feel very grateful. This year is opening in a much more promising way than

Jany 1. 1929

My dear Willie:

The first lines I pen in this New year must be to you who are so near and dear to me and to us all. To hear you say this morning we were just waiting for the telegraph office to open to send a word of New year's greeting to you. I remember the station telegraphist while I

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was taking temperatures etc.
I seem to lose all track of
time when the children are
sick! Rosabel has had
days of headache & pain
& thinks today, she has
been 104° to, is
likely to have pneumonia. She has 104° this
they are both still in
though still delightful with
as we all well
think you
seems in writing
different letter, I feel I'm more separated
from other than ever from letter
you, I have been a great deal
the time. You asked me
I wrote one (or two) and you
help in doing the roses etc. It is a great
pleasure to me to be able
[illegible] is the very thing to do
me to the time very
[illegible] of all possible things
me of other ways
[illegible] will be glad

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 5th 29

My dear Willie

This letter from May came yesterday & I thought you might be interested in reading it. Kindly tear it up when you are finished with it for I don't want to see it again! Poor May, she makes a right struggle to sing in the family, but there is nothing doing here!!

Rosabel is up for a little while today & the rest of the family seem to have recovered. They have been at skiing & it has done them good. The hills are in fine shape for tobogganing & yesterday there were about twenty

The schools open again on Monday. They were to have opened last Thursday but there is so much flu in town that they gave them a few extra days. None of our children could have gone back Thursday so I was glad they were not expected. I hope you have kept well & will continue to do so. These heavy colds are very trying. You will be sorry to hear that Mrs Gaskell is very ill with pneumonia. She was just tired out & was ready for it. I do hope she will recover, for I like her better than any one else in Barrie.

I am making John a pair of pyjamas which must be finished tonight! The tailor is making over your green suit for John and John says it looks so nice & he is to get it this afternoon. Best love from all the family & again many thanks for all your kindness to us all

Your loving sister Jennie

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Children kan
time I felt
It is very col
is healthier
mild, dam
the radio
all. We kan
the Kings
Westminster
The other
a ball game
could all ke
said I wou
any of the fa
Timmins
cricketers
wonders. We

lunch today by radio! Isn't it marvellous?
The hymn book I sent you was one Miss Ross gave me, but as I already had one I remembered you had none when I was there, I thought it was a good place for it!
Harry goes to Toronto on Tuesday as guest of the Bank to their annual meeting, lunch dinner etc. I see by today's paper that C. W. Rowley is retiring from the Bank. I will be glad when Harry does, for I feel he is doing altogether too much, but we need the salary! He is up & out in his greenhouse at 6.30 every morning, as they have been working in the bank nearly every evening. I am afraid he will overdo. The little change to Toronto will do him good.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan 13 th 1929

My dear Willie:

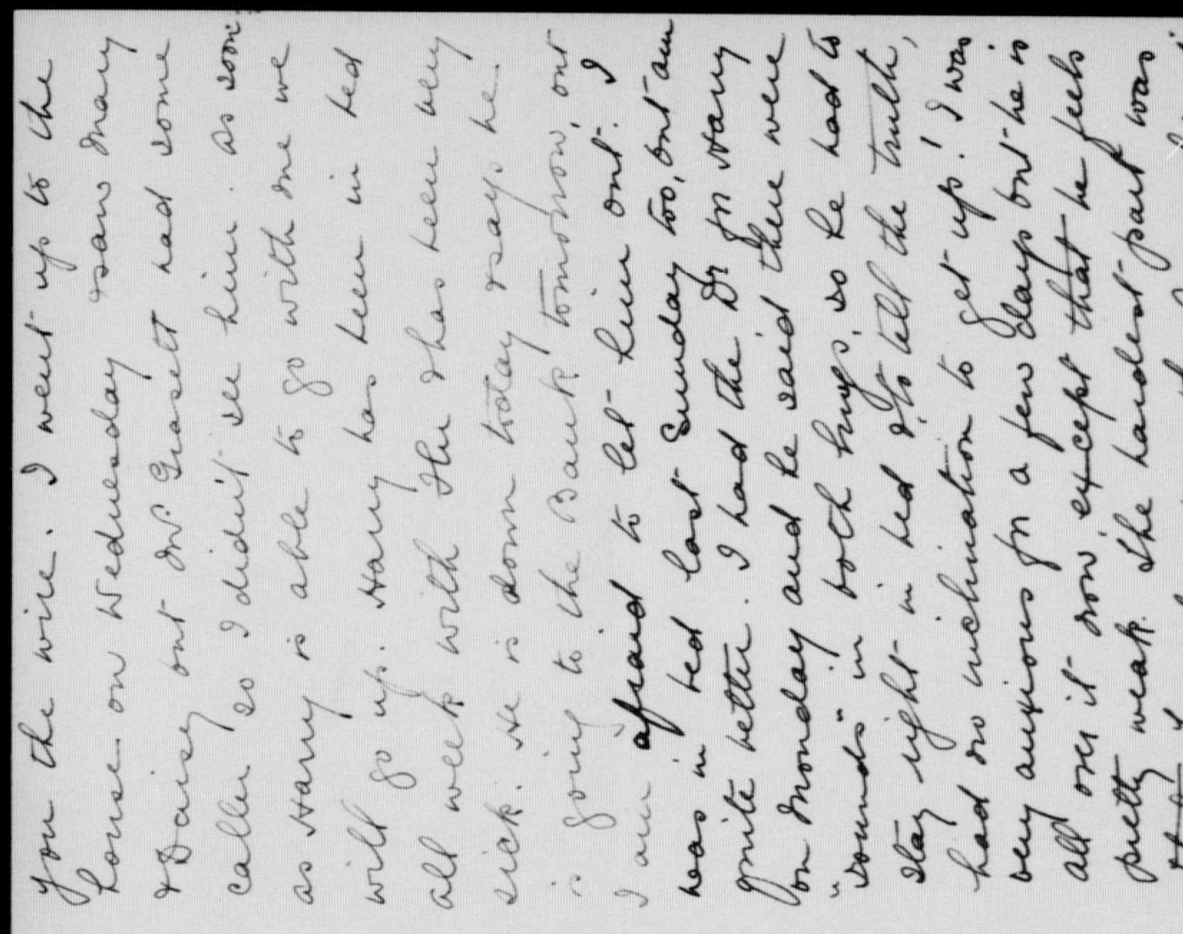
It was very good of you to write me from Ottawa telling me how you had sent word to Mr. Chevrette. I don't know when I have been so shocked as when I heard of Mr. Chevrette's death. She was up doing her house work on Thursday and on Thursday afternoon [illegible] I was [illegible] elected in Barrie. Mr. Chevrette's daughter was [illegible] Queen's when I was there, & I remember [illegible]

Especially the last. I must try to fill my pen and drop you a line.

[illegible] hair was not getting a fair show! It is pretty hard to write, with the whole family clamouring about one packing practices, and that is what usually goes on!

We left on Friday this morning & we had to walk to church but I rather enjoyed it. The snow is almost too deep to try motoring. Jennie sister the car and we have had a regular [illegible] today with the thermometer at 40 below. Everybody is healthy weather and the children have a splendid time in the snow. They have been coasting practically every day since Christmas. We had a little snow for the boys. We spent Christmas on Big Island with [illegible] and [illegible] had received your very good gift to [illegible] thank you very much. It was very good of you to remember the kid as well as all of us. We will be [illegible] in next week!

We are building a dance pavilion at the corner in Kinmount. Don't [illegible] Sadie Thurnell Church, tonight. Don't [illegible] Sadie Thurnell Church, tonight. Don't [illegible] Sadie Thurnell Church, tonight



your the wire. I went up to the Lorne on Wednesday from Mary & Bois out & Garrett had some called so I didn't see him. As soon as Harry is able to go with me we will go up. Harry has been in bed all week with the flu & has been very sick. He is down today now, he is going to the Banff Tournament on Monday & I am afraid he will not be able to get up. I had the Dr in Mary was in bed & he said there were both hers, so he had to quite better. I had no visitors for Monday & Tuesday except that he flew "sounds" in both days right- in & all one if down it pretty weak. I Sunday was the Annual meeting

If the Bank and Harry had been invited to go as their guest. We would have been put up at the King Edward and there were all kinds of social functions & I might have been able to wear my new dress at the Ball! This invitation only comes about once in ten years so Harry was despenately disappointed. However I told him I would rather have him alive & disappointed than dead & happy!!

All the children are well but they have each had a turn and Rosabel was in bed nearly two weeks. Jan was delighted with your letter to her, and I thought it was very good of you to take the time and trouble to write to her. She was also delighted to see that I had made the mistake in the date! If you knew under what stress I wrote that letter you would understand that my

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you realize how much you have to be thankful for.
I told you John was having your "green" suit made over. The tailor made a splendid job of it; and John says he never had a warmer & more comfortable suit. He wears it to school when he has to put on his navy blue for Sunday!
My maid's mother is sick in bed & she has to go home tonight. I want Harry to let me send for another German maid, but he will not. They are the best workers & the cleanest girls I have had.
Harry is at a "Bonspiel"; I only hope he will not take cold. He loves curling so a game should do him good. His throat is standing the winter well & we are having pretty cold weather & windy too, so it should be a good test.
Do you remember Mlle Shopoff who was helping me in the dining room the day you were here? She rang me up the other night & told me she was writing to

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 28th 1929

My dear Willie:

I have just been listening to Mr Bernard K. Sandwell L.R.S.C. speaking to the Canadian Club at Toronto, on "The Existing Rights of Canada and the United States in St Lawrence Navigation" It was most interesting and I feel I know much more about the subject than I did before! He opened his remarks with a good story about a young tailor who was promoted to the proud position of bond seller! If you know Mr Sandwell get him to

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tell you the story! Karl went for a
I heard Sir Wilfrid Laurier address
the Empire Club at
British Empire. He
I concluded, was
which Sir Thomas
moved the vote
This is what I
the radio, though
Splendid music
are as easily
night. Harold
are listening at
letter than some
soon with him.
Harry & I received
to the opening of the
you very much. I

possible for us to go, but this year it isn't. Still it is a pleasure to have the invitation.

Harry is better but not back to normal. He was very sick for a few days and still finds work an effort. John was home for a few days last week. There is so much serious flu in town, that I take no chances when the children have temperatures. Did I tell you about Harry Grassett's death? He took cold at his mother's funeral and was dead in a week. He leaves a widow & two small daughters. He was Mr. Grassett's youngest son and a fine, lusky man, 37, the strongest & best looking of the three boys. It was a terrible shock to us all for we had been talking to him the day after his mother died. It is when you see what others have to go through that

Bulgaria to the "minister Plenipotentiary" (I don't know whether that is right) & asked if she might use my name as a reference, as to her respectibility, and also say she had met you at our house. I told her I was only too glad to be of service, as she is a dear little girl, & was sure you wouldn't object to being spoken of in that way. I am telling you in case you should be asked & might say you had never met her.

This is all I have time for now. It is morning & they are just going to school. All the children & Harry join me in sending best love

Yours loving sister

Jennie

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, January 30, 1929

Sent

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

Very pleased to receive today your letter January 28th. Greatly shocked to learn of Mr. Grasette's further bereavement. Please express my deepest sympathy to him. Stop. If it is still possible for you and Harry to take in the Opening of Parliament, it will give me the greatest pleasure. Love to all.

Willie

FS 104

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but I find it harder to get the children to bed since he have had it! Some of the Bruce is my daughter. At present Mrs. Kiel, a famous Russian violinist is playing.

There is not much news as I see Mrs. Lee anywhere and this is the first time there! Mr Allan is the opposite! I just wanted to tell you that Mrs Garrett Flon much he appreciated your message. It's tell you we are thinking of you and enjoying your success with your. All the family join in sending much love and kisses when he was here you are well and that's fine. Jean is very busy.

Love Willie.

Best love dear Willie.

From affectionate sister Jennie

Ry dear Willie:

From Willie Flon he left us to go home last night. Harry & I had much. Harry & I see Mrs Garrett before Florida and spare from breakfast. He told me a beautiful telegram "a beautiful telegram" and the train rolled from for donne Rio Speaking of Mrs Kemp Kincaid, at Rio Mrs Garrett's

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 7th 29

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had weather like ours. We had a heavy fall of snow last night but it is not very cold. We are running the car still hope no more snow will come to spoil the roads. I am still without a maid. I telephoned Miss Kennedy in Toronto she said she would do her best but they were very scarce she told me to send an application to Miss Burnham so Harry sent off a "form" yesterday. It is a pity some of the Welsh girls don't come out and try housework!

Except for colds the family are all well. The radio is a constant source of entertainment

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 28th '29

My dear Willie

I was waiting till Annie Cowan arrived, to write and thank you for phoning me and also for your kind offer. Delay is no longer necessary for Miss Burnham says she is not coming. They sent me her references from Toronto & I told Harry them, that I didn't think she would come if she got to the hostel first! However it was very kind of you to take so much trouble and I it would; they would all stand around & talk "!! Perhaps that helps to fill the church yard!

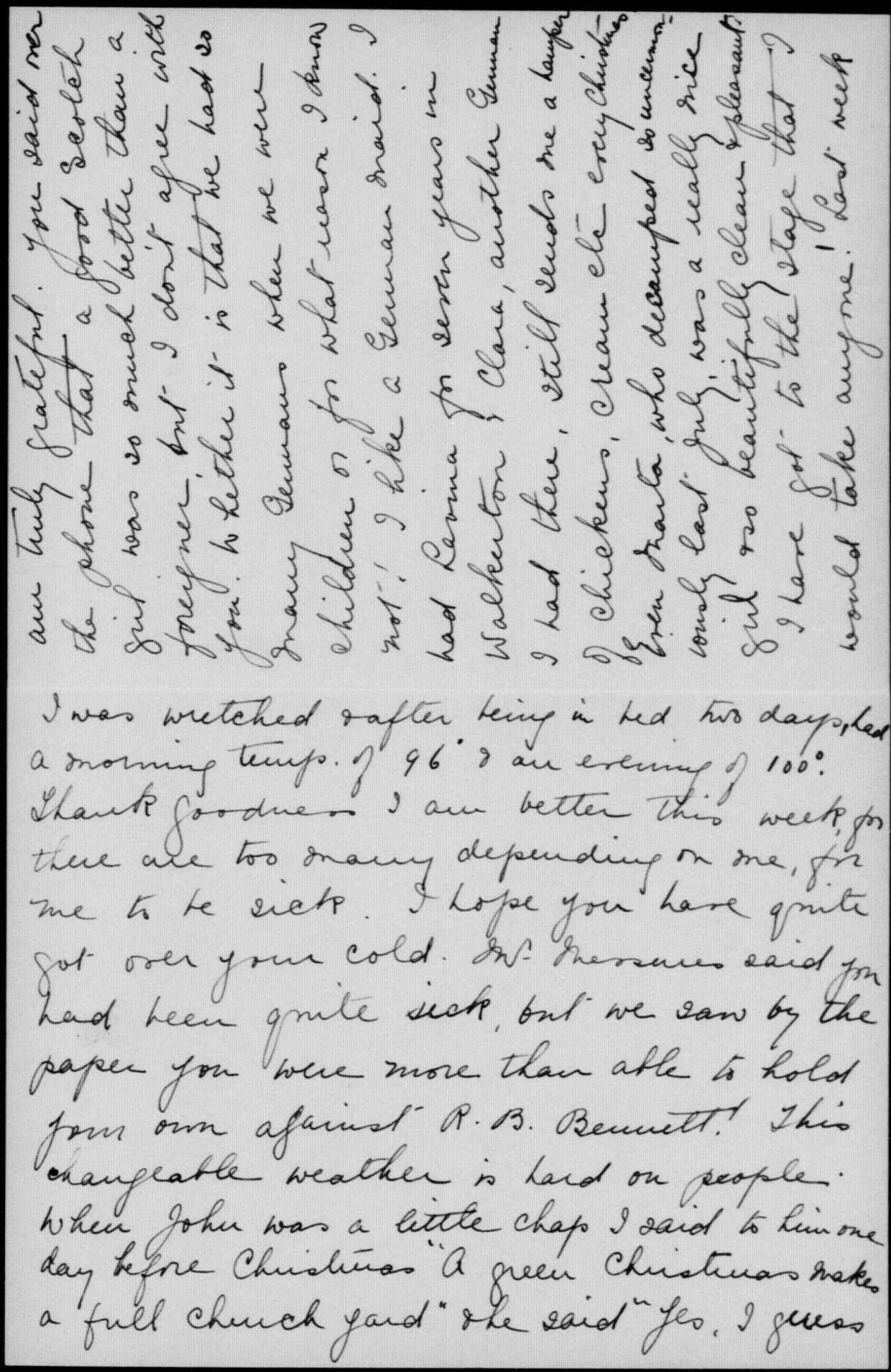
I have been making my season's marmalade and it is a big job. This family consumes considerable marmalade & honey in a year! It would almost pay us to keep a bee!

Jean & John are going to their first dance tomorrow night and there is great excitement. One advantage of living in the country is that the children do not get so much of that kind of thing. They have had any number of tobogganing parties which are much better for them.

Again many, many thanks dear Willie & I hope a good maid will come along soon. Best love from all the family. Yours loving sister Jennie

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I was wretched after being in bed two days, had a morning temp. of 96° & an evening of 100°. Thank goodness I am better this week, for there are too many depending on me, for me to be sick. I hope you have quite got over your cold. Mr. Hermann said you had been quite sick, but we saw by the paper you were more than able to hold your own against R. B. Bennett. This changeable weather is hard on people. When John was a little chap I said to him one day before Christmas "A green Christmas makes a full church yard" & he said "Yes, I guess

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 4th '29

My dear Willie:

This is my busy morning but I want to tell you that I have sent a rolé to Miss Burnham thanking her. Also, that Miss Duff rang up from the Hostel on Friday morning & said that both she & Miss Kennedy at the Employment Agency, tried to get that girl to come up here, but she had a sister & wouldn't be separated so leave Toronto. They said they would do their best and would let me hope he will feel better in a few days. The rest of the family are well.

Again many thanks for all the trouble you have taken to help me. All the family join in sending best love

Yours loving sister
Jennie

P.S. In a letter from Nelson on Saturday, he says the Thames was frozen over and they were skating on it! He had been teaching a lot of the boys to skate! J.

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you would think of them!

You seem to be having a pretty strenuous session, but it will not be like a couple of years ago; you have plenty of support this time. Only don't overdo, for your health is more than anything else. Harry Sr. is not a bit well but I can't keep him home. He went to the bank this morning with a decided temperature, all last week he could hardly pull himself around. I am making him take a tonic

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 6th '29

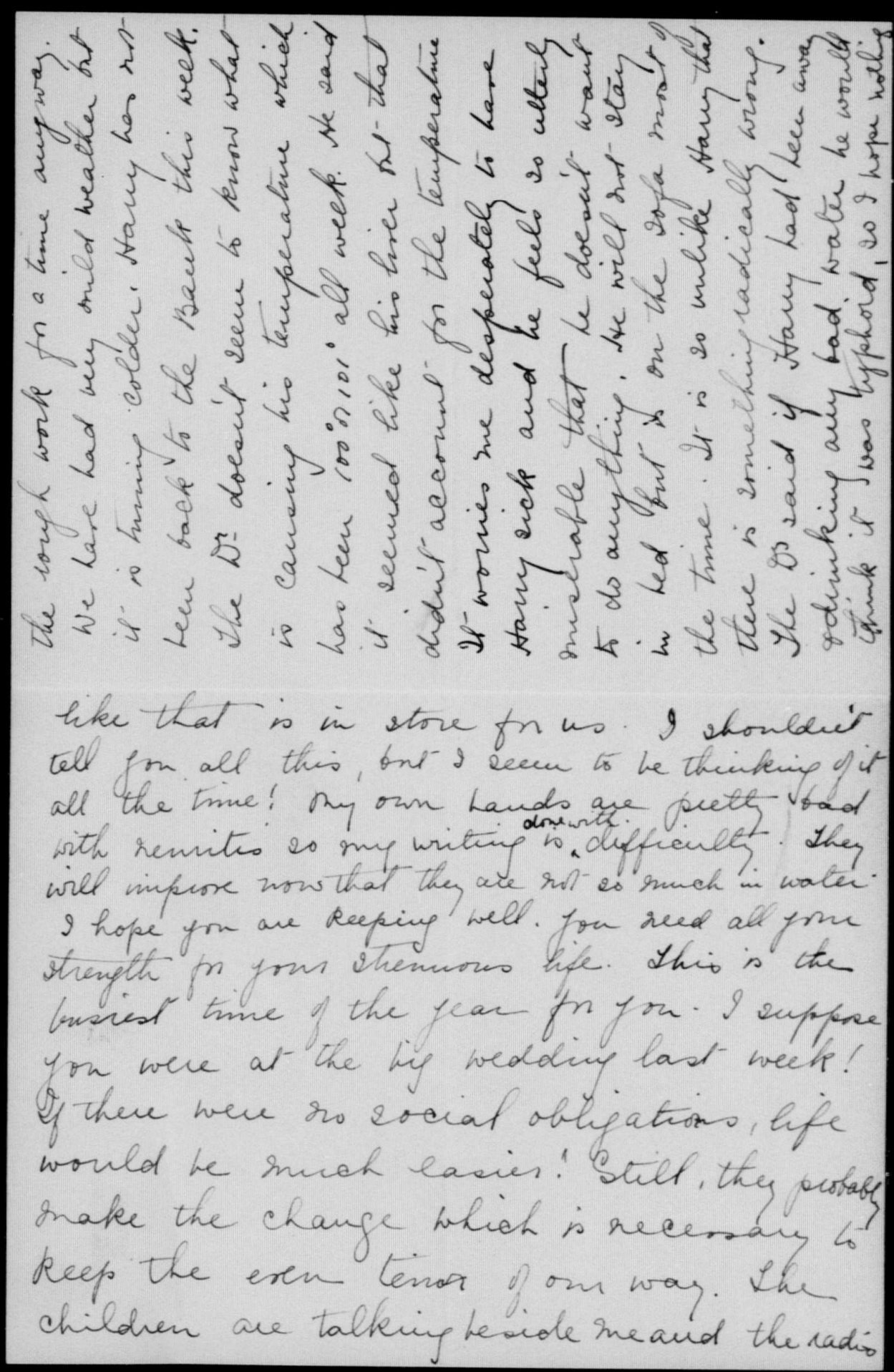
My dear Willie:

"Mabel Hercoe" arrived yesterday. She is very like Lady Drulock only not quite as good looking! She is 35 and if she is any good at all I am going to keep her but, so far, she is "no geranium"! She has evidently worked only for working people & has never waited table or done anything dainty. She has coughed incessantly since she arrived and I dare say feels pretty wretched after her long trip. She has never seen a stove or any of the electric appliances so I have my work cut out to teach her. She can do

is discoursing sweet music!
I have meant to tell you in each letter, what a joy those little clocks have been. Peach & I sleep together & at any hour of the night I can see the time without turning on a light. They keep good time too. I loved that one Senator McDougall gave you and have wanted one ever since so am thoroughly engaging Roaches.
Now I must go to bed. Will send a line to Miss Burnham
All the family join in sending best love and say thank you for your kindness about the maid. I hope you are well supplied yourself!
Best love from loving sister
Jennie

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the rough work for a time anyway.
We have had very mild weather for
it is turning colder, Harry has not
been back to the Bank this week,
The Dr does not want him to return
is causing him temperature which
has been 100° all week. He said
it seemed like his liver XX- that
didn't account for the temperature
If worries me deperately & have
Harry sick and he feels so utterly
insolvable that he doesn't want
& do anything. He will not stay
in bed but XX- stay
the time. It
time is so unlike Harry that
The Dr said something radically wrong.
I should if Harry had been ever
thinking as ill as he would
think if I was hopelessly

like that is in store for us. I shouldn't tell you all this, but I seem to be thinking of it all the time! My own lands are pretty bad with rentes so my writing is difficult. They will improve now that they are not so much in water. I hope you are keeping well. You need all your strength for your strenuous life. This is the busiest time of the year for you. I suppose you were at the big wedding last week! If there were no social obligations, life would be much easier! Still, they probably make the change which is necessary to keep the even tenor of our way. The children are talking beside me and the radio

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 13th 29

Dear Willie:

This is just a line to tell you that Harry is back at the Bank & much better, though far from well. The Dr thinks he must have got a child which affected his liver, but I hope a good tonic will soon fix him up.

Sir John & Lady Aird were in Barrie yesterday come. We have had most beautiful daffodils & hyacinths in the greenhouse and just now it is a joy to go down, even to get lettuce!!

The children are just leaving for school & I want them to post this so I must close. All send very best love and hope you are keeping well.

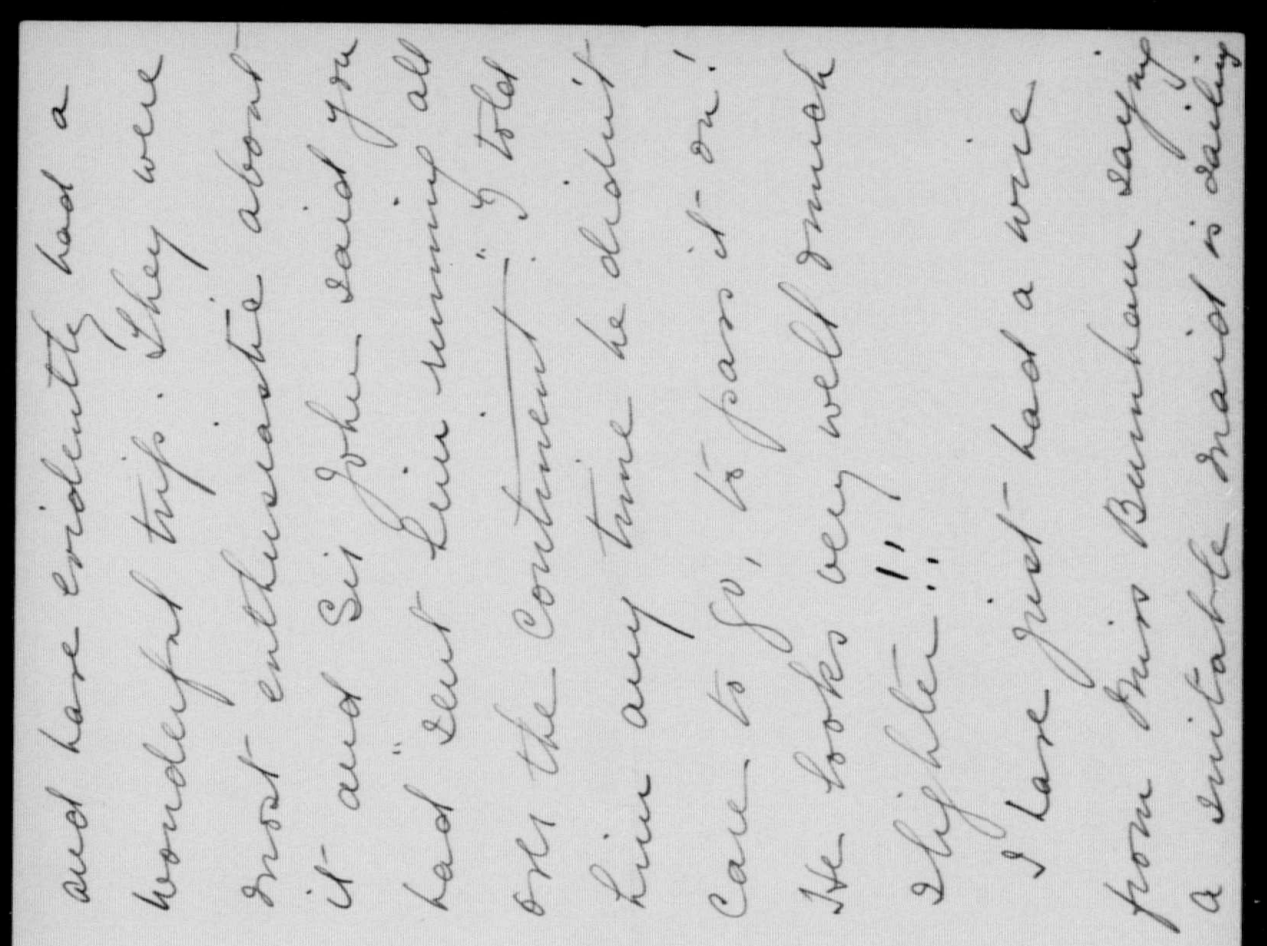
Your loving sister
Jennie.

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and have enjoyed had a wonderful trip. They were most enthusiastic about it and Sir Byron said you had "Lunch Lunch all over the Continent". I'll bet Lunn is always time he drinks! Lunn is away so, I guess it's par for me! Cave is going well enough The boots are shipshape! I have just had a wire from Burnham Layne a Swiss Guide is dying

on the 16th. This old dame is no use but has provided us with lots of amusement. I told her she wasn't worth £30.00 & she said she would stay & take £25.00! but we can't stand her. She would never be a comfort.

We are having most wonderful Spring weather and nearly all the snow has gone. It is a great comfort to see the sidewalks showing through. It will not be long now till the flowers

quite a happy day together. We started down to Toronto yesterday morning to do some shopping but when we had gone fifteen miles, a rod in the car snapped & we had to be towed home! It was a very different day than we had planned! It is snowing here today & thoroughly unpleasant. Sam so sorry you didn't get a decent holiday but Sir Lomer's friends will appreciate your coming back.

Harry is much better and is at the bank again. He has had two "sets" of inspectors in the last couple of weeks and they make extra work. All the family are well and join in sending best love to you. John is going down to spend part of his holidays with Cora, & Jean is going to be with Hazel. They are both so good to the children.

Again best love dear Willie and I hope you have had a happy holiday.

Your loving sister
Jennie

W/

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 31st '29

My dear Willie:

Many thanks for your Easter message which came early this morning. Needless to say, I was thinking of you, and it was a joy to have your message and know that you too were thinking of us. I wrote to Mary for March 19th & in an answer from her yesterday she tells me that you are having a marble slab made for Mac's grave. She is very much delighted and says "there has certainly come into my heart a feeling of peace that was not there before". Mary is green, there is no doubt about it, & lately has taken

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to keep "hunt" because I hardly see her "loved one" to me". Her letter this week was most welcome. Easter is always in my thoughts. I am all the dear ones who have gone; and only Isabel. Everything reminds me of Skuce running in Skuce Chapter in Matthew to see when the bright if all the day is dale say I am have more pomp when from are I too had from home earlier. I saw in The Sonne, but was

feel you should come home when Sir Lomer Gouin died. I was going to write to you the day I saw you had gone south, to see if by any chance you could come here, though I know it is more of a rest to get right away from everyone. The children are pretty noisy some times!

I saw by yesterday's Globe that Mrs Adam Wright had died last Thursday. Dr Wright has been ill for years but he is left and Mrs Wright is gone. She was 79 years old. One by one the old friends are passing away. Sir William Mulock is about the most remarkable man of that generation who is left.

Last Tuesday was Ethel Mulock's birthday so brought Hazel and Cora up here for lunch. We had

April 4, 1929.

My dear Jennie:

I was glad to receive your kind letter of Easter greetings.

My visit, as you say, was out decidedly short, but I am glad that I returned, for I am sure that my so doing was much appreciated by the people of Quebec.

I am glad to know that you are all well. We have started in on another stage of the session, and I am again busily engaged, or I would write at greater length.

This is just to say how pleased I was to receive your welcome letter.

With love to all,
Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Bolderfel,"
Barrie, Ont.

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April 20, 1929

My dear Jennie:

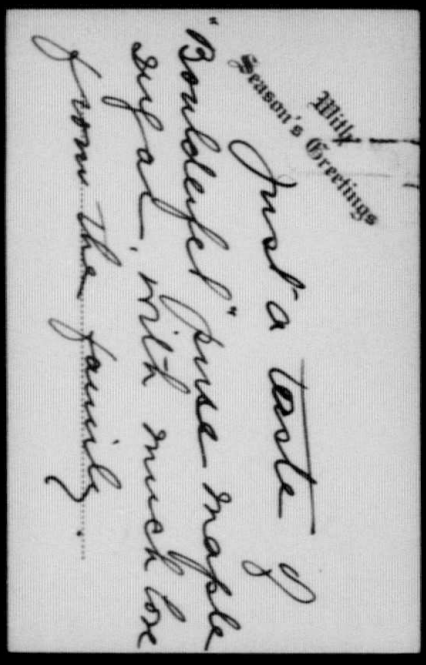
I have just received the block of maple sugar which comes from Boulderfel. I am having a party of French Canadian Members of Parliament and their wives to-night, and shall take occasion to sample it then.

You will be interested in knowing that I have on my table some pure maple taffy sent by one of the Members from Quebec and that I have received some tins of maple syrup from Dr. Beland and others. My friends have been particularly kind in remembering me with the first-fruits of the season. I am particularly pleased to have the sample of your own product.

I have this morning received from France the full-size drawing and pen-and-ink sketch of Pasteur's tomb..I am forwarding them to the McIntosh firm in Toronto and I hope that within another few weeks the monument may be in place over Max's grave. Apart from its being a very suitable memorial in itself, it will have the added

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Willy
Season's Greetings
Just a note of
"Bonbonfet" time
Buffalo, Milk much
from the family.

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interest of historic association with both Pasteur and France.

I hope you are all keeping well and that Harry's conservatory is making good progress. If he has any young plants in the Spring which can be sent safely by Express, I shall be glad to give him an order at current rates. I shall want some for Kingsmere.

With love and best wishes,

Believe me, my dear Jennie,

Yours very affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, April 25, 1929

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

I shall be speaking on radio at Ottawa Canadian National Railways network of radio stations tonight at ten o'clock eastern standard time from station C.N.R.O.

Broadcaste will be made also from Toronto station C.N.R.T. at same time.

Am sending this word in case you might find it possible to tune in to either of above radio stations.

Willie

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"Bonnieglen"
Banff, Alta.
Apr. 28th,
1929.

Dear Uncle Willie,

The Prince
Arrives exactly 10-25 and
Can find out exactly time
Later & not to congratulate
Your making such a
Splendid record so-
We came to see
Over and over
Dr. had a great
Congratulations
Dear you
Radio,
Told them
Radio
Also that
Were all
Family
Uncle
Hope
Your
Engage

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tonight, it was so clear and natural, that it was hard to realize you were not even away. I've got almost everything from the radio. Daddy and I enjoyed a hot supper together, and played cribbage and cards, including Solitaire. I enjoyed them and cracked a few peanuts. Now for bed. Jennie is out at Parkdale doing up her hair. Good night dear. Do not forget to go to bed early. Sunshine will be in the morning. Sufficient unto the day, so I will close. With love from all and kisses for you, your own Mackenzie King

Again yours affectionately Jean.

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leaders"? Jons picture & Mrs Bennetts are at the top of the page. If you have not seen it I will send it to you. It is by "Candidus" whoever that may be. I should think a Liberal!

Haven't we had awful weather? On Thursday we had a fine snow storm & I went, thankfully, back to a fur coat! Harry is having three weeks holiday but, as he is in the greenhouse most of the time, the weather does not bother him. We will all be thankful to have some warm weather & be done with furnaces. You must be nearing the end of the session and I am sure you will be glad of a rest. Kingsmere will be looking beautiful but there is not much joy in a summer house unless it is warm. All the family are well, and join in sending best love to you dear Willie

Jons loving sister
Jennie.

W.L.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 5th '29

My dear Willie:

This has been a busy week or I would have had a letter off to you sooner.

We were so delighted to hear your voice over the radio. From your first words "Ladies & Gentlemen" your voice was as natural as if you had been in the room beside us. It is truly a wonderful thing to be able to sit in your own home and hear a voice hundreds

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9 miles away! We all wanted
to sing God save as you had
to sing, but Bruce
finished speaking
you were alone
you would be tak
It was so good
yet it was a great
the few words
was busy all the
Great Saturday
Cora and Roger.
to see about a
Burnham told
to marry Comings

Miss Duff and Miss Kennedy promised to do their best but that is the last I have heard from them. I had a wire from Miss Burnham yesterday telling me that one is on the ocean coming to me so all will be O.K. in another week.

Rev. David Neeson, a minister from Assyria is out here collecting for the orphans left after the massacre by the Turks. Mr. Black, one minister, asked me to give him a letter to you and I couldn't very well refuse, but told him you might be too busy to see him! He said if he could get a letter from you, no money, it would help his cause tremendously.

Did you see the article in the "Outlook" of May 1st on the Federal Capital. Some of our Political

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May 9, 1929

My dear Jean,

It was very sweet of you to send me the little letter which I received from you shortly after my talk over the radio. It makes me very happy to think that you could hear so distinctly in your home in Barrie, and that you enjoyed the brief address. As a matter of fact, the Canadian National Railways offered to put the instrument in my library at Laurier House. Had I permitted them to do so I would have been talking from my house to yours at a time and in a manner where what was being said could be heard in all parts of Canada, and in many parts of the United States. Truly the Radio is a wonderful invention.

Will you please tell your mother that I was glad to receive, a day or two ago, a letter

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from her and to find enclosed a list of the plants which can be obtained from the Boulderfel Greenhouses. Please say that I shall be placing an order in the very near future.

With love to you all,
Affectionately yours,

Miss Jean Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/FM

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operated by these companies during the coming summer. I shall be free to start work on June 1st and am willing to do almost anything to get on the sea on, if this is impossible, in a hotel.

I am really very sorry to be bothering both you and the Prime Minister in this way. I realize that Mr. King must receive dozens of letters, similar to this one, each day and must be heartily sick of the sight of them. Worse still, I frankly



Knox College,
Toronto 5, Ont.,
May 13, 1929.

Dear Mrs Lay,

I quite realize how much you must dislike this type of letter and am very sorry that I am forced to approach you in such a manner. I frankly admit that I am coming to you as a last resort for I am ashamed

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to bother very busy people with petty, personal affairs. Nevertheless, if you will be so kind as to put in a 'bon mot' for me at Ottawa I shall be very, very grateful.

In other words, I have tried in every conceivable manner to obtain employment for the coming summer in a hotel or on a steamship but, somehow or other, find it quite impossible to get such a position without political "pull". I have always fervently maintained that a nation's statesmen should be free from petty office-seekers, but,- here I am - just as bad as anyone else. I am writing to ask if you will be so kind as to inform your brother, Mr. King, that there is a "pesky" Freshman at the University of Toronto who wants the leader of His Majesty's Government in Canada to get him a position for the summer. The fact that Mr. King is in close connection with both the C. N. R. and C. P. R. suggested to me that he might possibly be able to obtain a position for me on one of the liners

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cannot find the slightest reason
why he should interest himself
in me. I do not even know
whether or not my father is a Liberal!
At any rate, if Mr. King will
deign to bother his head about the
summer position of such a person
as myself, I can assure him
that he will gain a loyal follower
for the remainder of his political career.

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I wish to thank you in advance for anything which you may do on my behalf, Mrs Lay, and hope that I am not bothering you too much. Remember me very kindly to John, Jean, "Peaches", Harry and Mr Lay.

Very sincerely yours,

Rudolph J. Berlis

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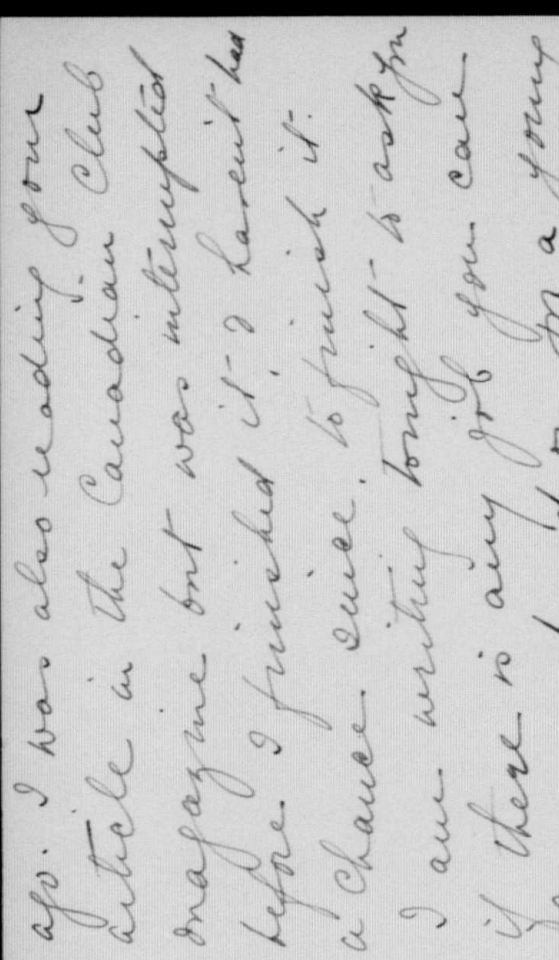
not always possible.
My maid arrived O. K. Tuesday evening She seems to have missed all immigration officials & came right from the boat to Barrie without speaking to anyone. I am glad she did, for they never seem to get past Toronto! She is about the build of Isabel & makes me think of her! I am so thankful to have her & hope she will manage all right.
Hasn't it been awfully cold? We had snow here on Thursday!
You must be getting near the end of the session & I am sure you are glad. This weather is preferable to heat, for working.
Must go to bed as it is late. All the family are well & join in sending best love to you dear Willie Yours lovingly Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 19th '29

My dear Willie!
Jean was delighted to have a letter from you last week & we were all glad to know that you were well.
We saw in the Star last night that you are to receive the honorary degree of D.C.L. Laws from Toronto. Isn't that a mistake? I was reading over today the speech you made at the luncheon when they made you an L.L.D. years

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His name is Rudolph Berlis and his father is a Russian. You may have met him here as he has a summer home just beyond us. Rudolph is a great friend of the children, & is a splendid type of boy, about 17 years old, over six feet tall & big in proportion. He says he has "tried in every conceivable manner" to get work in a hotel or on a steamboat but doesn't seem to be able to get anything without pull. I think I will enclose his letter & you will understand that it is just a boy's letter. He really is a very clever, fine boy. If, without too much trouble, you can do anything for him, it will be a great pleasure to us all, but I know it is

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July 15, 1929.

My dear Jennie:

In going through letters which came to hand since the close of the session, but which at the time I had no opportunity of acknowledging, I have just come across one from you, dated the 19th of May, with which was enclosed a delightful letter from Rudolph Berlis.

I cannot say how sorry I am that both your letter and the enclosure should have remained unanswered all this time, and even more how much I regret not having found it possible to do anything to meet the request contained in the letter of your correspondent. To tell the truth, I became simply overwhelmed with work in the last two months of the session, and was well-nigh buried by corespondence which increased from day to day. That part of it which was official, I wes able to turn over to others, but the part which was personal, I just had to put to one side to be dealt with at the first favourable moment. I regret to say that your letter fell in with a

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mass of correspondence which I am only now beginning to overtake, and to-day is the first time since I first read it that I recall having again seen it. You will just have to make what apologies you can on my behalf to young Borlis, and I on my part will do what I can, if not now, at least some day in the future, to make good the oversight as far as he is concerned.

Because of the importance of maintaining a strict independence in my relations with the two large railway systems of Canada, I have made it a rule not to ask favours of any kind from the president or officers of either. Indeed, I have an understanding with Sir Henry Thornton that I will not give letters of introduction to him to persons seeking appointments, and he, in his turn, has undertaken not to give letters of introduction to me to persons seeking positions in the Government. It would not be long before our positions would become intolerable if we attempted to meet the many requests which are made of each of us for intervention of the kind. However, I would not have hesitated, in the case of young Berlis, to send on his letter to Sir Henry, for it speaks

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for itself as one of a very promising young man, and the type of lad whom I believe any corporation would be glad to employ. If he is still without any kind of a position, please let me know, and I will yet see if there is anything I can suggest which may help to meet his wishes. I am really deeply sorry to have been so remiss in regard to this particular letter.

I have been, as you may imagine, very, very busy. With the exception of a two days' visit to the Willingdons at the Citadel, Quebec, and which was anything but a rest, I have had really no vacation whatever since parliament prorogued. Each day I have sought to overtake some of the important public matters which have been held over for action after the session, and to catch up on an arrears of correspondence.

I have, too, been busy getting settled at Kingsmere. I am now living up at the house on the hill, which formerly belonged to Dr. and Mrs. Herridge. Last year I had it done over, and with a little putty and paint have made quite a beautiful summer residence out of it. As you know, Mr. and Mrs. Patteson lived there during the

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last few years. They have given a great deal of time and attention to the grounds and garden, and have really left them in a very beautiful condition. I think they felt rather badly being evicted, but they were among the first to say that, with my present position as Prime Minister of Canada, the little single-roomed cottage by the Lake was quite inadequate, and were only too glad to lend a hand in making the house and grounds what they now are for my use and enjoyment. They have moved to what was the old Mainguy cottage, which is next to the old Fleury farm. I secured that cottage two years ago from Willie Murphy for a consideration, and have had it done over and rent it to them. Mr. Patteson has a three-months' leave of absence from the Bank, and he and Mrs. Patteson are working like beavers putting that place into shape. Mr. Patteson is a perfect gardener and knows all about the country. He and I are going shares on a garden, and at present I am getting not only all the vegetables and fruit I need for my house, both in town and the country, but a splendid supply for canning and preserving. In some particulars it is the best investment I have yet made.

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Harry may have wondered at my not placing an order for flowering plants. I was about to do this, when someone at the Experimental Farm advised against it, on the ground that they would likely get so shaken up in transportation that they might not stand transplanting. There was a danger, too, they would arrive when I could not get out to Kingsmere with them. I am sorry for this, as I should like to have had some of your plants in my garden here.

I am glad to hear that your maid is proving satisfactory. I hope you and Harry and all the children are keeping well. I wonder if there would be any chance of any of you coming down to spend a few days, and if I could arrange this. Just what may be possible, I do not yet know, as until I overtake the arrears of work and see what I may have to do to prepare my speeches for the fall, I shall not know what free time I shall have; but if a short holiday could be arranged, it would be a real delight to me. I hope, too, to have a chance to get up to "Boulderfel" for a day at least before the summer is over.

What I really would like to do is to have Max's two boys come over for a short stay. I do not like the

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thought of their growing up without knowing you and me and your young people. Have you heard of May having any thought in her mind of coming East? I might arrange to have the boys come with her about the time that the monument to Max is put into its place in the Cemetery. I believe the carving of the stone will be completed very shortly, and that it can be put into its place at any time. I told you, I think, of it being an exact reproduction of the memorial immediately over Pasteur's grave.

With love and best wishes to all,

Believe me, dear Jennie,

Ever affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel,"
Barrie,
Ontario.

Since writing the above I have written to Mary inviting her and the boys to come and pay me a visit at Kingsmere and offering to pay the expenses of their transportation x I have suggested their coming at once. I feel I should do something in the matter of the higher education of the boys, and would like to talk over all phases of it with them and with Mary. If they come I assume you will be glad to see them for a day or two at Barrie. I hope very much they will be able so to arrange. W.

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

July 29, 1929.

My dear Jennie:

This is just a paragraph to let you know that Lyon and Arthur leave Denver this week to come to pay me a little visit at Kingsmere. I am going up to Vincent Massey's summer residence at Batterwood, near Port Hope, for a week-end visit, and incidentally to talk over some matters of importance with Mr. Massey, and shall be in Toronto to meet the boys there. I propose, during the course of the day, to take them up to Mount Pleasant Cemetery to see the memorial to their father, and then to bring them down to Ottawa with me in my private car. They spend Tuesday in Ottawa, and come out to Kingsmere for a week which, as far as I am able to do so, I shall keep from all engagements which may necessitate my going into the city. I fortunately have enough room in the new house and in the little cottages by the lake to be able to make the necessary arrangements for their visit. Amongst other matters, I want to talk with them of their education, and see what may be best as to planning for their future.

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As you anticipated, May herself will not be coming East. Her mother is with her on a visit, while Gladys is in England, and will be staying in Denver until September. In her letter to me, May said that her brothers would wish to have the boys pay them a visit in Toronto. No doubt you will wish to have them come up to Barrie for a day or two. In that event, I wish you would let me know just what date would be most convenient.

Would there be any chance of any of the children and yourself, or Harry and yourself, being in Toronto on Monday next?* If so, we could all arrange to meet there, and to go about together. As yet I do not know at what hour the train arrives, but if you will tell me if you could get down during the day, I shall advise you where and when we could meet. Were it not that I have an important Council meeting fixed for Tuesday, I should be glad to run up as far as Barrie with the boys.

May telegraphed me that Arthur and Lyon are wild with delight. I enclose the letters received from them, and which will let you see how happy they all are. I shall be glad if you will let me have them back.

* I find Monday is a Civic holiday in Toronto. So am writing may to have boys reach Toronto Sunday night: get aboard my car there and I will join them in car at Port Hope on home later on.

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With fondest love to Harry, the children, and yourself,

Believe me, dear Jennie,

Yours very affectionately,

W. L. Mackenzie King

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel,"
Barrie,
Ontario.

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Everyone likes her and she has a good time wherever she goes. I drove over to Walkerton with a friend, on Monday, and saw a number of friends. It is eight years since I was there and it was a great pleasure meeting some of the people who were so good to us when we lived there. I came back the same day (we did about 200 miles) feeling thankful that our lot is now cast in Barrie instead of the County Town of Bruce! We really have a lovely spot here and a lot of nice friends.

I saw Rudolph Berlis' mother yesterday but did not have a chance to speak of Rudolph. I know he has work in Toronto for he has not come up here with the rest of the family. I did

A paper with an article about Claudette was just some many thanks.
J.

3/6.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 24th 29

My dear Willie:

We were so glad to have your letter last week and to know that you are well even if busy! The summer is going so quickly with it, your only chance of a holiday. Even when we don't hear from you, we read a little of what you are doing, especially when you entertain princes etc.!

We had a visit from Leonard

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Woodley on Sunday. I haven't heard from Ray since last March. She wrote me but I guess that I just left her alone for a time! Lew says Ray left for Chicago, and she first gone on to Chicago, and she has gone as far as Chicago. Ray by herself. I guess the way by herself. Lew says he made sent the next of the way by herself. She is over eighty. I guess so he some money this way by herself. sent Ray $1,000 to buy a car, and they thought it would be well to have her mother enjoy it with her. Gladys is in Englehart. Lew says he is sure Ray cannot come South just now, so, in case you have not heard from her, I

am sending this information. If the boys should come we will surely expect to see them here. At present John is at Camp Borden taking a six weeks' course in signalling. Strange to say, the boy in his tent is young Marriott of Ottawa, son of the Vet. there. He told John his father had often been out to Knipmere to see your stock! John was in Huntsville for two weeks with the Simcoe Foresters & then went to Camp Borden. Jean is over in Walkerton for this week and we hope to drive over and bring her home on Sunday. She is a very pretty girl this summer & certainly enjoys life!

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mess, instead of saying he was 18, as most of the boys do, to get $1.90. When I asked him he said "I didn't think it was worth making myself a liar for $1.30 a day"! When everyone was trying to make him, it is all the more creditable. At any rate, it pleased me!

I had three weeks in bed with the last month but am quite well again. I am truly thankful to have Ida. I am gradually getting rid of my back teeth! which are all abscessed, but, as I can't take a local anaesthetic, I can only have one or two out at a time – it hurts too much! Now I must get this off so will not write more. We will hope to see you if you come to Toronto – perhaps when the stone is placed on Mac's grave you may be up. We all join in sending very best love to you dear Willie from affectionate sister Jennie.

not want to bother you about him but didn't know what to do. He is a fine boy & will do well BOULDERFEL BARRIE I am sure. When I wrote him, I told him it was pretty late to try for a summer job, but I knew if you could do anything for him you would. He knows, as we all do, that you are terribly busy, and every extra adds to the burden. Harry would have sent you flowers without an order, had he thought they would carry, but he said the very thing you did, that they might arrive at a time it would be impossible to attend to them. I am sure Kingsmere is looking beautiful now. It is a blessing you have a place like that to go to from the

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heat of the city, for there is no doubt about Ottawa being hot! This has been a wonderfully cool summer and I, for one, am thankful. I am sure the Patterson's would be a great help to Kingsmere for they are both shapes at this time of year, but thankful be a month's leave for a real joy. It is a pity our summers are so short. Our place is looking very pretty just now in full bloom. Nancy certainly cleans up. She works awfully hard. I hope for will manage to get on for a swim every day. It is a quicksandy beach with a little marl in it - & Barrie while the place is looking pretty. I expect Cora for a couple of weeks in August. Ethin & Madge are in Penetang which is quite near us, so I am hoping to see them soon. We generally manage one exchange of visits each season though last year they left for England before we had time to return their call.

Nelson goes to Portsmouth in Aug. to take a torpedo Course so will not be home till next summer. He is busy writing exams at Greenwich at present. I hope he will stand well. We have not heard John's results yet but he felt he had done well, and he generally knows. I was very glad to hear he gave his age at Camp Borden, as 16 and took .60 a day minus 25 for

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July 29, 1929.

My dear Jennie:

This is just a paragraph to let you know that Lyon and Arthur leave Denver this week to come to pay me a little visit at Kingsmere. I am going up to Vincent Massey's summer residence at Batterwood, near Port Hope, for a week-end visit, and incidentally to talk over some matters of importance with Mr. Massey, and shall be in Toronto to meet the boys there. I propose, during the course of the day, to take them up to Mount Pleasant Cemetery to see the memorial to their father, and then to bring them down to Ottawa with me in my private car. They spend Tuesday in Ottawa, and come out to Kingsmere for a week which, as far as I am able to do so, I shall keep from all engagements which may necessitate my going into the city. I fortunately have enough room in the new house and in the little cottages by the lake to be able to make the necessary arrangements for their visit. Amongst other matters, I want to talk with them of their education, and see what may be best as to planning for their future.

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As you anticipated, May herself will not be coming East. Her mother is with her on a visit, while Gladys is in , and will be staying in Denver until September. In her letter to me, May said that her brothers would wish to have the boys pay them a visit in Toronto. No doubt you will wish to have them come up to Barrie for a day or two. In that event, I wish you would let me know just what date would be most convenient.

Would there be any chance of any of the children and yourself, or Harry and yourself, being in Toronto on Monday next? If so, we could all arrange to meet there, and to go about together. As yet I do not know at what hour the train arrives, but if you will tell me if you could get down during the day, I shall advise you where and when we could meet. Were it not that I have an important Council meeting fixed for Tuesday, I should be glad to run up as far as Barrie with the boys.

May telegraphed me that Arthur and Lyon are wild with delight. I enclose the letters received from them, and which will let you see how happy they all are. I shall be glad if you will let me have them back.

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With fondest love to Harry, the children, and yourself,

Believe me, dear Jennie,

Yours very affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel,"
Barrie,
Ontario.

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August 1929

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Thursday Evening

My dear Willie:

Your letter has just reached me & we are delighted to hear the boys are coming. We have only one Louise! but there is plenty of room for the boys & you too, if you can possibly come. I would like their visit here to be before the seventeenth as Jean goes away to camp & John is out at Camp Borden, & it would not be much fun for the boys, if Jean were not here. If they could come to us when car is being repaired but we don't know when it will be finished.

You will excuse mine tonight as I am very shaky, but I want this to reach you before you leave Ottawa. I know the boys will have a wonderful time & I am glad you will have a chance to know them better.

All the family join in sending very best love if you can manage a trip to Barrie, we shall all be delighted

Your loving sister

Jennie

You neglected to enclose the boys' letters. J.K.L.

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this week with you is up, that would be unfortunate. I have had two teeth out this afternoon & am pretty sore. I'll do make all your letters & take it thanks in Toronto, & on Monday. At would not-at on a holiday very unpleasant. to Walkerton which we branch of the at the foot of a

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slabs of wood, pass us. Fortunately we had the car in reverse & the brakes on, for after the men passed us their engine wasn't strong enough for the load, & it started to back down the hill. They thought they were going to be killed so they jumped & left the truck to crash into us. It ripped the whole side off our car & locked into our front wheel, pushing us to within a foot of the steep embankment before it held. All the family, except Jean, were in the car, & it is simply a miracle we were not killed. I don't think any of us will ever be nearer Kingdom Come without completing the trip! Naturally it gave us a terrible fright & we are not keen on taking any chances on the holiday. Our

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 5th 29

My dear Willie!

Thank you very much for sending on the boys' letters. They are certainly grateful and it is a great thing to be able to express your feelings so freely. I might feel all that, but, in a thousand years, I couldn't express it. I suppose that is part of their Southern heritage for Dral never was strong at saying what he felt. It is a great experience for the boys and a most wonderful chance for them, not only to be with you,

as a good ten minutes to get a chance to drive into ours own gate. There is no pleasure driving in that jam. Harry was telling me about an old chap he knows. On Saturday, as he reached the front street, he saw the endless procession of cars & thought it was a funeral so stood with his hat off to let it pass. When he enquired whose funeral it was & found it was only Civic Holiday week-enders, he was quite disgusted!!

I hope you had a good day with the Vincent Masseys. We were sorry you couldn't come the rest of the way. All the children join with Harry & myself in sending best love to you & the boys. Yours loving sister

Jennie

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but is ever coming of the country and the city from which the boys of the land, for the opportunity for wonder how you a pity she can really believe it is. She willfully excited of seeing the are planning to do. I am only not be home week-end, because have been quite

all, if John had been here. However, we will take them out to Camp Borden & John can show them the sights there. Suppose they are now with you and we will hope to see them on Monday or Tuesday of next week. Cora invited me to take the boat trip to Montreal & then home by way of Ottawa with her next week, but I told her I couldn't go. She is very kind, but I am not a good sailor, and the children need me during the holidays. I am truly thankful we didn't attempt to go to Toronto today, for the traffic has been terrible. It took

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Form 6182, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Ottawa, August 9, 1929

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Arranging for Arthur and Lyon go up to Barrie on night of Tuesday 13th. Stop. They are looking forward with delight to their visit with you. Stop. They are splendid boys. Stop. Love to all.

Willie

(Send under Prime Minister's personal frank)

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more of a treat than I expected it would be. I dare say they have the making of good men but it is a pity they have no one to teach them a little better how to behave. Lyon says he is going to be "a great surgeon like Uncle Harold"!! I expected to hear "like Father" and was rather taken aback! It is a good thing you got rid of them before your English friends arrived. Harold Bob Wookey & his wife came over on Friday to see the boys and was very nice! No one need be ashamed of him or his family. He brought John a cricket bat, one a box of candies! He is really one of their best cricketers says he is going to keep his eye on John & try & get him on the team when he goes to Toronto. John heard the other day that in his spring exam in Signalling he got 100% in practical work & 84 in

3a

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 20th 29

My dear Willie:

It was too bad the family were all asleep when you rang on Sunday night. We had had a strenuous day, ending up by driving John back to Camp Borden, a drive of forty miles over rough country roads, and they were all tired. The day before, I had twenty-four young people here for a bathe & then tennis and tea. They left about eight o'clock, when our young people went out to spend the evening. The boys were very pleased when they heard you had phoned. They left yesterday afternoon at 2.40 and I don't think

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The children go back to school on the 3rd of September. I hate to think of the summer being over so soon. I do enjoy Cora [illegible] this year. Cora will come up this week for a little visit. Hazel [illegible] me up for tea on Sunday, a week ago, and last Friday Ethel Kirkpatrick came up for lunch at Dr. Caldecutt's & I was there with her. We see a great deal more of our friends, living in Barrie than we did in Walkerton.

Now I must stop. I had to tell you about the boys, but I will report for duty to-day. The Governor is coming to election this afternoon!! I hope for with Reg well and fed in good time the fall work. You are kept busy in Kobiday time.

Love from Ethel, Kirkpatrick

Jennie

[illegible] his written exam this week and finished the [illegible] he has BOULDERFEL Prof. BARRIE [illegible] Saturday he heard his practice. Friddle a chord exam, he has 1 1/2 class in Ancient History. He his Junior practice [illegible] this gives him his [illegible] has been away all terrible [illegible] the Lieutenant-Governor up to open the Collegiate tomorrow evening. Many at the last meeting, which it was arranged that he should come, Collegiate Prayer Meeting. We found Friday. We found had been asked to dinner by Johnnie

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and asked if they would come here for tea on Sunday next. I spoke to Mrs Ross first & she would be pleased. I spoke to Mrs Ross, but said she would have to ask Mrs Ross. I then telephoned to Mrs. Ross & asked if it would be convenient for them to come to tea on Sunday next. Mrs Ross replied that she would be very glad to come & would be pleased to have an opportunity of meeting Mrs Lay. It was arranged that they should come to tea at 4 o'clock. I then telephoned to Mrs Ross at Rosemount, 2 Rosemount Ave. & asked her if she would be kind enough to ask Mrs Lay to call me up when she arrived at Rosemount. I then telephoned to Mrs Lay at 21 Teck Crescent & asked her if she would be kind enough to call me up when she arrived at Rosemount. I then telephoned to Mrs Lay at 21 Teck Crescent & asked her if she would be kind enough to call me up when she arrived at Rosemount. I then telephoned to Mrs Lay at 21 Teck Crescent & asked her if she would be kind enough to call me up when she arrived at Rosemount.

We have had a most beautiful summer; so many that we have almost forgotten what rain looks like. The flowers are all at their best & the garden looks very fine. We have had a most enjoyable time. It is very kind of Mrs Ross to have asked us.

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Ottawa, August 29, 1929

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Dear Madam:

Mr. Mackenzie King has asked me to let you know that Miss Marjorie Petrie's address in Toronto is Apartment 6, 56 St. Clair Avenue, West, and that her telephone number is Hyland 5769.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY BALDWIN

HRLH/HGP Secretary.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 29th '29

My dear Willie:

There wasn't a minute Tuesday or yesterday to write a line to you. The Flower Show was on Tuesday & we were just leaving for it when you rang up. I was so delighted to hear your voice and thought it was more than good of you to phone after writing me such a long letter and sending such a splendid gift. The latter I had Harry deposit to my credit till I go down to Cora's in a week or two when I can go to Simon's & choose some more of the plates or anything else instead. I

for wear!) Nelson sent a pale green table cloth which he got in Ireland & which arrived the day before my birthday. It too is lovely & I should have a very pretty table on all occasions! John & Jean are getting their gift in Toronto as the one sent did not suit them! I don't know what it is! Peach gave me bathing shoes & Harry Jr. invested in a wonderful glass celery dish & fruit bowl!! Helen sent me a handkerchief & I had letters from fourteen friends so I fared fairly well! Your letter arrived first thing Tuesday morning, so couldn't have been better timed. I enjoyed that letter thoroughly. I was rather afraid I had said too much about the boys, but every word was true! They may be fine boys, but were they not my nephews we would have nothing to do with them. Everyone here smiles whenever

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Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - J
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think the plastic will be wierd, for then I will have nine of them for dinner. Everyone admires them so much and on Wednesday when we had our tea party for Camp Borden, with my lace cloth, the table was loved with its glitter candlesticks, a huge bowl of yellow calendula and all my lovely china. Ever so many people spoke of the plastic and Miss Madge Holt said they had never seen a lovelier table. I do think the cream preparation opens up new vistas we have to explore! Miss Lamming knows me in the lower, with the ice cream, Stella especially when we are not every

day I have our ordinary tasks as well. Cora is a host in herself and was such a comfort on Wednesday. She went down to Toronto with John & Harry yesterday morning, to take the boys to the Ex. and is coming back on Monday we are going to motor up to Pendarra to see Miss's place. I gave Madge Miss your message and they sent their love to you. Miss brought me down to the Tea on Wednesday, among them Mary Goldie (Mac's daughter) who is a truly beautiful girl with wonderful poise & dignity for a girl of twenty-three. Miss gave me a beautiful pale yellow table cloth & serviettes & Madge brought a huge box of candies. Cora gave me silk stockings, petticoat & bloomers, Harry a silver entrée dish (the four I got when I was married have done daily service save a little the worse

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I am returning Mary's & Lyon's letters. Don't feel yourself about Mary; she is quite as big a blow as Leonard, only not quite so loud! Indeed of the two Leonard has much the kinder heart & I have known both since they were children. Len is much improved since his year abroad. That boy has earned his living & helped others since he was fourteen or fifteen & has had to make his way with no help either of money or influence & he deserves great credit. He is absolutely loyal & that is worth something. Harry is just leaving so I must close. I will write again soon, but I want you to get this before Sunday. All join in best love again many, many thanks for all your love & lovely gift.

Your loving sister

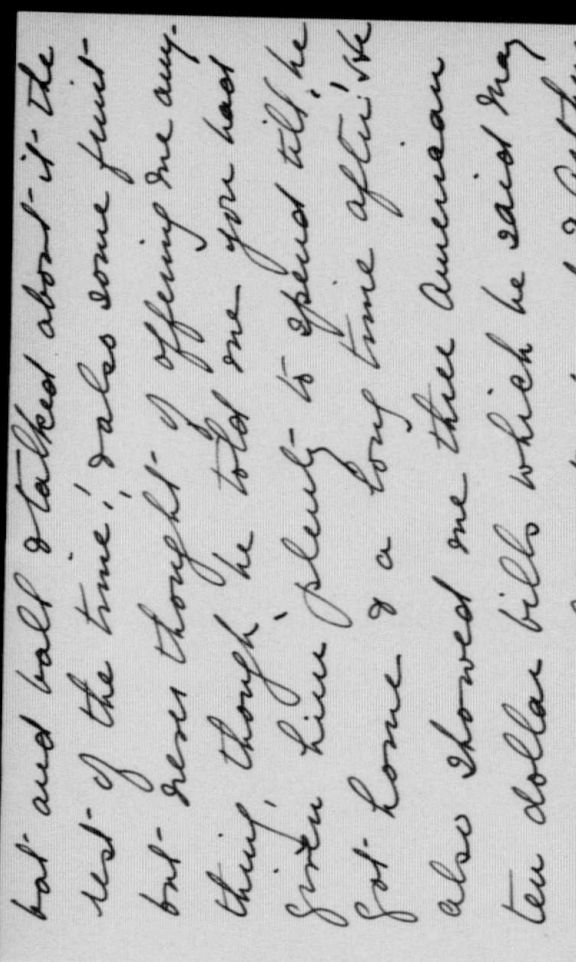
Harry won the W.A. Boys' cup at the flower show for the best display of flowers & foliage!

they are mentioned. They made perfect fools of themselves with their everlasting blow. I don't mind at all if you speak to Mary about not giving Ida anything. Mary is not very friendly to me just now, as she thinks I do not pay her mother sufficient attention! I will send on her letter you can tear it up, also Lyon's which is a good letter. So far Arthur has not written. His handwriting will have had time to improve before I hear from him! I am glad he wrote to you. I'm content to the speed with which he accepted your invitation, is the time he has taken to thank you for your kindness. Arthur spent exactly ten cents while he was here. Lyon bought & roasted a

BOULDERFELL BARRIE

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All mothers do that! My own sons are similarly supplied at present! Rosalet is in Lakefield, Jean is with a Mrs. Phillips who has a summer place here, and took with her own children Jean. Wednesday morning down to the Exhibition to stay for the Spectacle at night; then John met them to go to a dinner at the Royal York last night, & she is bringing Jean back tonight. Jean is the only girl with six boys so should have a glorious time! John & the boys play tennis on our lawn all summer, so I suppose this is Mrs. Phillips way of showing her appreciation, and, as they are well off, I don't mind Jean accepting it. Everyone admires Jean & she is really a very pretty girl this summer & has a sweet, attractive manner.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept. 6th 29

My dear Willie:

We have been very busy since I wrote you last, and the intense heat has been hard on everyone. The blessed cool today gives us fresh energy. Ida has been away at the Ex and over to the Falls etc and just got back yesterday morning so I have been more than busy as the children are all back at school. It was hard having us to start in the heat, but they had

though I said all I honestly could. I had a letter (daily) from her for my birthday and thanking me for having the toys & saying she hoped it hadn't been too much for me! Also mentioning that her mother was having a very good time in Ottawa! I wonder if the boys went to Bob's, & whether they wore their dress suits at Harold's! They are very ignorant little boys but it is not all their fault.

Last Monday (Labour Day) we motored up to Penetang and spent the afternoon with the Aimies Madge. They all sent their love to you. They have a very beautiful place

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a swim at 6.45 each morning and then a another in the afternoon so I have much to be thankful for! Yours Robbie, enclosing Miss Petrie's letter, Lawrence's friend Connie. Thank you very much for letting me read it; also for sending Miss Petrie's address. As soon as I have a free time, I am going to write to Mrs. Petrie. I would like to see Lawrence. Thanks for the chocolates. Cora came back last week from Toronto where she had been in hospital for 5 days. She is taking my kids boys and then looking after her two grandsons for three days! She will be here a week or more.

Last Saturday I had a letter from Arthur which I enclose. I don't want it returned. It is dated Aug. 25th (they left here on the 19th) but not posted till the 30th! It certainly speaks for itself! Last Saturday Peach received a set of Ping Pong from Lyon & I had a nice little letter from him saying they were leaving for home on Saturday. He is a politician, that chap! Still of the two boys I think Lyon is more manly. Arthur's letter thoroughly disgusted me with him. I couldn't tell Mary I had enjoyed their visit

Hamp's. The first stamp used was in 1840; just very long ago, is it? I will have to stop for these kids are too distracting. I had the library to myself when I started.

Cora joins us all in sending best love to you. I hope you are getting a little rest after your strenuous entertaining. The summer is so nearly over, that we have to arrange for the fall. John & Jean go to school at 8.30 in the morning which makes a very early start & are there till 4.30 as they have so many scholars they have to take separate shifts. It makes a long day for them. Thank goodness they are all well. Best love dear Willie and again many thanks for your lovely birthday gift which I am going to spend next week. Your loving sister Jennie

up there and Jim has three lovely children. She & Charlie with Dorothy Pearson BOULDERFELD BARRIE & her husband, Tom Seagram, went for a cruise in their house boat. When near Manitoulin Island their boat struck a reef right down before their eyes. They escaped in life boats & were hours on the island before they were picked up. Jim said it was quite an experience. Their boat has since been raised but it will cost them thousands of dollars to put it in shape again. It is well they have the money!

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I was so interested in reading
Dr. Dickie's letter. I was telling
Madge & Jim about
it, the day
said that
from the
adolescents
Dickie left
Glad to
He wrote
to Tom.
I had a letter
the days
a few days
is over! She
birthday and
Mrs Saint

before the warm weather is over.

Next Monday Harry has a meeting of the bank managers of the district, about sixty of them, and after the meeting they come down here for tea. I am so glad to have Cora here to help me. At present she & John are going through Harry's collection of stamps and, according to Cora, some of them are worth hundreds of dollars. I wish we could realize on them! As Harry says, they are worth that in the catalogue! Harry has some of the first stamps that ever were used & marked "first" issue. It is quite interesting going over them. Some belonged to an uncle of

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September 5. 1929.

My dear Jennie:

I think you will be pleased to read the enclosed note from Miss Petrie. Please let me have it back when you have read it.

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel,"
Barrie,
Ontario.

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leave the house at 8 a.m. every day. Half an hour makes a big difference in the morning!

We were interested in seeing the notice of the appointment of E.W. Clement & Charlie Garrow as Judges. Harry knew Charlie Garrow when he was a boy and it must be thirty years since they came to Toronto to live. We had Frederick Watt here on Friday night. The magistrates were in session here & he was elected vice president. Louise Watt is librarian at the O.A.C. in Guelph & Kate is in a private bank there. I haven't seen Frederick since I was married.

I have peaches, pears, plums & tomatoes waiting for me to do up and it is 9.30 so I must get to work. Hope you are well and enjoying this lovely fall weather. Best love from us all & a loving kiss

Jennie

WLM

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept. 16th '29

My dear Willie:

The enclosed letter came to me last week so I am sending it on to you. I wrote Mr. Lockie and told him I had sent his letter on to you and was sure you would do what you could but that you never interfered in other departments. You may remember him. They used to live in Parkdale and he was at most of our "Not Out" dances and we were at a dance at their house. He was here, relieving Harry when he was ill last winter & during his

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holidays, and is a very nice man. I don't know the daughter, but she was at Varsity when he was here.

Cora sang me up on Thursday night and that Rellie was still living then. She said Rellie looked so like mother that it gave her quite a shock. She was evidently broken hearted again for I have had several letters since and she knows if anything could be a blessing if the end would be a blessing if the end would be a blessing if the end would

Harry's stamps. They are in an old album of a cousin of Harry's mother's he has some of the original first issue. There are two stamps which are catalogued at $2,000 each! Cora has taken the book and is going to write a New York firm to see what they would give for a lot of them. According to the catalogue, one book Harry has exclusive of the two stamps mentioned, is worth in the catalogue $2,950. I wish we could get the cash!! Then he has some old coins, I think it is "Mr Doherty," or some such name, in Ottawa, who has a catalogue of coins. I wonder

BOULDERFIELD BARRIE

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if you could get me one? I would love to see if any of these coins are of any value, for there is no use their lying here idle, if we could realize on them when we really need the money. Cora has spent hours going through those stamp books, and says they are really very valuable.

This is as far as I got when I was interrupted so must just send our best love and let the children post this.

Your loving sister

Jennie

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October 11, 1929

My dear Jennie:

I enclose a memorandum from my secretary which speaks for itself. It will let you see that both Mr. Motherwell and I have been keeping in mind the communication you sent on behalf of Miss Aileen Lockie.

I hope you are all keeping well. With fondest love to all,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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Ottawa,
September 21, 1929

Dear Mrs. Lay,

The Prime Minister has asked me to return to you the enclosed letter and attached memorandum, which is self-explanatory.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY BALDWIN

Secretary.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

MEMORANDUM October 11, 1929

Memorandum for Mr King:

Mr Motherwell's secretary informed me this morning that Miss Aileen Lockie, about whom Mrs. Lay wrote to you and in connection with whom I spoke to Mr. Motherwell at your request, is only seventeen years of age and not eligible to enter the competition for the position of Junior Seed Analyst.

A note has been made of her name, however, and she will be advised and given an opportunity of filing a new application later on.

In the meantime, her name has been brought to the attention of the Seed Commissioner in the hope that some opportunity might arise when her services could be used temporarily.

E A P

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 August-November 1929

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not much better fun! However we are going early to be introduced to Lei. and as I am to be introduced as your sister, I hope you will not mind that I took part of my birthday money & bought a good dress so as to be a credit to you! I have a pretty enough dress for ordinary occasions but, under the circumstances, I thought you would not mind. Cora & I went down today and got a very pretty & lady-like dress for forty$. I know I will enjoy it far more, knowing that you will have no cause to be ashamed of me. There are so many things we need at home that I couldn't ask Nanny for another dress just for this occasion. I got a French black dress, well tailored, and which looks very nice on me. I still have thirteen dollars to spend on an additional birthday gift so I hope you will not mind. At any rate I will look nice tomorrow and that is the chief thing. Cora says you will find this letter very

I was at Mary Thom's for lunch on Tuesday. She sent her love to you. She told me how very kind you had been to her when she went abroad.

Ethel Kirk is going to Ottawa on Thursday to stay with Mrs Anglin.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

October 15th '29

My dear Willie

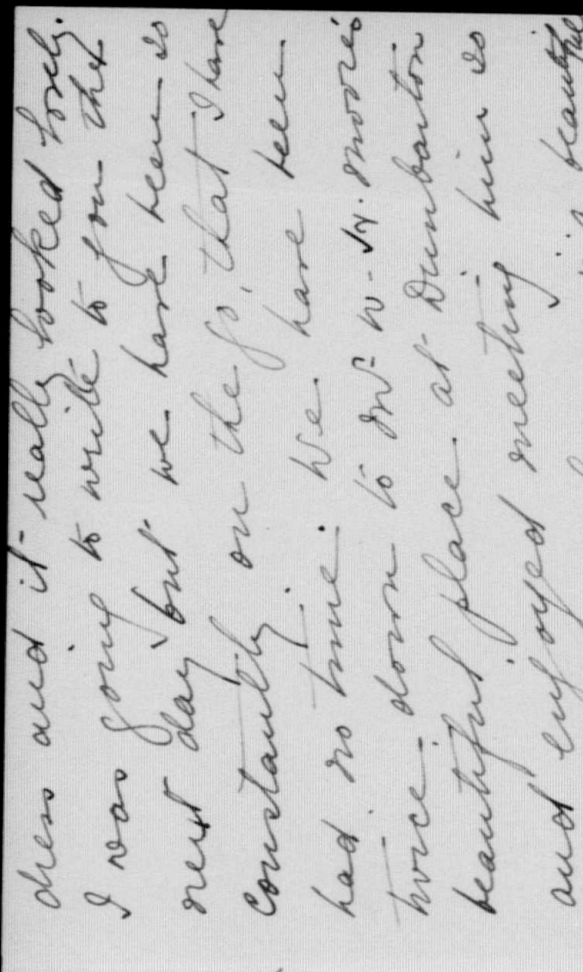
Cora and I have thought and spoken of you very often in the week we have been together. Last Tuesday we went to a big Bridge given by the I.O.D.E. and which Arthur & Ethel were responsible for. Elsa Kirby asked Cora and me to go so I telephoned home for my dress and wore it to the ball. It is the first time I have worn the new evening

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more than kind to us, bringing their car for us the first time Mrs Moore's sister taking us out the second time. Mr. Moore said your place at Kingsmere was very beautiful. Mrs Moore's mother sister are great friends of Cora's.

Tomorrow we are going to luncheon to meet Ishbel MacDonald. The President of the Canadian Club phoned asked me to sit at the head table but I declined. She put it that I was the only link between themselves & the Federal and I could represent for House. but I told her I couldn't possibly be considered in that light and that I would rather not be singled out. Common politeness would keep me with Cora & Elsa who invited me to go with them even if it were

kindness & I hope you will not feel that I should have used your birthday present in some other way. You will believe I am sure, that I would not have spent it as I did, unless I had believed that you would approve.

Cora joins me in sending best love to you & we both hope that you will thoroughly enjoy this week with its wonderful events, and all the joy there is in meeting as Signals the men who mould the destinies of so many thousands.

Again much love

Yours loving sister

Jennie.

Haven't heard from Denver since the letters I sent on to you.

disjointed & I am a very clever letter-writer!! She has been talking to me all the time and we have also been talking to them in Barrie. Harry is coming down tomorrow to go to the dinner at Government House. I think it is very kind of the Ross' to invite him. I was going home with Harry on Thursday morning but Cora says she will not let me go. I feel much better for the little change. I was pretty nearly "all in" and came down because I felt I had to have a change and Cora is so good to me. I had

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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that another day I will write you later when you are not too busy. When do you leave for the West and is there any chance of your calling at Barrie either on your way out or back?

Many thanks for your kindness about the Rockie girl. I do not even know her & am under no obligation to them, but appreciate very much all the trouble you have taken. I suppose people think it is quite clever to get at you through us! Now I must go to bed as Cora is already there. Again many thanks for all your

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comfort for the last eight years and she is delighted he is so happy. She asked me to let you know & then you wouldn't be bothered with a letter from her. Charlie says he has met Jim's wife (Betty) several times and she is a very nice girl. He is quite enthusiastic about her. The family came down for me and I came back on Sunday brought Mrs Tait with me. She stayed only till Tuesday but she seemed very happy. & if Mrs Tait had not been alone at home, I would have made her stay longer. She says he is

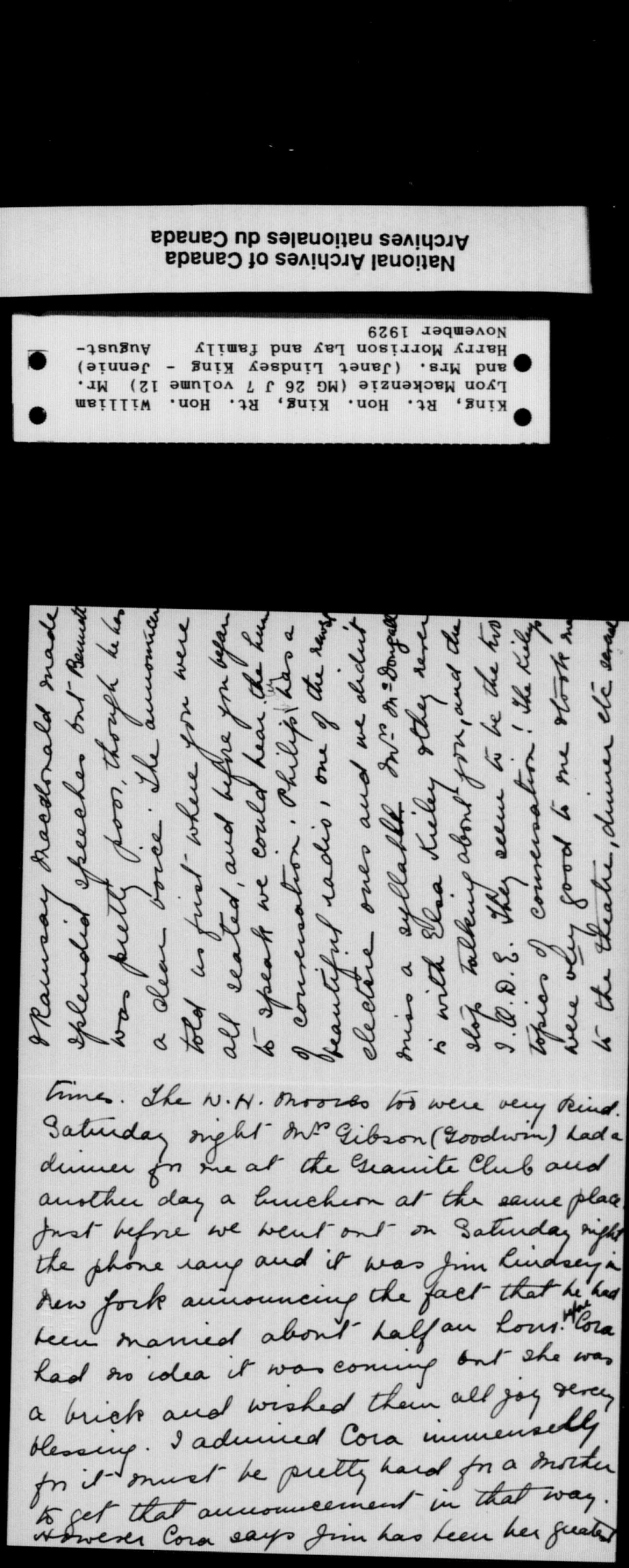
October 24th/24

My dear Willie:

You have been so busy that you probably haven't time to read letters! Cora & I went up to Philip Kieley's on Thursday night & heard absolutely every word of the three speeches. It was simply wonderful to think that we were there in Toronto, & the rest of the family here in Barrie listening to you speaking in Ottawa! I thought both you

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Time. The N.H. Woods's too were very kind. Saturday night Mrs Gibson (Goodwin) had a dinner for me at the Granite Club and another day a luncheon at the same place just before we went out on Saturday night the phone rang and it was Jim Lindsey in New York announcing the fact that he had been married about half an hour. Mrs Cora had no idea it was coming but she was a brick and wished them all joy mercy blessing. I admired Cora immensely for it must be pretty hard for a mother to get that announcement in that way. However Cora says Jim has been her greatest

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was staring at me & I was glad to look decent! With the rest of the money I got a lovely Entree dish which I have wanted for a long time. Harry gave me one for my birthday so now I have the pair. Many thanks!

When do you leave for the West? We are hoping you may be able to call in here on your way out or back.

Jean & John have both had a touch of tonsilitis but both are back at school & all are well. They all join with Harry & me in sending very much love & hoping & see you soon

Your loving sister
Jennie

79 and not too strong so she must be there to take care of him.

Is it true that Dr. Hendrie is married again? Cora told me he was but I didn't see the notice & doubted!

"Ralph Connor" is to be in Barrie for a week, from Nov. 3-10th, conducting services in our church. We shall probably see him & have him down here.

Ida, the maid, has been quite sick & she told me today she thought she would have to take an easier place till she

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got stronger. But a way I am sorry to [illegible] she has got shown [illegible] I seem to be doing [illegible] so perhaps it- change. I am [illegible] holiday when [illegible] didn't come [illegible] needed. Life [illegible] and it- tells me [illegible] we from [illegible] I see we are [illegible] Brown of Ottawa [illegible] the Women's Canadian Club here on Saturday next. Her subject is "Canada

National Asset". Wasn't her husband a reporter in the press gallery, years ago? I don't know with whom she is staying, but will probably meet her. They were very good to me at the luncheon for Isabel Macdonald, and had me in the room to receive her and also arranged that we should have a table right in front of her so that we heard every word. It was very interesting and I enjoyed it all. My dress looked very pretty & I hope you did not mind my using my birthday present that way, but everyone

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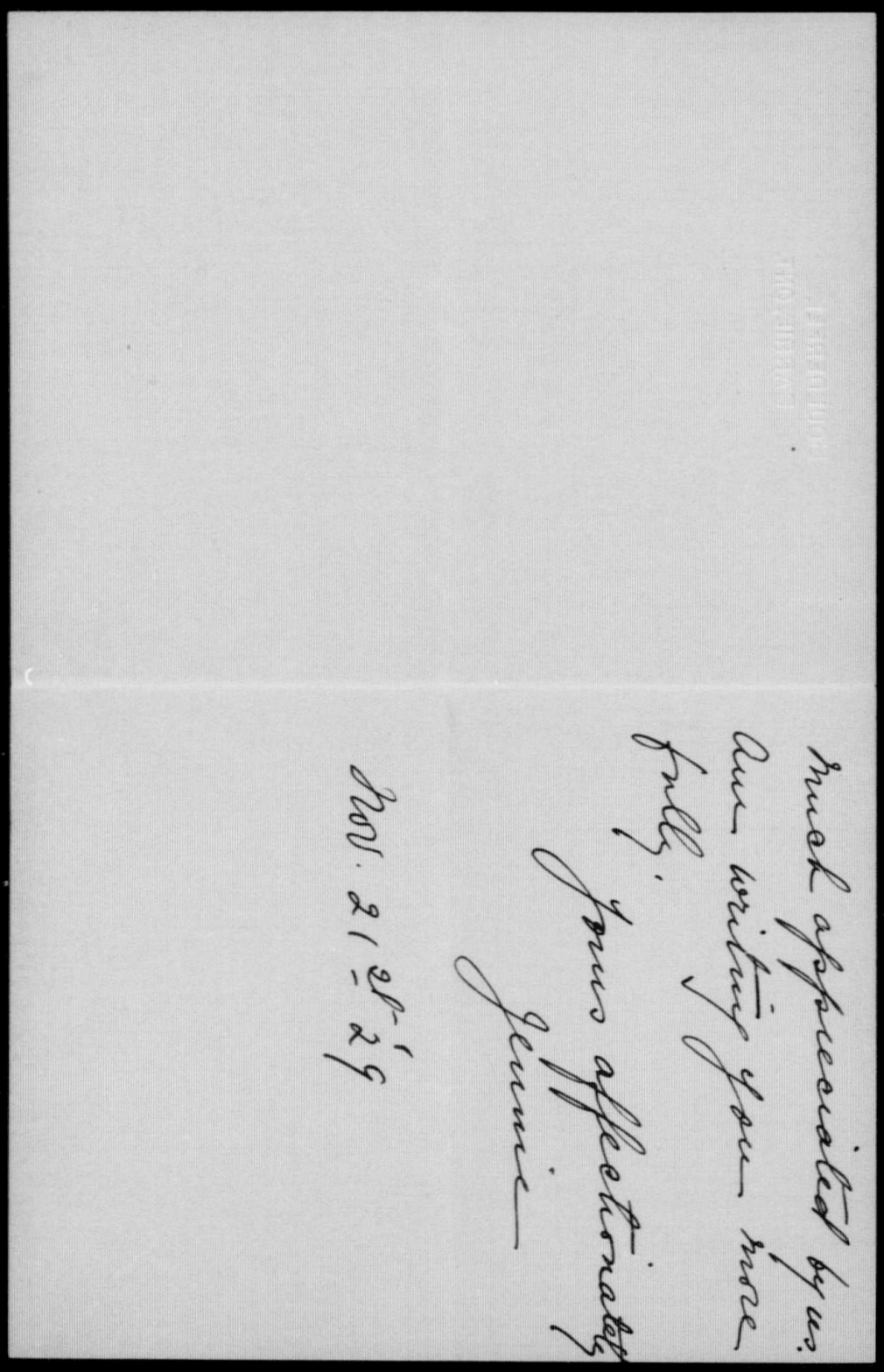
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Dear Willie:

This will introduce Mr. E. Daine Dawson who is to be in Ottawa for a few days. He would like to have a few minutes talk with you, and anything you can do for him will be

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 22nd '29

My dear Willie:

In a few minutes you will be leaving Winnipeg on the last stage of your journey home! It has been most interesting following your trips by means of the copy of your "itinerary" which you so kindly had sent to me. We have watched the papers each day to see if your speeches would be broadcast to this part of the country, but I fancy they confined it to the western provinces. We heard a band from Winnipeg one night last week, in

weeks since you left! It was very good of you to phone, the night you were leaving. I had been in bed all day with a temp. the after effects of an anesthetic (local) I had to get a tooth out. Even yet my face is sore & I haven't been able to get the others out. I think I shall go to Toronto to a specialist, for the best. It will pay in the long run.

I am expecting to get a maid tomorrow morning. She is a Scotch girl who has been in the country for six months. I haven't seen her, but am going to give her a trial. Mrs Burnham is trying to get me a maid so if this girl is no good, I have her to fall back on.

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very proud of being taller than I am! All the children have grown this summer & I am hoping we will get through the winter without sickness. We are having some very cold weather, but have had a lovely fall and it will shorten the winter. I hope you are not too tired after your long trip. To you it is a strain - to me it would be a treat - but such is life! We are hoping to see you in the not-too-distant future and in the meantime send much love. Hoping you will find all well at home and that Pat has enjoyed his trip. With best love I am loving sister Jennie

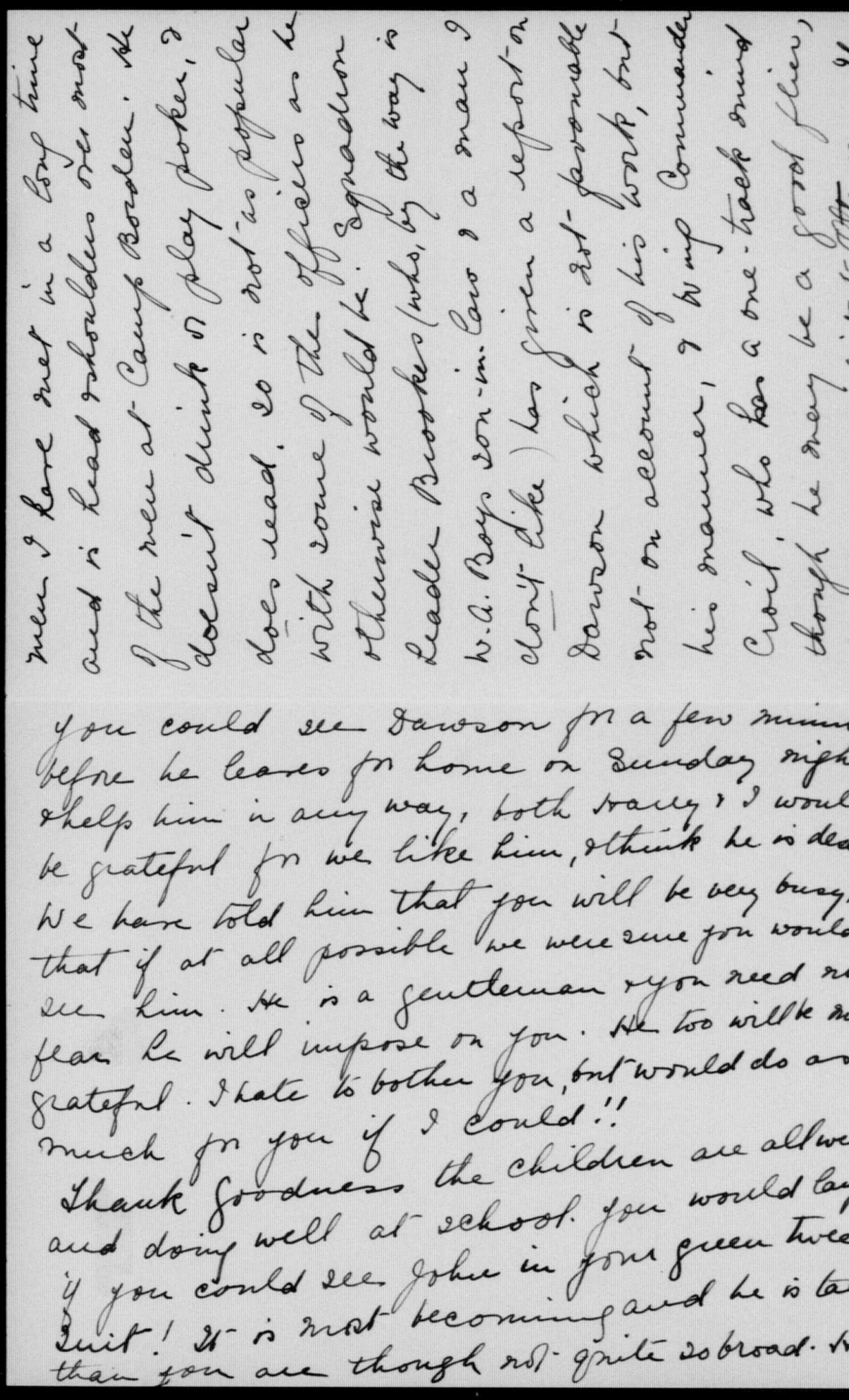
I have been alone for a week which is quite long enough. I don't mind housework, but my hands are so crippled with rheumatism that I have to be careful. I hope when these other two teeth are out I may get relief.

I have a favour to ask of you. Daine Dawson from Camp Borden is to be in Ottawa till Sunday night & I have given him a letter of introduction to you. We have seen quite a lot of him lately & he has been a good deal at our house. Harry & I both like him very much. He is one of the best read

BOULDERFELT BARRIE THOMSON

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Leader Brooke
N.A. Boys son-in-
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Dawson which is
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his manner, I
Croil, who has
though he may
has forwarded

you could see Dawson for a few minutes before he leaves for home on Sunday night & help him in any way, both Mary & I would be grateful for we like him, & think he is deserving. We have told him that you will be very busy, but that if at all possible we were sure you would see him. He is a gentleman & you need not fear he will impose on you. He too will be most grateful. I hate to bother you, but would do as much for you if I could!!

Thank Goodness the children are all well and doing well at school. You would laugh if you could see John in your green tweed suit! It is not becoming and he is taller than you are though not quite so broad. He is

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December 10, 1929

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

Christmas, 1929

My dear Jennie:

I enclose herewith my cheque for $100.00, and would be glad if you would purchase with this amount some suitable gifts for each of the four children. Please feel free to divide the sum in any way that you think will give them most pleasure and satisfaction. John and Jean, being somewhat older, should, I think, perhaps receive a little larger share of the amount than Harry and Rosabel, but whatever you think best will be quite satisfactory to me. If you think, out of the amount, that you would like to give each of them five dollars in cash, using the rest for the purpose of the gifts, why of course feel free to make the distribution in this way. I shall be grateful for any arrangement or division you may make. All that I would ask is that you try to secure with the amount something that you feel will really give pleasure and satisfaction.

I might add that should you feel it necessary to

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stretch this amount in order to get just the very thing that you would like, please feel free to do so, and I will be glad to send you something additional later on.

I am also enclosing another cheque for $50.00 to go in payment of the extra sum which I said I would contribute towards ensuring the services of a suitable domestic. You were to pay a certain amount and I was to give you so much in addition as part of the wages to whoever you might employ as more efficient help. You were to let me know what this came to during the year. If the amount I am now enclosing does not cover what is owing, I will send you a further amount to balance accounts. If it runs past the amount, please see that whatever is over is applied on next year's account.

If you will go at once and have your teeth attended to I will, as promised over the 'phone last night, settle that account as well. I would not like you to say to the dentist that I was meeting it, but would very much like you to phone Dr. Gow on receiving this letter and make some appointment with him to see you when you are in Toronto. They carry out whatever advice he gives, and let him look after you. This undertaking is not to meet any dentist bill in Barrie, but to induce you to see a

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thoroughly efficient man at once. I am sure that the condition of your teeth has had much to do with any impairment of your own health and strength, and that proper treatment in this particular will pay many times over any expenditure that may be made upon it. Please remember always that there is no economy in delay in letting sickness of any kind develop, if it is at all preventable, and no economy in getting over tired in not having the help that is necessary to enable you to get through the duties of each day and week.

If in meeting the situation adequately in each and all of these particulars you feel the least embarrassment on account of means, if you will just let me know what is involved in the difference in doing the thing as you would do it and in having it done in the way that would wholly relieve your mind of anxiety, I shall feel that I am making the best possible kind of a personal investment in sending you what may be necessary to spare you in health and strength to Harry and the children, and to enable you to enjoy more fully than you otherwise might be able to do, your life with them. Please believe that I look on this not as a gift but as an investment, though any contribution I may make in this way will carry with it all the happiness that

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a worthwhile gift would bear.

I would write more, but am anxious to get this letter off by tonight's mail. Let it bring to you and to Harry and the children my fondest love, and all good wishes for the approaching Christmas Season.

Affectionately yours,

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 10th '29

My dear Willie:

It was very good of you to ring up last night. I tried to write to you but was so sleepy I couldn't keep my eyes open & was getting ready for bed when you phoned. It keeps me pretty busy when I have no help, but I am never better than when doing housework. The only trouble is, I can do nothing else! I am hoping to hear from Miss Kennedy this afternoon, as the maids were to arrive from England today.

here who needs them. She has taken prizes at all the exhibitions. I am going to phone him & see what he has & what he charges.

I don't think my teeth are bothering me now; I fear it is my tonsils which cause rheumatism, & I am afraid to have them out! I feel like letting well enough alone. Many thanks for your kind offer. I am going to have the next tooth out in Toronto.

I must stop. Was so glad to have the little talk with you last night & was very proud of you on Wednesday night. It was a splendid speech.

Am so sorry about Madelaine Falconbridge. There is no comment on her death in the paper. All join in sending best love.

Your loving sister Jennie

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this will be just a note, as Jean is going to her mother's & will mail it from there. Also thing. Mary's a flamer much is a flamer when he goes down lower. I was one but can else if you can that. Yours of other things to glad to get- is going to Let me know We are going

this year for it seems to take more for every day life now that the children are growing up. Overcoats suits come high! & they are necessary as some of the joys of life have to go. We will be glad if you will "go easy" too for it isn't the gift but the love behind it, which gives the real joy.

Jean is very keen on having a cocker spaniel & if they are not too expensive & you are agreeable, I think that would be nice for her. There is a man

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Dr Gow before I go. My most
sincere thanks go to you.
Best love from us all
Yours lovingly
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 12 th '29
Mother's wedding day.

My dear Willie:

Just a line to thank you
very sincerely for your most
generous cheques and letter
which came last night.
I think you are more than good
to give us all such a large sum
for Christmas and I know the
children will be more than
delighted when Christmas comes.
I was going to Toronto this
morning, but we had such a

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1929

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terrible storm last night- that I decided if was worth while as I expect a [illegible] Toronto tonight for thankful for [illegible] Many thanks for the [illegible] dollars a month till the middle of Dec. that leaves [illegible] next year as [illegible] nine months at

I haven't time to say "thank you" as I would like for Harry is standing waiting for this. I find cocker spaniels are beyond the wildest price as they ask 40.00 to 75.00 here and I don't want as valuable a dog as that here. This is all I can say but will write later on. Am going to Toronto on Tuesday & will make arrangements with

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 15th, 29

My dear Willie:

To have three birthdays as well as Christmas in one month is a little too much! Harry Jr. was ten on Friday, you will be fifty-five on Tuesday, and Jean will be sixteen on the twenty-ninth. You are all growing old much too quickly! All in this House unite in sending very much love to you dear Willie and every good wish for happiness in all its varied forms

much to take when we can do so little in return. I thought if I could get something the children really wanted or till I lease a crisp ten-dollar bill to put in the Bank it would be a good thing, but at least they will put five dollars away. I am going down to Toronto on Wednesday, if all is well, to do some shopping. At present I have rather a nasty cold so stayed in bed this morning & feel much better tonight - hope by Wednesday to be in shape for a day in the shops. By then too, Doris the new maid, will know better where things are. I will go & see Dr. Gow and see what he thinks needs to be done. One tooth has to come out and I am fully determined that I will have no more pulled in Barrie. The last one I had

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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throughout the new year. This
last year has gone very quickly,
which is a good sign; it can't
have had too many adverse days
so time would not have seemed
to short. Looking at your year
from the outside, it looks as
if you have had nothing but
prosperity, but we know there
are always shadows which we
may not see,
helped to
and I do not
sures way
home to
it has been

year and it has had some historically important events, such as Ramsay Macdonald's visit, which will make it a memorable year. I might add the King twins' visit as one of the events!! I'll venture to say you will remember that as long as anything! I know we will! Then too your trip to the coast was pretty much of a triumphal march. Some one in town sent me a paper from Calgary, telling about you being in church there & addressing the children. I wish you had been able to manage a visit to Barrie but that will come later I hope. It is over a year since I saw you & you will see quite a change in the children.
I want to thank you again for your very kind cheques which came last week. It seems too

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Harry has just gone to bed and he says to give you his best love and all good wishes for your birthday & new year. The children also wished to be included in the messages of love and good will. They have been struggling with their Old Country Christmas letters & find it hard to find time for all the letters their parents want them to write! Again let me send best love, and you may be sure we shall all be thinking of you on Tuesday and hoping that the day is being a happy one for you and that your new year will be one of happiness in the fullest sense of the word.

Your loving sister
Jennie.

out sent me to bed for days and took nearly a month to heal. It is very good of you to make it possible for me to go to a dentist in whom I have faith and I know I shall be better when my teeth are fitted up. Not that I am not well but this awful rheumatism is making me a cripple. Dr. Low is certainly the best dentist I have come across and I fancy you were one of his first, if not his first, patients. He certainly has done a lot of work for our family from Father down. Mac was the only one he didn't do work for. Isn't the snow terrible? It was quite soft for a couple of days and it is awfully hard driving

BOULDERFELT BARRIE

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 December 1929

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Jennie's sale, & mother said they were Grandmother's best silver! I am keeping one for the children to put with one of Lord Nelson's & one of George Gradescanto's, so it will be in good company!
I wish I had had time to make some things for Christmas, but this year both time & funds have prevented me, and the children haven't had a minute either. They leave for school at 8.15 a.m. and are not home till 5 p.m. except for a brief half hour to eat their lunch. Then it takes them all evening to study and there is no time for anything else. I will be glad when this term is over and they get into the new school and the old regular hours. It has been hard on everyone in the house having such long hours.

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, Dec. 16 1929

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Hope you will have successful day shopping Toronto tomorrow. Glad you have arranged appointmend with Gow. Leave light to me. Love.

Willie

FU 142

● King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929 ●

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, General Manager

FORM 6124

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
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Money Transferred by Telegraph

STANDARD TIME.

RA25 43 NL

1929 DEC 17 AM 1 43

BARRIE ONT 16

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING 726

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

MESSAGE RECEIVED MANY THANKS STOP ALL HERE JOIN IN SENDING BEST LOVE AND EVERY GOOD WISH FOR A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ALL HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY IN YOUR NEW YEAR STOP MAY THERE BE MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY STOP BEST LOVE

JENNIE.

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 December 1929

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December 21, 1929.

This is to wish you and Merry
and all the children a very Merry
Christmas and to bring to you all my
fondest love on Christmas Day. It is
also to thank you for your kindness
in helping to secure for me the girl
for the young people, for I know the
job that is, and I also know that you
will be sure to secure for them some-
thing which will give them the greatest
enjoyment. I hope you will all have
a very happy and memorable day.

When I was in Toronto in the
early part of the month, I went into
Junor's to see if there was something
I could secure for you. One of the
young women in the store told Mr.
Junor that there were seven plates
similar to those which you had secured
for your dining-room set, and that

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they had been put to one side in case you might wish to secure them at any time in the future. Mr. Junor said to me that he was sure they would give you the greatest possible pleasure, and as I remembered your wish to have them, I asked him kindly to have them boxed up and sent to you as a gift from me, a few days before Christmas. I have no doubt that the box has safely arrived, and I hope that you will accept the plates with my best love and wishes. If by any chance there is something in the way of china that you would prefer, Junor said he would be only too glad to let you have something instead of the dishes upon word from you. I imagine that from what he says about the quality of the plates, that they are what you will most wish to have, and with all my heart I hope they may add to your happiness, not only at the Christmas season, but through many years to come.

I am sorry that I have not had a chance to get up to "Boulderfel"

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this year, or that neither you nor Harry nor any of your family have been down to Ottawa or Kingsmere. Perhaps in the New Year I may have the joy of a visit from you all. Now that I have the larger house at Kingsmere and the place has become more settled, it is easy to arrange for a visit, with the certainty that each member of the party can do pretty much as he or she pleases. With my time occupied as it is with public affairs, that is about the only basis on which I can have guests. I sometimes think the King boys, while here, did not get as much in the way of personal attention as they should have received, but no doubt the pleasure of their visit in other particulars made up for any lack of realized anticipations in other directions.

I am wondering if you and Harry would like to come down for the Opening of Parliament this session. If you do, I shall be happy indeed to have you come, and will extend the invitation immediately, so that you can plan as

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you may find it possible to do. You must expect, however, to find me very much occupied during those days, as they are always for me the most difficult of the entire session. However, you know the size of this house, and its arrangements, and I know you will have no difficulty in finding your way about without my help. Please, however, let me know a little later on if you think you would like to come, and would be able so to arrange.

I do not think you have been at an Opening of Parliament during the period of my term as Prime Minister. While I hope this will not be the last occasion on which I shall so officiate, with politics as uncertain as they are, no one can tell what a general election may bring forth. Of course it is quite possible that no election will be held until 1931. I may say confidentially that at the moment I am rather of that opinion myself. The Opening of Parliament will probably be about the end of January or early in February. The exact date will not be announced until the last [illegible].

0 0 0 7 1 0 0 0

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 December 1929

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I am sending Harry a flashlight for Christmas. I am delighted indeed to know that it is something which he has wished to have, and which will remind him of me from time to time as he works among his flowers. I am so glad that he has that special interest, which is one of the best. Even with the little experience I have had, I know something of the joy of growing some of one's own vegetables and having one's own garden of flowers, as well as the pleasure there must be of raising the latter under glass.

I am so glad that you have taken my advice, as well as advantage of the offer I have made to you, concerning your teeth. I am sure you will find the investment one of the best you have ever made, as far as your health is concerned. I am glad, too, that I have been able to be of some little help, as well, in the matter of the domestic programme, and I hope you will regard the services of a suitable domestic as more important than all else, not only for your present comfort,

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 December 1929

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but for all that pertains to your future strength and happiness. I would like you to feel that if ever a chance comes to get special help, I would rather assist you toward that end than in any other way, for I know of nothing that can mean quite so much in so many directions.

This is a very busy time for me, or I would write more. You know, however, without words, how near and dear you and Harry and the children are to me, and how much you are in my thoughts at this time, and indeed always. Your love and kindness, expressed in so many ways have added very much to my happiness from month to month and year to year. In this as in other ways, I pray that the New Year may add richly to our store.

With fondest love to all,
Believe me, dear Jennie,

Mrs. H. M. Lay
"Boulderfel."
Barrie,
Ontario.

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 December 1929

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 22nd. 29

My dear Willie:

It is very late so I must just send you a line to wish you a very merry Christmas and also to tell you of my purchases. I went down on Wednesday & got John & Jean leather ski coats & gloves, Peach an electric stove which she has been longing for. and Harry an electric moving picture lantern set in till 1.30 a.m. Friday & I was dead tired after shopping from 9. a. m.

All the family are asleep but would join with me in sending best love heaps good wish for the very happiest Christmas.

We are disappointed in our cards. Nelson ordered them & they cost us 18 cts each & they look like 1 cent! However they are Raphael Tucks so we will use them.

Again best love & many, many thanks from loving sister

Jennie.

Cora read me all Betty's letters. She was evidently greatly delighted with her visit at Laurier House and thought you were wonderful! J.

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but nothing could be done till after Christmas. He was talking about you & how well you had done. He said that Sir Henry Drayton had been in the chair the other day & in speaking of you, said they couldn't have a better man at the head of the Government. Pretty high praise from a Conservative!

We have been snowed in here and not able to get the car out till we got the town plough to dig us out yesterday. The snow is simply terrible. My train didn't

will give you accounts later. Nothing has actually been settled for though they are at the station. Dr. Stephen is declining us a dog or [illegible] explain about [illegible] los! Was [illegible] adolescence [illegible] known as [illegible] Dr. Gordon [illegible] talk & [illegible] from him [illegible] there was [illegible] spell it [illegible] one told [illegible]

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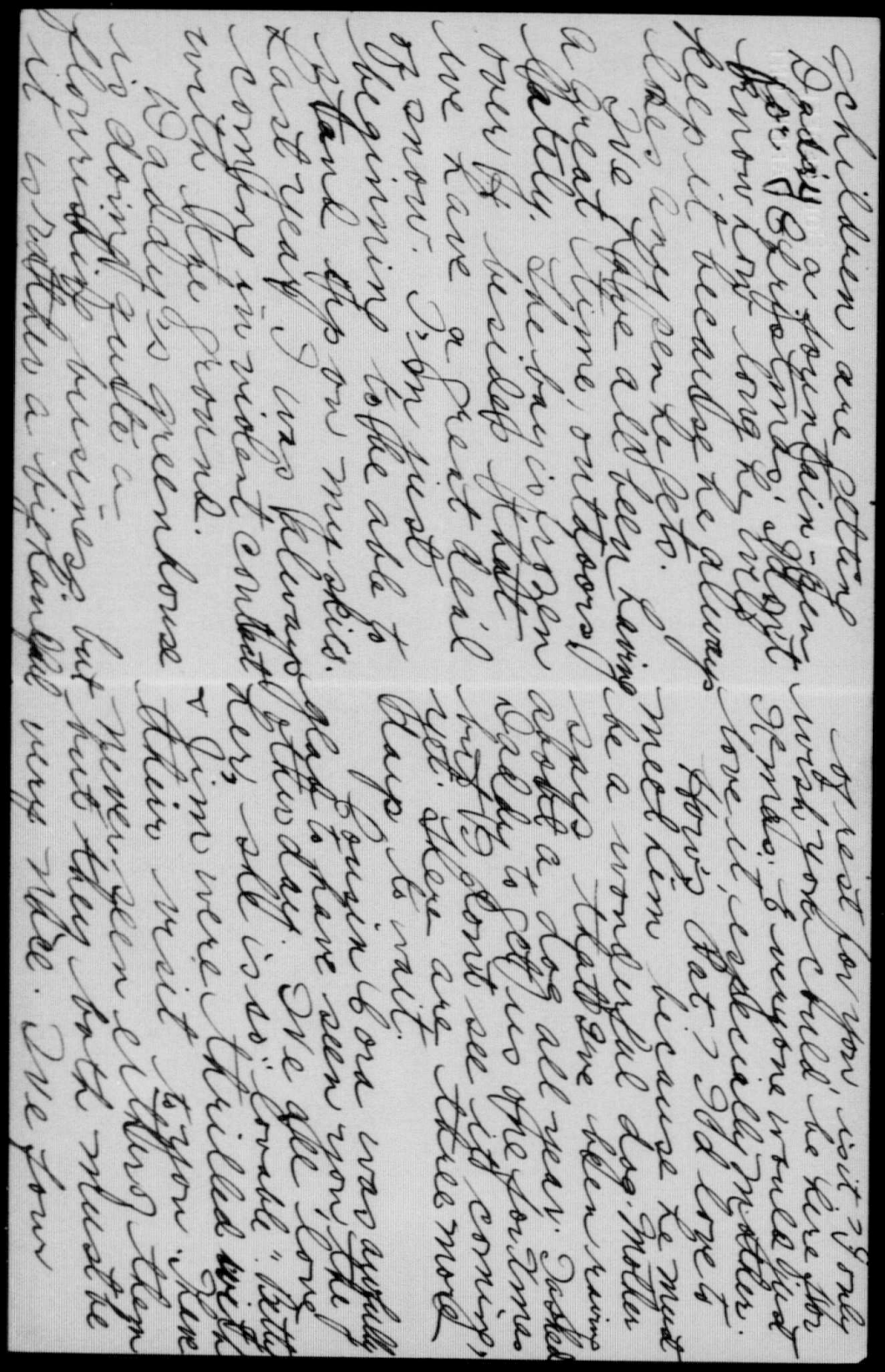
for him with his bank
do well. I'm awfully
glad you told mother
about Dr. Gow. She went
to him on Thursday &
he did her a world of
good. He was awfully
glad to see Mother and
welcomed her like a
long lost sister. Well,
I must close now,
wishing you again, a very
happy & prosperous New
Year & a Merry Christmas
& remain.
Your affectionate niece
Jean.

Dec. 22nd,
1929.

Dear Uncle Willie—
Merry Christmas
and a happy New Year!
I can hardly wait for the
twenty-fifth. Everyone
seems to have regrets and
they all mean the same—
Christmas presents. The
prospects for our Christmas
are exceedingly startling. We
are having thirty guests besides
ourselves for Christmas
dinner so there will be
a table full. Its too bad
that you are so busy at
Ottawa. It is hardly a time

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Sunday
Dec 22, 1929

Dear Uncle Willie:

I am writing to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We are certainly going to have Christmas weather this year. This time last year the bay wasn't frozen and there was hardly any snow. The roads are awfully bad and lots of cars have been stuck in the snow lately.

There is mother calling me for bed so I'll have to stop here.

Your loving niece
Rosabel

4

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cards and presents away.

On Saturday we were very busy clearing the snow off of our drive and now we have a lovely toboggan slide on it. We can also ski down it and sometimes we take a header into the snow.

Mother brought some cards that were printed but not painted home from Toronto and we have been having lots of fun painting them and sending them away.

On Saturday John and Harry went on skis to get a Christmas tree. They went to the wrong place and just when they were leaving the man came home. They told him they thought it was the man who told them they could have a tree in place but he made them pay just the same. They left the tree out there but are going to-morrow to get it.

Mother and the rest of us have been quite busy lately trying to get Christmas presents off. We have sent dozens of

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 22, 1929.

Dear Uncle Willie,-

This is just a short note to wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. We all wish very much that you could spend the day here with us. It would make our celebrations a ~~tod~~ lot more enjoyable. I hope you will be able to come up to see us sometime before the House opens in February.

We are certainly going to have snow for Christmas here. We have over two feet of it in places, more,

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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thing through the snow, so after going about a hundred yards, we left the thing there and decided to get a horse on Monday and go out for it. Then I had to haul the bally toboggan four miles back home. We got home about six o'clock, feeling nearly dead, so Harry and I are staying home from Church this morning.

Again wishing you a very merry Christmas, I remain

Your loving nephew

John.

I think, than we had all last year. The bay has been frozen over for about a week, but there has been no skating on it. Almost as soon as the ice formed it was covered with deep snow. This year ~~was~~ is the earliest freezeup I can remember. We usually begin to look for ice and skating weather about this time of year, but this year there has been skating at the Rink since the last week in November. I have been over at the Rink once, playing hockey.

Yesterday Harry wanted to get a Christmas tree, so I very foolishly consented to go with him. We skied out to a bush about four miles away, dragging a toboggan through soft drifted snow. We cut down a fairly good-sized tree, and commenced to drag it home on the toboggan. It was all I could do to move the

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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Hazelton,
B.C.
Dec. 2nd
1929.

Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G.,
Laurier House,
Ottawa.

Dear Willie,

Please accept
my sincere thanks

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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for you very kind
card of greeting for
Xmas & the New Year.
I regret extremely that I
was for off the beaten track,
when you passed through the
North recently, or I would
have endeavoured to meet
your train in order to see you
if only for a moment.
My very best wishes for your
happiness & prosperity in 1930.
Yours very sincerely,
Douglas Lay.

● 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 December
1929

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and we said on the
telegram.

Dear Uncle Willie,

I've read your letter reading you
& the twins to turn
to read from Christmas. John
and Jennie to
& Harry Christ
and mummy
to Cocoa Hill
& Christine
& Christine
to the
other

Dec. 23, 1929.

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 December 1929

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came up his drive and asked us what we were doing with the tree? He said that they cost fifty-cents apiece so John ~~shot~~ scooted over to him with the fifty-cents. He asked us who said we could have it? and John said Mr. Atkinson, but the farmer said that it wasn't Mr. Atkison's property, and he asked how we were going ~~home~~ to get it home

● 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 December 1929

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

RA27 30 NL

DEC 25 AM 12 31

BARRIE ONT 24

RT HON MACKENZIE KING

1126

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

ALL HERE JOIN IN LOVING GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS | WILL DRINK YOUR VERY GOOD HEALTH AT
DINNER | WISH YOU COULD BE WITH US | BEST LOVE

HARRY AND JENNIE.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

DEC 25 AM 12 31

RA27 30 NL

BARRIE ONT 24

RT HON MACKENZIE KING

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

ALL HERE JOIN IN LOVING GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS WILL DRINK YOUR VERY GOOD HEALTH AT
DINNER WISH YOU COULD BE WITH US BEST LOVE

HARRY AND JENNIE.

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 December 1929

REPEAT
REPETITION

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, Dec. 24,1929

Mrs. H.M.Lay,
Boulderfel, Barrie, Ontario.

Fondest love and the best of Christmas wishes, dear Jennie to yourself and Harry and to all the children. May this Christmas Season bea very happy and joyous one for you all.

Willie

FU 142

● 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 December 1929

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W.G.BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

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Ottawa, Dec. 24,1929

Mrs. W.H.Lay.
Boulderfel, Barrie, Ontario.

Fondest love and the best of Christmas wishes, dear Jennie to yourself and Harry and to all the children. May this Christmas Season bea very happy and joyous one for you all.

Willie

P^{d} 142

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

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REPEAT
REPETITION

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, December 24th
1929

My dear Willie,

Please accept my best wishes this Christmas Eve that tomorrow may be a very Merry and Happy Day for you and that ~~this~~ New Year's Day will be the first and all the days of 1930, to be, each one, Happy and prosperous. We would have been so delighted if you could have joined our celebration in Barrie and hope that in some future occasion this may so come about I don't suppose the citizens of

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 December 1929

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the Capitol could have been so happy of their first citizen the Prime Minister should have eaten his Christmas turkey out of sight of the centre of Canada's National life!

In a letter from Murray received today he says of your address in Vancouver before the Board of Trade – "even "the Conservatives could not criticize "and I heard several of them say, "it was wonderful."

An Irish Catholic running a saw mill near here was speaking of you yesterday and hadn't the least bit of doubt that you were in the saddle for life! "All the Frenchmen up here will vote for him." I think there is a good chance of redeeming Simcoe at the next Election. As you know the Liberals carried West Simcoe in the Provincial landslide.

There will be tremendous excitement among our little people tomorrow when your generous Christmas presents are opened. I really feel that you are altogether too kind and only hope they are sensible enough not to be spoiled by their generous uncle. At the present time they are all keyed up to almost irrepressible limits of enthusiasm.

Jennie looks well and is very busy. She joins me and the Kiddies in very much love. Yours very affectionately Rodney.

● 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 December 1929

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa,
(To be delivered Christmas morning)

Nelson Lay, Esq.,
Royal Navy Barracks.
HALIFAX, N. S.

Heartiest Christmas greetings, dear Nelson, and all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Mackenzie King

F.U.142

● 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 December 1929

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, Dec. 25, 1929

H. M. Lay, Esq.
Barrie,
Ontario.

The loving Christmas message and beautiful gifts from Jennie, the children and yourself have made me very happy on this Christmas morning. I send fondest love and will phone later in the day.

Willie.

F.U.142

● 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 December 1929

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CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W.G.BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

RECEIVER'S NO	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to Ottawa, Dec. 25, 1929

H. H. Lay, Esq.
Barrie,
Ontario.

The loving Christmas message and beautiful gifts from Jennie, the children and yourself have made me very happy on this Christmas morning. I send fondest love and will phone later in the day.

Willie.

F.U.142

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 127, file Jennie) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family - December 1929

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REPEAT
RÉPÉTITION



RA161 23 NL

BR BARRIE ONT 24

1929 DEC 25 AM 4:36

RIGHT HONORABLE W L MACKENZIE KING 1 79

OTTAWA ONT

JENNIE JOHN JEAN AND LITTLE HARRY MYSELF ALL UNITE IN SENDING YOU OUR BEST LOVE AND HEARTY WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

HARRY.

● 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 December 1929

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RA161 23 NL

BR BARRIE ONT 24

RIGHT HONORABLE W L MACKENZIE KING

OTTAWA ONT

JENNIE JOHN JEAN AND LITTLE HARRY MYSELF ALL UNITE IN SENDING YOU

OUR BEST LOVE AND HEARTY WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

HARRY.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1929

REPEAT
REPETITION

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C 5 0 5 0 7

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Barrie, Dec. 26. 1929

My dear Willie,

Yesterday evening on several occasions I had to visit the greenhouse, and your beautiful Christmas gift shed such illumination on my path that the trips were a pleasure and not the usual floundering in the snow trying to keep in the narrow paths. So you see your kind thought cares for my material and spiritual good! Let me therefore assure you of my grateful thanks. The children were full of excited rapture when your presents were opened and you

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 December 1929

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would I am sure have been pleased to see their happy faces Harvey & Rosabel were at the Bank early this morning depositing the cash surplus and feeling very important. On their behalf Jennie and I send you very many thanks.

We had a fairly large party at dinner with four in addition to our own six. On account and his wife, a young recent Irish addition to the staff and the perennial old Miss Ross being our guests. In the evening several more looked in, to see the Children and our gifts and the Christmas tree. Everyone agreed that we were extremely lucky Jennie Slater was so manful.

You must have had an arduous time acknowledging so many cards and messages.

Once more thanking you and wishing you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Yours very affectionately,
Harry Lay

P.S. I had closed my letter before remembering that I had forgotten to thank you also for the subscription to Homes & Gardens This is one of the most beautiful of our Canadian magazines and we certainly did appreciate it during the past year and shall look forward to seeing it again every month during the coming year as a fresh reminder of your thoughtful kindness. During the past year a picture of our greenhouse was sent us by the manufacturers. Thank you again most heartily. H.L.

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ADMIRALTY HOUSE,
HALIFAX.

December 26th

Dear Uncle Willie,

Ever so many thanks for your Xmas present and your kind wishes both by wire and by letter. It is certainly very kind of you to remember me each Christmas.

I had very cheerful Christmas. Halifax has improved tremendously since I was here last. The two new hotels and a theatre are great improvements and in the summer its awfully nice. Just now the weather's pretty foul. The snow is mostly slush.

With every good wish for the New Year.

Your affectionate nephew,

Nelson.

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letters from all the family at Boulderfel. It certainly is wonderful how well my Father has recovered from his operation. Wasn't it fortunate that he went to Dr. Thistle before starting out on that hunting expedition?

I had a very cheerful Xmas day here. I was duty officer and went "rounds" in the morning at 0930 and again with the Captain at 1145. Then

we had Christmas dinner in the middle of the day at Admiralty House. In the afternoon four of us played badminton in our drill hall and shook down some of the surplus food! One of the other officers relieved me in the evening so I was able to join some friends at the Lord Nelson Hotel. There was a very cheerful dance there and we didn't get back till the small hours this morning.

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December 26, 1929

My dear Jennie!

May I supplement the word of acknowledgment I have just sent Jennie of the gifts received from you and her and the children, by a personal line to say how much I have appreciated all the kind thought and generosity expressed in so many ways, by you all, at this Christmas season, and what a pleasure it was to receive, early in the morning, not only your many beautiful gifts, but the telegram of greeting which came, as well, from you.

I wish we might all have been together for Christmas Day, but your many gifts and greetings and the talk over the telephone seemed to make it as though, in fact, we were. I do not believe that, had I been in Barrie, it would have been possible to have felt so near to you all as I did throughout the day.

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I do hope that you and Jennie will take good care of yourselves at all times, but especially at this Christmas season. I was telling Jennie that I have learned that fatigue is about the greatest enemy we have to face and that, no matter what we have to do, it is imperative that our day should be so regulated as to have plenty of sleep and intervals of rest. I believe it is the best of all insurance against sickness. I find that it is when I am tired that I get cold and cold can bring on no end of other troubles. You and Jennie must remember that none of us are getting any younger and that, as years are added to our responsibilities, we need to re-adjust our lives so as to let others do much that, in former years, we did ourselves. I believe the best gift I can send you and Jennie is this little bit of wholesome advice and counsel, if you would only heed it. I wish you both would try it for a month or two and see how marvellous

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the effect is of feeling fresh each day, instead of carrying a part of the load of the day before, as well as of the anxieties ahead.

I know how busy you both are with the children and often with indifferent help, and that is the reason why I am making the suggestion I am for, in the great pressure of things, they are otherwise almost certain to be overlooked.

With renewed thanks for all your goodness and kindness, and with best love,

Believe me, as always,

Very affectionately yours,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/[illegible]/C

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I hope your Christmas dinner was a very happy one. With six guests you would have a pretty full house, but I know what a pleasure it must be to those who have not their own homes to share Christmas dinner in a home where there is much of Christmas cheer and happiness, though I suppose that is not quite the same sort of pleasure one derives in giving happiness to others. So altogether I imagine you children and your father and mother must have had a very happy Christmas Day.

I gave Pat your message and he told me to thank you very much for it. He, too, is looking forward to making your acquaintance and he hopes to meet some distant relative of his when he comes up to Boulderfel. I had heard that you had had in mind a cocker spaniel for Christmas and I much hope that your mother may have found one who would take a pride in as well as take good care of the house and family. Pat says cocker spaniels are not quite as fine a breed as Irish terriers, but are the next best, so he is quite pleased to learn of your choice.

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This letter, I fear, is getting much too long, so I will bring it speedily to a close. Let it carry to you, with my renewed thanks for all your loving thoughts and gifts, my love and very best of wishes for all happiness in the New Year.

Believe me, dear Jean,
Your affectionate uncle,

Miss Jean Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/NHM/C

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December 26, 1929

My dear Jennie,

I cannot begin to tell you the pleasure that all the lovely gifts and letters and greetings from Harry, the children and yourself have brought to me, at this Christmas season, nor how much I enjoyed having the little talk I had with you all over the telephone yesterday. These many exchanges of good-will seem to bring us all very near, one to the other. The day, too, was cold and bright, with plenty of snow - just an ideal Christmas Day. I can only hope that for all of you it was as happy a day as it was for me.

Your Christmas letter arrived on Christmas Eve, and it was the first greeting I read on Christmas morning. The telegram from Harry came a little later in the day. The box with the many presents must have arrived the evening before, for I found it on the table in the little sunroom, when I went in to breakfast in the morning.

E-1-0-0-0

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I think you know I always have breakfast in the room on the top floor which overlooks the corner of Laurier Avenue and Chapel Street.

I really cannot tell you how pleased I am with the beautifully silver-mounted cut glass bowl, with its silver tongs. I can, in the winter, use it without the tongs for flowers, and, in the summer, is just what I want for cracked ice at Kingsmere, as well as Laurier House. It was very thoughtful and kind of you and Harry to make such a welcome as well as beautiful selection. Along with the silver hot-water muffin dish which you sent me on my birthday, I am now pretty well equipped for either hot or cold weather. The little flower vases from the children are very dainty and are a welcome addition to the house. I do not know anything that seems to fit in better on all occasions than a vase of almost any size. The plum pudding which Jean sent me will

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come in for New Year's. The Christmas plum pudding was a little too much under way before I discovered the new arrival. For the gifts themselves and for all the love which they and your several messages so abundantly express, I am more than grateful to you all.

It would take you a little too long to tell of my own Christmas in other particulars. I believe that considerably over one thousand cards have been received, and I should think a couple of hundred telegrams and cables, and possibly one hundred gifts, of one kind or another. It has kept the staff of three or four pretty busy the last few days, sending out acknowledgment. With all there is in the way of public work, I have time for little more than a glance at what is received, though I do keep Christmas Day and the days immediately before and after pretty largely for the enjoyment of these remembrances from friends, and getting out some expression of good-will to them. I received a

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very nice cable from The King and Queen. The Governor General and Lady Willingdon presented me with an onyx stand, with a gold plate on which they have placed a beautiful inscription. The stand is accompanied by self-filling pens.

Senator McDougald presented me with some old iron ware china, which is very beautiful, and the Masseys with a reproduction of an old style of silver jug, for hot milk or water. There have been many books and, from other sources, have come flowers, tea, apples, jam, oysters, partridge and jam and other household supplies of a delicious variety. Altogether, it has been quite a wonderful season.

I am so glad that the little people are pleased with the gifts you secured for them, and, once again, I wish to thank you for the trouble to which you went in securing

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them for me.

With fondest love and re-
newed thanks for all your kindness,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/

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H1000

December 26, 1929

My dear Rosebel:

Your loving little letter, written on Sunday morning, came to me in good time for Christmas and I had great pleasure in reading it on Christmas Day. I do not know which I liked the best, the letter or the beautiful little vase which you sent me as a Christmas gift, and the loving Christmas message which was attached to it.

I would like to thank you for all three, and let you know that they made my Christmas a very memorable one. I hope the Christmas tree was a great success. After all the trouble the boys had in securing it, I am sure they would appreciate it all the more, after it was put in place and lighted up. I found, when I went to get my breakfast, that my household staff had arranged a Christmas tree for me, which came as a great

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surprise. As I opened the gifts which came from Boulderfel, I placed them all around the tree and I can tell you that they made a pretty fine showing.

I am glad you are having such a good time at tobogganing, ski-ing and skating. I do not think there is anything which makes more for health and strength - and that means happiness - than outdoor sports. I hope you will have a good time that way all through the winter, and then enjoy the caring for flowers and vegetables in the spring and summer.

I would write more, but I have a great many letters to send off. There is also much in the way of business to attend to, so I shall just have to say, once again, how delighted I am with your gift and letter and, in thanking you anew for both, send my best love and wishes to you for all happiness in the New Year.

Your affectionate uncle,

Miss Rosabel Lay,
Boulderfel,

WLMK/MBM/C Barrie, Ontario.

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December 26, 1929

My dear Jean:

Your loving Christmas letter was on my table when I telephoned to Barrie in the morning, but it was afternoon before I had time to open my mail. I suppose I opened between three and four hundred letters and cards. That will explain to you why I have only time to send little more than a line of acknowledgment for your lovely letter and also for the gift of Christmas pudding and the photograph of yourself and your daddy, which came from you to me and which I was delighted to receive.

When I looked at the photo first, I thought how much you looked like your Aunt Bella, and then I thought how very like you are to your mother, so you see you are quite evidently a combination of both, which I am sure you are in character as well as in looks. I could wish you nothing better than that you will always be like each of them.

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December 26, 1929

My dear Harry:

Your little letter, written two days before Christmas, was given me the greatest possible pleasure, as has also the beautiful vases which I received from you and John and Hosabel. They will make a lovely addition to the many beautiful things I have at Laurier House and which I hope you will see in the not too distant future. Let me thank you for them very warmly, and for all the love they so beautifully express.

I was immensely interested in the account which you and John gave me of the time you had in securing the Christmas tree. Being a bit of a farmer myself and having many Christmas trees on my property, I know exactly how the farmer must have felt when he saw you getting away with something which belonged to him and was being taken off his property. I just hope that no boys were out in my woods

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cutting down trees at the Christmas season, for there was no one there to collect any money from them. But the place is so far out of the city that I doubt if many would go there for trees.

I gave Perryman your message about the rabbits. While he seemed greatly pleased to know about them, he did not make an offer. Perhaps he meant by waiting to see them for himself. This, I hope, he may be able to do with me, in the not too distant future.

Please accept, with my thanks, for your letter and gifts, my best of wishes for the New Year,

Your affectionate uncle,

Master Harry Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/MMM/C

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P 1 0 0 0

1J

December 26, 1929

My dear John:

When I telephoned yesterday, I had not had time to open many of the letters which came to me on Christmas eve. That was why I made no mention of the one received from you, but which I read with delight before the day was over. I also received and read the letters from Jean, Rosabel and Harry during the course of the day, and I assure you they added very much to its happiness.

I was delighted with your beautiful gift, as well as with the letter, and I want to thank you very warmly for both, as well as for all the love you sent.

I was much interested in your account of the time you and Harry had securing a Christmas tree, and also in what Harry and Rosabel told me in their letters about it. You seem to

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be having about the same kind of Christmas weather as we are at the capital.

With my love and renewed thanks for your Christmas gift and greetings, I send to you my best of wishes for the New Year,

Your affectionate uncle,

Master John Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 27, 1929

Dear Uncle Willie,-

I don't know how to thank you enough for the lovely presents I found waiting for me on Christmas morning. The leather coat and gauntlets are just what I have been wishing and hoping for every time I have put on my skis, and the five dollars will be a great help to my bank account. The little dog is a dear. We just got her yesterday afternoon. She is a brown and white cocker spaniel, and will have her next fall. Of course, I am hoping to get a scholarship if I can, but you can never tell. Mother has to go down to Dr. Gow sometime soon, so I am hoping to be able to drive her down sometime next week. It all depends on the roads. While they are fairly good up here, Cousin Cora says they are terrible in Toronto. The rotary snow plow goes past here every day and keeps the road open very well. When it is going at any speed all you can see is a cloud of snow going along the road making a frightful racket. Still, it does the job and just eats up any drifts that lie in its path. The big fans throw the snow fifteen feet or more off the road.

Thanking you again for your lovely gifts to me and sending my best wishes for a happy New Year I remain,

Your loving nephew John

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the green-house handy to supply water. Finch shrinkage in bo
Yesterday the hose was leaking and we She has settled dow
borrowed the Lord's the green-house as quite contentedly
well as the rest! I guess she has had more attention
Yesterday I took several pictures than in all the rest of
by the roll. Do soon as I get them
of the rabbits. Will send you some copies
printed
by them.

A couple weeks before Christmas Major Rogers, who is in charge of the building of the new R.C.A.F. station at Trenton, was in Ottawa and asked me if I would kind enough to act as judge for the best-kept garden, back and front, in the city. I agreed to do so, and on the day appointed I started out with Mr. Lay in the car. It was a very cold day, with a high wind blowing, and the thermometer registering 10 degrees below zero. We had a mile walk to the first garden, which was that of Mr. Lay's brother-in-law, Mr. Harry Morrison, who lives on Rosedale Heights Drive. Mr. Morrison has been growing flowers for many years, and has a very fine garden. He has been a member of the Ottawa Horticultural Society for a number of years, and has won a number of prizes for his flowers. He has also been a member of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club for a number of years, and has given a number of very interesting papers before the Club on various subjects connected with nature. I found that Mr. Morrison had a very fine garden indeed, and I was pleased to award him first prize. He has a very fine rock garden, and a number of very fine perennials. He has also been very successful in growing roses, and has a number of very fine bushes. He has also been very successful in growing dahlias, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing gladioli, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing asters, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing chrysanthemums, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing annuals, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing perennials, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing bulbs, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing vines, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing shrubs, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing trees, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing hedges, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing lawns, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing paths, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing walks, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing drives, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing fences, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing gates, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing arches, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing pergolas, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing summer-houses, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing rustic work, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing rockeries, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing water-gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing bog-gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing wild-gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing formal gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing informal gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing mixed gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing herbaceous borders, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing shrubberies, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing hedges, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing screens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing backgrounds, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing foregrounds, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing middle-grounds, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing distant views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing near views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing panoramic views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing bird's-eye views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing worm's-eye views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing side views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing front views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing back views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing top views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing bottom views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing inside views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing outside views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing all-round views, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing all-round gardens, and has a number of very fine varieties. He has also been very successful in growing all-round people. We are very pleased to have had Mr. Lay with us, and hope that he will come again next year.

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The Family Home

Dec 27th, 1929.

P.S. Bye Bye dearest darling Jimmy dear. Love and kisses from Johnny and I. And just tell the whole house is decorated and looks very Christmassy

Dear Uncle Willie,—

Just a few lines to thank you very much for the wonderful Christmas present — I have always wanted a leather coat and you were more than generous to give me one. It is beautiful the inside is of blanket material and can be worn on the outside. It is very warm and will be useful at all times. John is very

she is a darling dog & very playful. She has quite adopted us and certainly makes herself at home. Dad & Mother love her already. John & I have been making a rink in the High-school grounds next door. I think it's going to turn out fine. The ice on the bay is no good & there is far too much snow.

Mystreal Christmas presents to you will arrive later. There seemed to be so much to do before Xmas that I didn't get yours finished. Well, I must close, hoping you will have a very happy New Year. I remain Your loving niece Jean.

thanking you again for this present

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outfit. When Nelson was delighted with it
Rome, Carl, he left his dress St Pats me so we will be
to John and me. Yesterday all to change to
Dads on them Great dad. each get a change
Parent up the Kids next Easter bunnies. Pure
Door and came down X mas day and all
on this without falling and had Grampa a
and I was around all it. The candles the
myself but the table with the coat are
was, that there was a warm as toast a
he one to see me! Mommie different from any
John was looking at me Today are fleece-lined
Dad would gracefully act a leather. A-
down. There a big cushie is a big
excitement yesterday with a design with
when Dad Grampa the pretty. Dear a pearl
Lorne. Dye didn't the pump Mother and
Thing about it so it and with a hair
who a great surprise. I have a regular or

Dec. 24, 1929

Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you very much for that lovely Movie Picture Machine you gave me, it certainly is a beauty. I got lots of presents and here are some of them. Five dollars from you, two or three games, books Glitter Wax. Birthday

a Christmas ~~tack~~ ~~but~~ but it was too ~~heavy~~ heavy to pull ~~it~~ back on the toboggan but we went out again with a horse and brought it back. We have it now in the house all decorated with balloons and ~~coul~~ coloured electric lights and lots of other things

and again with many thanks.

Your loving nephew
Harry Lay.

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Book, boxflandies and
lots of other things but
best of all the dog you
gave us all. she came
yesterday. She is a
brown and white
Cocker Spaniel and we
are going to call her
"Gyp".

John and myself are
making a rink in the
old High School Grounds.

Last Saturday John
and myself skied out
to Crown Hill to get

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children should naturally crave the beautiful. When I am alone and they have to help with the work it is a great pleasure to me to see how, unconsciously, they do the things nicely. Also they notice other peoples things & can appreciate beauty when they see it. They will never know how much it means for they have always had it; one of my chief joys in having the lovely things is that it educates the children along that line. I so often think of your lovely table at Laurier House and how pretty it looked from the library door! To say I am grateful for all your generous gifts, is a very inadequate way of expressing it but you know it is sincerely true. You have been more than good to every one of us and we feel very thankful. We loved your card & your cards! The latter gave great joy to all the children & are very clever. Mary got

//

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 27th '29

My dear Willie:

You shame me with your promptness in writing, but you haven't your children always demanding attention and also to tidy up after! It took me most of yesterday getting the library into shape and finding places for all the things. The maid was out for the afternoon so we had to get tea and I simply couldn't write at night. This afternoon your letters & all the family arrived we enjoyed them so much, fully appreciating what they represent in time as well as thought. You must have had a great time getting all your gifts in order. I am so glad you

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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 December 1929

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explains why Jean's little gift to you was not completed but it will go forward shortly. Our tree is lovely with electric lights & balloons, the latter we give to the children who come in. The table on Christmas day was lovely. Mrs Sylvester (late of Galt) sent me a lovely centre piece & Con gave me a silver mirror for the table and the Bank staff gave me a vase. We had white hyacinths, narcissi ferns and with your beautiful silver and lovely plates, it was a table anyone might be teen proud of. You were more than generous to give me so many plates and to say I was surprised and delighted sounds very tame. They certainly are beautiful china and if they give my children the pleasure Mothers pink dishes have given me they will be a rich heritage. I have the loveliest dishes and silver than any of my friends and can always be proud of our table. Apart from the pride I love to look at a pretty table and the

had a tree! I forgot to tell you that Jean had a tree this year the children are big enough to give a hand. Arthur & Jean put up the decorations. We have always had a electric light which several things, now most of the ornaments Jean John was given her by Jean had a chance to buy it at the Bank day at the Bank we sold ours year he sold me Christmas. Last year $10.36! By comparison for a good many years Dalles but it shows had the time and Jean helped me set all the greens Eric. Doris is a very very competent, I have her and every day which is

bands, pencils, scissors etc. We had great fun over that box. I looked at a pencil sharpener but "shied" at the price. Nichol told me when I was in Ottawa that some time when the car was coming up he would slip one in so I was not wasting good cash!! Don't tell Nichol I told!

About coming down for the Opening. It is very kind of you to ask us & I would dearly love to see it all, but it would be absolutely no pleasure to me to take part in the performance and as I couldn't very well be there and not be at anything, the place for me is home. It means altogether too much expense for the pleasure derived from it, & much as I should like to be able to say I had been at an Opening while you were Prime Minister I would not enjoy it one scrap when I knew what it involved. When the children get a little older perhaps they can have an opportunity & it would be a joy to me to get them ready, where it is impossible to do for myself. One thing I can promise

crisp new $5 bills and they looked so pretty on top of their boxes. The children were so excited when they were opening their things! They didn't know whose to look at first. Harry Jr. got most this year but his present is really a family one so I didn't mind giving more for it as John is really as much interested as Harry & we all enjoy the pictures. Then too, it is probably the last year that a real toy will go to him! It is really a lovely machine she is going to give the "scouts" a picture show! Then Peach's little stove is a gem. They made hot biscuits in the oven yesterday & they were good! A little recipe book came with it. It is a toy in one sense but a most instructive one and I would like to play with it myself! She was very keen for shoe packs, we

BOULDERFEL BARRIE

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had given Nancy a dog for his birthday the week before, and all from legged for families. Jean doesn't know the dog is to be ours Glenn set the things to the Lyons Jennie's family had to have Harry Johns's Jean could have dollars for at Saturday's Wilsons sport by saving to Sabo for Xmas letter from Mrs Lyons what a this the crowd then about the Children this is dog. Mrs Stephens said this was one wanted take her trouble if she had any;

the time, and we could have her for nothing. She is a pedigreed dog and is a dear little brown & white cocker & will be a year old on the 6th January. The children are wild about her and she is a beautiful little beast. The children gave her a bath yesterday & she looks lovely. There was wild excitement when they were bathing her & they brought her in & dried her in front of the library grate! It is good for them to have a pet as it makes them more thoughtful, but it is one more thing to look after & be responsible for! Harry S^t loves a dog and it is company for me when I am alone all day. I am not telling the children we got her for nothing; just said it was an extra present from you! The flash light has already been of great service and Harry is delighted with it. I gave him a couple of green tapers and a box with all the little things he needs in his "business": price tags, labels, pins for holding tags, elastic

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for they are accustomed to work & are clean. Thank goodness the Children are getting big enough to be a real help.
You will have to take this letter to Ted to read! I have been called away so often that it has been a long time on the way but there seemed so much I wanted to say! This will reach you in time to wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year all joy & success in 1930. I hope we may see you early in the year and thank you in person for all your kindness. For the present all join in sending very much love & best & many thanks

Your loving sister
Jennie

You will not need to be ashamed of them! They may be from the country but there is nothing of the BOULDERFELT BARRIE "bounder" about them! Also they have not "swelled heads"! Deliver me from your other nephews. I think Mary has her hands full. I am going down to stay with Cora when Dr. Gow is looking after my teeth. I am afraid they will all have to come out but if it improves my health I don't mind. Cora enjoyed so much her talk with you. She told me you had got a new fur coat and I was so glad. You really should have that in Ottawa & they certainly are a great comfort especially in the evening after being overheated. Harry got his, thirty years ago & it is still good for stormy weather. My own coat is the greatest joy & comfort to me. It is not an extravagance for it will outwear half a dozen winter coats & always look well.

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We were married twenty-three years ago on Thursday and if it is kind to kibitz that Mother Hatton would have had been married that long! I often wonder if we realize how fast our children grow up. It seems to me that children of our children's children grow even faster. I did not realize how soon we must make companions of our children's children when I did, though I remember when I was sixteen how I looked forward to my earlier companions of my parents' generation. Jean will be sixteen tomorrow. My, my, how the years fly! Jean will be married with children of her own before we know it. Harry and I have been married twenty-three years and have had a happy life together which is not always the case. Jean's birthday is on Christmas Day so I suppose we shall have to celebrate it on the 26th. Harry will be so busy from the Bank this year that I am afraid he will not be able to do much for Jean's birthday. She will be as disappointed as I was when my birthday came on Christmas Day. I always got my presents on the 26th. Harry got me a pair of skis one year and a bicycle another year. Jean gave me a book on Canadian birds which I enjoyed very much. It made a difference in my Christmas shopping this year as I could also get Jean something for herself. We are having the Bank staff for dinner next Thursday; probably for the last time. By next Christmas Harry will likely be one of the leading florists!! This has been a hard year in the bank for business has fully trebled, and help there, as in the house, is not what it might be.

I was wondering the other day if some of those Mennonite girls couldn't be placed in the country as domestics. They are good workers if they could be induced to come to towns where salaries are smaller for a smaller wage, they would be a God-send to a lot of weary mothers. This girl I have told me quite plainly that she came out to see the country & had no intention of staying long in one place. As soon as they know anything they go to the city where there is less work, more excitement & bigger pay. I would rather have a good German girl than any other kind

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2 leather coats 31.00
2 " jumpers 5.00
" " shirts 1.50
1 shoe pack 2.25
1 Caution 22.50
1 shore 13.00
case 20.00

$94.25

The remaining $5.75 I have divided between John & Jean without saying anything to the two small ones.

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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930 JAN 1 AM 10 34

RA161 12

BARRIE ONT 1 1025A

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING

060 LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

LOVE AND BEST WISHES FOR 1930 FROM ALL HERE

JENNIE.

● 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-February 1930

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Barrie, Jan 1. 1930

My dear Lollie,

The parcel with the three additional batteries for my flashlight arrived to day, and was quite a surprise as I thought you had already given me a very splendid Christmas gift without adding bit. However please accept my thanks for this additional token of

I hope that during the years to come you will be blessed with the best of health and happiness. Jennie received your telegram this morning with your loving New Year's message which we all truly appreciate. Jennie found the dentist's operation very much easier than she expected but nevertheless is feeling a little bit out-of sorts today. We have had a fine quiet peaceful New Years Day. With best love from us all dear Lollie and again thanking you for your kindness

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your thoughtful kindness. I shall consider it significant that on the 1st day of the New Year this reserve of light should arrive so that I have not only the light you gave me before as my 'capital' but now also the "rest" which is considered so important by all the Banks as providing against all possible liabilities!
Your voice last morning came over the wires to our greenhouse where Jennie had been saying me a call. I can always make use of a holiday in this little house. We were delighted to have another opportunity of exchanging greetings with you, and were glad to hear that you were well. The heavy duties which you have to grapple with require a very fit body and mind.

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this time. He was afraid to give me a local anaesthetic as it affects my heart so badly, so I had gas & it was over in a few minutes. He said all the roots were abcessed, so surely I should be better after getting rid of all that poison. Every tooth I have had out has been ulcerated & I am thankful to have got rid of the last. Dr Gow says there is absolutely no poison in any that are now in my mouth but I have very few! He advises me to keep what I have & try a partial plate as my upper front teeth should last at least ten years, my lower

11

Jan. 1st '30

My dear Willie:

A very happy New Year to you and all joy in 1930! We have just sent off a message of good will, and hope you will find in 1930 opportunities for greater happiness and service than ever before. You have been able to accomplish much in 1929 and it must be a great satisfaction to you to look back on a year so

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filled with achievement.
I hope when 1930 is over you will be able to look back with even greater satisfaction.
Your message has pleased me greatly; the years we have had in the past many thanks for your wishes for the year now coming on all for your kindness and help to me. Also for all your kindness and help if about Christmas that let me tell you John drove me down on Monday & Dr Gow took some more x rays of my teeth

Sent me to Dr Kerr to have one out. He says this is the last (it is the 7th) I will have to have out but I may have to have my jaw scraped where I had the tooth out the end of October. Bits of bone have been coming out till a couple of weeks ago when it began to heal for the first time. Dr Gow wants me to leave it till February to see whether it will clear up. When I think of what I suffered after each of the other teeth, it is nothing short of marvellous to have got off as I did

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think that her wishes would be considered! The Ross girls were with Frank Harper for Christmas. I wonder if you had a card from them. To my mind it was in very bad taste!

I was just this far when I went to the greenhouse to speak to Mary & you rang up! Thanks so much for all your kindness and again best love & all good wishes for 1930. All the children & Mary join with me in sending best wishes for the new year & with much love from all

your loving sister
Jennie

teeth as long as I live! I have only one back tooth left! Dr. Kerr charged me six dollars for extracting the tooth - just twice as much as it would have been here, but I should probably still be suffering and not be sure that it was quite clean. Then too, there was a nurse in attendance and you felt safer. Cora & John came with me. Really Cora is more than kind. She showed me the lovely bag you sent her and she was so delighted with it & thought you were more than good to remember her so generously. She certainly has

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Robb had and is a younger man which is all in his favour. There is a great deal of talk here about who is to succeed Judge Ross. Mr. Creswick, a red hot Conservative, rang me yesterday and asked if I would write you in favour of Mr. Waring. I think she said. I told her I didn't even know the man but she said he was Crown attorney at Peterboro & also came from there. I don't know whether he is a Conservative or not but I thought Mrs. Creswick had a good deal of nerve to

January 4, 1930

This is just a line to thank you for your loving letter, written on New Year's Day, and also for the telegram which came from you on New Year's morning. Oddly enough it was about the first I opened after I had had a talk with you over the telephone. That accounts for my making no acknowledgment of it at the time. I have immensely enjoyed the many greetings and letters exchanged with the children, Harry and yourself at this Christmas season. Between letters, telegrams, the telephone and the radio, we have been able to share a good part of the Christmas season and the New Year.

I am more pleased than I can say about the attention you are having given to your teeth. While you are about it, I would

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strongly advise that you have the job made as thorough, complete and satisfactory in all particulars as it can be made. You will find, as a consequence, an immense benefit both mentally and physically for the rest of your life.

Please tell Harry that I have enjoyed very much his letter, also written on New Year's Day. I am glad that the flashlight is of some real service. I was particularly interested to learn of the success he is making of the green-houses.

I was kept very busy on New Year's Day. I went to a combined Presbyterian service at Knox Church in the morning, then to the office to answer the morning's mail and telegrams; during the afternoon I received no less than three hundred and sixty-one callers. In the evening I went to dinner at Sir Robert Borden's, to meet General Smuts.

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I hope, by the way, that you got all right at Barrie the speeches at the dinner given in honour of General Smuts, at the Chateau Laurier, on the evening following. The occasion was a very fine one. I was a little amused at the extent to which our Tory friends (Smuts is one of the number) are trying to take all the credit to themselves for the recognition of Dominion status, obtained at the Imperial Conference of 1926, and of which immediately thereafter, and even yet, many of them are most critical. It was amusing to me how both Smuts and Borden, who had evidently talked the matter over very fully in advance, were careful to keep to themselves and especially to deprive me of any credit in connection with what has been achieved. They were so careful that I think almost everyone present noticed it and there have been not a few amusing comments since.

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Will you please thank all the little people for their letters which I have indeed been delighted to receive.

With fondest love to all,
Believe me,
As always, dear Jennie,
Very affectionately y

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/HML/C

C-11 0 0 0

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Form 6122, replacing Form 1-TW

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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BARRIE ONT 550PM JAN 5 1930

HON MACKENZIE KING 583

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

CORA PHONED TELLING US NELLIE DIED THIS MORNING AT TEN

JENNIE

620PM

USE OUR DIRECT ALL CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 19th '30.

My dear Willie:

It has taken me a long time to tell you about the flowers we sent Nellie but probably Percy has written you. I had a letter from him yesterday in answer to mine and he thanks us for "the very beautiful flowers" so I fancy they were all right. Flowers are more expensive at this time of the year but Harry made up a beautiful spray of roses, snapdragon narcissus & ferns. The flowers, wholesale, cost with the express, six dollars & if you are agreeable we thought you

more film. It was to be 4.00 but when it arrived we found the duty was 1 cent a ft. So we are going to send it back! Isn't that an awful rate of duty? Seven dollars is a bit too much. We will wait till some one is going to the States & get them to bring it back!! Defraud the Government! Harry had a "show" last night with some of his little friends & is so proud of his machine. Everyone is in love with Rosabel's little stove. I have had this picture to enclose but have forgotten it each time. It is a perfect little model & cooks quite as well as your little oven at the "Roxborough". I have had two little luncheons, four guests each time, and my plates are perfectly beautiful, as well as the silver. They make the luncheon without any of the food! I do love the pretty things. Thanks too for your article on the teeth. Dr Gow is to give me an appointment in

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could pay [illegible] half. I would have paid
three or more [illegible] for one from myself, so
we thought-[illegible] that would be fair.
I have not heard from Cora since
the funeral, but she says we up
and [illegible] are not to try to go down
to it- [illegible] are of choosing from
about the [illegible]: She says Helen
tossed very like mother was a
very [illegible] little thing. Seven
will miss her as she tried with them
man? I didn't as she says.
[illegible] Stan [illegible] seven years.
Steve are not William Murdoch a wonderful
as alert- and it really [illegible] I can in
afr. He has [illegible] that he was 86.
and Sir [illegible] not many men who are

will ever come anywhere near the mark he has made. He & Adam Wright are about the last of that generation.

The children are simply living in their leather coats say they never had anything so comfortable. Every minute they are not in school they are on their skiis! They were greatly delighted to find a picture of [illegible] "Pat" at a skiing party in Dr Kain magazine. John said he would give anything to see Uncle Willie on skiis"! It certainly is fine sport and all four children are good at it. There hills are wonderful for tobogganing skiing & it must do them good to have such fine exercise in this bracing air. Harry & Peach too have had any amount of pleasure out of their Christmas gifts. Harry went to New York for 10 ft

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February when I hope he will be able
to do all in a few days.

I have written Boulderfel Barrie Ont. Boarded Bus
Runnalaun to try after me a maid by
the middle of February. This girl is
so unskilled that it is useless to try
& teach her and she will never be
much better than she now is.

We are hearing over the radio
about R. B. Bennett's speech at Hamilton.
It is rather disturbing my letter writing.
We are going to get up at six a.m.
to hear the King speech on
Tuesday & I am getting everything
the radio. We are getting
wonderfully clear over the air these
fine cold days. It seems to me the
most marvellous thing to be able to
hear so much from all parts of the
world.

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I must go to bed as Harry is waiting for me and it is after eleven. The Radio is giving the news items from the Globe office now just telling about the broadcast of the Kings' speech.

We saw by the Star that you had been at Government House. It must be quite a change in climate for Lord & Lady Willingdon. If you are having weather like we are it is quite as cold as you want it. It has been below zero for several days but does not seem to be quite so cold tonight.

Hope you are keeping well and feeling ready for the winter's work.

You will have all you can do for the next couple of months.

All here join in sending very much Love to you from

Loving Sister

Jennie

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family January-February 1930

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Jan 24, 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie,

Here comes your Xmas present, late but certainly not forgotten. I only wish I could come and deliver it myself. I had to send it by express as I was afraid it would not get there in time. Everyone here sends love and Xmas greetings.

Jean.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Jan. 24 '30

My dear Willie

I was just going to write to you on Tuesday to ask if for had heard the King's speech when the children turned on the radio & we heard over it that you had been one of the early risers! We were up at five too, & I put on a fine grate fire and we sat here and enjoyed all the speeches. The King's was the least clear but we never missed a word of Col. Ralston's & the others & heard back to the Bank this afternoon. It is so bitterly cold up here that I hate to go out! Jean got both legs touched with frost when she was out ski-joring the other day. She said if she could have worn her coat around her legs she would have been O.K. They went miles behind Smith's pony & came home simply glowing!

I must get dressed & mail this so must stop. Hope you are keeping well. All here join in sending much love

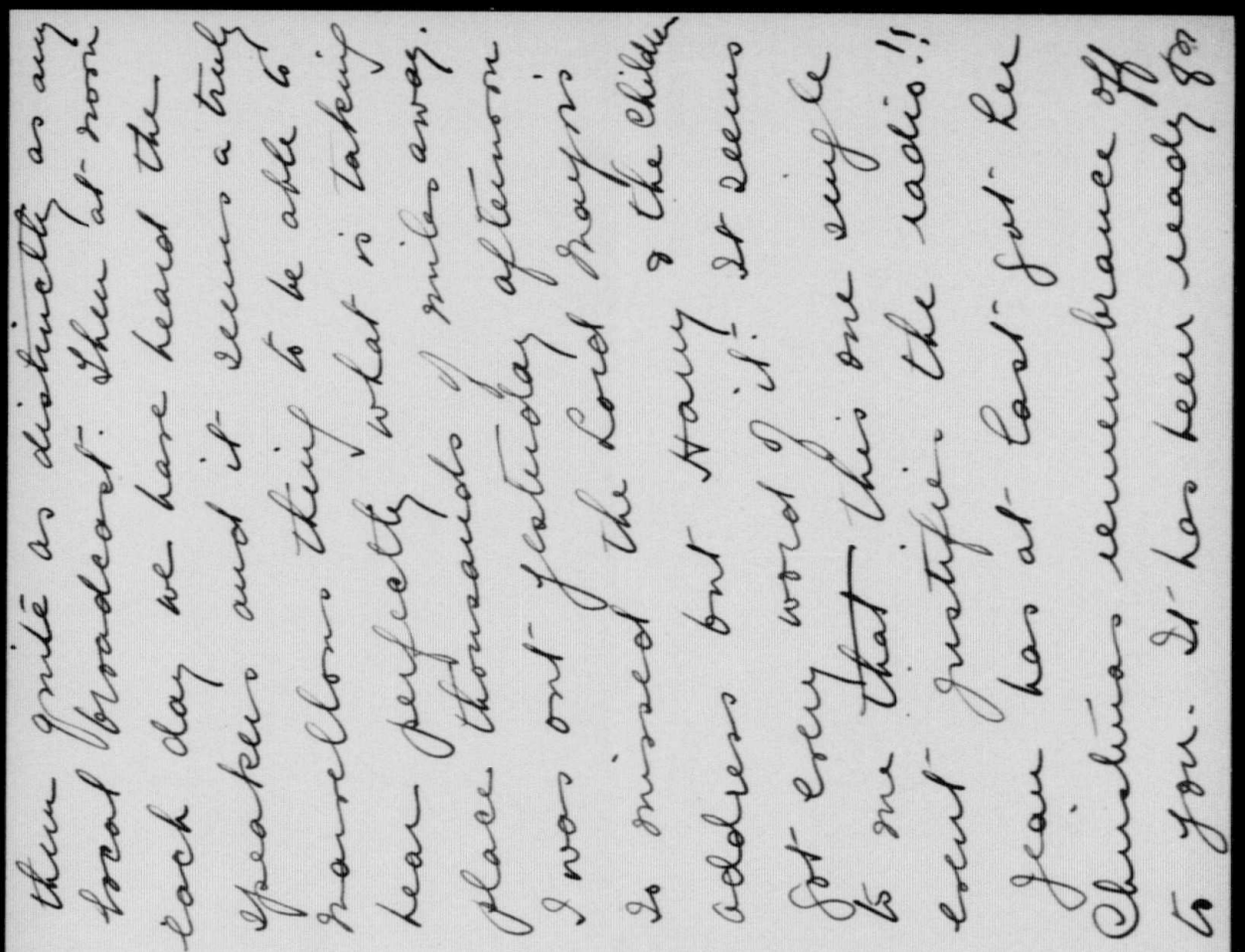
Your loving sister
Jennie.

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.
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several days but had to be pressed, so was delayed. I want to mail it this afternoon so that it will reach you this week!

Yesterday was Nelson's birthday. He was twenty-seven, so is no longer the little boy. We are looking forward to having him home this summer.

I am writing to see if Dr Gow will take me next week?, if he can, I am going down to stay with Cora while he is looking after my teeth. I am feeling better this week for which I am thankful. Harry Sr had a couple of days at home but went

This is a picture of Rosalie's stove
It is 15 inches high & about 20 inches across.



The Only Practical Miniature Electric Range Is The Empire

EMPIRE furnishes two models of miniature electric ranges. The larger model has two side ovens. The smaller has large single oven. Both are as efficient for all cooking and baking as any large range.

These toys are instructive. They teach girls to cook and bake in a practical way.

The ovens are large enough for small cakes, pies, potatoes and other dishes. The cooking top is roomy, too. The legs, door frames, cooking top and shelf of both ranges are heavily nickel plated and sturdily constructed. Body black japanned finish. The heating element is designed to give economical operation and an even temperature in both ovens.

Both ranges are furnished with three aluminum utensils; teakettle, cake and bread pan and pie plate. They operate on standard electric light socket.

METAL WARE CORPORATION
General Offices and Factory
TWO RIVERS, WISCONSIN

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This is a picture of Rosabelle stove
It is 15 inches high, 9 inches wide, 20 inches across.



The Only Practical Miniature Electric Range Is The Empire

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METAL WARE CORPORATION
General Offices and Factory
TWO RIVERS, WISCONSIN

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REPEAT
REPETITION

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

January 25, 1930.

My dear Jennie:

I was very pleased to receive this morning your letter of yesterday, and with it the beautifully-worked tea cloth or table covers which came from Jean. I have sent Jean just a brief line of acknowledgment.

I am glad to learn that you were listening to the King's speech and the other speeches at the same time as I was hearing them in Ottawa. Mr. Ahearn, of the Ottawa Electric Company, presented me last summer with a radio at Kingsmere. I brought it into the city in the fall, and it has given me a good deal of pleasure since. I was not quite as good as you were in the matter of sitting up, for I went to bed again after listening to Ramsay MacDonald's speech. I woke of my own accord to hear the radio, first at three, and then at six o'clock.

I hope that Dr. Gow will be able to take you next week; the sooner that job is out of the way the better

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it will be, for delay occasions a mental as well as a physical strain.

As you will be staying with Cora, perhaps I had better mention at once a matter I would like you to have in mind. From a previous letter you sent me, I gather that Cora mentioned to you having 'phoned me to get permission to open one of the spaces in the Mackenzie plot for the burial of Nellie's remains. Had I known at the time that there were spaces available in the Lindsey plot which adjoins, I would certainly not have given permission for Nellie's burial in the Mackenzie plot. I knew, of course, of the two plots being side by side; but I recalled quite vividly mother having given me the deed of the Mackenzie plot to ensure it being kept intact, and the action of Charlie, Lindsey in suggesting the burial of Nellie in that plot was really, in the light of existing circumstances, without justification. At the time, Charlie wrote me saying that he had in mind making provision for the future as regards his mother, himself, Jim, etc., and said that he might suggest changes so as to enable them all to be buried in the same area. I have since

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received from Charlie his suggestion, which is that the grave of Mrs. Mackenzie (grandmother) should be removed, and the remains placed in the same space as that in which grandfather is buried, so as to leave available for the Lindseys two extra places in the Mackenzie plot. I have written Charlie to-day, saying I could not consider granting permission for anything of the kind, and that I believed your views would accord with mine; that I felt sure mother would not have wished it, and indeed I believed his grandmother, Mrs. Lindsey, would have felt the same way; that I could not, without betraying the most sacred of trusts, consider making any further changes in the Mackenzie plot.

Perhaps you will let Cora know just how you feel when you see her. I recall Cora saying over the 'phone that we had our own plot at Mount Pleasant, and therefore would not be wanting any of the space of the Mackenzie plot. The same reason which caused us to secure our own plot at Mount Pleasant, ought to actuate Charlie Lindsey in securing a plot for himself and his family somewhere other than the present Lindsey plot, if that is not large enough.

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I notice that Charlie speaks of the Mackenzie-Lindsey plot, which he hyphenates. He evidently had been under the impression that the Mackenzie as well as the Lindsey plot belonged to his father. I think it is a very fortunate thing that I secured the deed of the plot from mother during her lifetime, and that I have it in my possession; for it is quite clear that Charlie has not quite the same feeling as those of us who are a little nearer the generations of the past, and that, had he had his way, the grave of mother's mother would have been to all intents and purposes desecrated in some measure. The very thought of anything of the kind makes me shudder.

-- I enclose copy of the letter I have sent to Charlie, so that you will be fully advised. You will see that from the forethought that I have given to these matters in the past, that I have had in mind the possibilities of just such contingencies that have arisen. The same forethought causes me to ask if you and Harry have ever discussed together the question of the last resting place of yourself and the members of your family. You know, that as far as our little

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plot in Toronto is concerned, there is a portion of it that can be reserved for your family, if that is your wish. I think, therefore, you should make up your mind at once, and write me of it, so that I will know. If you have in mind a separate family plot, I would strongly advise its immediate acquisition, either at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto, or at Barrie. My own thought would be that it would be preferable in every way for you to chose Toronto as a place of burial, unless you feel that it is probable that your children will continue to live in Barrie, and that you would prefer to have a place of family burial there.

This, I know, is not a pleasant subject to discuss, but I think it is very wise not to postpone until a moment of crisis what at such a time in the way of uncertainty would doubtless add very much to existing grief.

To pass to something a little more pleasant, but allied to the perpetuation of the memory of our loved ones, may I say that I have for a long time past hoped it might be possible for me to erect a tablet in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, to father and mother's memory. I learned

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in a letter from the Revd. Mr. Parker that during the first week of March St. Andrew's Church is to celebrate its 100th Anniversary. They have asked me to be present at the opening meeting of the Century Celebration. It has occurred to me that this would be a most appropriate time at which to have a tablet presented and unveiled. I wish you would write me of your own feelings in the matter, and whether or not you would like to be associated with me in the presentation of the tablet. My thought was to have the wording very simple; simply to record the fact that it is being placed there in memory of father, mentioning his name, and of his association with the Church as an elder, and of mother as a daughter of William Lyon Mackenzie, who was a member of the original congregation at the time of its formation one hundred years ago; to include a line which would indicate that St. Andrew's Church had been the place of worship of both father and mother and the members of their (our) family, and that the tablet is being presented in loving remembrance of them, and gratitude for their lives and the association of the family with St. Andrew's Church.

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I have written to Dr. Parker to find if such a tablet would be acceptable, and he has replied saying that it would be most gratefully received. He suggests the ~~construction~~ presentation of a memorial window as an alternative, but that, I fear, goes far beyond anything I can consider in the matter of expense. Indeed, the expense is something of which I shall have to take full account; but I do feel that father and mother would have been pleased to have a memorial of the kind, and I should like to present it, and possibly unveil it, while holding the office of Prime Minister. Mr. Parker thinks I ought to make mention of the office of Prime Minister; that, however, I am quite convinced in my own mind would not be the right thing to do. The association of the year in which the tablet is given would be quite sufficient for that purpose.

Let me hear from you on this matter as soon as possible, because, at the best, the time is already almost too short for the consideration of an appropriate inscription, and having the tablet put in place.

Now may I thank you again for your kindness in arranging to have the flowers for Nellie's burial from

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us both. For my share of the expense of shipment, etc., -- I enclose a cheque for $5. This is quite $5 less than if I had secured flowers on my own in Toronto. Please, therefore, do not think of returning any balance.

Like you, I had a very nice letter from Percy. I often feel sorry that I have sort of lost touch with him; but some years ago Charlie Lindsey was rather unpleasant about my unwillingness to secure ~~him~~ for a government position, and I have felt since then that it was perhaps as well not to attempt an intimacy of ~~the~~ kind which would hardly serve to bring with it other than embarrassments. At the same time, I should be only too glad to render Percy any kind of a good turn if it ever fell within my power so to do. He has a nice nature and his life has been none too easy.

I must not write more, as I have a vast amount of correspondence to overtake.

With fondest love to all,

Ever affectionately yours,
Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

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January 25, 1930.

My dear Jean:

I have just this minute received your loving note and the beautiful Christmas present which accompanied it. I really had felt that I had received at Christmas time all that I was intended to and much more, especially from all at Boulderfel.

I am delighted with the little beautiful tea cloths which you have sent me. I shall be very proud not only to use them, but to tell my friends that the work on them is that of my niece in Barrie. Some day perhaps you will come down and give me a hand in pouring the tea. Let me thank you, dear Jean, very warmly for this lovely gift, and for all the love that comes with it.

I will trust to you giving my love to your mother and father and

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to all the other members of the family.

With renewed thanks and best wishes to all,

Believe me, as always,
Your affectionate uncle,

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie.
Ontario.

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the family will be buried together. They in their turn will probably have families of their own & so it goes on so that circumstances decide. I don't know what space there is in our plot but I do know that the Lays will never crowd the Kings out! It seems to me the proper place for Mac, but I would hate to see the rest of his family buried there! I don't think they feel as we do about him. From what Cora said to me, I thought she meant that Nellie's grave would encroach a few inches on the Mackenzie plot but I think it inexcusable for them to touch the Mackenzie plot when they

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

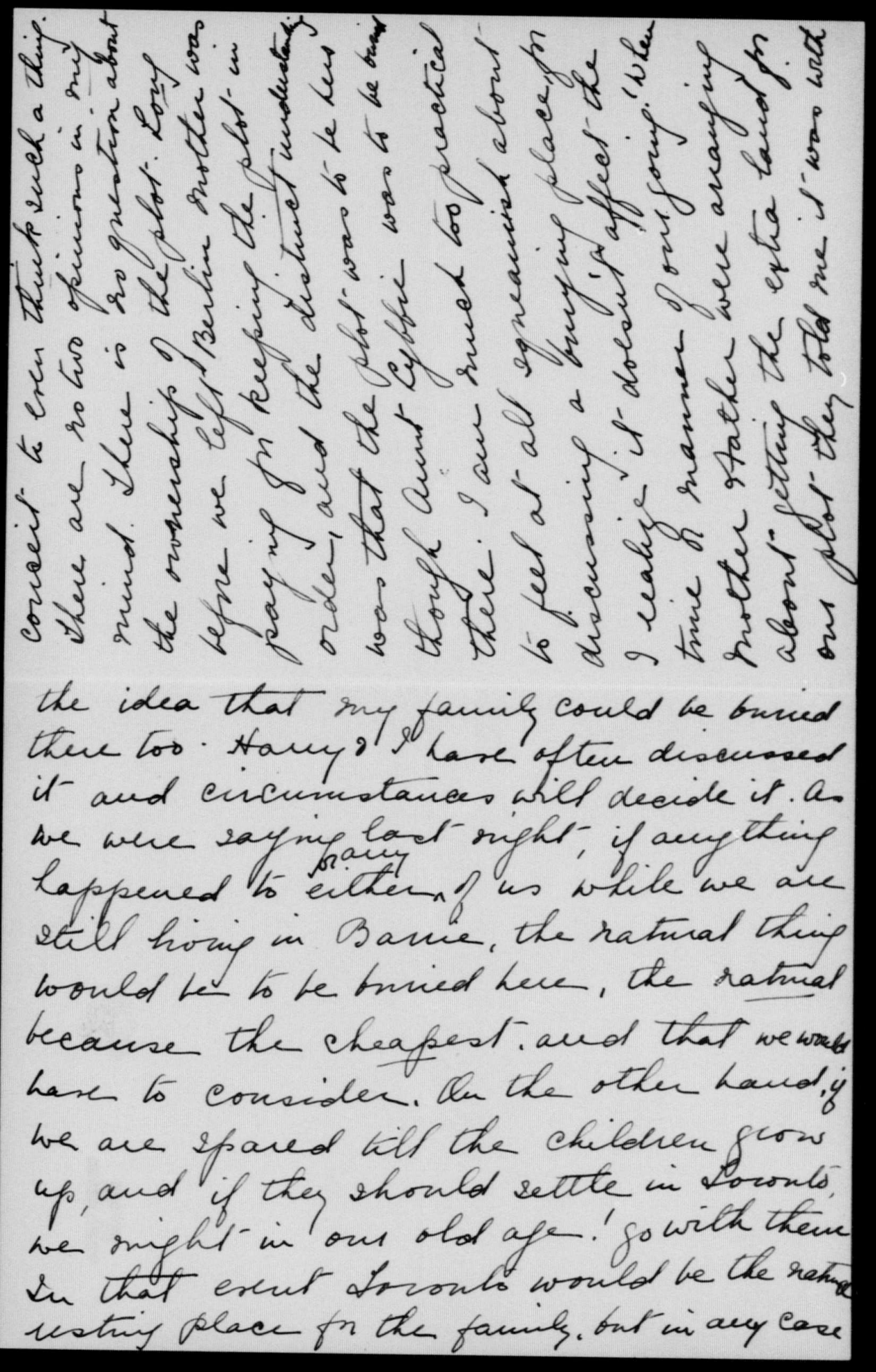
Jan 28th '30

My dear Willie:

Jean was playing in a little recital last night, so I had no time to answer your letter which came last evening. First of all let me say that I think Charlie Lindsey's proposal is monstrous! It is, apart from every other aspect, the neatest thing I ever heard of. Does he think when we wouldn't do such a thing to make room for our own mother & family, we would do it for the Lindseys? It is unbounded

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the idea that my family could be buried there too. Harry & I have often discussed it and circumstances will decide it. As we were saying last night, if anything happened to either of us while we are still living in Barrie, the natural thing would be to be buried here, the natural because the cheapest. and that we would have to consider. On the other hand, if we are spared till the children grow up, and if they should settle in Toronto, we might in our old age! go with them In that event Toronto would be the natural resting place for the family, but in any case

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me I was thinking of them all night. Harry wouldn't let me use the cheque you sent me to pay back for the maid as he said that had been settled, so I am letting Rosabel take music lessons. I have taught her as well as I could, but after a time "mother" doesn't seem good enough! I taught Jean till she was thirteen & she has gone ahead very rapidly in the last two years & I am really proud of her playing. She is now learning Liszt's "Liebestraume" which is a fairly advanced piece. Rosabel has Israfel's hands & I hope will play well if she has the chance. This teacher is very good and gets on well with children so I am truly thankful to be able to let Rosabel have this opportunity for this year. You will be

had still plenty of space in their own. Evidently Charlie isn't thinking of being buried beside his own wife & family, for there certainly is not room for Cora, Jim & his wife Charlie & his wife & two children & Percy & his wife. It is a strange request to make, however you take it.

Now to the next matter you speak of. I think it would be a beautiful thing to have a tablet in St Andrew's church in memory of mother & father. Mother's father was I believe, one of the charter members of St Andrew's Church & was such if for no later reason, mother's name is associated with that church. Then came twenty-four years when she & all of us were associated very

THOMSON BOULDERFELT BARRIE

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intimately with all branches of the
Church work and life, and if it
would be most fitting that there
names should be remembered.
It is lovely that you are able to
do this and I should love to be
able to help you but I fear that
without my talking you over
it takes all my time to keep
family going and I'm afraid
after the children are educated we
have not much money. Harry is
worrying many years (till
Lord is pleased to reduce
Elsie when he can
but many of our friends
have to be dropped
about the wrong
think fitting; to

of Prime Minister would seem to me to reflect
glory on yourself not, as you intend, entirely
on Father Mother. Your name will be
sufficiently well known to all generations
not to need "Prime Minister" to identify it.
I wish I could help you in this but it is
no use me promising what I know I can not
fulfil. If you do present it I must try
sit down for the unveiling. I wasn't able
to be there when Isabel's was unveiled it
was a great disappointment at the time.
There are some advantages in having the
Children past the baby stage!
Thank you very much for the cheque. I haven't
spoken to Harry about it as I was so full of these
two other subjects that I forgot! It seems to

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Glad to know you have helped it
She turns out to be a "Paderewski"!
Then too I must tell you I bought
I completed a fur coat for her a
is wearing it today. for would
hardly recognize your old fur
Lizzy & I are very proud of myself!
Lizzy cloth lean
the little
you are
Polk roads
every day. We
her, Arthur
were very
clock which
former Chinese
decided
the children

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as not have any trouble
for anything but
We are a long way from Lakeside
& I don't know what
do if we couldn't
This has been a
winter and we have
know than I ever
I am glad you
I thought it
awful mundane,
gives wonderful
at times. She
Reg is going all
they were allowed
constant noise

anyone.

Harry is just going back to the bank so I will let him take this so that you will get it in the morning. I will be glad to hear what you decide about the tablet but am sure it will be something of which we can all be proud.

Harry & the children join me in sending best love

Your loving sister

Jennie

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

February 4, 1930.

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive this morning your two letters, written from Toronto. First of all, let me thank you for your words of sympathy in the death of Mr. Larkin.

You are right in believing that his death is a great blow to me. Just how good a friend he has been, no one but I myself can begin to know. Without the help he has given me, I doubt very much if I would to-day be in the position I am, or able to maintain it at all.

I am scarcely less relieved than you yourself must be at the knowledge that Dr. Gow has been making progress in the treatment of your teeth. I hope both you and he will stay right with the job until it is wholly completed, and that whatever you have done will be done in a way likely to prove most efficient and durable.

I am very glad that you have been enjoying something of a rest at Cora's. You were quite right not to bring

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up the subject matter of Charlie's letter concerning the Necropolis. I have not heard from him since I wrote, but I am quite sure that if he shows my letter to Cora, she will agree with the view we have taken. I said nothing in my letter to Charlie of having told you of his suggestion, but I did say that your view would have to be considered before ~~it~~ could be carried out, and I was quite sure your view would be the same as my own.

-- I am enclosing with this letter a little plan of our plot at Mount Pleasant, on which is indicated the location of the graves already there. You will see that there is one space between the road and mother's grave, and there is another much larger space, a portion of the plot, immediately to the left of the graves of father and mother, on the portion of the plot which adjoins this grave and the graves of mother and father, and between that portion of the plot which adjoins the road and the end at which Max is buried. I had always assumed that this is the portion which you would wish to have reserved for yourself and your family. I had thought of reserving for my own place of burial, if that were agreeable to you, the space between the road and mother's grave. I am

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giving you all these particulars so that you may have full knowledge of them and make any suggestions or comments you desire.

I am glad that you were down to see Percy and that he liked the letter which he received from me. I enclose the one from him to which it was a reply. It is a very kind and beautiful letter, which I wish you would return to me.

I have not yet received Miss Thompson's letter, but when it comes to hand I will do concerning it the best I can.

Now a word as to the memorial to mother and father. I, of course, realized when I wrote that you would not find it possible to spend money on the memorial yourself. What I was really most concerned about was whether you would like to be named on it along with me, or would prefer that it should be erected as though this had been done simply by myself. My own desire is to have your name associated with mine in the tablet to be placed in the Church, and, if that is agreeable to you, I shall be more than pleased

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to meet whatever there may be in the way of expense incidental to its erection. I had thought of making mention on the tablet of father's name, and his being an elder of the Church, and of mother's name as being daughter of William Lyon Mackenzie, and in that connection mentioning that grandfather was one of the original members of the Congregation. According to McCurdy's Life of D. J. Macdonell, he acted as secretary of the first meeting called to form in Upper Canada a congregation in connection with the Church of Scotland. The memorial would include the dates of father and mother respectively, and I had thought of placing immediately below this record the second verse of the second paraphrase. Then, in considerably smaller lettering at the base of the tablet, I thought of having the following inscription:

> "In love and gratitude for the self-sacrificing devotion of their father and mother to their family, and for hallowed memories contained within these sacred walls, this memorial was erected on the 3rd of March, 1930, by their surviving children Janet King Lay and William Lyon Mackenzie King, on the occasion of the Centenary of St. Andrew's Church."

I am submitting the proposed wording of the tablet to Rev. Dr. Parker, Dr. Eakin and Rev. Mr. Leathem, the

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Minister at St. Andrew's at Ottawa, and am asking each for a frank expression of view upon it. I have also had a word with the Governor General. You will recall that Dr. Parker was anxious that I should include after my name mention of my present position as Prime Minister of Canada. My feeling in this matter, as I wrote you, was very similar to your own; but I have thought that before reaching a decision I would be guided by the opinion of the three ministers to whom I have submitted the wording of the tablet. Dr. Leathem has just written me that he thinks I should use the words "Prime Minister of Canada" after my name. He believes that the omission of the titles "Right Honourable" and any degrees, would remove whatever possible thought there might be of anyone as to the appropriateness of including mention of my being Prime Minister. I think he feels as Dr. Parker also feels, that historically that fact should be recorded, and it would really be an honour to father and mother's name to have this done. I might say that the Governor General, to whom I have spoken on the matter, is also quite decidedly of this opinion. After all, it is no different to place the description "Prime Minister of Canada" after my name than

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it would be to place "Minister of St. Andrew's Church" after the name of either Dr. Parker of Mr. Leathem, or "Principal of Knox College" after the name of Dr. Eakin. It is simply the description of my position.

I wish you would think over this phase of the matter and give it such further consideration as you think it may deserve. Care will be taken, of course, to see that there is no enlarged lettering or any spacing which would make the designation conspicuous. The chances are that the tablet will be placed on the west side of the Church, about on a line with where our pew was situated. I am leaving the choice of location with Dr. Parker and the Trustees. The tablet will be of brass and will cost, so I am advised, in the neighbourhood of $200, perhaps a little more.

Since dictating the above, I have opened a gift received from Cora, and which she says is her Christmas gift to me. It is a beautiful bit of Chinese embroidery, and can be used either as a hanging or a table runner. Perhaps she showed it to you before it was mailed. I hope she did, as it is very beautiful, and I am sure you would enjoy a glimpse of it.

With fondest love to all

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

Very devotedly yours,
W. L. Mackenzie King

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1 La Plaza Apartments
98 Charles St E.
Toronto, Feb. 3rd '30

My dear Willie:

Cora is still asleep, so I am getting my letter off to you. I came down to Dr. Low on Thursday and Cora wouldn't let me go home as he needs me again on Tuesday. He will finish up the end of this week he hopes, so, as they are all well at home, & Cora wanted me to stay. I decided to save train fare & enjoy myself!!

Cora has never mentioned cemetery that night we were up at Charlies for supper and he never referred to it. Naturally I haven't brought up the subject, though Cora & I spoke of Nellie's funeral etc. We went down to see Percy on Friday evening & he spoke so appreciatively of your lovely letter & the flowers. He looks such a perfect gentleman but his wife is very ordinary. She is quite good looking but her voice would stamp her, wherever she went. I am glad they haven't spoken to me about the plot, as we don't want any unpleasantness, & I would have

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Monday morning

Dear Willie:

We were very shocked to see by this morning's paper that Sir Robert has passed away. You have lost a good friend and I know how sorry you will be. His death will be a great loss to the Country, and it will be hard to fill his place. His illness must have been much more serious than they realized, this death will be a terrible shock to his family. If there is an ideal way to go, it all is well with him. We are just going on as usual & want to hear all the time how you are. Tell your boys sorry we were to hear about Bert. Love.

From Sorry Sadie

Jennie

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98. Charles St E.
Toronto, Feb. 4th '30

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My dear Willie

In a letter from Harry he says he can not find Miss Thompson's letter so I will send it when I go home. Harry says also that invitations for the "Opening" have come. Thank you very much. I have asked Harry to answer them.

Then yesterday when I was writing I forgot to ask you about the mennonites. Mrs. Jo. Seagram says she asked if I could find out through you whether any of the 1000 mennonites who are coming to Canada will be available for domestics. She is very keen to have one as she is a German & they all speak German.

Cora & I are just going out so I must not keep her waiting. I took her parcel to the post office & they wouldn't take any postage

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though I told them I thought it might be
best if the girl said they must the
Conservatives in Barrie!
Cora sends her love and says to tell
hon Sonny she is about Dr Larkin pro
Russo hon must for will miss him. She
says we could cheer up if for
we here!
Best love from Bessie
Jennie
P.S. Have yes today was the dui
at the King Edward!

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February 4, 1930

Dear Jennie:

You or Harry are in a better position to answer the enclosed than I am. Perhaps, you will kindly arrange to have the requested information sent to the writer of this letter, whom, perhaps, you may know.

Youre affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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February 4, 1930.

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive this morning your two letters, written from Toronto. First of all, let me thank you for your words of sympathy in the death of Mr. Larkin.

You are right in believing that his death is a great blow to me. Just how good a friend he has been, no one but I myself can begin to know. Without the help he has given me, I doubt very much if I would to-day be in the position I am or able to maintain it at all.

I am scarcely less relieved than you yourself must be at the knowledge that Dr. Gow has been making progress in the treatment of your teeth. I hope both you and he will stay right with the job until it is wholly completed, and that whatever you have done will be done in a way likely to prove most efficient and durable.

I am very glad that you have been enjoying something of a rest at Core's. You were quite right not to bring

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up the subject matter of Charlie's letter concerning the Necropolis. I have not heard from him since I wrote, but I am quite sure that if he shows my letter to Cora, she will agree with the view we have taken. I said nothing in my letter to Charlie of having told you of his suggestion, but I did say that your view would have to be considered before it could be carried out, and I was quite sure your view would be the same as my own.

I am enclosing with this letter a little plan of our plot at Mount Pleasant, on which is indicated the location of the graves already there. You will see that there is one space between the road and mother's grave, and there is another much larger space, a portion of the plot, immediately to the left of the graves of father and mother, on the portion of the plot which adjoins this grave and the graves of mother and father, and between that portion of the plot which adjoins the road and the end at which Max is buried. I had always assumed that this is the portion which you would wish to have reserved for yourself and your family. I had thought of reserving for my own place of burial, if that were agreeable to you, the space between the road and mother's grave. I am

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giving you all these particulars so that you may have full knowledge of them and make any suggestions or comments you desire.

I am glad that you were down to see Percy and that he liked the letter which he received from me. I enclose the one from him to which it was a reply. It is a very kind and beautiful letter, which I wish you would return to me.

I have not yet received Miss Thompson's letter, but when it comes to hand I will do concerning it the best I can.

Now a word as to the memorial to mother and father. I, of course, realizedwhen I wrote that you would not find it possible to spend money on the memorial yourself. What I was really most concerned about was whether you would like to be named on it along with me, or would prefer that it should be erected as though this had been done simply by myself. My own desire is to have your name associated with mine in the tablet to be placed in the Church, and, if that is agreeable to you, I shall be more than pleased

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to meet whatever there may be in the way of expense incidental to its erection. I had thought of making mention on the tablet of father's name, and his being an elder of the Church, and of mother's name as being daughter of William Lyon Mackenzie, and in that connection mentioning that grandfather was one of the original members of the Congregation. According to McCurdy's Life of D. J. Macdonell, who acted as secretary of the first meeting called to form in Upper Canada a congregation in connection with the Church of Scotland. The memorial would include the dates of father and mother respectively, and I had thought of placing immediately below this record the second verse of the second paraphrase. Then, in considerably smaller lettering at the base of the tablet, I thought of having the following inscription:

> "In love and gratitude for the self-sacrificing devotion of their father and mother to their family, and for hallowed memories contained within these sacred walls, this memorial was erected on the 3rd of March, 1930, by their surviving children Janet King Lay and William Lyon Mackenzie King, on the occasion of the Centenary of St. Andrew's Church."

I am submitting the proposed wording of the tablet to Rev. Dr. Parker, Dr. Eakin and Rev. Mr. Leathem, the

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Minister at St. Andrew's at Ottawa, and am asking each for a frank expression of view upon it. I have also had a word with the Governor General. You will recall that Dr. Parker was anxious that I should include after my name mention of my present position as Prime Minister of Canada. My feeling in this matter, as I wrote you, was very similar to your own; but I have thought that before reaching a decision I would be guided by the opinion of the three ministers to whom I have submitted the wording of the tablet. Dr. Leathem has just written me that he thinks I should use the words "Prime Minister of Canada" after my name. He believes that the omission of the titles "Right Honourable" and any degrees, would remove whatever possible thought there might be of anyone as to the appropriateness of including mention of my being Prime Minister. I think he feels as Dr. Parker also feels, that historically that fact should be recorded, and it would really be an honour to father and mother's name to have this done. I might say that the Governor General, to whom I have spoken on the matter, is also quite decidedly of this opinion. After all, it is no different to place the description "Prime Minister of Canada" after my name than

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it would be to place "Minister of St. Andrew's Church" after the name of either Dr. Parker of Mr. Leathem, or "Principal of Knox College" after the name of Dr. Eakin. It is simply the description of my position.

I wish you would think over this phase of the matter and give it such further consideration as you think it may deserve. Care will be taken, of course, to see that there is no enlarged lettering or any spacing which would make the designation conspicuous. The chances are that the tablet will be placed on the west side of the Church, about on a line with where our pew was situated. I am leaving the choice of location with Dr. Parker and the Trustees. The tablet will be of brass and will cost, so I am advised, in the neighbourhood of $200, perhaps a little more.

Since dictating the above, I have opened a gift received from Cora, and which she says is her Christmas gift to me. It is a beautiful bit of Chinese embroidery, and can be used either as a hanging or a table runner. Perhaps she showed it to you before it was mailed. I hope she did, as it is very beautiful, and I am sure you would enjoy a glimpse of it.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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W. L. M. K.

1 La Plaza Apts.
Toronto. Feb. 8th '30

My dear Willie:

I was so sorry I had just gone out when you phoned yesterday morning, and, as it was nearly twelve when Cora & I got in last night, I could not ring you. Cora said she thought it better not to.

Harry sent on your letter to me & I had just read it before going out. I think the wording on the tablet, very lovely, and well thought out. It is very good of you to include my name, and I am very proud to be associated with you in such a way. I know it is what Mother & Father would have liked & is my way of thinking, that should be in the present tense! I so often feel they know what we are doing. It influences my actions even more than I am sometimes conscious of. As to the "Prime Minister" being added — when you think of it in the light of other people's opinions — I think it is right. I fear I am much too apt to err on the side of over modesty (?) (that is not exactly the word, but you know what I mean) when sometimes it is right to state facts. I had lunch with Helen yesterday, & she agreed with you — after we had discussed it. At

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first thought it looked like advertizing, but after all, it is your "job" and there would be no hesitation in mentioning it, if it were a humble position. Why then hesitate because it reflects honour on you and all connected with you! Mother ~~Father~~ would think it a great thing to be the parents of the Prime Minister of Canada and how I wish they could have lived to enjoy that happiness! Their works live after them! Will you be up for the week or just for that day? March 3rd is Monday. Is there any chance of your getting to Barrie for the Sunday? We would so love to have you come.

I have not had a chance to really take in all your letter, as it came just before I went out and Cora is not awake yet & it is in her room! Thank you so much for sending the plan of your plot. I will return it as soon as I go home. Also Percy's letter which is much like his to ~~mine~~. He is a fine man & such a gentleman! The other letter from the Walkerton boy I will attend to too. I don't know who it is from, but fancy he wanted a letter from the Prime Minister!

Cora says she told you how wonderful my teeth are! Dr. Gow is certainly an artist and has been more than good in taking me at every possible time. I go back to him this morning for the last touches & to be sure there is no friction. It is

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wonderful how little inconvenience I feel, and before long, will never be conscious of them. My front teeth, he says will never go, but I have only one back tooth left. I have had eight out since I was down with you. Every one has been abscessed and, except the last, has been agony to have out. I can't tell you how grateful I am to you for making it possible for me to go to Dr. Gow's. I only hope he will not be too "sleepy": "Pride goes before, & the bills comes after"!! No one, looking at me would know I had a false tooth in my head, but what is even more important to me, is the fact that they are of use: Already I can use them, and as my gums become accustomed to them, my digestion should improve. If only Mother could have had this comfort: what a lot of time would have been saved!!

Helen sent her love to you and said she hoped to see you in March. She is keeping house for and looking after old Mr. Steven, Roland Steven's father. She looks much better & is so happy there.

Cora has been more than good to me and we have been very happy together here. I am going home this afternoon if my teeth are O.K., for the family are needing me, though

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they say they don't! I have a lot of sewing to do & must get at it. Rosabel's fur coat is a work of art & she is so proud of it. She says she is the only little girl at school with a fur coat! John wrote me with great pride that he had "persuaded Daddy to wear my leather coat to curl at the Bonspiel & Daddy said he never wore anything so comfortable"! This has certainly been a good winter to test the comfort of anything!

Now I must get up & wake Cora for some people are coming to see her. She is a great sleeper — in the morning! I am too used to getting up early to be able to sleep, but I keep quiet & that is a rest.

Again let me thank you most sincerely for all your kindness, & I will write to you from home tomorrow night & return the letter etc. We will hope to see you next month. I know you will be terribly busy just now. Cora sends her love with much from myself

Your loving niece
Jennie

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February 8, 1930.

My dear Jennie:

I enclose a copy of the proposed form of wording of the tablet to father and mother's memory, which I am arranging, on behalf of each of us, to have erected in St Andrew's Church. I tried to get you in Toronto yesterday to speak of the wording, but no doubt Cora told you the substance of our conversation, and when she mentioned that you and she were agreed upon the inclusion of the words, "Prime Minister of Canada", that resolved the last doubt I had in my mind.

Mr. Leathem here, as well as Dr. Stuart Parker in Toronto, and the Governor-General, all think that those words ought to be included, and yesterday I received from Dr. Eakin a wire suggesting the form of wording

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in that particular, and including the words, "Prime Minister of Canada". I think, as they appear, they do not do more than help to designate who I am by my position, just as it would be appropriate for Dr. Eakin to place after his name "Principal of Knox College", or Mr. Parker after his, "Minister of St. Andrew's Church". Also, I am inclined to agree with the others that it is really a mark of honour to father and mother's memory to have a reference so included. When I sent the wording to the engravers on Thursday night, I had left it out, and only changed it as a result of Eakin's message yesterday and my talk with Cora.

I hope you will like the tablet in this form. If there are any changes that you would think desirable, please 'phone or telegraph me at once, as the work will be in hand on Monday.

I was glad to hear that your visit to Toronto had been successful, and that you have had completed there the unpleasant work with the dentist,

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which I am glad to know has gone very well. I do hope it will do your health some good. Try and get immediately from Cow and the other dentist their account, if you are quite sure all the work is through, and send it on to me. I like to make these payments as promptly as possible.

With fondest love to all,
Ever affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

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February 12, 1930

My dear Jennie,

I have made inquiry as to Mennonite families in Canada, and I am advised that they are all going to Western Canada and that there are no domestics among them.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel"
Barrie, Ontario.

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you how thankful I am to have my teeth done, for always when I have been so miserable, they have told me to go to the dentist. Going to Dr. Gow has made what would have been an ordeal, a pleasure, and I thank you most sincerely.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the 3rd. If it is a fine day we will drive down & come back at once as I can't leave this girl for any length of time till she gets into our ways & can speak a little English.

Cora had your letter just as I was leaving. She worked hard at that Chinese thing & was so delighted when you said you liked it. She loves her bag & is so proud of it. She is really the best hearted woman I know, & has been more than good to me. I must go & see about dinner.

Best love dear Willie & again many thanks from loving sister Jennie

your note & memorandum here just come. many thanks.



BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 14th '30

My dear Willie

It seems impossible to get letters written! I came home Monday night, Doris left Wednesday and my new maid arrived yesterday morning. She is a Finn and can't speak one word of English but seems a nice girl & is beautifully clean. It has kept me busy & there have been people in each evening so that I haven't had a chance to write

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your letter was here when I got home. I think the wording of the letter is lovely and was glad we had the little talk about it: I will be a great deal and I am very grateful to you for including Percy's letter I am replying to it in the course of the day. I am also the plan for arrangement of the cemetery; the suggestion that it is a great deal better reserved to use if it is a case of circumstances should there is a spot there are 20 more in this life that we very often have to change. Thank you very much for letting me see the plan. As to the necropolis, I am certain Charlie never mentioned it to Cora for she would have let it out in some way. Charlie has been drinking a good deal more than is good for him, and is evidently keener on making money than anything else. He was very nice to me when I was there, but he really wasn't himself. or rather he would have been pleasanter, if he had had a little less liquid refreshment!

D. Gow was really very kind in taking me at very convenient minute & he said he enjoyed doing the work for old times' sake. I hope he feels the same when he makes out the bill! I will write him today and ask for it. I can't tell

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 20th 30

My dear Willie

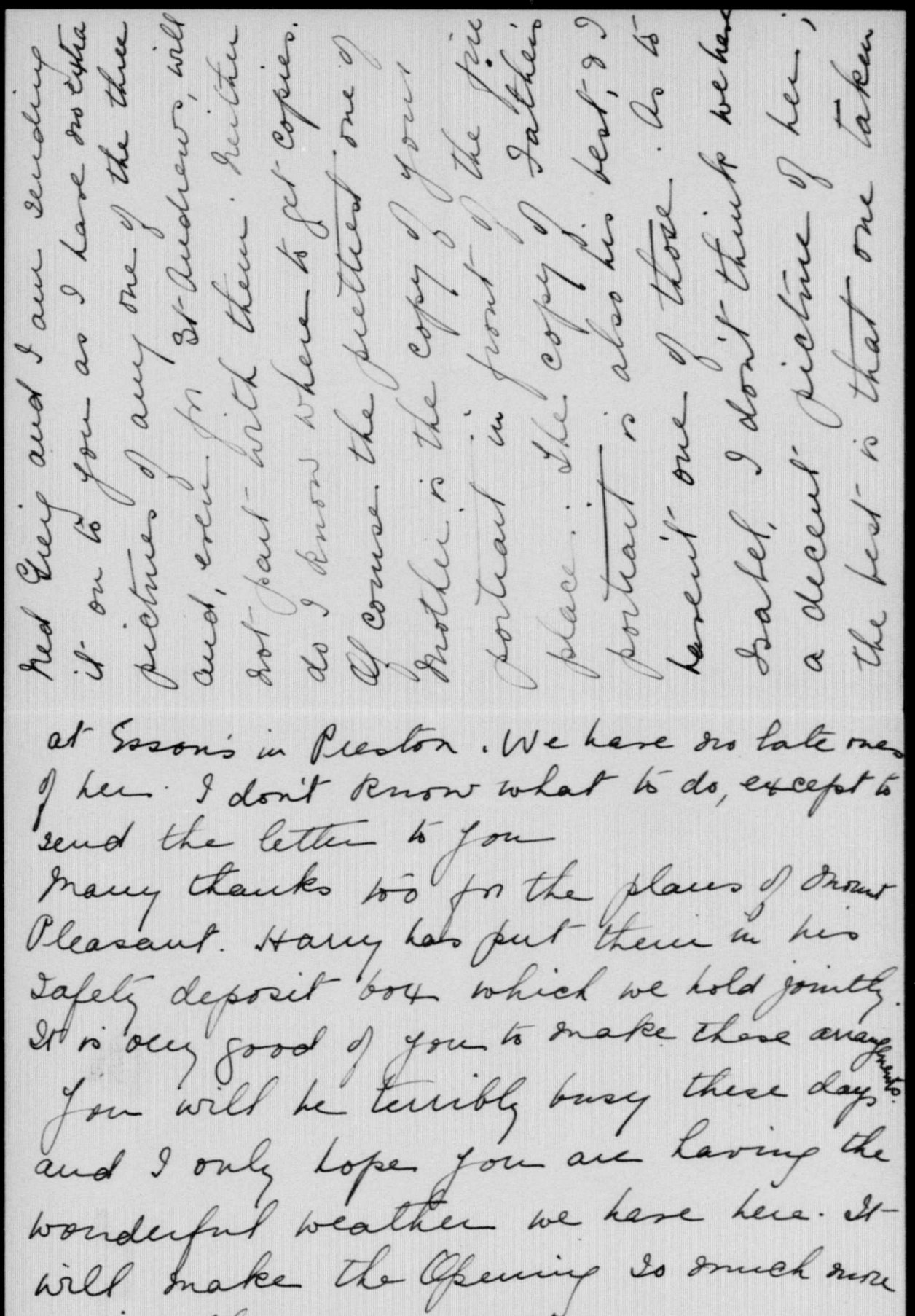
Many thanks for your letter of the 15th with the description of the tablet: I am sure it will be beautiful and a great addition to St. Andrews as well as being a lasting memorial to Mother & Father. There is a wealth of sentiment embodied in the design, and you have certainly given a lot of time and thought before you got it to this present state of perfection. Today I had this letter from

treasure in the line of a maid I have had for years. She has been here a week today and though she can't speak a word of English, I have had more comfort than I have had since Amy left. They are just leaving so I must close. Best love dear Willie in which all join & again many thanks

Your loving sister
Jennie

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Red Cross and I am sending it on to you as I have no extra pictures of the three and, even if I had, would not part with any one of them. Mr Buchanan will do I know as per copies. Of course, the picture is the property of Mrs Buchan. Receiving portrait in the copy of yours in front of the picture is also his least, I feel, place: I know the copy of the picture of those. As to portrait is the better one of Mr Buchanan, I do not think he would part with it. Harley, I am sure, would be a decent- the best- is that one taken

at Esson's in Preston. We have no late news of her. I don't know what to do, except to send the letter to you

Many thanks too for the plans of Grosvenor Pleasant. Harry has put them in his safety deposit box which we hold jointly. It is very good of you to make these arrangements.

You will be terribly busy these days and I only hope you are having the wonderful weather we have here. It will make the Opening so much more enjoyable.

My Finn "Helmi" is the greatest

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE, ONT.

Feby 7/30

My dear Willie,

Jennie asked me to forward the enclosed letter from Miss Annie Thompson of Walkerton. I was only able to locate the letter this afternoon. We are expecting Jennie home tomorrow evening from Toronto. She writes as if the trip had been a successful one and we sincerely hope the rest has helped her. The expert dental

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work which you have hereto has progressed favourably and should undoubtedly mean the assurance of re-election and literary holidays. I gratefully add my thanks to those for your kindness. I am sure you are overwhelmed with luncheons - fortnightly with the incidental problems & each day and finally today in the evening of Parliament. It was nice [illegible] to have

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE, ONT.

invitations to the opening next
to Jennie and myself. It
would have been a treasure
had we been able to go for
the spectacle itself must be
quite magnificent but it would
have been a great delight also
to forego it to see you then
as Prime Minister. I felt
sure that this, with the
many openings in the Grand
Trunk would come when you will
be at the head of a Cabinet Gov-

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ernment and we shall like
that as least as I true
occasion Jennie and I
may look on!
I hope that the present
wheat and market difficulties
will clear up before long. The
experts seem a little non-plussed.
Roosevelt & the future,
I don't see how the high tariff
can very fast want with
encourage those industries
which we cannot. It is a trouble
and wheat. If it's a trouble,
it but? that trade is an exchange
V Goods with each other directly.
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I taking about

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February 13, 1930.

My dear Harry:

I was delighted to receive, this morning, the lovely valentine which came from you. It is the first and only one I have received. It makes me very happy to know that I was in your thoughts at this time.

With love to you all,

Master Harry Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

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Barrie, Feb 15/30

My dear Willie,

Jennie took much
better for the rest in Toronto
and the treatment by Dr
Frost, which I trust also
engaged a Trim Kitchen and finds the
Air Circling to cure a Cough.
I hope she will be a comfort
to Jennie when she gets to Ottawa
a little ½ in Canada in Kingsmere
Woods. Much love from
us all, & hoping you are very fit.
Yours affectionately
Harry.

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February 13, 1930

My dear Jennie:

I was delighted to receive your letter this morning. I am sure you will be more pleased with the memorial tablet than you can well imagine. I directed Mr. Alexander's attention to the beautiful Celtic work on the Iona Cross at Mount Pleasant, and he had tracings of the design made. He is embodying this design in the scroll work of the tablet, so that you have the following sequence:

Iona, the birth-place of Christianity in Scotland:

The Iona Cross, memorial of the birth-place of Christianity in Scotland:

An exact reproduction of the Iona Cross, with tracings and symbolic designs from slabs at Iona, on our family plot at Mount Pleasant Cemetery:

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St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, the outcome of a meeting of which grandfather, it is believed, was the secretary, held one hundred years ago, to form in Canada a church in connection with the Church of Scotland:

The association of grandfather's name with that of mother's on the tablet, which is being erected on the centenary of the founding of St. Andrew's Church:

A reference on the tablet to father was an elder of the church, and a design on the tablet which links it with the cross at Mount Pleasant Cemetery and the cross at Iona, - in other words, the beginnings of Christianity and Presbyterianism in Scotland, linked with the latest word in their growth and present position in Canada.

The work, too, will be very fine and the tablet is being placed on the wall in St. Andrew's, in direct line with our old pew.

I think you had better keep the enclosed plan of Mount Pleasant

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Cemetery, of which I have a duplicate. Put it away among papers that you will want to keep, and have it in some place which will be available at a moment's notice.

I am sending word to the Mount Pleasant authorities, explaining the arrangement between us, so that if, by any chance, I should be in some other part of this or some other world, when there was need to make any request of the Mount Pleasant authorities, that could be done by yourself or Merry. These precautions are always the part of wisdom.

I was delighted to receive the photographs enclosed with your letter. It is remarkable the resemblance John has to you and Rosabelle to Bella. I am very glad, too, to have the beautiful picture of Isabelle and yourself.

With fondest love to all.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/WMA/C

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FORM 95

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Barrie, Ont.

February 15th, 1930.

Right Honourable,

W.L. MacKenzie King, C.M.G.

Prime Minister.

Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Willie,- Department of Agriculture

I enclose the card of Thomas D. O'Neill a highly respectable man living about 15 miles north of Barrie. He would like the Department of Agriculture to employ him as Judge of Light Horses in classes A. and B. at the various Exhibitions. He is, he says, now serving under the Ontario Government in Provincial Exhibitions. As a reference to his ability he gives the Hon. E. C. Drury.

He is an enthusiastic Liberal and is au R.C. quite influential in his district. I am favourably impressed by this man and shall esteem it a favour if you will be good enough to endorse my recommendation to the Department of Agriculture.

~~Respectfully~~ yours affectionately.

Harry Mikael

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February 19, 1930

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Dear Mr. Lay,

Mr. King received this morning your two notes of the 15th instant.

With reference to the official communication re the Department of Agriculture, Mr. King desires me to let you know that he is communicating at once with the Honourable W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, and also with the Deputy Minister, Dr. Grisdale.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. Measures,
Private Secretary.

WHM/W

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-February 1930

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FORM 85

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Barrie, Ont.

February 21st, 1930.

Right Honourable,

W. L. Mackenzie King,

Prime Minister,

Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Willie:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Measures letter of the 19th instant, and to thank you for the information therein, which I am passing on to Mr. O'Neill.

Thanks very much for your kind thought respecting ~~Yours Respectfully,~~ Yours affectionately

W. M. Lay

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Feb. 27th 30

My dear Willie

This is just the briefest note to thank you for the copy of your tribute to Mr Larkin, and also to tell you Harry & I hope to go down to Toronto on Monday in time for the tea at Government House and then for the service at St Andrew's in the evening. We

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may come back Monday night
if the weather
I do hope for
we are looking
Lecing Pier
Cap Rouge
much love

Yours in
Loving G Jennie

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Cora & I enjoyed our luncheon in your lovely car and I think it did Cora good to get out. She has been pretty sick. I must not forget to tell you that Arthur & Ethel Kirkpa- were at the service & sent their love to you. They were going home to dress for a ball, so couldn't wait. Also Philip Kiely & his wife (good Organ) were there though I don't think they saw you to speak to. I was so glad to see Miss Petrie & she would not have gone up to speak to you if I had not told her to. I will never forget her gentleness to Mother & hers. When I got home I found Rosabel in the kitchen with Helen but she very promptly returned to bed as she is running a temperature of 100°

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 5th '30

My dear Willie:

Once more I have to write to thank you for a very happy little visit. The visit to St. Andrews' stirred a thousand memories and I find my emotions more upset than they have been for many years. It was a great joy to see that tablet in memory of Mother & Father placed where they would do most to have it. The tablet itself is very beautiful and I am sure there are many old members of St. Andrews who will love to look at it, not only for itself, but also for what it stands for. I thought

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flowers to Mrs McDougall and I am to have the basket. We got the taxi almost at once & drove home as we were both pretty tired. Thank you very much for the $3.00. I didn't want to take that. However, otherwise Cora would have insisted on paying, but I told her you had got the taxi for us, so she was very grateful too. I didn't see the "picture gallery" at the Institute for which I was sorry, but it may be there for some time & I may get another chance to go down. The family here are delighted with the photos I brought home, and I can't tell you how glad I am to have such a splendid one of Isabel and also the one of Father I have wanted for so long. It was very good of you to let me have them & they are real treasures.

Jean too is back at school so things look brighter.

All the children & Harry join with me in sending best love to you. I hope you will manage to get up some time soon. The children are growing past the baby stage and are perhaps more interesting than they need to be. I also hope you are a little more rested. A few days like you spent in Toronto would test the strength of a younger & stronger than. Again much love and many thanks for all your kindness

Your loving sister

Jennie.

combined with a bad cough. I hope it will not develop into anything worse. At any rate BOULDERFEL BARRIE bed is the place for her.

Another thing greeted me! It was my bill from Dr. Gow. Harry was horrified when he saw it and does not like me sending it on to you. He says if it is more than you expected it to be he will gladly pay half. Dr. Kerr charged me $6.00 for extracting my tooth, but I paid it at once as I knew that was all he had to do for me. I am truly grateful to you for letting me have this work done so comfortably and well. I was afraid the bill would be large. Dr. Nelson told me he charged her $85.00 for her lower bridge work & of course

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the upper is by far the finer job. A full set of teeth certainly makes a great difference in your speech & smile. I was so glad that you came over to see me. I don't know what I would have done without you. You have done so much for me in the Store. For this & for your kindness to Mrs. Lay & family I can never thank you enough. I am well pleased with your purchases & hope you are pleased with them. Everyone is speaking very well of the store & I am sure that your efforts will be rewarded. I am sure you will be very busy for the next few days as the Sale starts on Thursday. I think it is a splendid idea to have the Sale in the right direction & in which, though it is small, is in a good position. It is much better to be away from the noise & dust of Yonge St

Rosabel who has just missed pneumonia. It is these all-right jobs which tire you! She is up today but will be in the house for another week. Harry's cold is better but he is still running a temperature & is far from well. I am truly thankful he didn't try to go to Toronto. It would have been "the little more"!

Now I must go to bed as the rest of the family are already there. Again many thanks dear Willie and much love in which all the boys join

Yours lovingly
Jennie

H.L.

March 9th '30

Dear Willie:

It was more than good of you to send so promptly and so willingly the cheque for my teeth. It is a very big gift and I hope you feel I appreciate your kindness for, though I may not be good at expressing my feelings they are very deep & sincere. I hope my new lease of life which comes with better teeth will be long enough to repay the expense! Certainly I feel more respectable with a mouthful of teeth than with

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saying funny! I am gradually becoming accustomed to wearing them, but I never shall like them and think without thinking the world would have come to an inconvenience if in Toronto has ever invented very moral and [illegible] going over Broadway most of the time [illegible] homes! Our funny I met Jones Bell [illegible] he knows me but I do. I see Lorne day in Ottawa. I think he realizes

said for he gave a funny little laugh! Mr. Alexander sent me copies, a large & a small one, of the tablet. Mr. Alexander said in his note that "your brother the Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie" suggested his sending them! I didn't notice it but John pointed out the mistake. I don't know how many people called me "Mrs. King" when I was in Toronto! Two of the girls I used to teach were at the service and came up & spoke to me afterwards. I hope you are feeling a little more rested. I have had rather a strenuous week with

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(1930?)

Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much
for the lovely Easter card

I have had a
lovely time with my
bicycle.

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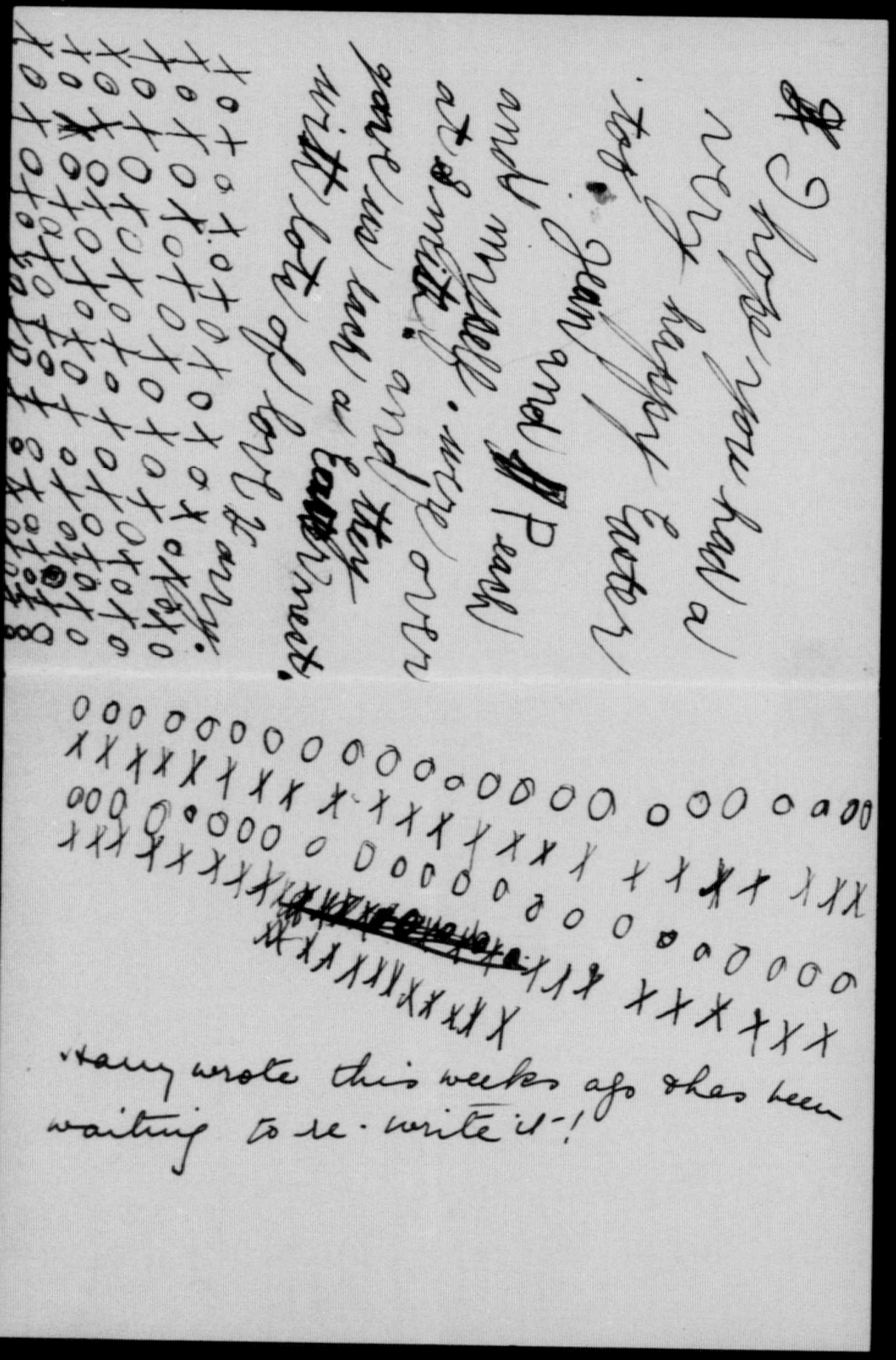
Dear Uncle Willie

Thank you very much
for the lovely Easter card

[redacted] I have had a
lovely time with my
bicycle.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 4th 1930

My dear Willie:

Although I have not written to you lately, we have followed with the greatest interest the proceedings in the House, and the accounts of your speeches have been most interesting. We were delighted to see by today's paper that the Senate had endorsed your Liquor Clearance Bill. It has been a fight but one which should truly help you in the country. They have

reply. Harry thought of going down to see Dr Logan some day next week. Harry intended to retire in July when he will be 64. They are supposed to retire at 60 but they have kept Harry on, & would still do so, but we both feel that it is best for him to retire this year. The last two winters have been pretty much of a strain & I doubt he could stand another. He has been almost 42 years with the Bank & when you think that in all that time he has only had two or three weeks out of the year, & on two occasions a furlough of three months & two months. it has been a pretty

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done all they dared to make it hard for you but that only marks the victory Sweater from Aunty Annie Boaten Dansereau, Mrs in the

Mrs Dansereau made you a present of the Cyprus kilt & sweater. I'm glad you were fine. In spite of the weather "the Pas" was a real good time. Mrs Dansereau was in the House; Mrs Patteson had it hot & heavy with questions re Unemployment! Mrs Wallace was up! All present.) Mrs Wallace was very sympathetic with Mrs Patteson & Mrs Dansereau!! Here am I back in Barrie & thankful they did for an unemployment & relief situation the streets are walking! The streets

in Toronto, not one will come to Barrie. Cora is trying her best to get me one so I am hoping, daily, for better news. As I told Mrs Patteson, Helmi's husband & small boy came out & she had to go to them in Toronto. It is very discouraging. She left on Sunday.

It doesn't seem possible that it is fifteen years today since Isabel died. I had letters from Helen & Nellie who always write to me on April 4th but it is hard to realize so many years have passed. It reminds us that we are growing old! We had another reminder today of the same fact! I am enclosing a cpy of Mrs Logan's letter to Harry this

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 6th '30

My dear Willie:

I was very glad to receive yesterday the copy of the tablet erected in St Andrews in Isabel's memory. Thank you so much for sending it to me with the little note from yourself. I told you I had notes from Helen & Nellie I also had a little note from Miss Ferguson who taught Isabel at Macdonald College and who is now demonstrating cooking & home making in the chief cities of

I have been busy making maple syrup & have nearly two gallons. The children tap the trees and it is good for them to know how to do these things. Isn't it a blessing to feel the spring is coming. The snowdrops & crocuses are up in front of the house. It always reminds me of Woodside when I see the snow-drops through the snow! I hope you are feeling better. Harry is only now getting over his awful cold and I had nearly as bad a one. It has been a long winter.

All the family join in sending very much love to you dear Willie and with many thanks

your loving sister
Jennie

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the United States. With the little ad
she sent me
tores which
the local flor
April 4th. I
much for I
Sufferin a
was very fon
used to have
they were
was saying
worried lon
dear friends
thought I
fifteen year
I don't need

me of Isabel. Her death was my first great sorrow for she was more than a sister to me in the last few years of her life — she was my greatest friend, and I love to remember her words to me as she was dying "Oh Jen, you've always been my greatest comfort — even in the old Berlin days!" I don't know what Isabel would have done without Nancy sometimes, for she loved Nancy very dearly too, used to come to us with her worries. Easter Sunday always seems more like the anniversary of her death than April 4th. It is lovely to think so many people remember her as loving. Nellie Douglas is coming up here, probably next week, for a few days. She is going to stay with Helen first

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poet". The judges spoke specially of John's English. Six boys spoke that night but they were the winners from the different forms. Jean came first in her form but was beaten by a little Catholic boy. Jean spoke on the "Legend of St Patrick" but their forms had only the school for audience. John & Jean are at a party tonight at Dr Simpson's, our local Liberal member.

Harry says there is an unwritten law in the Bank that every seven years a man can ask for extended leave. His last leave was when we were married twenty-four years ago & they gave him two months to come home from the Yukon.

Today I received a copy of the Presbyterian Record for April with your speech at St. Andrew's in it. I am very glad to have it. I wrote & asked May if she would like a photo of the tablet & she answered she already had two copies from the newspapers!! I am sending one to the boys! Mr Alexander sent me three smallones & 1 large one. Must go to bed. Hope you are well

steady grind. Until last his years ago he had only been away two half days on account of illness which is a wonderful record. At present he is one of the oldest members of the staff of the Bank. When he retires his pension will be 7/10 of the average salary for the last ten years which means $2777. For the last eight years he has been receiving $4000. They propose to give Harry a year's leave of absence on full salary which is the usual custom. Do you think a word from you would make any difference in the arrangements they will make? In view of Harry's very long faithful service to the Bank, it seems to me they

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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could afford to be a little extra generous, for I generally do there is another reason. I don't appear grasping in preparing his prejudice him we have some years before fall and collect of course we have can give all his Queen House, that he may be able to make

out of that, but $12 00 is a big reduction but of our $4000! I would not suggest this to you if you had not spoken as you did about it to me, and I know if you think it wise you will drop a line to Sir John or whoever it would be most helpful. You know how grateful we would be.

I went over to hear John speak in the Oratorical Contest at the Collegiate last week. He came second, much to his disgust, but the judges said it was very hard to judge between the first two. John was very tired as we had had no car all week, and it is a long walk five times a day, but he spoke extremely well on "Dr. Drummond, the Habitant

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

April 8. 1930.

My dear Jennie:

The word of Harry's intended retirement, while not wholly unexpected, has come to me more or less as a surprise. I had not known Harry was contemplating retiring before the Bank was prepared to insist that this was absolutely necessary. I had thought that perhaps he would prefer continuing in the Bank's service just as long as the Bank would permit this, thus permitting the continuance of the larger income for a longer period of time, and also the possibility of a larger pension when the salary period had expired.

However, you and he, without doubt, have given to this aspect of the situation very careful thought, and if you have come to the conclusion

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that Harry's health in the end will be benefitted by retiring immediately, then I think you are acting very wisely. After all, health is the first consideration, and I can see wherein, having the occupation of the garden and the flowers, not in addition to something else which makes it a strain, but by themselves, which will afford opportunity for pleasurable occupation as well as gain, there is much to be said for an immediate retirement.

One thing I would want to be sure of, and Harry alone can be sure of that, is that when he does withdraw from the Bank, he will not miss his accustomed work so greatly as to feel a reaction therefrom, which might be more of a strain than the continuance of the work itself. All of that, however, is entirely a personal equation, and I know Harry well enough to feel quite confident that if he thinks an immediate retirement is better than a further continuance in the Bank's service, he is absolutely right in the decision he is making.

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I do not think that either of you need be concerned about the future. While a drop of $1200 on an income of $4,000 is considerable, there is the security at least of what remains, and the opportunity of supplementing the income in other ways. I am sure I could have made a thousand dollars out of my garden at Kingsmere if I had had nothing else to do, and I would, as well, have got a good deal of pleasure and health out of the attempt.

I have written Sir John Aird, and enclose a copy of my letter to him. I hope it is along the right lines. I am quite sure it will not do any harm, and it may do some good, and this I much hope.

Let me thank you very warmly for your two letters received this week. They brought me a great deal of pleasure in the accounts they contained of matters touching the school life of the children and other affairs. I do hope, however, that you may find some domestic

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help very soon. If there is any avenue I can explore, please let me know.

With love to all

Affectionately Yours,

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel,"
Barrie.
Ont.

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April 9th '30

My dear Willie:

Harry & I appreciate very much, your taking the time & thought to write such a very kind letter about Harry's retirement. I am sure, if anything can help him that will. Harry has just been sending you a little note & I want to add my word of thanks, also to tell you that

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Cora Lurt [illegible] me another King
Coal night. She seem a nice
girl but not very strong. I
hope she will not feel ill-
by lonely here.
I. i talk as Mr? Dawson
and a Mr? Stonehouse from
Ottawa have just gone.
I will write you more fully
after we return from Toronto.
The Lusitania arrived in
the Bay this afternoon.
All the family join in
sending best for yesterday
many happy returns
Jean King xxxx
James.

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April 25, 1930.

My dear Jennie:

I was indeed delighted to receive your letter telling me of Harry's talk with Mr. Logan. About the same time I received a letter from Sir John Aird, which I enclose herewith. I think Harry may feel that he owes the arrangement reached to nothing but his own long and faithful service to the Bank. As Sir John Aird says in his letter, Harry's modesty may have led the Bank to suppose that immediate retirement with a year's salary was all that he really cared about, and to that extent the talk he has had with Mr. Logan, and possibly my letter to Sir John Aird, may have been helpful in gaining further consideration and recognition to which he was, and is, so well entitled.

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But even with that, he has no one to thank but himself for an arrangement which seems to me admirable. I like the thought of his remaining actively on the staff of the Bank. To be on the staff of relieving Managers, at full salary, is an honour in itself, and should relieve him, not only in the eyes of others, but in his own eyes, of any feeling of belonging to any retired group.

I gather from Sir John Aird's letter that, while two years has been definitely fixed as the period during which Harry's association with the staff of relieving Managers is to exist, there is no doubt that at the end of the two years, favourable re-consideration will be given to a further extension. You will notice Sir John uses the expression "for at least two years", and adds that at the end of two years the matter can be reconsidered.

Perhaps it would be well to let me have back Sir John Aird's letter.

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I am enclosing with Sir John Aird's letter, a copy of the letter itself. If Harry wishes to retain the original, well and good. If not, I would like him to send it back for my private files, and I can keep it here and Harry retain the copy. Perhaps that would be the best arrangement, as one never knows what changes may come in the course of the next two years. Both Sir John Aird and Mr. Logan may be out of office in that time, and it would be useful for me to have Sir John's letter, in case a further communication were required.

I had a delightful trip to Bermuda, a splendid voyage by sea both going to and from the Island. The time was rather short for much in the way of rest and change, but the trip has done me great good.

Please give my congratulations to Harry, and with love and affectionate remembrances to Harry, the children and yourself,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 10th '30

My dear Willie:

We drove down to Toronto today & Harry had his talk with Mr. Logan while I shopped with Cora. Harry said Mr. Logan was very kind. He asked Harry to tell him exactly what he wanted to do. He said he had a man picked out, on name but that made no difference. Then he suggested to Harry that he go on the "relieving staff" for one, two, or three years. As Harry understands it, he would draw his regular salary & Mr. Logan said he might never be called on, or he might have

business here is about trebled since he came to Barrie, but if Camp Borden is moved at the end of the summer, it is going to mean a big drop & I think Harry is as wise to get out while everything is sailing. Then, most important, is his health. Being at the Bank every morning by 8.30 & in that atmosphere till 5.30 & sit often back after tea is a tremendous strain each year after the Christmas rush Harry has had these terrible colds & nothing but constant care & watching has prevented pneumonia. This year I vowed he would never try to do it again. I would rather live on considerably less with him, than on still less without him. I know

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a few weeks ago. He said he had done the same thing for Mr. Stewart who had been about years in the Bank, so that Harry's case is no exception. Mr Logan has always been very friendly with Harry, & had him that whatever he would do about retiring, he could do. I don't know learned that his wife accidentally a broke her way when she was talking today he was talking about his children & Rosabel's 2 years ago the baptist little

worth living but he has to carry on. We talked to Harry for nearly an hour & then told him to come home & discuss it with me, & let him know. He didn't give any hint of having seen your letter & of course, we don't know whether Sir John has seen him, but I am sure that letter would be a great help. I think it is a wonderful thing if Harry can be kept on for two or three years more, without the strain of continuous work. Like you, I felt a distinct shock when I heard that he was to retire, but I know it is right. Harry cannot chase after work as they want their managers to do. He is too old for that & has'nt the strength. Then too, the

same Mrs. Hendrie.

Today we brought home from Cora's the basket you put the flowers in for the dedication of the tablet. Cora got the flowers but gave me the basket & it is beautiful. Harry was delighted when he saw it & says it will help him in his "displays" at the Horticultural Society etc.

I must go to bed as I am dead tired after this busy day. I wanted you to hear at once, the result of our trip & to know that we appreciate, very deeply, your kindness in writing all send best love. I suppose there is no chance of a visit at Easter? The welcome is always here for you whenever you can come again. Many thanks

Your loving sister Jennie

much better than he does, how much he is going to miss his regular work but he is the kind of man who is never idle, and if he can now have time for bowling & curling. he has earned it, & it may provide the social side he will miss so much. He is down in his greenhouse every morning at six o'clock, & every minute at noon again at night, & is too tired to enjoy even his meals. He will be sixty-four in July & he has been earning his own living & helping to support his family in England as well as his own family here, ever since he was eighteen

BOULDERFEL BARRIE

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We is certainly one of the men who will receive the greatest "well done"! We is down at the Bank now, working with the Brigadiers who have charge of the night. We close at 3 o'clock this morning & can have quiet an hour in our home in an hour. I left Rosabel went with me. Half way, we are all tired & ready to be finished. Am so lonely not having any one! Be to anyone! Be will soon learn children, if the days

We took Cora to lunch with us at Simpson's "Acadian Court" and she was speaking about the hectic time you have been having in the store! You must get Junior some times.

I was very much shocked to see the notice of the death of Mrs. Hendrie's daughter. She will feel that terribly for she must be a very young woman. It seems no time since you got that photo of the Hendrie children. I suppose it is "Lily" Hendrie's daughter, but I thought their place was "Gateside House" & this funeral is to be from "Holmstead". I was going to send a card of sympathy but wasn't sure that it was the

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Easter Sunday
April 20th. 30

My dear Willie:

Many thanks for your letter to Mr. Dr. Master, a copy of which Mr. Messmer sent to me. It was very thoughtful of you to arrange about it before you left, but I hope neither you nor I will need it just yet! There is nothing much more uncertain, however, than it is very good of you to make this arrangement. I hope you are enjoying your trip to Bermuda. The sea air

whether the Government helps individual cases like hers. I hope she will come for she has splendid references and her brother is a very good gardener and a nice man. She is 30 and his sister is 28.

I see Gladys Wookey was married last Thursday. They have never said a word to me about her engagement though Leonard told Cora about it. She has married a Mr. Dorris, an assistant of Prof. Alexander's at the University. I think.

I don't know when you will be home but I wanted to write to you today & the letter will be there to welcome you on your return! There has been no further word from the Bank.

All the family are well and join with me in sending best love

Your loving sister
Jennie

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 March-July 1930

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night to do for you. Good byes certainly needed a tear. I would hate to have had your kiss & hug & tear & then have seen them as I know you are from children, but I know you would be sorry.

We are going down to Toronto tomorrow and bringing Nellie Doyle back with us for a few days. She is staying with Helen Dr. Brunnell at Bloor's in Toronto, & is coming to us for about a week.

Harry, I am sure, has been quite busy with the last year. Last year Harry sold

and two dozen other flowers. This year he sold thirty-one lilies and quantities of other flowers. He could have sold twice as many lilies if he had had them; but his own were not quite ready as he had not turned the heat into the greenhouse soon enough. Next year he will know better and will arrange a separate part of the greenhouse for them. It shows, however, that there is a chance of working up a business if Harry has time.

I have sent to Ireland for a maid - a sister of our gardener, and hope she will come. I wrote to Mr Thomas yesterday to ask him

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 27th '30

My dear Willie:

We were glad to see by the papers that you had arrived home safely. I hope the trip did you good and gave you a little rest. You came back to pretty miserable weather if it was anything like the weather we had here. Surely this is the last fling! I am still wearing my fur coat and glad of it, especially when driving in the open car.

Thank you so much for your message of Easter greetings. We all appreciated very much your kind thought of us. Jean & I drove down to

also quite deaf, which is a great disadvantage. We were all intensely interested in reading in last night's Star, about the proposed telephone call from the moving train. It is a wonderful achievement and should be of inestimable value to business men. At election time, too, I should think it would be very useful! Certainly all these inventions make the world much smaller!

I must go to bed as it is getting late. The children go back to school tomorrow. The holidays have not been as beneficial as they would have been had there been sunlight. Harry has had no further word from the Bank but may hear any day. All here join in sending much love & again many thanks

Your affectionate sister
Jennie K. Lay

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Toronto on Easter Monday & for
hats! Thought Kellie Douglas looked
with us. She was
but we had such
that we couldn't
most of the time she
most of the time she
I was up at Mrs Col
dinner last week
tiro here, I saw me
she had just come
of Lord & Lady Bra
ship in which her
Dec 26th 1895" and
was the 82nd birthday
She was telling me
that she has the
time. Her husband
years ago. One of
was Miss Spenser. All

old-fashioned sailor hats & look so funny!
We had a letter from Nelson from Scotland where he has been taking some special course. He says he heard, unofficially, that he was to be stationed in Canada. I wonder if you know where he is to be or when he is coming home? Mr Messmer would tell you about my writing him about Delaney's sister. He was very kind in making enquiries & letting me know at once. I wrote to her but of course she would not have received my letter yet. I hope she will come if she is anything like her mother. This Jim I have is mentally unsound, so we have all decided it is not worth taking trouble to teach even if I could teach her which I very much doubt. She is

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 4th 1930

My dear Willie:

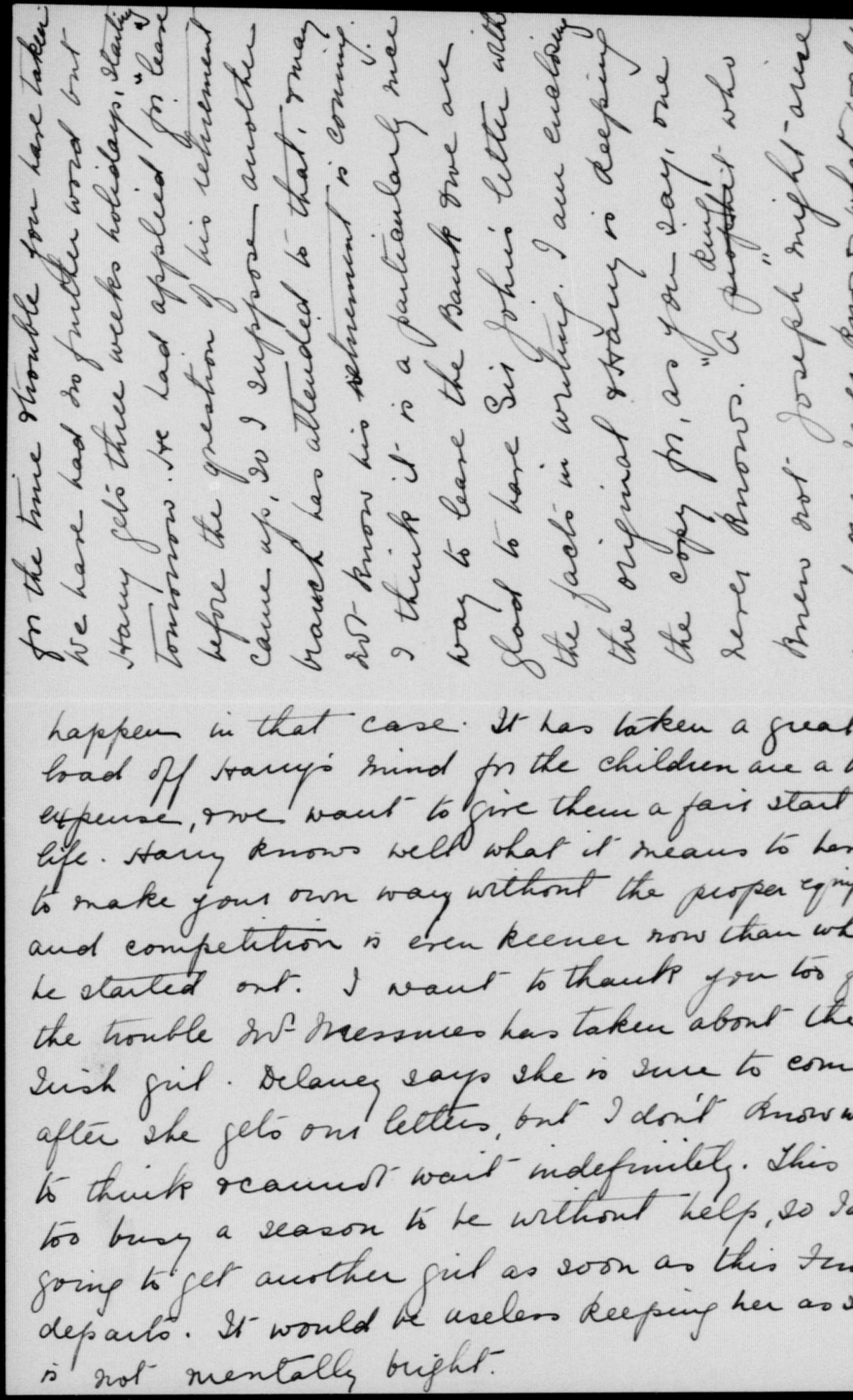
Harry & I were very glad to have your letter enclosing the one from Sir John Aird. From his letter it is evident he had spoken to Mr. Logan before Harry went down, & I have no doubt your letter to him had a decided influence on both Mr. Logan & Sir John. I fully feel that Harry deserves all he has got, but that doesn't always come in this world & sometimes a word, fitly spoken, is a great help! Harry & I are both very grateful to you

The Kiwanis Club asked John to give his address on Dr. Drummond at their luncheon last Friday, & Harry says he spoke very well. Harry was particularly struck with his voice this language, and said that though his hands shook, his voice was steady. Crompton Lewis spoke too, but Harry said John was decidedly the better speaker, though Crompton came first in the school competition.

Jean, with six other girls, sang the anthem in church tonight. It was the S. S. anniversary so they were in the choir & wore their caps & gowns. They were quite excited, but sang well. A stranger who was in church said she didn't know they were not-

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happen in that case. It has taken a great load off Harry's mind for the children are a big expense, & we want to give them a fair start in life. Harry knows well what it means to have to make your own way without the proper equipment and competition is even keener now than when he started out. I want to thank you too for the trouble Mr. Messmer has taken about the Irish girl. Delaney says she is sure to come after she gets our letters, but I don't know what to think & cannot wait indefinitely. This is too busy a season to be without help, so I am going to get another girl as soon as this Irish one departs. It would be useless keeping her as she is not mentally bright.

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said this was a specially good picture & I thoroughly enjoyed it. I think this is the fifth time I have been in the ten years we have lived in Barrie!

I am glad you enjoyed your trip to Bermuda. Even a few days away from the house would be a relief and the ocean trip could not help but rest your brain & fill your lungs. The rest of the family are in bed so I must go too. All are well and join with me in sending best love to you dear Willie your loving sister

Jennie

I have been much interested in reading about the Young Women's Liberal Club. We must all thank Mrs Lapointe on Wednesday

the regular choir! Jean looked so pretty & I was quite proud of her. She & John have been at several dances lately & it takes me back to the days I used to go with you to the Hot-Air-Club etc!

There must have been great excitement when Mr Dunning brought in his Budget. I am so glad I was in the House the day Mr Robb brought in his budget for I can take a much more intelligent interest in all that went on. We saw the first benefit of the new tariff when fifteen cents was taken off our

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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pound of butter! I hope they will not add it to the butter!! Emergency seems very over, very much over but I daresay no one but the Prime Ministers! It will be a very long time until your milk rationing is removed. I suppose any more really Provincial our friends Toronto sheriffs will be in a moment of want for a cup of tea! Yesterday! I suppose they will record every week from now on. Can you imagine any more wicked rebel. I am afraid they are too fully to drop. No day is long

enough for all there is to do. I am sure you are glad to see some decent weather. Kingsmere will begin to look lovely. Our place has changed in the last three days from a dreary field to a lovely garden. The daffodils & tulips are out, & John had to cut the lawns yesterday, and last week we had snow! It really looks like spring now and it will be no time ~~before~~ the summer is here.

Nancy & I went to see the movie "Disraeli" & thoroughly enjoyed it. We so seldom go to a "show" that it was quite an event, but very

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

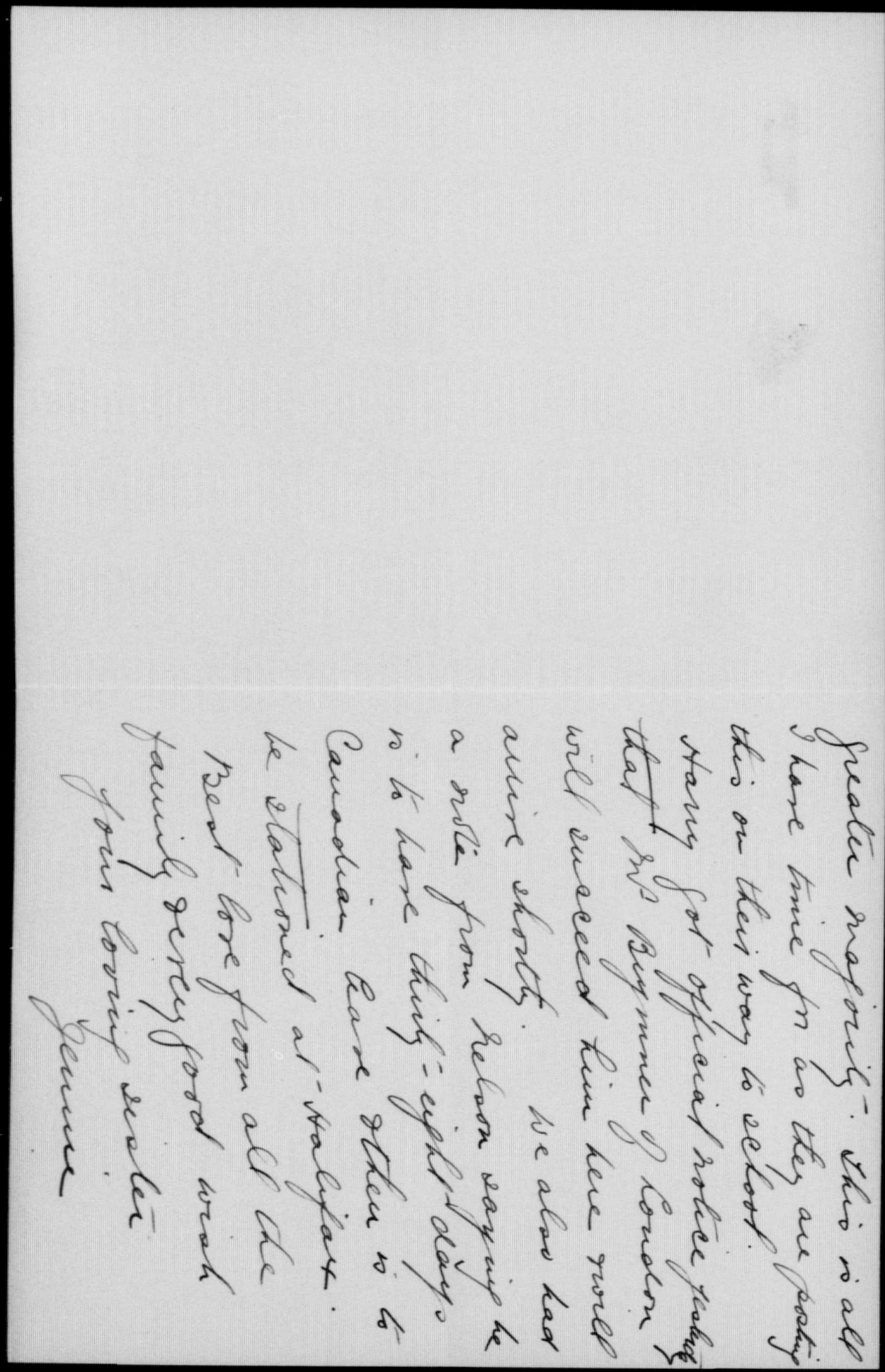
May 8th '30.

Dear Willie -

We all enjoyed, very much, listening to Mr Kellock Porritt's speech last night. Am sorry I could not be over so we could have enjoyed the night - but we thought the election speech should be heard, so we were glad you did. We looked, but we could get no papers. Will you wish for such like all round to us in town tomorrow and for return with Eaton

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May 10, 1930.

I must thank you for the two letters recently received. I was particularly interested in hearing about John and Jean's public performances. They evidently are heading in the right direction. I am of course more than pleased about the arrangements the Bank have made with Harry, and much hope that the greater freedom he may have from now on will prove beneficial to his health and in other ways.

With elections in the offing, I have not much time for correspondence, so you will not misunderstand if you do not hear just as frequently from me as I should like. I am going to do my best to have the elections over by the end of July, so as to have at least a

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month's rest before the Imperial Confer-
ence, should the Government be returned.
If by any chance we are defeated, there
will be an opportunity for an earlier rest,
which at least will be something by way
of compensation. However, we are not
going to be defeated if I can help it,
and at the moment, at least, the outcome
is promising.

With love and best of wishes to all.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie,
Ontario.

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000088

The pleasure of your company is requested at a

Recital

by pupils of

Sadie M. Bremner, A.C.A.M.

ASSISTED BY

Miss Bessie DeHart

Monday, June 2nd, 1930

8 o'clock

ADVANCE PRINT, BARRIE

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Programme

"The Little Dreamer" ..... Lind
Beth Sarjeant

"Elves at Play" ..... Perry
Leah Lowe

"Humming Bird and Honey Suckle" ..... Felts
Rosabel Lay

"Waltz" ..... Willy
Beth Sarjeant
Leah Lowe

"Playing Tag" ..... Schumann
Marion Monkman

"Cherry Blossoms" ..... Frimi
Dorothy Brittain

"The Sandman" ..... Schumann
Miss DeHart

"West Wind March" ..... Bliss
Alma Tyrer
Jean Handy

Programme

"Elfin Dance" ..... Jensen
Barbara Girdwood

"Slumber Boat" ..... Heurter
Jean Handy

"At the Fountain" ..... Ducelle
Dorothy McKnight

(a) "Nocturne" ..... Slater
(b) "Waltz Op. 64, No. 1" ..... Chopin
Frances MacLellan

"The Harp of Delight" ..... Cuthbert-Harris
Miss Dehart

"Sparkling Eyes" ..... Anthony
Dorothy Brittain
Dorothy McKnight

"Hungarian" ..... Macdowell
Jean Lay

"Polish Dance" ..... Scharwenka
Douglas Miller

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Mothers' Day
May 11th '30

My dear Willie:

It was a terrible shock to me today when Helen McMurrich rang up & told me Nellie Douglas had been found dead in her bath yesterday. She was visiting here a week ago & went back to Montreal on Wednesday feeling perfectly well. Yesterday they had to break in the door of the bath room & found the water still running & Nellie quite dead. It must have been her heart for her head was not submerged. Nellie would have hated to be a bother to anyone and she has been spared that. I don't

I hope Willie Mulock's son will do better in that line than his father did! John could make a better speech than Willie Mulock K.C.!

Yesterday was a busy day in the greenhouse & Today being Mothers' Day there was a special demand for flowers, & the whole family were on the jump!

I hope you are well. I was going to phone you today, but the price & the thought that you might be at Kingsmere, prevented me. It must be beautiful out there just now. Best love dear Willie in which all the family join

Yours loving sister Jennie

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their brother, Father O Leary
ers had a true friend than Nellie
they were all found of her and
many of our happiest days were
spent together. I send you a wire
(Collect!!) as I do not know where
you would be staying. I
you will find
in the Globe
don't know w
be from, but
down. Mrs. G
to let me k
I were the
in the world.
living with

From now on you will have a fairly hectic time! There is to be a meeting of Young Liberals in town next Wednesday. Harry says the idea here seems to be that Drury will be the Liberal candidate. I wonder if Boys will run again? He will certainly never get in if he does. I do hope it will not be too exacting an election. One never knows what may turn up but Jay is to be ever on the watch. Now that Harry will not be chained to the Bank, we may be able to hear some of the speakers.

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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STANDARD TIME

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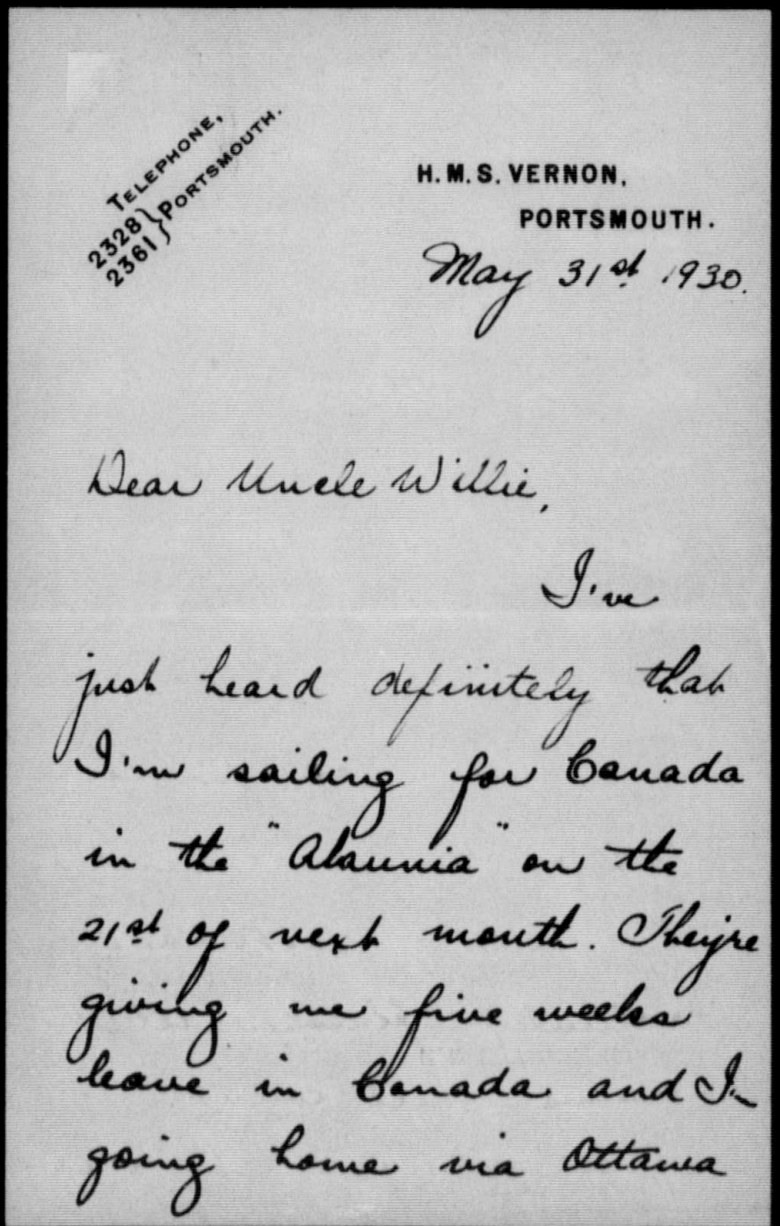
READ YOUR EMPIRE MESSAGE TODAY WITH MUCH APPRECIATION JENNY AND THE CHILDREN JOIN ME IN BEST LOVE AND CONGRATULATIONS

HARRY.

FORM 6124

● King, Rt. Hon. William
Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
● Harry Morrison Lay and family - March-July 1930

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TELEPHONE,
2328 } PORTSMOUTH.
2361 }

H.M.S. VERNON,
PORTSMOUTH.

May 31st 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie,

I've just heard definitely that I'm sailing for Canada in the "Alaunia" on the 21st of next month. They're giving me five weeks leave in Canada and I'm going home via Ottawa

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so that I can find out one or two things from the Department.

Are you going to be in Ottawa at the end of June? If so I wonder if you would mind putting me up for a day or two.

We're on the last lap I think course and as a matter of fact have actually finished all the exams which count. I just managed to escape

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TELEPHONE, 2328 / 2361 PORTSMOUTH.

H.M.S. VERNON,
PORTSMOUTH.

into the top bay of the next
the course. The next
two weeks we are
down at Salisbury at
the Chemical Warfare School
after that I will get a
few days leave before
sailing.

I'm looking forward
very much to getting home
again. It really will be
years since I left. It

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young sister at Boulderfield
will have changed a
lot I expect.
With best wishes
Yours affectionately
Nelson Lay.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 9th 30

My dear Willie:

We were all so excited when we heard your voice last Sunday. Of course everyone had to say a word regardless of expense! The telephone is certainly a wonderful link and makes you seem so near. Harry & I went out to Stayner on Monday. Mr Bygmner, who is to succeed Harry, arrived Monday morning to look for a house, but fortunately he left right after lunch, so we were able to go, tho we were a little late. Mr Stewart made a fine speech but we both thought Drury spoke even better. The

better. I will send on Nelson's letter if you can do anything I will be truly grateful. At present I am alone! My Hann walked out & got on the bus when she saw the men start to tear the paper off the walls! I got a boy to help out till the Irish girl arrived she went home to help his mother more, & cut his arm so badly he had to have four stitches. I am hoping each day he will return but it is a week since he left.

We hear over the Radio that you are to give your first speech from Brantford Mr Drury said he had your promise that you would come & speak for him so we are hoping you will be able to arrange it. We were wondering if you could combine the Aird wedding

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Professor Chamberlain was very funny. He said you had done what-everyone said was impossible, so you must be God made. Because God made man and made woman and the difference between the sexes! The conversation is to be held today while Bruce will appear Mr. Boys will try and report to Mr. Stewart. Set-up without markers at Craigvale which is to be married at is to Wilkinson Airbase from Sir John's summer home. Nancy is working a disturbance I was there. I don't think Bruce is wondering if you could Nancy had I couldn't Conservative Convention we are Nancy told him I Nancy will be busy

and is to decorate the house & church! It is his first attempt so I hope he will do well. He was out at the church yesterday seeing what will be required. He is very busy these days for Mr. Bygrave has not come yet, today the Inspector is here and Nancy will be busy with him for two or three days.

When Nelson was in Ireland on his holidays he cabled me asked if he would engage an Irish maid. His letter came today telling of his success and I am wondering if you could help hurry her along. It is always upsetting when they go to the Hostel in Toronto if she could be sent straight here it would be much

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papered & they look so fresh. It is eight years since we fixed the house & all needs re-decorating now will do a little each year if possible. We wanted these rooms to look nice when Nelson comes home. It is very good of you to put him up at Laurier House & we are very glad as I am sure he is. I hope you will see him as well as the other children this summer. Jean has developed into a very pretty girl & quite a brilliant musician for her age! I must stop now. Hope you are keeping well & that we will see you soon. Best love from all the family dear Willie Your loving sister

Jennie

which is on a Saturday, with a political meeting & then spend Sunday with us. It would be BOULDERFEY BARRIE a great joy to us if you could. I am sure the Aird's would be delighted too. I do hope you will carry this riding this time. If Boys would win I am sure you could.

Tuesday

I saw I could not finish this letter yesterday so I went on Nelson's, hoping to write last night. However some friends came in & didn't leave till after eleven, so we went to bed. Mary went over to Creemore about 25 miles from here, with a twenty

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dollar problem of holding plants. He has done well this Spring but has had to Keep a man which calls up his profits very considerably. Still he could not have handle the work alone, especially while he is in the Bourse if he is paying Delaney, he is getting extortionate sit is astonishing how many people have come to him. I dare say part of it is curiosity but as long as they don't mind! I have been pay we don't mind! with rheumatism lately suffering desperately sent for the D.r. the informed me

it is lime forming on the joints!! Quite cheerful! My hands are especially painful it is very little writing I can do at a sitting. I can't grip anything for any length of time. The D. is to give me a tonic to see how I re-act to it. I hope it will do me good, for, though my condition may not be alarming, it is very painful & incapacitates me in every way, besides disturbing my sleep!! Jean says if I could only look a little more sick, I would be taken more seriously! All this wet weather is probably partly responsible. We have had the library, dining room halls

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Form 6122, replacing Form 1-TW

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise the character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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CHG PRIMIE MINISTERS OFFICE

JUNE 12/ 918A

MRS H M LAY

BARRIE ONT

DEPUTY MINISTER IMMIGRATION HERE ADVISES THAT ANNIE CURRY OF BALLYMENA WILL SAIL ON LAURENTIC SATURDAY FOURTEENTH AND WILL BE SENT THROUGH TO YOU AT BARRIE

HOWARD MEASURES

USE OUR DIRECT ALL-CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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With fyc

En route, June 30, 1930.

My deer Jennie,

I received, the evening I left Ottawa, a copy of a book just published by Reverend Stuert C. Parker of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, giving a history of the Church. I ordered two copies that I might send one on to you. I think it will give you great pleasure to see the references it contains to Father and Mother and Isabelle, as well as to the ceremony of the unveiling of the tablet in connection with the hundredth anniversary. Especially will you be pleased with the excellent reproduction of Belle's picture. I have been glancing through the pages of the book on my way westward, and am mailing you the copy which I have. Please accept it with my love and best wishes to yourself and to all of the family.

I have just heard by wire that Nelson has arrived safely at Laurier House. I wish I had been there to welcome him. It will be a great joy for you all to see him again, and for him to see you.

The campaign appears to be going well. I think I can stick out the next

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four weeks, though the constant speaking and travelling is very fatiguing.

I shall probably see you all when I go to North York, which I understand to be on the afternoon of Saturday, July 19th.

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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L.H.
Fle

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 4th 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you ever so much for your telegram of welcome. It was awfully kind of you & let me stay at Laurier House while I was in Ottawa. Macdonald looked after me extremely well and Mr. Measures was very kind them. My father has at last given up his duties at the Bank and is thoroughly enjoying himself in the green-house.

I trust your Western tour is being successful and will bear fruit copiously on the 28th

With my best wishes

Your affectionate nephew.

Nelson.

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too. He toole me out
to golf on Tuesday morning
and organized a visit to
the Mint which was very
interesting.

I went out to
Kingsmere on Tuesday afternoon
and called on Mr. and Mrs.
Patterson. They showed us
all round the two cottages.
I think Moorside is looking
wonderful. It's improved
tremendously since I was
last there three years ago.
The new drive and the

stone walls are very smart.
I drove out with Lieut. Com.
Oland and his family and
we had a very fine bathe
in the lake and then a
picnic tea. They were all
frightfully interested in your
cottages because they're living
in one out at Alymer.

I left Ottawa on
Wednesday evening and got
here yesterday afternoon. The
family are very well. Peaches
and Harry have grown tremen-
endously since I last saw

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it is very beautiful. He said Mr. Pattison was very kind. John leaves at 4 a.m. tomorrow for Trenton where he is to have a "job" at the air force camp. I hate to let him go! This will be the last time for dear knows how long, that the whole family will be together.

You will be pleased to know that Mary Ann two sons are coming to spend the summer with her mother. They are now en route in their Ford!! She sent a note telling me they were coming & hoped to see us some time this summer "with best wishes to each & all"!! It is a pity they have not votes! I have only had a minute to glance at the St. Andrews Book but hope this evening to get a chance

W.L.M.K.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 6th '30

My dear Willie:

Your letter from Brandon and the book of St. Andrews arrived safely on Friday and Saturday. I was glad to hear from you & to know that you are still in "fighting trim". I often wonder whether these meetings do any good! We all listen to the men we agree with & never bother with the opposite side! I listened to Bennett one

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right- to speak, as one person "! it, "piffle" & side thought- We could'nt on Thursday well & start by 9 o'clock right- to the station we had to shout bit thunder storm cause. We Bruce this Like yours We haven't in to the Conservative

you coming here to speak for Drury? Every one seems to think he will get in. I saw Boy this morning on a doorstep on Bayfield St. talking very hard to two women!! We will have to watch for your meeting in South Park on the 19th, stay off down. Perhaps you can come up. Nelson looks well and is in good spirits. He arrived here on Thursday morning. He said Mr. Hessmer was very good to him. I think he has written you thanking you for your hospitality. He was out at Kuper

of Elsie to part with so many of her treasures. She sent Jean her mother's engagement ring which, unfortunately, is much too small for Jean! We shall all hope to see you before the month is out and hope next month to still be able to address you as "Prime Minister". All are well & join in best wishes for the election very much love to you. Again many thanks dear Willie.

Yours affectionate sister
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

to enjoy it more leisurely. The picture of Isabel is very well reproduced; certainly much better than the one of Winnie Lash. She was such a handsome women and her picture, there, is anything but flattering. I don't think Dalgnbar Macleen would remember himself— his picture is so ancient! It is quite a unique book and will be a great joy for years to come. It is very

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good of you to send me
a copy for, though
very much to Ka
feel- I should not-
money! This copy
pleasure to a great
Did you hear
Lindsays' Jim's
very suddenly a
days ago! I think
is going to stay
in a little while
terribly sad. Co
began up at Ke
her two grandson
the Carp burial

gone back to be with Jim.

Elsie Lay sent John half a dozen each of table, dessert & tea spoons & dinner & tea forks with the Lay crest; & John is delighted. The other half dozen are to be his after Elsie departs this life! but she sent half with Nelson so that John could see what they are like. It is lovely to have the Lay silver and I tell John it leaves mine for the girls! It is very unselfish

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WLM

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 17th '30

My dear Willie:

If we could have got you last night, we most certainly would have rung you up to tell you how thoroughly enjoyed your speech. I think it was the best you have ever made. Your voice sounded rested and every word came through as clearly as if you were in the room. Truly radio is a marvellous thing! It makes you practically independent of party papers, for by it you get some of the enthusiasm of the

We saw by the paper that you were to be in Goderich tonight and see now that you are to be in Peterborough. I do hope you will get up here.

Thank you so much for sending me the word about Annie Curry. As soon as I got the wire (my own messenger) I went & engaged a girl for two weeks and am so thankful to have her. She can only stay two weeks but by then Annie should be here. I would have written on Sunday but thought I might hear from you from Toronto but any rate, you were away.

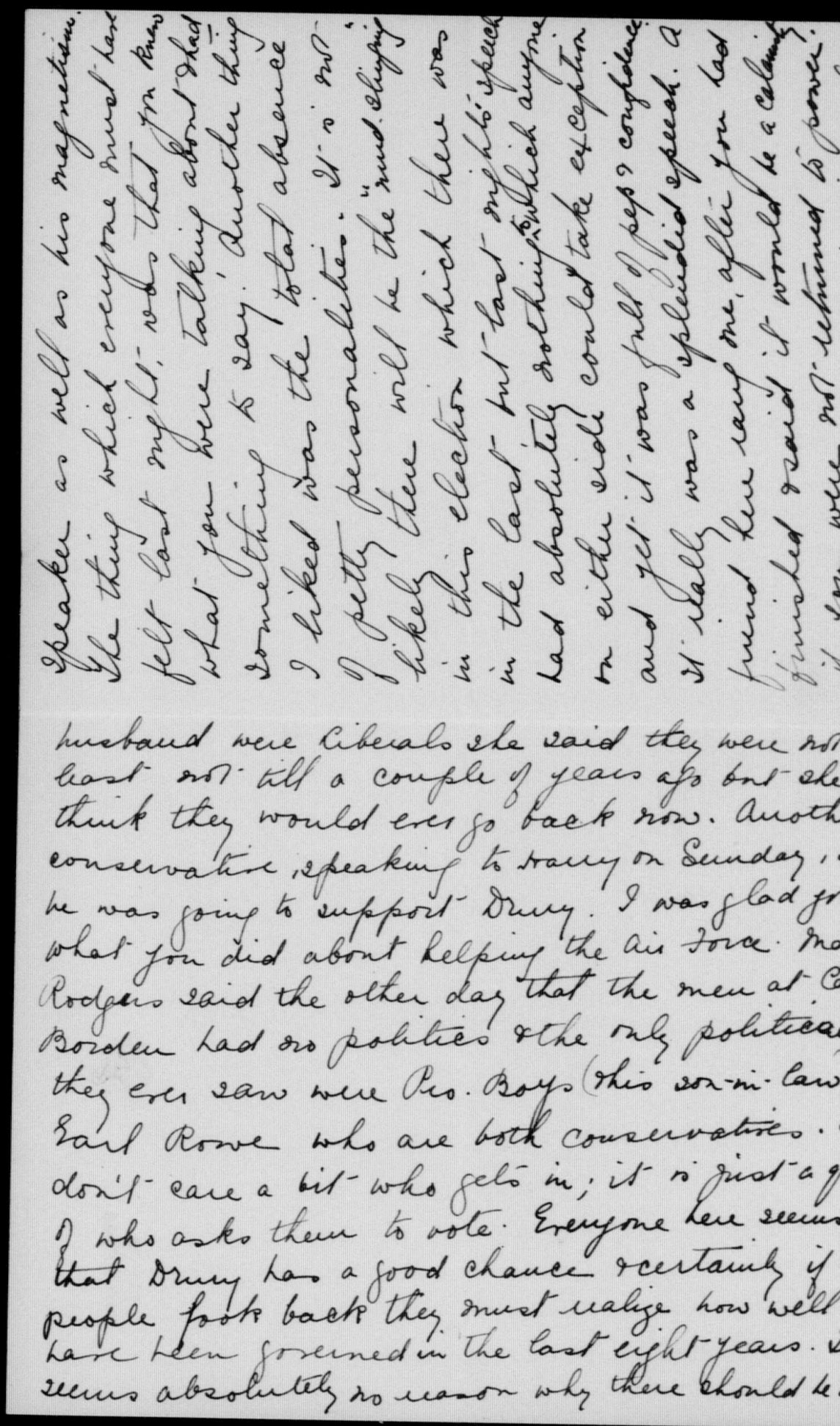
Mr. Baynmer is here, today should be Harry's last day in the Bank. He had the Liability Inspector here last week, & when he was leaving he told Harry he should be proud to leave the Bank in the position & condition in which he was leaving the Barrie Branch. It was nice of him to say it.

Jean has finished school & John is in the middle of his exams. Says he did well at algebra this morning. Best luck to you in your campaign & all loving wishes for success from all here.

Your loving sister
Jennie

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husband were Liberals she said they were not - at least not till a couple of years ago but she didn't think they would ever go back now. Another ho conservative speaking to rally on Sunday, said he was going to support Drury. I was glad for said what you did about helping the air force. Majo Rodgers said the other day that the men at Camp Borden had no politics & the only politicians they ever saw were Pro. Boys (this son-in-law) & Earl Rowe who are both conservatives. They don't care a bit who gets in; it is just a questio I who asks them to vote. Everyone here seems to feel that Drury has a good chance & certainly if the people look back they must realize how well they have been governed in the last eight years. There seems absolutely no reason why there should be a change

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Thursday

My dear Willie:

We are delighted to hear you are coming to see us on Saturday, also that you are to speak here. The speaking is called for 2.15 in the afternoon. Shall we will have a very

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early lunch and be by ourselves!
This is just to tell you we will not disturb you till you phone us or till 10 a.
m. Best love in which all the family join
Your loving sister
Jennie
W. Drury is delighted & I believe it will put him in. J. K. L.

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE

PHONE 832

July 23/30

My dear Willie,

Richard Delaney asks me to drop you a line regarding his qualifications as a gardener.

When you were at Barrie recently you remarked that possibly he might be of use to you as gardener at Kingsmere.

He comes from Ireland near Dublin - is about 30 years of age has had experience working for Gentlemen at home in greenhouse and general gardening. If he can secure a permanent job he wants to bring his wife and child to Canada He would like a lot when he and his wife were employed - his wife

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

doing something in the nature of housework.

He has worked for me for the ~~last~~ fastest 2½ months and I have found him competent, industrious, sober and respectful.

I should be glad to retain his services but have now not sufficient work for him. He is at present getting odd jobs but will return to Ireland if he cannot land a job.

People in Barrie were immensely pleased with your address here. We have been following your progress with the greatest interest. On Monday night we heard you pass Ottawa and we all thought you had there even excelled your already magnificent record. It seems impossible to imagine any other verdict on the 29th unless a swooping victory.

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

We were delighted that you were able to be with us for a little while last week. We have written to the Star for copies of the issue in which the photos taken here appeared. Some of those taken with my camera turned out well.

Your visit here will go a long way towards clinching Drury's victory.

Jennie and the children join me in much love and in wishing you a big majority next Monday. We shall listen in on Saturday night. Yours affectionately.
Harvey

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July 24 1930

Dear Uncle Willie:—

This is to thank you very much for the lovely present of money I am going to put my share in the bank.

Have you seen the pictures that the men took the day you were in Barrie? We haven't yet. Do you know what movie the moving pictures will be in and if they are coming to Barrie?

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The teacher's dog is in the house now. He often comes in and lies down on a rug. He is awfully cute. Harry and I got some wood from the planing mill and have made us a boat with it.

I guess I'll have to go to tea now.

Yours lovingly

Rachel.

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Banff, Aug 24th (1930?)

Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you very much indeed for the money you sent Jean & I the other day. We enjoyed our visit with you & hope you will be up here again soon. I hope you have good luck on the Prairies.

Your loving nephew

Harry M Lay

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"Baulduff"
Baytie, Ont.,
July 24, 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie, —

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Trains by 9.40 for the future.
Spell by 9.55 to be sure.
Don't be time Omnot
Care now. Ha, Ha, Ha
See you again this summer
Remain with affection
Yours affectionately
Jean.

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BLACK CATS Printed in U. S. A. Bamforth Comic No. 1567

POST CARD

July 25, 1931.

Dear Uncle Willie:-

Thanks so much for your still letter. Prince Gwilym arrived 29th inst. Mother quite well. Hope Aunt Willie & the Cremeys are well. Love Jean.

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REPEAT
REPETITION

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We are going to "listen in" tomorrow night - but I think it will be pretty hard for you to speak without the inspiration of an audience. The photos we took here are splendid & we will send them on to you. A man from Barrie said he saw the movie in Toronto & of us getting off the train & also at Barrie! I wish they would come here. Harry Jr. is to write you another letter but I will send this in the mean time! Nelson leaves for good on Thursday next. Would it be possible for him to spend a night with you or will you be too busy? Don't hesitate to be honest about it. He is rushing to Halifax. Best love from all & best wishes

Yours loving auntie Jennie

We heard Graham last night. It wasn't specially magnetic! J.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 25th '30

Dear Willie:

Nelson left with Topsy Wilson (Harry's niece) who was here from Saturday till Wednesday afternoon. They motored to London & Nelson is to be back in time to vote on Monday. Yesterday, my first free day, I spent in the Liberal women's committee rooms, doing what I could to arrange for Monday! If the Conservatives were

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only konest- there would be
no question of Bruce's success
but all friends people are
being told that Simpson is
D.V. Simpson & Lapointe
to know how to contradict
it.
I heard from Ottawa about
perfectly absurd thought it was
splendid. The Cheadles are
I guessed but Mrs Layman
said it was wonderful.
Everyone was delighted
with your day here & I
hope we shall see results
on the 28th. Jean is driving
our car for the day & has

quite a list to look after. We heard
rather a good story yesterday. Mrs Frazer
wanted to let Bob have a party asked
him how Monday would do. He said it
wouldn't do at all as it was election day
& when she asked him what difference
that made to him he said he was going
to pray all day that you would be
returned! His mother said he was
thrilled at being here to lunch with you
& having his photo taken with you.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 29. 1930

My dear Willie,

Just a line to express my very deep sorrow and indignation and astonishment at the results of the General Election yesterday.

We are glad to know that you are preserving your serenity under the circumstances. All the same one's opinion of the sanity of the Canadian people generally has received a severe shock.

accordance of all personalities on petty politics, will go far to take away the sting of what will I am sure only be a temporary defeat.

I hope that you have not suffered materially from the long and arduous campaign and that brighter days are not far away.

Yours affectionately,
Harry Allard.

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a rude shock and one is apt after all to question the value of manhood suffrage. However a amiable theoretically right to the vote may be, it puts an enormous weapon in the hands of unscrupulous politicians. The ignorance of the Canadian "loi polloi" was alarmingly exhibited yesterday. In driving voters to the poll Yesterday I passed up a Tory looking man who gave as his reason for voting Tory, his apprehension that the Liberals were too dependent on Catholics! no consideration to the amelioration of his own lot under the past 9 years Liberal government, has given for a moment or regarded as worth considering. At one house I was asked if the election was in Toronto!

We are all proud of your wonderful campaign in which your appeal to reason alone and the

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 29th '30

My dear Willie:

Nothing was farther from my thoughts than that you would be defeated in this election. I was so sure Drury would be elected and that you would go back with an increased majority, that I can't quite realize yet that there has been such a turn-over. However you have the satisfaction of knowing that you have given the country

from the Telegram (8 a.m.). Thank Goodness you are in, but how did they defeat Dunning? It goes to show that the man on the spot always has the advantage. While the Cabinet ministers were round stumping the County the others got in their work. I had about one hour's sleep last night — I wonder if you had as much! I was so glad to hear your voice for I was sick! I wonder how long they will be in power. Mrs McLaren & her sister were here till midnight — & then went home. We never went down town at all. The Conservatives had a wild time. Nelson saw them as he drove home in the evening. I want to get this off on the morning train so must close. Best love from all dear Willie & know that our very loving thoughts are with you just now Take a well-earned rest. Your loving sister Jennie

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good government that for
have fought a clean about
gentlemanly fight- if the
outcome is adverse we have
just to take our medicine.
When I began to realize
last night- that things were
going against us, I sneaked
up a hop pit- opened at the
words. The man who
is the man who
When everything
I fancy we learn
as the years pass

We worked hard here yesterday & Harry drove the car all day. He & I went out together in the morning & brought in some old people who had never voted before. Then Harry "kept shop" in a hardware store down town while the proprietor went to vote & Jean used the car. Still the Conservatives were too well organized & have too much money. All work on the Highways here was stopped a week ago & the men were told it depended on the result of the election whether it would be continued! Their methods to gain victory were contemptible & I would rather lose than have an ill-gotten victory. We have just got the returns

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 30th 1930

Dear Uncle Willie,

Ever so
many thanks for your
very kind wire to Mother.
Its awfully kind of you
to let me stay with you
on my way through.

I'm going to motor
down to Halifax, so if

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there may be a better chance next time.

Your affectionate nephew.
Nelson Lay.

you are out at Kingsmere I can drive out there myself.

I expect to arrive in Ottawa about 6 P.M. on Friday and I'll ring up Laurier House & find out whether you are there or at Kingsmere.

We were all terribly disappointed that the Liberals weren't successful this election Its too bad, but

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August 4, 1930

My dear Harry:

This is just a line to thank you and Jennie for your letters and message over the 'phone, and to say that, apart from the disappointment occasioned other members of the Party, I feel immeasurably relieved at being free from the obligations of office for a time. I do not believe I could have endured the strain of another four years without serious results. The Government could not have had a finer record, and all that will stand us in good stead a few years hence.

I much enjoyed Nelson's little visit with me. He arrived Friday night, and left Sunday morning. He is a very fine boy, and I can see will make a real success of his life.

The change in my circumstances will make it necessary for me to forego any thought of taking on Delaney, unless he should like to come of his own accord

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to work for the balance of the summer season at Kingsmere. If he would be prepared to turn his hand to general work around the farm, as well as gardening, I would be prepared to give him what you were paying him for the balance of the season, and I could also arrange to board him at the farm house, but I could not undertake anything for the winter.

I enjoyed immensely my much too brief visit with Jennie, yourself and the children. I am glad the snap-shots turned out so well. Nelson has promised to let me have copies of the ones he took.

Fondest love to all,
Yours very affectionately,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Berrie, Ontario.

WLMK/EAP/FM

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August 16, 1930

My dear Nelson:

I was delighted to receive this morning your letter and the photographs enclosed. I shall send on the one to Mr. Rogers, the one you sent in addition for him.

I am glad your journey to Halifax was so pleasant and that you met Mrs. Walter Molson, whom I too had the pleasure of meeting some little time ago.

This is just a line, but it carries with it loving good wishes.

Yours affectionately,

Lieut. Nelson Lay, R.C.N.,
Admiralty House,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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ADMIRALTY HOUSE,
HALIFAX.

August 13th 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie.

I'm so sorry I've been so long in writing & thank you for letting me stay with you at Kingsmere. I enjoyed my stop over very much indeed and only hope I wasn't too much of a nuisance & you just at that through the Matapedia Valley and then through Campbellton Amherst and Truro to Halifax. It was an awfully interesting trip and the scenery was wonderful. The car, fortunately, behaved nobly so it was a very pleasant journey.

I'm enclosing the snaps I took of Moorlands and two of the ones at Boulderfel in case your secretary (I've forgotten his name) would like one.

Again many thanks for all your kindness & me.

Your affectionate nephew, Nelson.

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time when you were so busy.

I had an extremely pleasant run down here. I got to Montreal on Sunday in time for lunch and then went out to St. Hubert where I found Lieut. Com. Pressey who's in charge of the mooring mast. He showed me all round the tower and airport but we couldn't go onboard the R100 as they were carrying out repairs. Mr. Parker was there too.

I got as far as Metis by Monday evening and stayed there for two days with some people called Sims of Montreal. Mrs. Sims has a sister who's there too - a Mrs. Walter Molson who said she knew you quite well. I liked her very much indeed and her husband seemed very nice too. She said she was looking forward very much indeed to seeing Laurier House and Kingsmere sometime.

From Metis I came down

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Form 95

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Barrie, August 18th 1930

My Dear Willie,

I saw Delaney this morning for the first time since receiving your l letter. He would be very glad to go to Kingsmere immediately if he could be sure of work with you for two months. He is expecting his wife and ~~kild~~ child to come out from Ireland in a week or two. If you found it convenient to take him for a while he could possibly go lumbering thereafter. Please do not consider it necessary to put yourself out in the least in the matter. I like the man and found him efficient and faithful.

I hope you are having a good rest after the strenuous tike of the last nine years. Every one agrees that no Government ever left office with such an unimpeachable record.

Jennie has not been very well the last day or two and as luck would have it Arthur and Lyon King are here to-day for lunch. They are playing tennis with Jean and Rosabel as I write. Jennie thinks they have improved since they were here last. Lyon goes to the University at Toronto this F all. We expect John will be there also.

Jennie asked May to come up with the boys but she was unable to do so.

With very much love from us all and hoping we may see you again before long, Yours affectionately,

Harry.

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) ● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-November 1930

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With very much love from us all and hoping we may see you again before long,

Yours affectionately,

Harry.

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C 2 0 0 0 0 0

Ottawa,
August 20, 1930

My dear Harry:

I was glad to receive this morning your letter of August 18th, though I regret to learn from it that at the time it was written Jennie had not been very well. I much hope that she will have fully recovered when this letter reaches you.

Were it not that Mr. Bennett intends holding a special session of Parliament in September, I would wire you to have Delaney come on to Kingsmere for two months. The session, however, will mean that in all probability I shall have to go into the city for good at the end of this month.

Between the special session and acknowledging reams of correspondence, anything in the nature of a summer's rest or holiday has been destroyed. I shall write again a little later on. This line is just to send a word with regard to Delaney.

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With kindest love to you all,

Yours affectionately,

Harry M. Lay, Esq.,
The Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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 August-November 1930

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not change them. I think she is suffering from "a little wounded self-appreciation"! She said unquestionably you would be up to see her before she left on the 27th — but equally unquestionably I will not! Lyon told me again that he was going into medicine & hoped to be a great surgeon like his Uncle Harold. They have improved in appearance & manner but one day at a time is enough!
John & Lyon will be entering Varsity together - that is if we can manage to send John. He stops work on the 30th & I will be glad to have him home for a couple of weeks. I miss him very much.
Nelson said he had such a happy visit with you - Jim Lindsay has been with him in

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 21st, 30

My dear Willie:

The days go past so quickly that there never is time to do the things we want to do.
Jean & Rosabel left this morning - Jean to go to a Girls' Camp at Normandale for two weeks, and Rosabel to spend a week in Toronto with Mrs. Aid. It was one grand hustle to get them off, but there is a wonderful peace in the house with only

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little Harry this Dad to keep me company. We have had so many children about that the peace is very pleasing.

John was home from midnight Saturday till Sunday night having had the chance of a ride with a friend from Strathmore. On Monday we got his results and he passed in all his 13 subjects. He only got a credit in Algebra which is one of his best subjects. He also got a credit in Trigonometry so it is strange he dropped in Algebra. He had Harold Goodwood and Gordon Goodwood marks. Last Gordon Harry passed him to have that paper re-read as he was sure there was some mistake, as John was one of his very best pupils. He also said that if John came up in Algebra he would be in line for one of the scholarships. It is too bad to be so near yet so far. He got 1st in both French & German, also Geom. & Trigonometry so it is strange he dropped in Algebra.

Arthur & Lyon came up & spent the day with us on Monday but may wouldn't come. She told Cora that my treatment of her mother had made it impossible for her to come here!! I phoned her on Sunday night, after Cora had told me that only the boys were coming, and asked her specially to come & told her I would be bitterly disappointed if she did not come, but she informed me that she had made other arrangements & she certainly would

you have had many trips and the rest will do you more good. It is hard to see others so & try to undo the good you have worked so hard to accomplish but Right is bound to win out in the end. Did I send you copies of the pictures we took when you were here? I had a set for you but can't remember whether I sent them. Also do we have to stamp our letters to you now or do they still go free? It is after ten & I determined to be in bed early tonight and have one good night's sleep so I must close. All the family join in sending best love & hope you are having a happy summer

Your loving sister Jennie.

Did you see the notice of Dr Adam Wright's death in today's paper?

Halifax & they had four days together before Jim sailed. Cora has spoken so often of your kindness to Jim & says he was so helped by all you did for him. She says Jim & Nelson got on so well together & that Jim was feeling much better before he left. Did you know they had Betty's body cremated?

Is there any truth in the tale that is going about that Mr Larkin left you a fortune? I don't know how many people have asked me and all I tell them is that I hope he has! Cora told me Dr Thistle & Hazel

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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were there the other night-
they told her you had been
left- "well perhaps
Having seen
Mr Parkin
would be
yesterday
husband
in for
were most
about- your
when they
said your
but everyone
to them they
House was
I was

this afternoon and she was speaking of you and said Sir John had said after the elections that you would be thankful for a few years rest, and that you would be all the better able to govern the country after letting the other side work for a while! The children here can't bear to see Bennetts name with "Prime Minister" after it! Did you see the copy of Saturday Night with your picture & Mr Bennetts? Everyone said they were such a contrast - R.B. looked so crafty! It is too bad you are not getting the trip to England, but

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been home twice since then. It is rather a long trip to take for a day. It is 158 miles and takes between four and a half and five and a half hours. Last Sunday night the fellow who took me home left Barrie at a quarter to twelve at night, and we got into Trenton at five minutes past four in the morning. We travelled pretty fast, so there was practically no traffic on the road.

Arthur and Lyon were up to Barrie on Monday.

Trenton Air Station
Trenton, Ontario
August 23
1930

Dear Uncle Willie;

I was awfully sorry that I wasn't home the day you were in Barrie. I read the accounts given in the papers and in letters from the family, but that didn't make up for all I missed. I want to thank you very much, too, for the present which came down here to me shortly after you left. It came at a very opportune time, for my finances

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day if I should go down to Ottawa from here. I asked Mother about this when I was in Barrie last Sunday, and she told me to go ahead and ask you.

I was very sorry at the time about the result of the election, but, come to think about it, I guess it is all for the good, and things will right themselves in time. I was very interested in all your speeches, and listened to as many of them as I could. I got home in time to hear your final speech on the night of the 26th of July. I have

were at a very low ebb just then. What I regretted most of all was that I didn't get a chance to have a talk with you about my future schooling. I have finished my senior Matriculation and I would very much like to discuss with you what course it would be best for me to follow when I go to University next month. I am leaving here at the end of this month, either Saturday night or Sunday, and I was wondering whether you could put me up for two or three

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I understand that Lyon is intending to enter the Faculty of Medicine at Toronto this fall. Cousin Cora seems to think he is quite a nice boy, but I don't know how I'll like him this year. If I am taking an Arts course I don't expect I'll see much of him.

I have enjoyed my work down here this summer very much. I have been out in the open surveying practically all the time, and yet I have both grown and put on weight. I was fairly homesick for the

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first few weeks, until I got home the first time. After that it wasn't so bad. I miss the garden and the tennis and swimming a lot. There is no decent place for either down here in Trenton.

With my fondest love to yourself and Pat, I am as ever

Your loving Nephew

John.

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

DH FU 142

Ottawa, August 26, 1930

(To be sent as nightletter tonight.)

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Fondest love and best wishes, dear Jennie, for a very happy birthday anniversary and many happy returns. Will hope to have John come down a little later on, but owing to assembling of new parliament within fortnight, every moment of my time will be taken up meanwhile. Please have him write on any point. Love to all.

Willie

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ALL MESSAGES ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS FOR CANADA, UNDER ORDER 162, DATED MARCH 30, 1916.

It is agreed between the sender of the message on the face of this form and the Company with which the message is filed that said Company shall not be liable for damages arising from failure to transmit or deliver, or for any error in the transmission or delivery of, any unrepeated telegram, whether happening from negligence of its servants or otherwise, or for delays from interruptions in the working of its lines, for errors in cipher, or obscure messages, or for errors from illegible writing, beyond the amount received for sending the same.

To guard against errors, the said Company will repeat back any telegram for an extra payment of one-half the regular rate; and, in that case, the said Company shall be liable for damages suffered by the sender to an extent not exceeding $200.00, due to the negligence of the said Company in the transmission or delivery of the telegram.

Correctness in the transmission and delivery of messages can be insured by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz.: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance.

The said Company shall not be liable for the act or omission of any other Company, but will endeavor to forward the telegram by any other Telegraph Company necessary to reaching its destination, but only as the agent of the sender and without liability therefor. The said Company shall not be responsible for messages until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; if a message is sent to such office by one of the said Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the sender's agent; if by telephone, the person receiving the message acts therein as agent of the sender, being authorized to assent to these conditions for the sender. The said Company shall not be liable in any case for damages, unless the same be claimed, in writing, within sixty days after receipt of the telegram for transmission.

No employee of the said Company shall vary the foregoing.

CLASSES OF SERVICE

TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

NIGHT MESSAGES

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DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the ten-word day message rate for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of the initial rate for such 50 words for each additional 10 words or less. The minimum charge for transmission over the Company's lines of any Day Letter will be 45 cents.

Day Letters may be forwarded by the Company as a deferred service, and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters are, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of full-rate messages.

Day Letters may be delivered by the Company by telephoning the same to the addressees and such deliveries shall be a complete discharge of the obligation of the Company to deliver.

Day Letters are received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of full-rate messages under the conditions named above.

NIGHT LETTERS

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Night Letters may, at the option of the Company, be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Dayletter. DH FU 142

Ottawa, August 26, 1930

John Lay,
Trenton Air Station,
TRenton, Ont.

Dear John: I would gladly have you come at once for day or two but for fact that new parliament is to reassemble so soon and every moment of my time will be taken up meanwhile. I have had to cancel all other engagements in order to be in readiness for the Opening. Will hope to have you some other time and will be ga glad if you will write me on any point you would like to have advice. Will reply immediately by letter. Best love.

Uncle Willie

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Day Letters are received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of full-rate messages under the conditions named above.

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Accepted up to midnight for delivery on the morning of the next day after their date at places where the Company's offices are open on Sundays, and on the morning of the next ensuing business day at places where the Company's offices are not open on Sundays, at rates still lower than its standard night message rates as follows: The standard day rate for 10 words for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rate for such 50 words for each additional 10 words or less. The minimum charge for transmission over the Company's lines of any Night Letter will be 30 cents.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 27th. 30

My dear Willie:

Yours lovely long letter and wonderfully generous cheque were the first good wishes to reach me this morning. I laid the letter & my glasses on the chair by my bed last night, & before I got up this morning, had the joy of reading it. I don't think you can realize what it will mean to me to have that much money in the Savings Bank! Since we

kind, it seems to me, there he would get more of the college spirit, which is what John needs. Nelson was very keen on having him go to R. M. C. which is very much cheaper, but I don't want him there at all. Toronto University seems to be the only place for him. He doesn't know what he will go in for, so the straight arts course is the likely one. Harry sent at once to have his algebra paper re-read, but I am not expecting much change. John phoned me last night. It was very good of you to write him as well as to me, & Harry & I were quite amused when

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bought this house we have decided eventually to keep after it, and are very glad since, last June, we have refused $10,000 for it, which many people thought a very good price. The decorating Miss Wilhelmina Arnold and I have never been so pleased with anything as I like red, yellow, green, especially. I can, especially, I can't to have quarters to have Roberts'. It's comfortable, Mrs. Adams or Mrs. Roberts', but that is one thing you can tell us. I rather favour "Residence" for John is not the flight

own! To say I was surprised at the amount is to put it mildly. I was quite overcome for a minute or two, & then when I read further down in your letter that you were thinking of John, the tears had to come. I sincerely hope we shall not have to ask for help there. We felt, if John could earn enough for his clothes we could manage. We are wondering about a boarding place, & that is one thing you can tell us. I rather favour "Residence" for John is not the flight

elections but, like everyone else, think you need the rest. Harry is going to take this to the train so I must stop. Again many, many thanks dear Willie for your lovely letter & very generous gift. Many times during this coming year that cash is going to make the going easier! I hope you will get a rest before you have to start into the year's work. All here join in sending best love & hope we may see a little more of you in the years to come

Your loving sister
Jennie.

& scrapping & perhaps, after this special session, you may get a Chance to rest. At any rate you will not have such heavy responsibilities as you have been carrying for the last ten years. Your health is really the most important thing. You don't know how grateful I have been to you for having my teeth done for me! I was sick when Harry wrote but I think it was only my nerves. I rang Mary on Sunday night & she spoke so sharply to me that it upset me & I was up all night. My stomach

BOULDERFEL BARRIE
THOROUGH

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has always been my heart
point- & literally was upset at
day speaking as I
Convalescence was the
I had a temp. of 102° for
unclothed. After a couple of days
it wore off! She had a
very happy day here & was
been very good to Rosalee
in Toronto. Also to Jean the
day she was there. Mary Rose
mentioned to me about Lynn
in Toronto me when he
staying. He told
was here.
Yesterday was
Show and out
Curtiss, Nancy
prizes! It doesn't

to much financially but is good advertising!
Sir William thought our place looked beautiful.
At this point Hany arrived home with the children but minus the maid! She said Barrie was too far away from Toronto declined to return unless her sister came too, which the latter refused to do! So now I must look for a maid. I have a little girl who helps me whenever I am stuck so it isn't so bad.
I had a talk with Miss Madge yesterday & they sent their love to you. They were very much disappointed over the result of the

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might say something she would resent. I wrote her as nice a letter as I could to say good-bye. I had a very nice letter from her this morning for my birthday. Cora asked her if the Wookey boys were helping her with her toys & she snapped out the answer "no one is helping me with anything"! Cora thinks it is her mother who is upsetting her.

Isn't it terrible the way the Conservatives are cancelling contracts made by the Liberals. Surely they will not be allowed to go on. Did you see the editorial in last night's Star "What about the Grolls?" You are well out of a good deal

we heard he had invited himself to Ottawa! However he will not be at all disconcerted as BOULDERFEL BARRIE so far as you are concerned "The King can do no wrong"! You must have had a terribly busy time since the end of July. I had a very pleasant surprise this morning when Sir William, Willie Mulock & Billy Kirkpatrick came up to the house to wish me a happy birthday! They were going up to fish in Muskoka & came in. "Little" Ethel's birthday is the same day as mine & Billy told Sir

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William his mother had been
writing to me. Your letter
was lying there & I
wanted to know what
Lord! I read him
part where you
were not disappointed
the Imperial Conf
& he seemed very
He said the Talk
Laurier learning
fortune was staked
circles? "the bulk
them"! He was very
about Mr. Larkin
was nothing more
should have done (to help with

Laurier House etc) nothing should be said about it".!! They stayed about an hour talking about you & the elections most of the time. He is certainly a wonderful old man.

I am absolutely alone in the house. Harry Jr. went down to Toronto yesterday. Rosabel has been ~~there~~ a week & Jean is at a girls' camp. This morning Mary & took Antony Leach & my maid went down to bring the children home. I felt a peaceful day would do more for me than the long drive & exhibition rabo I didn't want to run into Mary & Jean I

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Ottawa,
August 28, 1930

My dear John:

I am sorry to have to wire you, ~~as~~ it will not be wholly convenient to have you come to Ottawa just at this time. You will since have seen by the papers that the special session of parliament has been called for a week from Monday. I know when I wired you that it was likely to come about that time. Knowing how much I had to overtake before that day, I felt that I would not have a free moment to myself. I hope you understood alright. If I am sure you have, and that you will write me a letter telling me just what you have in mind about the university.

Speaking generally, my thought would be that you should get a copy of the curriculum and look over the different courses and see which you think yourself you would like most to take. If you have made up your mind at all as to what

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profession you would like to follow later on, that would also be a guide.

With best love,

Believe me,
Yours affectionately,

John Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/VL/Z

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0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Lay

Ottawa,
August 28, 1930

My dear Murray:

I thank you warmly for your more than kind letter just received.

The result of July 28th was indeed a surprise, but I can assure you there is much about it which is most welcome. After nine years of office one is glad to be freed of the great responsibilities and have an opportunity for rest.

I was sorry not to be able to see anything of Audrey and yourself while in Vancouver, but you will have seen how completely every moment of my time was taken up with the work of the campaign. I shall look forward to being more fortunate on my next visit to the Coast.

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With kindest remembrances
to Audrey and yourself,

Believe me, as always,

Yours very sincerely,

J. Murray Lay, Esq.,
The Imperial Bank,
Vancouver,
British Columbia.

WLMK/VL/z

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept- 6th 1930

My dear Willie:

This is just a little note as I know you must be very busy.

I had a letter from Mary Dait, she says a friend of hers, who is a very great admirer of yours, has some old papers which she would like to give you if you care to have them. The friend's name is Mrs Flett and I told Mary I would tell you about it in case she sends on the

that the garden is still looking lovely, but we have had one nights' frost.

I have had one of my heavy colds, but am up again. It makes one feel wretched.

You will be busy with the new Session & I hope good may come of it! I think the Conservatives will find it is not easy to keep up the standard of the last few years!

All are well & join with me in sending very much love to you dear Willie

Your loving sister
Jennie.

May get off safely. I am going to ask you up for a few days before school closes

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papers. One of these is the
N. Call Gazett, Nov 13 1839. Sp
Rochester, July 13, 1839. Sp
Brokes as if they might-ke
valuable if you have kept
already for?- copies of them
We got invitations to Helen
Ross' wedding. Did they
write you? Frank Harper
this life are endeavouring to
The honors, I am afraid
I can get out of
We had word
honors in Revolver
been allotted
waiting list. There
a number of vacan

I think John is going to take an engineering Course. If he went into Political Economy he could go into 2nd year with his present qualifications.

If you only got the pictures Nelson took, you will not have ones, so I am enclosing them. I am also sending this last joke!! I thought these photos had been sent long ago.

The children are back at school. Rosalee is thrilled with everything at the Collegiate and Harry is disgusted at having so much home work! We have had so much rain

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept. 14th '30

My dear Willie:

Thank you so much for sending the copies of Hansard to me. They are intensely interesting and this whole session bids fair to be an entertainment of the highest kind, for all Liberals at least! Mr. Black, in his sermon this morning was speaking of Paul's letters and said Paul didn't sit down and write them because he hadn't anything else to do; they were written because the occasion demanded them. When

It is lovely to have it warm again. They all went in for a swim this morning and said the water was lovely. We had pretty nearly an-all-day visit from Geordie Burns & his wife & daughters. last week. I hadn't seen him for over thirty years & it brought back to my mind how Isabel & I used to slip out the back door & go down McCaul St. when we saw him coming to call for us! Helen Ross is being married in the church but only her out of town friends are being asked to the house afterward. She says it would be too much of a gang! It is something quite new in the line of entertaining. I didn't realize we were not invited to the house till Mrs McLaren Thos Warren asked me if I got a little card with my invitation & it turned out none of us are invited to the house. Hazen & I are going to tea at Isabel Laidlaw's but I wanted to tell you about Gillies unemployed. Best love from all the family, dear Willie from loving sister Jennie

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Paul wrote in Thurs. Nov 9/10 it was because the people had begun to feel that if Jesus were coming so soon, nothing else mattered, & Paul wrote to them accordingly. Mr. Black. Some of Paul's words would do well to adorn Leonard's wonderful letter should, that, if a man will not work neither shall he eat. Last week in Oakville there were 137 men registered as farmers in the district cause to turn out for jobless. One of the last attempt to get work - there are no reports - has no right - to vote - one of these men to feed over 2nd- work in Oakville there would be 1000 men coming to them for jobs. But I say I'll go with him. I say I'll go with him. I say I'll go with him. I say I'll go with him.

week! To my mind it is true all over the country As one woman said to me yesterday "They come begging for work praying they will not get it". I am going down to Toronto tomorrow to try see if I can get someone to come & work for us!

John has finally enrolled in "Modern Languages" He says he wants to get a diplomatic post & go into the Civil service & languages seem to be most necessary. It is very hard for a boy to decide & there is no use trying to make him do anything he doesn't want to. He can't get into Residence this year but we will have a look about tomorrow see what can be done. He does not go down till the end of the month. I keep thinking of the time I started at "Varsity"! Toronto seems much nearer than it did then; the cars make the difference.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept. 28th '30

My dear Willie

Mr. Bennett managed to get off to the Conference — I should say, sadly against his will! He & Mr Ferguson are a good pair. I think it will be true of both of them that the more rope they have the sooner the end will come! I had a letter from Miss Ferguson who had been visiting a "seer" in Chicago who told her that in six months the country would be sick of Bennett & in two years you would be back in power! The same Frazers are going to Florida for the winter so made, what we think, this very generous offer to Harry. You probably remember meeting Mr. & Mrs. Frazer in your car the day you were here, & Bob was here for lunch. Harry has been keen on building another greenhouse, so this is a much safer method of finding out what he can make of the business. Mr. Frazer does not want to have the upkeep for the winter so it is a good arrangement all round. John goes to College on Tuesday. He will be eighteen next Saturday, so is old enough to take care of himself. He is going to board at 146 Bedford Rd which is one St west of Avenue Rd. so he can easily walk to Varsity. A good many people advised him to register at Victoria but I stuck out for University College. I hope I am right. No more tonight. Hope you are well. Many thanks for Hansard. Best love from all here, your loving sister Jennie

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friend, last February, stretched the
cruise of last July! We had his
rabid conversation
right- who said
had betrayed his
many felt that
don't etcetera it!
I thought your
to know we had
here for a week!
him alone with
when Cora was
he had invited her
him! I told her to
few days. We arrived
arrested a week, deep
I have. No reason
opinion of him! His
characteristics are

laziness. I don't know which is stronger! He left without saying goodbye to the maid, which did not matter under the circumstances, but which shows how much he has benefitted by last year's lesson! None of the children like him & none of the young people he met here have a good word for him. To tell the truth I was ashamed of him wherever he went! I had a very nice letter from Mary after her return to Denver, in answer to one I wrote thanking her for her good wishes for my birthday.

Harry has taken over from Mr. Frazer, who lives a couple of blocks from us, his two greenhouses with their contents, for the enormous sum of $15.00 a month for as long as he wants them. The

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

October 11th '30

My dear Willie:

This is just a little letter as I have a lot to do. Harry Sr. has not been well all summer, off & on longer than that; & finally, yesterday, we went to Toronto & saw Dr. Thistle & then to a Specialist. They say Harry is in "a very critical condition" and an immediate operation is necessary. He is to go into the general hospital in Toronto next Friday & receive treatment, possibly for two weeks, before the

Cora had an awful scare when the notice appeared in Thursday's paper saying that Jim's boat Dalton had been lost. After telegraphing Nelson & the Company in Halifax, they got word that the boat had arrived safely the day before after a seven weeks' trip. It was an awful day for everyone concerned, & Cora says she hopes never to go through another such experience. We were glad to see the duty on glass had been removed!! Hasn't Bennett unbounded conceit? His only rival is Ferguson! I must stop as there is a lot to do. I hope you are getting a little rest: we saw you had been entertaining Lord & Lady Willingdon at Kingsmere. All the family join in sending best love to you dear Willie

ever Yours loving sister Jennie

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operation. It has come as a big shock to us, but it is the only thing to do, so we must be thankful it has had to diminish. Dr has been very frequently for two or three years, but it has been much worse. The Dr. here has treated him, but I felt it was his serious duty to take any chances. Dr. Trouble the Specialist etc. etc. He says the glands is now "absolute normal" is absolutely necessary. He has had an awful time at night for the last month. Every time he went to sleep, he worked up soaked. It is disfiguring but not painful. Sensitive about it, but I tell him

there is nothing to be ashamed about in a weakness of which he has no control. So far his kidneys are sound & that is something to be grateful for. It is too bad this has come just when Harry was getting his "new business" into good shape, but we must be thankful it is no worse.

John loves his life at Varsity. They had their College banquet on Thursday night, now they can stop wearing their freshmen tie! I don't think Lyon is as happy. He says he is away behind in his work, and finds German specially hard. John is to go to Mrs Wookey's for dinner on Monday night.

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C 87 8 8

H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

Oct. 14/30

My dear Willie,

I must confirm my thanks for your more than kind telephone message of last night. Your sympathy I can assure you fell on very appreciative ears and made me feel that behind the sympathy there was ready very real and solid support. I have written the Canada Life Insurance Coy asking them for a loan of $1,000 against their policies which I hope will take care of the business. I have been sending $200 an annual remittance to Elsie ~~in common~~ co-operating those of with hers other brothers and the latter in view of additional demands for John's

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University expenses recently relieved me of any embarrassment at all. I have not asked them for any further help at this time as I hoped to be able for at least two years to get along. The loan from the Insurance Co of course will to that extent be a charge on my Estate and should anything happen to me and Jennie should need help your kind promise of aid assures me that she will be taken care of. I was glad to hear that you know this little operation is as very usual one and that I can expect to emerge safe and sound. There is much in life that is pleasant and I trust that the dear ones whom you also love will be around me for many days to come.

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C 0 0 0

H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

I hope you have been enjoying yourself in your beautiful country home. I never remember a more beautiful Fall. I have been trying to get things in the greenhouse in good order so that Delaney can carry on in my absence for a while. I will tell him to keep in mind the possibility of a job with you later on.

Jennie and the children join me in ever so much love and thanks for your generous + loving sympathy.

Yours always affectionately
Harry Lay

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C 8 0 0 0 7

Was glad to see Bennett had it the honour of taking the Queen in to dinner!!

Harry has just wakened up & sends his love asks to be excused from writing J.

PRIVATE
TORONTO, ONTARIO

Oct. 19th '30

My dear Willie:

This is just a little line to let you know that Harry is progressing satisfactorily and that he is as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. He has had a pretty trying two days & it is doubly hard on him as he has never had to have anyone do the "intimate" things for him. He suffered a good deal yesterday, being overhandled but is easier today & the Drs say he is doing well. They have special nurses for him day & night for a few days while they have him under observation. His blood test showed that his kidneys are quite all right, which is a big relief. Dr Jones said this morning that he was "very satisfactory". He has a very nice ward, 508, in the Private Patients' Pavilion & certainly it is wonderfully well equipped. He has his own phone radio on the table beside his bed. & can speak to us at home without extra exertion. His room is 6.50 a day but I don't know what the nurses charge. We came down on Friday & came straight here. I am staying with Cora till tomorrow when John will bring down the car & I will take it home till next Friday when I will come down again & let John go home for the week-end. It is a great comfort that John will be here for I can get here in 1½ hours if

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L 6 0 0 0 7

TORONTO, ONTARIO

Howes itself. This whole business has been a big shock to him but he is so uncomplaining and patient. He worked very hard this last week to leave everything in as good shape as possible, and it was a very trying week. Little Mary said to me on Friday morning "Daddy has been kind to us this week" & I said "Daddy is always kind." "Yes I know, but this week he has tried to be kind". He has been very wretched for the last six weeks but has kept going, resting only when he had to. At present he is sound asleep beside me. He has a catheter (I don't know how to spell that!) in him that is to have the urine taken off every hour. It means he has had no rest, but that is only to be for about thirty-six hours. The young house surgeon says his bladder was terribly distended but is "coming back into shape in fine style". We can only hope that everything will go well and that he will be much stronger once it is over. They may operate at the end of the week but it depends on his condition. I wish they could, for the suspense is very trying. It will be a very great comfort if you are able to come up, for it will be a trying time. Cora is wonderfully kind.

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She leaves for the Barbadoes the end of the month, to spend three or four months with Jim. They must have had a terrible trip down upon Cora went through an awful strain between the time the notices appeared in the papers & the time they got the Company's & Nelson's messages. She doesn't know what Jim is going to do down there, but he cabled that he was remaining there for the winter & for her to bring his clothes & come down—

Hazel offered to go up & stay with the children for this week if I would stay here, but I think I am more needed at home, but will arrange to stay next week if necessary. Hazel may come up with me tomorrow. Is that I will not have the boys alone but I don't want to keep her too long as next Saturday is their silver wedding anniversary and she may want to celebrate! Yesterday was the anniversary of Isac's wedding: 19 years. I must send a line to Nelson and Frank as I promised to keep them informed of Harry's progress. I can't try to express my thanks to you, for I hope to control myself pretty rigidly just now. Such a lot depends on my ability to keep cheerful! Knowing what Harry means to me, you know how much I appreciate your loving kindness & practical way of showing it. Best love dear Willie & I will send you a line on Tuesday ever your loving sister Jennie

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Ottawa, October 20, 1930

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

I was glad to receive by the noon mail today your letter written yesterday from the Toronto General Hospital. I am indeed glad to have the particulars it conveys, because I think the preliminary report is all that, in the circumstances, you could have hoped and wished for. I am sure that Harry is in the best of hands and that in every particular the right course has been taken. I shall count on your letting me know of the probable date of the operation just as soon as you yourself have definite word of it. I have had further talks with one or two friends who know something about Harry's particular trouble and all conversations have helped to convince me that the element of risk in his case is slight indeed and that he will come through alright and be better than he has been in years. Meanwhile, I know what anxiety

C 6 0 0 0 7

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1 0 0 0 0 1

it must be for you and for him and the children, and my thoughts are continually with you all.

I enclose a cheque for $1000.00, which I promised to send to you today and which I hope will help to relieve your mind and Harry's of some of the anxiety which I know is yours. Your bank should deposit this amount to your account without charging any discount. If they ask for discount, please let me have the cheque back and I will arrange for the money to be placed to your credit in the Bank of Commerce in Barrie through the Bank of Montreal here.

I came back into the city yesterday, having closed up Kingsmere for the season, and just in time. I feel much better for the month in the mountains and a large part of which was spent out of doors. I am starting today on the work of party re-organization and preperation of speeches. There is also a vast accumulation of correspondence.

Please remember that I shall be within telephone call at all times. The Laurier House number is Rideau 4246. I have in addition a private number in my own library, which is Rideau 180, but unless I happen to be in the room myself no one is likely to hear that particular call. The other

number is the

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number is the more certain to reach me. The office number is Queen 6400, local 50 or local 49. If, however, you 'phone Laurier House and I should be at the office, a quick connection will be made from Laurier House.

With love and best wishes for all,

C 90 0 0 7 1

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TORONTO, ONTARIO

Room No 58, Patients Private Pavilion

Oct 22/30.

My dear Willie,

Dr. Jones encourages me to be up and round my room and adjoining corridor during this period of anti. operation so I am taking advantage of the opportunity of again thanking you for the more than kind and loving words of your letter of the 17th which by telephone reached me yesterday. Also for those which cheered me so much both at Barrie and in this room. Since I wrote the above one of Dr Jones' assistants abstracted a drop of blood for a microscopic test: this is to discover the progress being made. The last test he says was quite satisfactory. Every provision for one's comfort is made here. This part of the building was only opened this summer and is very up to date in every requisite of a modern hospital.

John comes in often between lectures to give me a hand. Last night he brought his Spanish books

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1 0 0 0 0 7

TORONTO, ONTARIO

ni and studied beside me. This morning Grad called and brought some papers. Dr. Charles has called several times besides Mr. Ord formerly of Barrie. So I have a great deal to be thankful for. Jennie called up while Jean was here last night and gave me loving messages from there at home. I thought you might be amused by a note I got from Jean. Do not preserve it.

I hope you have been able in these October days of fine weather to complete any gardening operations. I suppose you plant a certain number of tulip and other bulbs. Delaney I expect is doing that kind of work at home just now, both for greenhouse use during the winter and for outdoor Spring purposes.

I rather enjoyed the sly raps given to "Fergie" by Ramsay MacDonald & Thomas at the opening of the Ontario House.

Uncle Willie I shall never I know be able to thank you enough for your generous present to me for the sad deeping love that it means. You will understand how deeply it is appreciated by Jennie and myself - a fond embrace from me, with very much love

Yours affectionately, Harry

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we came back home, that is about half way, & we both started at 4 P.M. so made quite good time! I will take the car down to John on Friday, & then he will bring it back to me on Monday if there is room. Now I must go & help Mrs Lay with supper as we pretty tuning days & so much depends on me. The "princess" (Coral) is sleeping up, much to Nanny's delight. By deepest mourning leaflet. Thanks for all your goodness & kindness

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 22nd 30

My dear [illegible]
Your letter [illegible]
17th & 20th [illegible]
and I can[illegible]
much I appr[illegible]
kindness. [illegible]
thing to be [illegible]
and so chee[illegible]
sympathy [illegible]
very convinc[illegible]
I deposited [illegible]

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a special Sanitarium aeroplane which will evacuate us to keeps track of him. He is in pieces. If is a terrible way things cost! But I tell you that Mr. Harry's room is $50 a day! I don't know the nurses charge! Harry seems quite cheerful but he felt pretty blue that he has yet more to go. He told me the Drs are waiting till all blood tests show him to be in condition. She said Dr Thistle told her that there should be 38% urine in the blood, & Harry had 48%. Harry told me the Dr said that had been reduced 5% in four days which was specially good. Everyone is very kind to him & I am sure all will be well. Hazel came up with me on Monday as she didn't want me to drive up alone. We drove her as far as Bradford tonight & the Dr met her there &

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

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W. G. BARBER, General Manager

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
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STANDARD TIME.

1930 OCT 25 AM 8 49

RA45 11 COLLECT

BARRIE ONT 25 835A

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

OPERATE MONDAY OR TUESDAY | WILL WIRE FROM TORONTO | HARRY FINE

JENNIE..

This is a Collect message, and will be charged to your account unless we are notified at once to the contrary.

● 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 November 1930 ●

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Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

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FORM 6124

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RA268 8 COLLECT

STANDARD TIME.

25 OCT 25 PM 1 19

NI TORONTO ONT 25 115P

RT HON MACKENZIE KING

200

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

OPERATION EIGHT AM TUESDAY/STAYING WITH CORA

JENNIE.

This is a Collect message, and will be charged to your account unless we are notified at once to the contrary.

FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE | SYMBOL

Exclusive Connection

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General Hospital
~~BOULEVARD~~
Toronto ~~BARRIE~~
October 26th '30

Dear Willie:

I am sorry I wasn't here when you rang last night. It was the 25th anniversary of the Ds & Hazel's wedding so they had any one for dinner. They were hoping you would be here too! Harry seems very well and is quite prepared to go through his operation cheerfully! I am glad it is coming a little earlier than they said at first, for the expense is terrific and once the operation is over, we will feel he is on the home stretch. I don't think you need come up. It will all be over in a couple of hours & John will be here, so I goes.

I thought your letters down & read them to Harry. I can't tell you what a comfort it is to feel you are at hand, and, already your kindness is past all thanks. It has made all the difference in the worry! Harry has got over the first shock of the hospital & all it means. He is so pleased that he is in shape for them to go ahead.

I have been home to La Plaza since I wrote the above, and Cora & I are both going over again to see Harry now. Then home to bed!

Best love dear Willie, in which Cora & Harry join many, many thanks for all your kindness.

and your loving sister
Jennie

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will not be alone. Harry will be
too dopped to talk to you, and a
little later he would enjoy it.
He is to have a spinal anaesthetic
which does away with the awful
nausea after the operation. The
only thing that worries me is that
I can't be in Barrie with the children
when John is at home, but it is pretty hard for Jean
to be in command. Harry said he sent Jean's
letter to you, but it is here in the drawer! The whole
point of it is that Harry takes the radio, so the
children are always teasing him about it, & I think
Jean's letter is quite clever! I know I couldn't write it.
It is always when we are tired & want a little quiet
that the children seem to turn on the noise!
Cora leaves for the Barbadoes on Friday. She has been
her flat for four months and may stay longer. She is
really the kindest soul I ever met! She is so good to
me & seems delighted to let me use her flat as I
would my own home. It is a great comfort just now.
She is very good to John too, & she will miss her when she

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

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STANDARD TIME

RA175 9 COLLECT

TORONTO ONT 28 1132A

1930 OCT 28 AM 11 35

RT HON MACKENZIE KING 191

OTTAWA ONT

OPERATED SUCCESSFULLY THIS MORNING | HARRY IN SPLENDID SHAPE

JENNIE.

This is a Collect message, and will be charged to your account unless we are notified at once to the contrary.

FORM 6124

- 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 August-November 1930

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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Ottawa, October 28, 1930

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
c/o Mrs. G. G. S. Lindsey,
La Plaza Apartments,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Jennie: I am delighted to know that all has gone so well and am sharing to the full your own rejoicing and relief of mind. Please give to Harry my warmest congratulations. Fondest love to you both and to the children.

Willie.

Personal
F U 142.

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 November 1930 August-

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Toronto General Hospital
October 29th 1930

Dear Willie

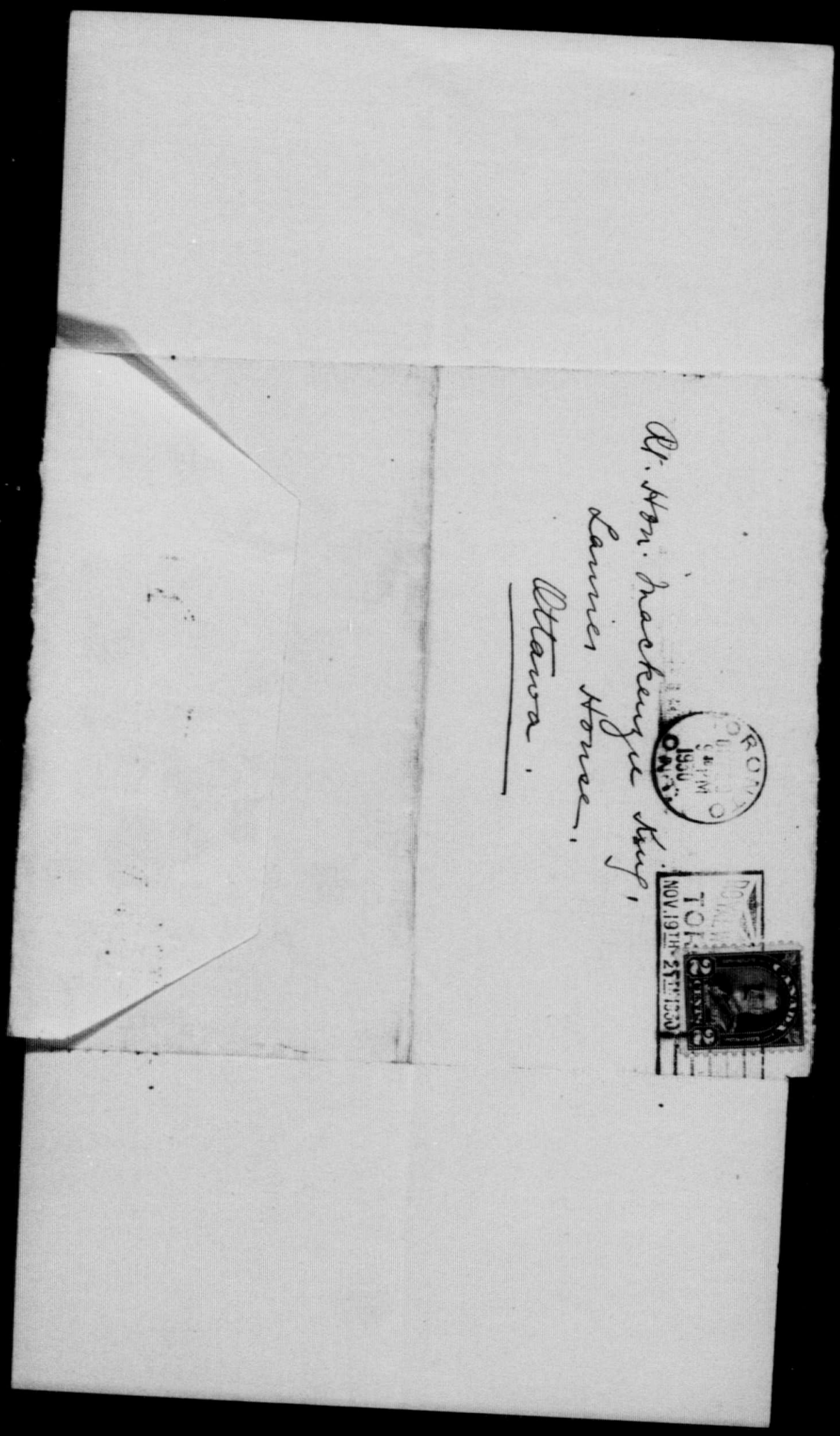
Thank you so much for all your loving enquiries & help. Harry had a fairly good night - is doing well. He is pretty "dopey" still but that is rather a good thing as he does not feel the time so long. He is very patient, but is lucky in the attention he is getting. This day nurse is specially good. It was wonderful how little fuss there was about the operation & how quickly and quietly he was taken out - & brought back. After it was all over & Harry was back in bed John said "Mother, are your knees shaky? Mine are". It was quite a strain & the relief rather lets you down! John went home & slept all afternoon!

Cora goes to New York on Friday & I am going to stay with Hazel over Sunday. Dr. Jones wants me to be here for a few days and as John will be home over Sunday the children will be all right. This is all for the present but will send a line tomorrow. Harry joins me in sending best love & many thanks for all your kindness

ever your loving sister
Jennie

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Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King,
Laurier House,
Ottawa.

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 August-November 1930

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REPEAT
REPETITION

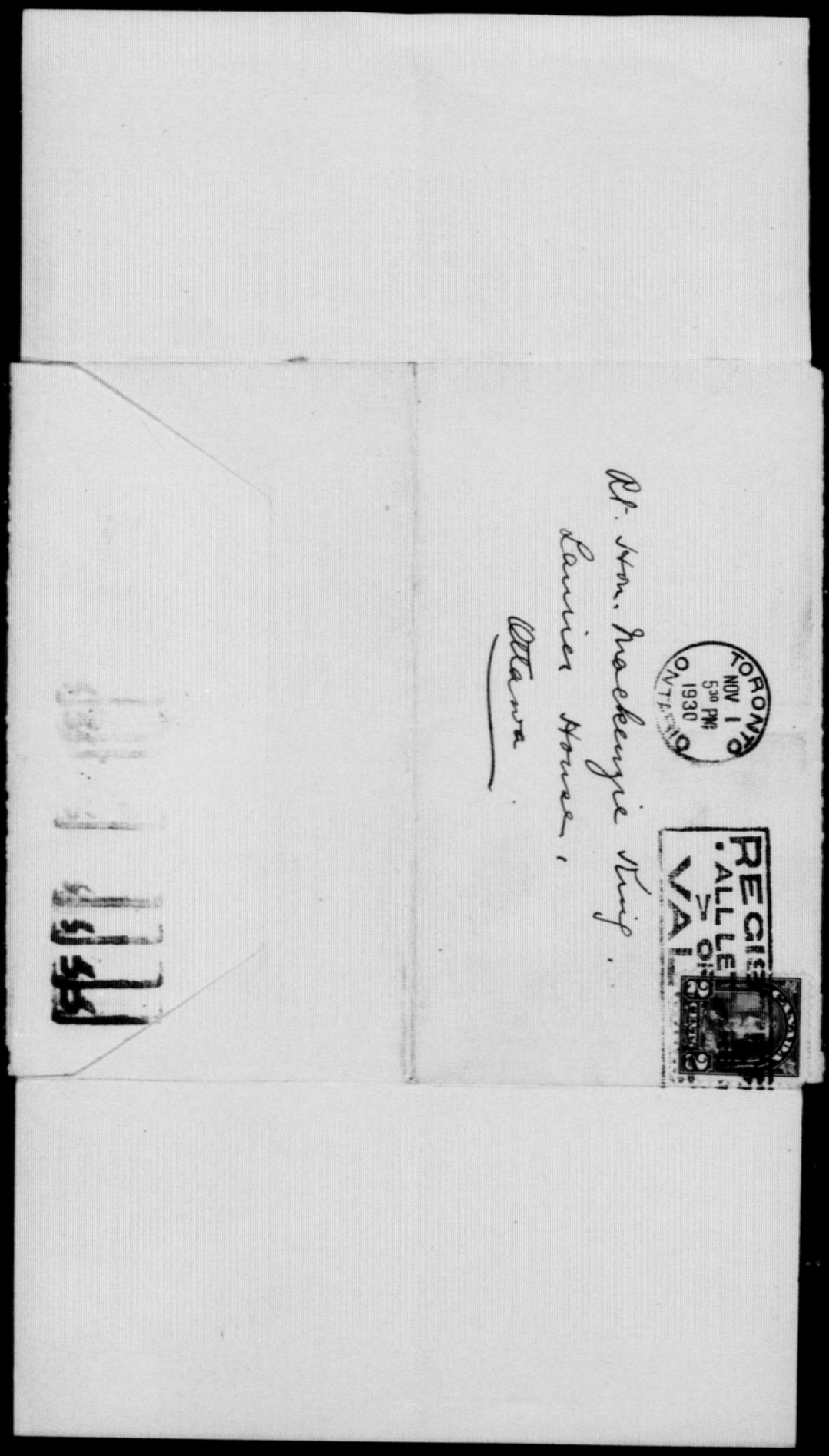
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Toronto General Hospital
Dec. 1 - 30

My dear Willie:

I meant to send a line yesterday but there was not a minute. Cora left for the East last night for a month's holiday. Mr. Davidson yesterday, and I was helping her packing. Yesterday afternoon I had to take some work down before I left in the morning. Then as soon as dinner was over I went up to see her. She has been here all day today. I got home about 6 o'clock with her. She has been quite poorly with a bad cold and cough. I was afraid she was going to have pneumonia, but I think she is better tonight. Mr. Shumacher was very kind to her. I got her to bed early and gave her a hot drink. I am sorry to say Mr. Shumacher is not so well. Dr. Shumacher had to take him to the hospital. He was quite ill. I had a letter from Mr. Fleming this morning. He is very much pleased with the picture. I am glad you like it. I am sure it will be a great success. I hope to see you soon. Please remember me to Mrs. Fleming and the children. I am sending you a copy of this letter. I hope you are well. I am sending you a copy of this letter. I hope you are well. I am sending you a copy of this letter. I hope you are well



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Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King,
Laurier House,
Ottawa

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Toronto General Hospital
Nov. 2 nd 1930.

Dear Willie

Harry was pretty wretched yesterday but is feeling fine today & Dr. Jones says it will be quite safe for me to go home tomorrow if I run down to see him before the end of the week. I seem to be able to quiet Harry when he is restless & he will go to sleep when he knows I am alone in the room with him. Today, for the first time, he has eaten his meals enjoyed them & kept them down! Of course that is a great thing for he can hardly get strong without food. Dr. Thistle says he will probably be here till the end of the month (I haven't told Harry this) but I sincerely hope he will not require special nurses all that time. So far we have paid out $372.25/100 that does not include Dr's fees! Isn't it terrible? You can perhaps appreciate how much your gift to us means, when accounts pile up so quickly. Of course nothing matters so long as Harry gets well. Dr. Thistle told me that Harry's bladder had been paralyzed (?) for three months before he came here. (I can't think to spell!) I am staying with the Dr. Frazel till I go home tomorrow. Last night I went to bed at 8 p.m. because I went to sleep while talking to them!! I will be truly thankful to get home. It has been quite a strain being here. Harry & I send best love. Hope you are keeping well and that we shall see you soon. Yours loving sister

Jennie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 9th '30

My dear Willie

I have just been phoning to Harry & he said he had had a talk with you, & gave us your messages. It is so good of you to phone Harry & he was so pleased. I was down on Friday & thought he looked much better than he did when I left on Monday. He must be stronger for they are allowing him to see visitors. We were going down today, as I did not like the thought of him being alone on Thanksgiving, but the roads

one of the guests!
Harry said that Charlie Lindsay had phoned him to say that Cora has arrived safely in the Barbados and found Jim well & happy. I can't tell you how good Cora was to me while I was in Toronto. She & Jim will be very happy together

To Ben I phoned Harry tonight, Lyon was there with Bob Wookey. I asked him to come home with John for the week-end next week! John says Lyon was at the 1st year dance last week and seemed to be enjoying it!
I mustn't write any more to you as I have three more letters to write tonight. All the family here are well, and join in sending best love & many thanks to you. Hoping to see you soon

Your loving sister
Jennie.

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were so slidey when I drove down on Friday that it tried me, and, as I have to drive down on Tuesday morning, that will have to do. Little Harry I went Friday afternoon, stayed about an hour with Harry & John drove us home. 120 miles is quite a drive in an open car at this season, but I dare say the big car is really safer than a little one would be, for it keeps on the road better than a light car would. I do hope the snow keeps off for a few weeks. We had quite a fall on Thursday but it was cold, but Friday was mild.

What did you think of Bennetts "brutally frank" speech last week? Isn't he doing incalculable harm? It does seem a shame, that after all the good feeling which the last few years have made, Ferguson should come along and try to upset it all. And they are the Loyal Party!! Harry says you are coming up for the Winter Fair. Is there any chance of your coming on up here? We would all love to see you as you know. Will you be staying with the Ross' in Town? Nelson said in his last letter, that they had had a dance for Harry DeWolfe's fiancée, & Susan Ross was

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invite him by phone one evening when he was in Harry's room. He wasn't sure whether he could come but was to let me know. He may have Saturday lectures. John is lucky that he has not. It is fine that he has been home each week-end. When are you going to Toronto & where are you going to stay? Hazel was saying today she would love to see you. She wants me to stay the week-end with her but I don't know whether I can get away. At any rate I have stayed there so often that I don't think I want to go again. In one thing I am grateful: I have a good maid who came last Thursday & has cooked the meals since!! The first I have had cooked for me since last February!

In a letter from Kate Hodgson tonight, she says she hopes the Labour Government will soon be put out in England, so that they can accept Bennett's offers! A good thing to tell me! But she is an ardent conservative.

We are all well, & join in sending very much love to you dear Willie from loving sister Jennie.

How long would Stephenson be left as Canadian Commissioner if the Liberals got into power again?

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 17th '30

My dear Willie:

Jean & I have just got back from Toronto. Jean spent the week-end with Hazel & I was with Harry all Sunday. I saw Dr. Jones today & he is very much pleased with Harry's condition. He says if Harry continues to do as he has been doing, he ought to be able to come home on Sunday or Monday. That is a week earlier than we hoped, but he will have to go easy for a long time. Dr. Jones says there is now no question of the success of the operation. In

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Saturday they wheeled Harry's bed out on to the balcony for him to see Ursula Clare Jean Pegg & the Dr. Pegg he was very much pleased & Ursula Clare presented Jean with a bouquet of flowers. Dr Fraser were with him for a long time on Thursday & he was so happy to have a heart to heart talk as never more. He said up on Thursday he was so glad he was able to walk as far as the front door & back as well & Friday he walked to the front door & back again. He said he felt fine & was glad he was getting well. Sat. is the hospital before he left us. Dr. Fraser was very much pleased & said it made him very happy. He said he was terribly thin & weak & that he took the turkey bones away with him & made soup with them & wondered why. Mrs. Jones says she is sure he has a tapeworm & that is why he is so hungry. Mrs. Jones, his dear nurse, says she remembers me very well & that I was the right mixture & quiet. She says Harry is very

to stand yet, today, was not allowed to get up at all as he had a little fever yesterday. I will be so thankful when Harry is home, for these diners & from Toronto are desperately tiring — also they are expensive! Then too, it will be much easier when I can ask him what to do about his greenhouse etc. John has been a trump. He helped put up the double windows, & takes the flowers up to the market on Saturday morning & is generally useful. The children have all done splendidly while Harry has been in the hospital especially while we were both away. John was at Mrs. Wookey's for dinner last Wednesday. He told Lyon you were coming to Toronto and Lyon's remark was "I hope he gets time to look me up"!! I asked Lyon to come up with us last Friday & go back with John this morning. He told John he couldn't come that is all I heard about it. I took the trouble to

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Ottawa November 22 1930

Mr H M Lay
Private Patients Pavilion
Toronto General Hospital
Toronto

I am coming up to Toronto tonight and am looking forward to seeing you and Jennie tomorrow. Will be staying Royal York.

ful42

wlkr

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 24th '30

My dear Willie:

Jean is just leaving for school, so I have only time to send a line. We arrived home safely & Harry thoroughly enjoyed the dive. We set up a bed in the library and he will sleep here for a few nights. We went down to the greenhouse this morning and made a wreath.

may turn very stormy any day. I hope you will have a good visit in Toronto and that it may be profitable as well. Now is the time to get the Liberals to work, for the Conservatives are rowing on their oars.

Once more let me thank you most sincerely for your very generous gift and also for your most kind offer of further assistance. The latter we simply will not accept. One thousand dollars is a gift very few receive and you will never know the gratitude we feel. We paid out to the hospital $1,270.00 and the rest will go toward the other bills: Drs anaesthetist etc. It is a wonderful relief to feel it is over. Harry looks more rested than he did before he left. He joins me in sending very grateful love

Ever your loving sister Jennie.

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We days he feels fine, but I am watching him and will try keep him quiet from doing too much. He has thoroughly worked like a slave to build. We have meals and eaten! I satisfy even me! he is trying also will have enjoyed his enough to [illegible] present- I hope we 9 9 back engaged our little over work you could the family told them all lunch! I- was worse than you say you had "Brussels sprouts, spinach, peas, potatoes, cauliflower, beets, poached egg, coffee, rolls and sherbet" it sounds rather terrible but I certainly enjoyed it. It was a great treat for me. It was so good of you to come up to Toronto a day earlier and Harry & I appreciated it very much. It is one more kindly act which goes to swell the whole account!

John left this morning at a quarter to seven. It was truly thankful I did not have to go with him and come back this afternoon! Those devils were very tiring but evidently they didn't hurt me! Still I am glad not to have to take them, especially as the weather

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov 27/30

My dear Willie,

I hope you had a pleasant visit in Toronto. It was very kind of you to come down a day or two earlier so that we might have the great pleasure of seeing you before our return to Barrie. I fear you must have thought that we treated you with scant courtesy hurrying away as we did after lunch. The Sinclairs were anxious to start early because the route to Barrie at this time of year is often beset with fogs which make driving

the wonderful present you gave us. All my life it seems to me I have been called upon to lend what little assistance I could, to relatives and it seems all the more wonderful to have your helping hand extended in a time of need. I assure you I am deeply grateful dear Willie.

Hoping your health will continue good. We all thought you looking first rate in Toronto and with very much love from us all

Yours affectionately and gratefully.
Harvey.

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unpleasant and sometimes dangerous.
As it turned out we had a lovely drive in bright sunshine and made Barrie in good time. It is delightful to be at home again and I feel that every day is bringing increased strength.

Delaney seems to have carried on in the greenhouses very well though he had omitted to let us know that the hot water system in my own house was not working. Fortunately I discovered this two days ago and the plumber found that the, supposedly automatic, air vents had got stuck and the pipes being fully air would not allow the water to circulate. It turned much colder that night and results might have been serious to my stock of plants if the trouble had not been rectified immediately.

We have about a foot of snow here today but the sun is shining so it may all go away in a day or two.

Jennie is a splendid nurse and has been waiting on Rosabel, who has had a bad ear, in addition to looking after me night and day. I assuredly could wish for you, at an early date as devoted and loving a wife. I forgot to mention when in Toronto receiving your telegram on Saturday. Please accept my best thanks for it and your kind telephone messages and

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family August-November 1930

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 3rd '30

My dear Willie:

Harry is getting along splendidly and feeling stronger every day. To look at him, it is hard to realize that he has been through an operation, and, to me, the last two months seem like a night-mare more than a reality! We were indeed lucky to get Harry home when we did, for the weather

Speaking for the Canadian people: It seems a shame that two men should have the power to do so much harm. Do you think Bennett or Ferguson will be next Governor General?!! I don't know where they would find a more desirable man to fill the bill!! Talking of bills: much to Harry's disgust he got a bill of $20.00 from Dr. Shields for administering the anaesthetic Harry thought that was included in Dr. Jones' bill!

Is there any chance of your coming up here for Christmas? You will be in Toronto for your birthday, will you not? Must now go to bed. Poor little Rosabel has had both ears gathered, has been in bed since the Thursday before Harry came home. Both ears are running at present, one badly, right today, syringing them to keep them clean. She is quite deaf just now. Hoping it will soon clear up. All join in sending best love

to dear Willie and from Harry & Jennie

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has changed, and we are having that weather. Yesterday it was 15° below zero, and we have any amount of snow. Harry drove Jean to Bekott on Monday and Wednesday and Bert & the Baby on his way home. Some respite the cold then coudn't believe when they saw the car!

John came up on Sunday. He said he "liked" the car & the ride & got a lift from them. When another car came along & brought

He had more courage than I would have had on a cold snowy day! He got a ride back with a friend on Sunday night. He enjoyed so much his visit with you and said you were more than good to him. He got a new suit on Monday so that he might be a credit to you!! He needed it badly enough dear knows! I hope you enjoyed your Toronto visit: certainly others enjoyed it! John said you had been to see Dr. Gow. I hope it wasn't that loose tooth!

Isn't Bennett making an awful ass of himself? The Globe is a poor sheet. Why can't they come out and say, as the Star does, that he is mad

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 7, 1930

Dear Uncle Willie,-

I meant to write to you long ago to thank you for and tell you how much I enjoyed the time I spent with you in Toronto, but I put it off at first, and since — . Anyway, better late then never, and I can't tell you in words how much I appreciated being with you, as well as meeting all the men I did. Your very generous present also fitted very nicely into my pocket book.

Things are beginning to get busy around Varsity. Our exams start next Saturday, which means

is a wonderful help.
I just wanted to tell you these things and to say how delighted we are that Rupert is doing so well!

Best love from all
Jennie

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Dear Willie:

John has been in bed all day with a bad cold, but seems fine tonight. Isaac was back in his old place in church this morning, & is beginning to feel like himself. He has gained about five pounds since he came home. Rosabel is still in bed, but one ear has stopped running and the other is getting better so I hope we can soon close our hospital! Thank Goodness I have a splendid maid which quite a bit of extra work till then I lost a good deal of valuable time when Dad was in the Hospital. I visited him at least ~~once~~ every day, and often twice a day. As a result I have a good deal to make up.

I was able to get home again this week-end. A gentleman who lives in Toronto asked me to drive his car up here and turn it in to the dealer, so I came up in a Ford coupé, my own for the time. I wish I could have kept it. It would ~~have~~ be very handy for getting around the city, and coming home over the week-ends.

I am going back in about ten minutes time, with a fellow who comes up each week-ends so I will have to close. With best love and many, many thanks

I remain, your loving nephew
John

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 10, 1930

My dear Jennie:

Christmas 1930

I have been wondering what it would be best to do in the way of Christmas gifts for your little people and have come to the conclusion that I probably could not do better than follow the course I have adopted during the last year or two and send you a cheque, leaving it to you to make such disposition of the amount in the form of gifts or money ~~which~~ as you may think most advisable. Accordingly, I am enclosing a cheque for $100.00, which I would be pleased if you would divide between the four children in such proportion as you may feel it would be best. I think, perhaps, that John and Jean should receive more than the two younger children, as they have more in the way of personal duties and obligations.

The amount is not such as to permit readily of ~~the~~ division into gifts and cash, but I am inclined to think that each of the children would like to have a small amount in cash to do with as they like, and if you agree with that I would be glad to have you make the division that you think best.

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I hope it is not troubling you too much to make the selection of gifts which may be desirable, but I would be glad if they could be made within the course of the next few days. I believe the happiness of the Christmas season is in proportion to the degree to which most of its obligations are out of the way before Christmas week.

This year I think you and Harry should not attempt <u>anything</u> in the way of gifts and very little in the way even of Christmas cards or letters. Writing by hand is an exhaustive business and takes a great deal of time. If you have any single sheet letter paper, I would say that at most a line of Christmas greeting on one side is all that can be expected of either of you on the part of any of your friends.

For obvious reasons I have had to cut down considerably in the matter of my own giving at this Christmas season. I have decided to send out a very few cards to a few old friends, but to take advantage of the changes of this year to eliminate the names of hundreds from the list, which has grown to vast proportions in the last few years. I notice that Sir Wilfrid Laurier used to follow the practice of simply having his calling card enclosed in an envelope to those who sent him cards or gifts. I intend to follow the same practice as largely as possible. This it is necessary to do both on the score of time and finance.

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Please do not let the children attempt anything with respect to my birthday or Christmas beyond letters, which I would love to receive from each of them. And may I make the same suggestion with regard to Harry and yourself. After all there is nothing that each and all of us will derive the same happiness from at this Christmas season as the fact that Harry's life has not only been spared, and his health restored, but that in all probability he has been granted a lease of life and happiness quite beyond anything that he could have hoped for a year ago. That is a gift of Providence in which we all share and which brings the greatest possible happiness to our hearts.

It is sweet of you to think of having me pay Boulderfel a visit at the Christmas season. Were I coming up for the Ontario convention I would certainly try to run up to see you all even if it were but for a few hours stay. However, I do not intend to take in the convention. There will likely be squabbles over the leadership and policy and there is no reason why I, as federal leader, should be drawn into them, so I plan to stay away.

Most of the time of my last visit in Toronto was spent with Dr. Gow and Dr. Snell. Gow had to take out an old bridge which had been constructed by a dentist in Ottawa and subsitute a new one, which involved a good deal in the

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way of expert craftsmanship, and just what his account may be I dread to think, but I should not be surprised if it would rival the cost of Harry's operation.

The one real enjoyment I had at the time of that visit, apart from seeing Harry and yourself, was that the greater part of the day I spent with Mrs. Dunlap attending the Winter Fair with her and seeing her farm "Donalda". I had been looking forward to this for a number of years but never had sufficient time to permit of the trip.

I enjoyed, of course, the visit to the Winter Fair with John and Lyon, and the talk I had with each of them at that time. On the Sunday evening I paid Lyon a visit at his Grandmother's home. I do think he is trying to do his very best and in more ways than one he made that quite evident to me. The loneliness of his life touches me very much, yet I fail to see what can be done, at least for the present, to alter existing arrangements.

I am writing Cora and Jim today, and shall be writing May and the boys within the course of the next two weeks. I doubt if I shall go much beyond these letters in the way of Christmas correspondence.

Please do not forget that I have an obligation with respect to your domestic help during the year. You were to let me know what you paid over and above a certain

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amount for actual service of the help you had. Please let me have the statement of the amount at once, bringing it up to date to the end of the year, as I am anxious before the year is out to clear the slate of all outstanding accounts.

I fear I have not had a chance to reply to your recent letters, all of which, however, have been duly received and much appreciated. I am indeed glad to know that Harry has progressed so favourably since his return home, but he will have to continue to take the greatest possible care of himself throughout the winter. Certainly, it was fortunate that you were able to leave and did leave Toronto at the time you did.

During September, upon the receipt of a wire from Mr. Rockefeller Jr., I spent a week-end with Mrs. Rockefeller and himself at Tarrytown. They were both asking very kindly about you. We had dinner in the evening at Mr. Rockefeller Sr's house and after dinner played a little game with the old gentleman, in which he dealt out some of his famous dimes. When I was coming away he asked me how you were and how many children you had. He then gave me a dime for each, saying as he handed each one separately to me: "God bless him" or "God bless her". If I am not mistaken

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he added a dime for Harry as well. I put these coins in one of my pockets by themselves and subsequently in an envelope, which I sealed, and which I am enclosing with this letter. I would suggest that each of the children be advised to place his or her coin in a little envelope to be put away and retained for years to come. It will be of interest to them to be able to say that they possess some of the original dimes which were given away by Mr. Rockefeller Sr., and that they were given specially to them. It would be just as well for them to say very little of this gift among their young friends, as without doubt something would get into the papers and be made use of politically.

With fondest love to the children, Harry and yourself, Wishes as always dear Jennie

Affectionately yours

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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December 14
1930

Dear Uncle Willie:

I am writing to wish
you a happy birthday.
I had an awfully happy
one and also hope that
yours is the same.

How is Pat getting on?
Does he ever chase mice? Wish
Daddy takes Billy to the
greenhouse he always gets
upon the benches and
goes after the mice.
I suppose they will

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be starting skiing in
Ottawa. I'll be glad when
I can get out on my skis
most of the snow has
gone though it ~~was~~ is
snowing this morning.

again hoping you
will have a happy birthday
your loving niece
Roabel.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 14th '30

My dear Willie:

Jones very generous cheque for one hundred dollars for the children's Christmas gifts came on Friday, but I hadn't a minute to acknowledge it as I was just leaving for a meeting & didn't get home till late. I think this year especially, you might have skipped our family, for you have been more than good to us already; first my teeth got up on Friday after being in bed over three weeks. She has lost six pounds & looks pretty frail, but the Dr. has given her a tonic & she will soon be better. It has been quite a siege. I am truly thankful for my good maid & hope she will continue as she has begun. She has been here a month yesterday — Harry's eleventh birthday! It came just a day after Mother's wedding anniversary day, the 12th, fifty-eight years last Friday since they were married.

It is very good of you to offer to help with the maid's wages but this year I have managed quite well and do not need to ask for more. This girl was only getting $20.00 at her last place

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thousand dollars
cars, 15 say nothing
for Harry's illness
of the hundred dollars for my
own birthday. I agree with you
that a little money in the bank
is the finest background for
can have "plenty people want" so
things for "parents of
deaf-mutes", "children"
limited means
have one" of the family exchequer!
"clothes" & Jean & John awaiting
wear"!! If is funny Rose one
lolea can efface all others!
I think if we save each of the
children some small sum
out of the "pin" the rest in the Bank.

would be wise: Harry is keen on a set of "mechanics" and as that is constructive, I am inclined to let him have it. I thought if Harry & Rosabel got $115.00 each & John & Jean 35.00, or perhaps a little less, that would be best. Rosabel would like a book. She said to me this morning when I was speaking of Santa Claus "you know mother I always like a book" she is very fond of reading. I am going down to Toronto on Friday, I expect, to bring John home, so will decide what to get before then, & bring everything home that day. John gives his "Valedictory" that night at the Collegiate here, but has an exam in the morning. Rosabel is better then hearing is almost normal. She

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at this time!
I have meant to open to speak about Willie Heveridge! I did underestand him. Dr Jane me a distinct shock when I first saw that he had been going about with Mrs Bennett, poken I saw his sentioned to Washington; I was indignant! Perhaps Washington explain his allegiance. I don't think he will expect me to do so!
Fanny's are going out to tea so I must close. Again many thanks for all your kindness and with much love in which all the family join
even Jean living violet
thank him for us!
from Devine
P.S. I forgot to mention
Brendon and delight at seeing will Rockefellers address. There are six and I am reading them to the children

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some lepitimate excuse comes to cut down the list: Last Sunday I wrote Gabrielle Roy which I think means a big trad off my mind. You may not think that very many of the people we have to send to are to have out of the way, but it is a lot- cutting our list in half. I think you are very wise to do so too. I love the card about [illegible] Friend- he is a [illegible] have so many [illegible] I love the card from Mrs. Harry Colored [illegible] the children [illegible] are quite pretty, but really all are so [illegible]

few good ones like the one we are sending you. So many of the people we have to send to are from Walkerton days, and a remembrance is all that is needed.

I am sending off a small parcel to you tomorrow, with very many loving wishes for your birthday. It is only a trifle which I got last summer and hope you will use it. I would love to be able to do much for you but you know that, and this is just to mark the day. This is a very bad time to have a birthday. I bet you, Rosabel, Harry & Jean all come just

Cora's address is
G.P.O. Bridgetown
They will probably Barbados
be in British Guiana for B.W.I.
Christmas but she said to send
all letters to the above address.
I hope Wednesday will be a
very happy day and that you
will have many very happy
returns of the day. With
best love, ever, dear Willie
Your loving sister
Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 15th '30

My dear Willie:

This is just a little note to wish you every joy and prosperity in your new year, and to send our very most loving greetings to you on your birthday.

I am sorry the frame of this little photo is so badly broken, but I thought you might value it, as you probably remember it as long as you can remember anything. Indeed, you may have helped put the frame into its

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present condition. Brother
Jack it's me who
Jack it to me when I tried in
Jack and to my mind, it's one
of the best pictures we have
of Grandfather. It's one
it is one of the
and is sent to
hope that your
it. The little
last summer
happen who
She said it was
I hope your
it, either at Lan-
singmere. If you
this things for
I was with you.
I had something

which could show my loving appreciation of all you have done for us, but these little gifts carry with them a heart full of love & gratitude, as well as every good wish for future happiness. All the family unite in sending best love.

I was sorry to hear over the radio last night that Mr. La Doulé is ill. He is in the best place he could be, and doubtless will be much stronger, once he recovers from the operation. He would certainly be much harder to operate on than Harry was!! Harry is now 131 lbs and looks so much better.

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Dear Uncle Willie,—

It was so many kindnesses to wish for many returns of December 7th. I'm afraid I'm rather late with mine but I've been getting at least one letter off to you every day and some days more than one. We're all well. We've had some very cold weather lately but it's supposed to be milder now. Harry Nelson Morrison Lay was born October 29th at Stratford. We're keeping a fine eye on him and he's a chance in a million. Mr. H. B. Smith and Peggy are coming up for Christmas but I don't suppose you'll see much of them. Love from Jennie

December 6, 1930

I finish this card for a few moments, dear son to thank you and Jennie for the good dinner and a very pleasant day. It is a fine day for sailing today, so I hope you had a ride. Daddy is feeling fine and that they enjoyed their ride. Am sure you appreciate nice weather after the storm. Yesterday was a very quiet day. Was glad to receive a letter from Jennie. Hope she will write me soon. Will be glad to see you all for dinner on Christmas day. Will be over for a while on Thursday. I must close now as it is getting late. Will get this in the mail tonight. Lots of love to all.

Yours affectionately,

Dad.

I must close now as it is getting late. Will get this in the mail tonight. Lots of love to all.

Yours affectionately,

Dad.

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Toronto, Ontario
December 16, 1930

Dear Uncle Willie,

This is just a last minute note to wish you many happy returns of tomorrow. I have been thinking of you all day, and have only now found time to write. I am in the midst of my Christmas exams; I have already written four and have still five ahead of me - Spanish and German History to-morrow and three on Thursday. I will be finished at three o'clock on Thursday. Mother is motoring down on Thursday

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to do some shopping and to take me home.

Again let me express my sincere best wishes for a very happy birthday and many happy returns of the day.

With best love, I remain as ever

Your loving nephew

John Lay.

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FORM 6124

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

JENNIE AND THE CHILDREN AND I SEND OUR BEST LOVE AND HAPPY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY WISHING YOU VERY MANY HAPPY RETURNS

HARRY..

FORM 6124

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Ottawa December 17 1930

Mrs H M Lay
Barrie Ont

My heart-felt thanks, dear Jennie, for your deeply valued birthday gifts and letter, the first to be opened this morning. My warmest thanks as well to Harry, the children and yourself for loving greetings conveyed in message just received. Fondest love to all.

Willie

ful42

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 21. 1930

My dear Willie,

On this the shortest day of the year like the rest of the family I am "long" on good wishes that you may enjoy the merriest of Christmases and all happiness on the 25th. Jean and I were doing a little decorating at the Church this morning early with spruce boughs holly and mistletoe and flowers and we hope that the spicy aroma of the fir and scent of the flowers will found favour in Parliament would undoubtedly have brought about a serious crisis in Canada.

I am sure you are pulmiating some hot bolts for the Tory Skippers and his crew of Protectionist Capitalists So here's hoping for a warm time early in the New Year and all "power to your elbow"!

We were interested in reading R.J. Knowles interview at Laurier House. You will be sorry to lose such congenial spirits as the Willingdons. He will (how willingdon) have a difficult task to take up in India but his appointment is a very popular one

With very much love, dear Willie and again wishing you all that is good for Christmas

Yours affectionately
Harry

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be symbolic of the good wishes which fill the atmosphere at this season of the year.

We are sorry you are too far away to drop round at Bonderfel and assist in the celebration which is being prepared. But you may be sure that you will be much in our thoughts. The Thistles are to drive us from Toronto so I hope the weather will continue fine. The children however would much prefer a Christmas like last year when Kempenfelat Bay was frozen over and they were able to use their Skis.

I see by the papers that the farmers of the West are getting restive under the increase of the tariff which Mr. Bennett imposed before going to England. I don't think he is a very safe economic guide. Not many years ago he brought in a bill to compel the Banks to invest all their spare funds in Government securities instead of in secured call loans. In times of financial stress such as this country has gone through Mr. Bennett's bill if it had

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 21st 30

My dear Willie:

The senior members of the family have gone to church, and Rosabel, Harry & I are writing to you. Harry is working hard at the typewriter but what he will accomplish remains to be seen! There is so much excitement just now that it is hard to get them quiet enough to do the things they should. For my own part I find it hard to think properly! Jean & I drove to Toronto on Thursday & did a little at his notes but gave it off practically without their assistance. He really had very little time to prepare anything as he had nine exams last week & had to study, as he lost a lot of time when Harry was in the hospital.

I must write to Cora and Nelson tonight so must cut take longer at this. We are sending off our box to you tomorrow. The gifts are small but their value lies in the love they represent. I wish you could have been with us, but you will be in our hearts on Christmas Day and all our loving wishes will be going your way. The Dr., Hazel & Peggy & a German boy (a graduate of Oxford) who would be alone in Residence, & Miss Ross will be our guests. Hazel lost her mother this summer & they were not feeling much like celebrating, so I am glad they are going to drive up here for dinner. Our very best love and every good wish for the very happiest Christmas you have ever known ever your loving sister Jennie

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necessary shopping but; this year, I have done most of it by mail. I will help from the gifts I got from you to the children. Hala will send you the account! John wanted more than anything a record (safety, like Helen's) Jean a subscription to "Sopure" Rosabel a leather music roll Harry a set of "treasure" In addition I got John, dancing pumps for Jack boots for this cause 1/3.00 cash at Eaton's Will be Coat & Skirt Hose from Appropriate, but I don't Gifts which will Send much which they could not have Local exceptional generosity. Then our

are all useful or necessary, but Christmas this year will be specially joyful because Harry has been spared to us, & we hope will have years of happiness & usefulness. The three older children have got to the age when useful things are what they want, and in a couple of years Harry too will be past the child stage. They are all growing up quickly. I was very proud of John on Friday evening. Mr. Gidwood, in introducing him, said John had been in the school for five years & had always been one of their best students. He had written on 13 long subjects last summer & taken high marks in practically all of them, and had been chosen to give the Valedictory because he was the outstanding student in the graduating class. John, after a few remarks gave a description of Hart House & its place in the life of the students at Toronto. He glanced occasionally

Barrie Ontario .
Dec.2Ist 1930

Dear Uncle Willie,

I am writing to youvto wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A week ago Saturday I went skating on Little Lake. The ice wwas fine,so I skated across. Yesterday Iwent skating agai n.THe ice wasn't asgood the former Saturday. It was all coveredcwith snow.

Yesterday John,Jean,&Peach went out to get the Christmas Tree. They brought home two.

School closed for the ChRistmas holidays on Friday Dec.I9th and it opens on Monday the 5thJanuary I931.

Last night John gave his valedictory speech, and did very well.

And again wishing you aMerry Christmas ANd a Happy New Year.

Your loving nephew,
Harry Lay.

Harry Lay.

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Barrie Ontario.
Dec.2Ist I930

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec. 21, 1930.

Dear Uncle Willie,—

this is just a small note to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I guess you'll be terribly busy at Christmas but I can assure you that we'll be pretty busy too. There will be twelve for dinner on Christmas and I know we're going to have a great time. Aunt Hazel was delighted when Mother asked them up because she said she had no plans for Christmas at all and she didn't know what they were going to do. It will be great for Mother and Daddy to have a good talk with someone they really know. Mother and I drove to Toronto on Thursday and nearly froze. It took me about

wonderful recovery Daddy has made. Uncle Willie, you'd never know Dad had ever been sick!! Everyone he meets remarks about the marvellous way he has recovered. He spends as usual most of his time in the greenhouse and it is doing a rushing business. Well, I must close because I have to go to church now. So with lots of love, and many wishes for a very merry Christmas and happy and successful New. Year I am

Your affectionate niece,
Jean.

P.S.:- "Billy" sends Best Wishes for a good Xmas + lots of bones to "Pat"

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Christmas Greetings etc.

We had a terrible time getting up the Mountain. We had to stop the car every minute or so and dig it out. Got up all right but coming down the other side it was impossible to see the road at all. Got out and walked down. Had to put on chains. Got down all right but had to walk down the rest of the way. Had to put on chains again at the bottom of the hill. Got to Toronto at 5 o'clock. Had supper at the Queen's and then went to bed. Got up this morning at 8 o'clock. Had breakfast and then came down to the office. Have been busy all day. Have had a number of callers. Have had to see a number of people. Have had to attend to a lot of correspondence. Have had to write a number of letters. Have had to see a number of people. I don't seem to have accomplished anything. I don't suppose I have written a single letter that I ought to have written. I don't suppose I have done anything that I ought to have done. I don't suppose I have said anything that I ought to have said. I don't suppose I have thought anything that I ought to have thought. I don't suppose I have felt anything that I ought to have felt. I don't suppose I have been anything that I ought to have been. I don't suppose I have done anything that I ought to have done. I don't suppose I have said anything that I ought to have said. I don't suppose I have thought anything that I ought to have thought. I don't suppose I have felt anything that I ought to have felt. I don't suppose I have been anything that I ought to have been.

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December 21, 193.

Dear Uncle Willie:

It doesn't seem as if it was Christmas time again does it? But it is and thats why I'm writing to wish you a merry Christmas.

Yesterday Jean and John and myself went out to a farmers place and got a Christmas tree. We also got a lot of trimmings and branches to decorate with.

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In summer the
place where we got
the tree is a swamp.
It was all frozen and
so we took some
tumbles occasionally.
Once Jean put her
foot into a hole of mud
and water but she didn't
get very wet.

Coming home we
tied the tree up over part
of the engine and roof.

Yesterday the roads
here were covered

with ice and Harry
and I had lots of fun
skating on them. In
the morning Harry
skated down town to
get some of his Christmas
presents.

Again I say I hope
you have a very merry
Christmas

Your loving niece
Rosabel E. Lay

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 21st 1930.

1997-03-

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so I am venturing to enclose a cheque for $100.00 which I should be glad if you will accept with best love and best wishes. I would like to have felt I could make it amount to larger, but to fill this I am sailing as close to the line as I think I should in view of the obligations which I have to take account. I have had to arrange to take a car, it will not be possible for me to go to Parliament [and from] next the next time between the hours of meeting and adjourning without a car of my own, and as the Government no longer supplies any

- thing in the way of transportation except a personal pass on the railway, I have to meet this expense myself. It has meant putting up a garage on our down [illegible] with room in it for doing and installing a chauffeur and his meals. I shall pay for this car by instalments in the course of the next year or two. My income has dropped considerably owing to the change in my position, and I have extra expenses in my present work. Janet May and Lyon and Arthur each $100. and an additional $150.00 to go towards the education of the boys and the Christmas dinner. That's all I have felt I could do there this year. I would like

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 22
1930

Dear Uncle Willie:-

This is just a line to wish you a very merry Christmas and the best of everything that goes with it. We are all looking forward to a very happy time here, and we wish you could share it with us. The only thing we need is some snow to make it complete. Doctor and Mrs Thistle and Peggy are coming up for the day and I have invited Victor Lange, a Davis Exchange

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my manuscript. I hope he doesn't say too much about it.

We have been pretty busy doing up parcels and writing cards to-day. We are pretty nearly finished with that. The biggest day for Daddy and myself will be Wednesday. It will keep us busy all day delivering plants and flowers. Then in the evening we will all decorate the Christmas tree and the rest of the house.

Again let me give you my best wishes for a happy Christmas, with love from

Your loving nephew

John

student from Germany, to spend the last half of Christmas week with me. I ought to learn some German before he leaves. He is an older boy, who has studied at Oxford and speaks faultless English.

I got over the Valedictory successfully on Friday night, but I don't think I ever forgot anything so completely in my life as I forgot the first word I had prepared. I took a glance at my notes and then everything was all right. I also received a medal for coming second in last year's Oratorical contest. The reporter of the Barrie Examiner met me as soon as I was off the stage and asked for

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 25. 1930
4.30 pm

My dear Willie,

We have just seen our friends the Hustles off in their car on their return to Toronto. I am taking advantage of the interval to thank you for your very kind letter of the 24th and for the delightful book "Peace in the heart" and the additional Christmas present "Homes and Gardens". Both of your kind and generous present have given me very great pleasure. Homes and Gardens as it reaches us month by month will be a constant

"on Christmas last farmer stuff is very flat so far I think they have made a very bad change this summer. lots seams to see it now" This is another indication of a change in public sentiment which is gathering force from day to day. I believe the recent Ontario Liberal Convention reflected this in the enthusiasm which characterized it.

The flower department had quite a busy day yesterday and by evening we were practically sold out. Our first customer arrived soon after seven in the morning and the last one about 9 p.m. Most of the day however we were tying up plants and cut flowers which had already been ordered for delivery on Christmas Eve.

One of the presents I received today was two pairs of socks + a tie, from a Jew Customer of the Bank. Indeed he only customer of the Bank who so remembered me and he was "this stranger"!

Jennie and John, Jean Rosabel & Harvey join me in fondest love and renewed thanks for your lovely Christmas gifts. Believe me dear Willie with affectionate gratitude - Affectionately Harry

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reminder of your loving thoughtfulness. I must add to the appreciation of my own present my grateful acknowledgment of your generosity to all the children who will of course unite to give themselves. While I write they are all busy around the room examining with the greatest zest and delight your wonderful presents. I think Jennie used good judgment in those she selected as your deputy.

We have all delighted to have the opportunity of hearing your voice from Laurier House this afternoon and glad to hear you were having a happy day. I am sure that the thought of the happiness you had brought into the house to which your voice was coming would enhance for you the true Spirit of Christmas. I expect you will have a very delightful dinner at Government House this evening. Lord Willingdon is a good Liberal and none will have regretted more sincerely the reverses to the Liberal cause of last Summer. Jennie had a letter from a former maid of Walkerton days, a German who married a farmer near Carsill in which the writer says "the children are building high

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

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W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Cable Service to all the World
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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa
(To be delivered Christmas morning)

Mrs H M Lay
Barrie Ont

Very loving greetings and the best of wishes, dear Jennie, to Harry, the children and yourself for great happiness on this Christmas Day. I am sharing fully in all your rejoicing. Fondest love.

Willie

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Ottawa, December 25, 1930.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
BARRIE, Ont.

More than delighted dear Jennie with gifts and letters received from Boulderfel and opened this Christmas morning. Fondest love and the best of wishes to all, including the Doctor and Hazel and your other friends.

WILLIE

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E.U.142

REPEAT
REPETITION

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Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr.
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family December
1930

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REPEAT
REPETITION

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 26, 1930

My dear Jennie :

I wish I could tell you and Harry and the children all the pleasure that your many loving thoughts and lovely gifts have given me at this Christmas season. As I told you over the 'phone yesterday, your large box was the first I opened on Christmas morning. As I took one package out after the other it was almost like having a Christmas tree to myself. I really do not know how you all managed to do so much for me when you had so very many matters to attend to at this Christmas season.

I am delighted with the thermos bottle and tray which came with best love from you and Harry. It will be a joy to me at Laurier House during the fall and winter months, and at Kingsmere in the summer time. I love the shape and colour, and the daintiness of this gift, the value of which is enhanced by the fact that it is something of which I have been in great need, and which I am glad indeed to have.

How the children ever managed to get together so many lovely little gifts I really do not know. To get their real effect you would have to see them as I have had them all on one table by themselves.

I am sorry that I have not been able to find the music sheets or folder, of which you spoke to me. It was not in the box you sent,

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for I went carefully through all its papers and wrappings, and it was nowhere to be found among them. It must have slipped into some other place.

I had a very happy Christmas day. The morning was spent opening gifts, letters, cables, telegrams and cards. During the afternoon I called on the American Minister and his wife - Colonel and Mrs. MacNider - who presented me with a large box of sweetmeats in the form of a glorified apricot, done up in Christmas fashion. I had tea with Godfroy and Mrs. Patteson, and went to a dinner party at Government House, at which about forty were present. It was a very bright and cheerful affair, saddened a little,perhaps, by the thought that this is the last Christmas the Willingdon's will be with us in Canada.

I received a beautiful gift from Their Excellencies in the form of a silver inkwell, engraved with their crest and their names, as well as my own. I also received a number of other very pretty gifts from a few friends, including tins of tea and boxes of cigars, and a crate of oranges; also many books. The Christmas telegrams and cables were not quite as numerous as a year ago, though there were quite enough of them, including a message from Their Majesties, the King and Queen, a cable from Sir Thomas Lipton (he presented me also with two tins of tea), and many other messages. I have not counted

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the Christmas cards, but I imagine there must be at least fifteen hundred, if not more. We tried to keep up with the acknowledgments before Christmas, but were completely swamped on Christmas eve.

I received a nice little letter from May ~~and~~ with a biography of Samuel Pepys by Drinkwater, which I shall greatly enjoy reading. I also received a book on "science" from Arthur, which looks most interesting, and a pocket diary from Lyon. - Lyon has done very well in the letters he has written to me, and has pleased me very much by getting up each morning at six, ever since I spoke to him about early rising. I shall be surprised if he does not do pretty well at University. He seems to have a real sense of duty. I hope with the years at college a little more of the joy of living may come into his nature. I am afraid that Max's boys have had a rather lonely, and somewhat supressed time. Much allowance has to be made for their limitations in some particulars.

I hope you will not mind my sending you a dictated letter. It is about the only way in which I can hope to get off acknowledgments before the year is out. It has, at least, the advantage of being somewhat easier to read. Let me again thank you and Harry and all the little people for all you ~~have~~ have done for me at this Christmas season.

With fondest love, dear Jennie

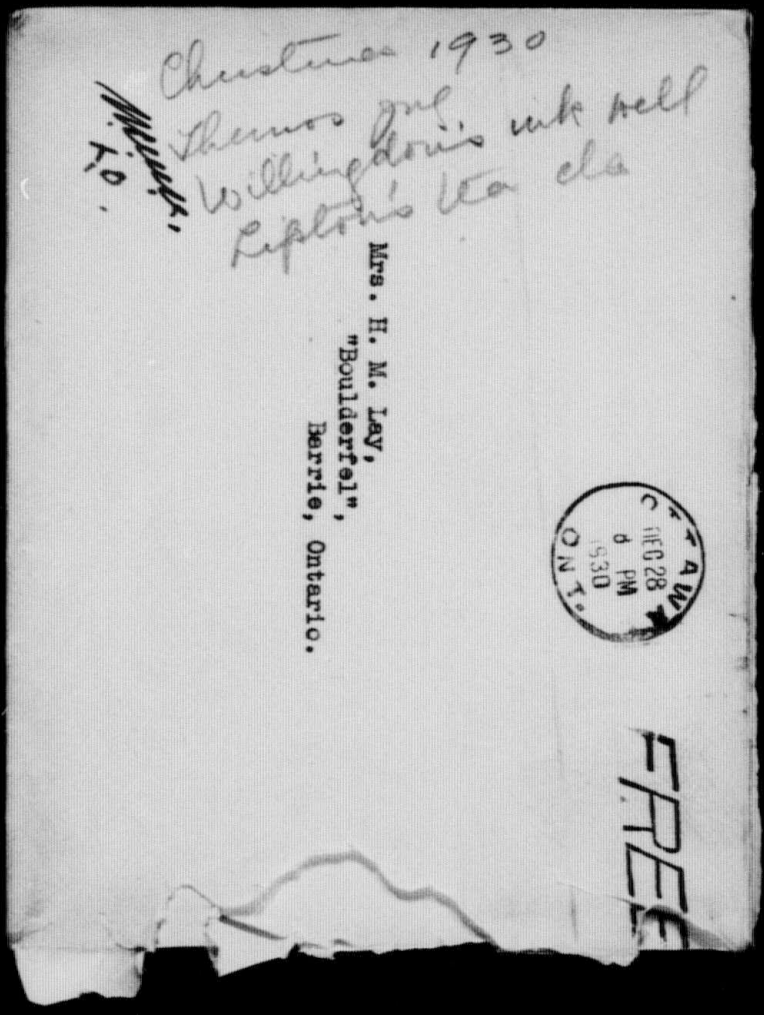
Yours very affectionately

Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dear Uncle Willie,-
Thank you very much for that lovely trunk and store. The trunk is quite big, with a brass lock, and is just like a grown-ups. The store is about 2½" by 15". It has three shelves and two ones are filled with little glass bottles which are filled with small candies. There is a counter and everything is complete. There

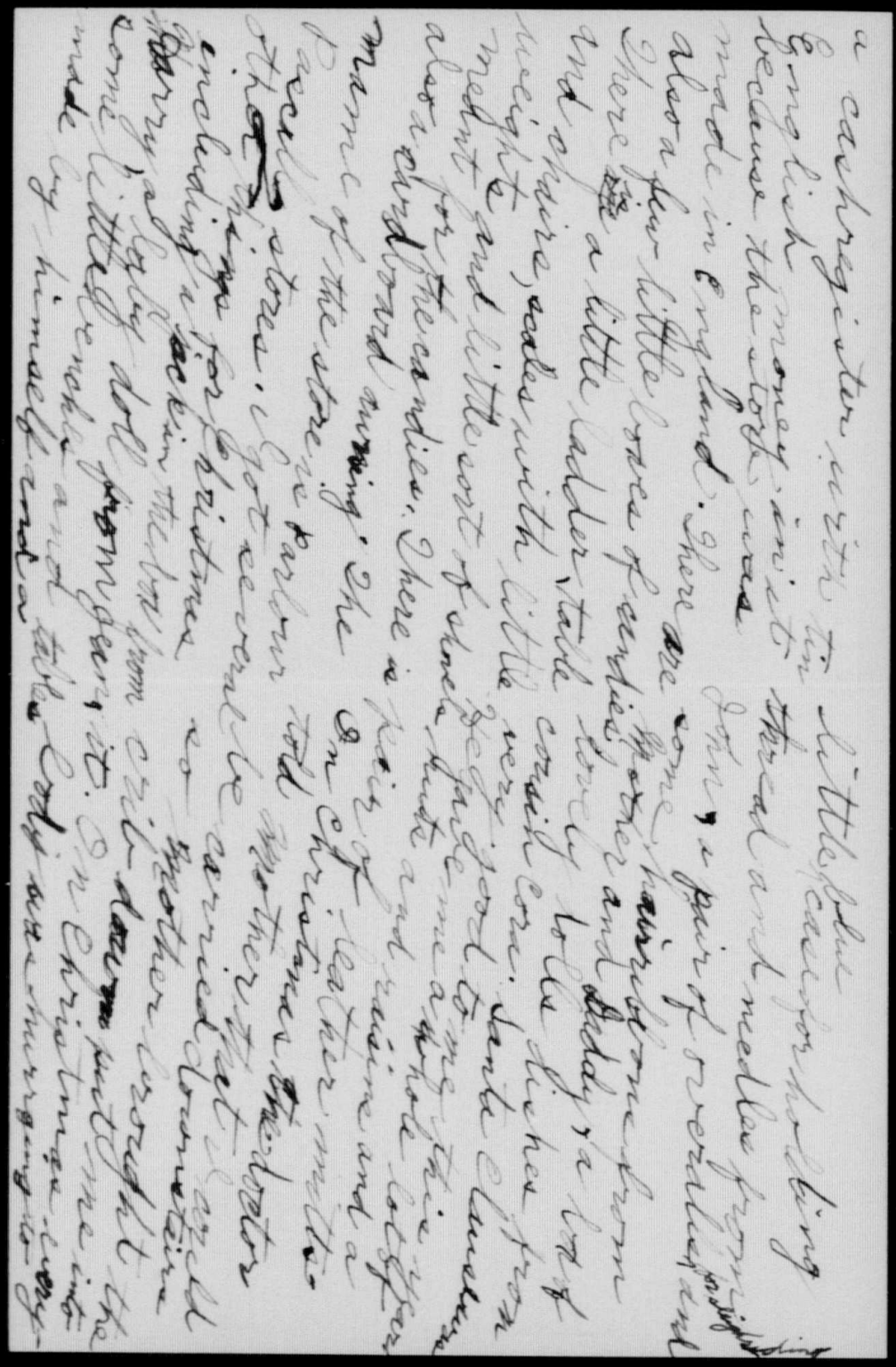
get downstairs but they couldn't get in till after breakfast. Our Christmas tree is quite large and reaches right up to the ceiling. When Daddy was getting it he had to cut a whole lot off of it. It is decorated all over now. Well I must say goodbye for now.

your loving niece,
Rosabel

P.S.- Please excuse writing as I can't write very well in bed.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 26/30

Dear Uncle Willie,—

I really don't know how to thank you for the lovely dress. The workmanship is beautiful and the material is my favorite shade. I received many compliments on it. Yet sadly I am afraid I shall not be able to wear it. It is only suitable for afternoon wear and I am invited to so few afternoon affairs. I am going to be a rude ungrateful girl & not wear it. Do come here & see what a fine lot of grandnieces you have. Dan is a magnificent specimen of boyhood & I am so proud of him. He is very much admired by all the girls. Dan is to take me to the "4.30" dance on Thursday next week. I am so thankful for a partner for the lovely dance. Dan will be home for the holidays & I am looking forward to it. Dan is a splendid dancer & I am sure we will have a good time. Thanking you again for the dress & wishing you a prosperous new year, I remain

Your loving niece,

Jean.

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on their 24th" wedding anniversary and said that they had all enjoyed being up here so much. We all had a very happy time. I wish you could have seen here when a giant snowball was unrolled during the fruit + nuts course yesterday at dinner. Everyone got some form of noise maker in the ball and Aunt Hazel said "Now all together" It's a wonder you didn't hear the blast in Ottawa. Miss Ross got a whistle in the form of a cigar and I put in her mouth + told her to blow it. Her fat cheeks bulged out and she was terribly astonished at the frightful noise she made. We all had wonderful paper hats + of course that added to the laughter. On the whole, we were all so happy + gay that it's a pity you weren't there

a very welcome "cheque." It is now safely in the bank where I hope it will remain for a long time. Honestly, Uncle Willie, as I said before, I don't know how to thank you. You were far too good to us. Bobby and John have been playing with the meccano all morning and making the most wonderful trucks and cranes. Peach has been sporting her ski-boots all morning although unfortunately there is no snow worth speaking of. Dad has been doing great business in the greenhouse. On Wednesday everyone was rushing around trying to deliver his plants and you would have thought we had been in the florist business for years. Aunt Hazel rang up this morning to wish Mother + Daddy many happy returns

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 26th. 1930.

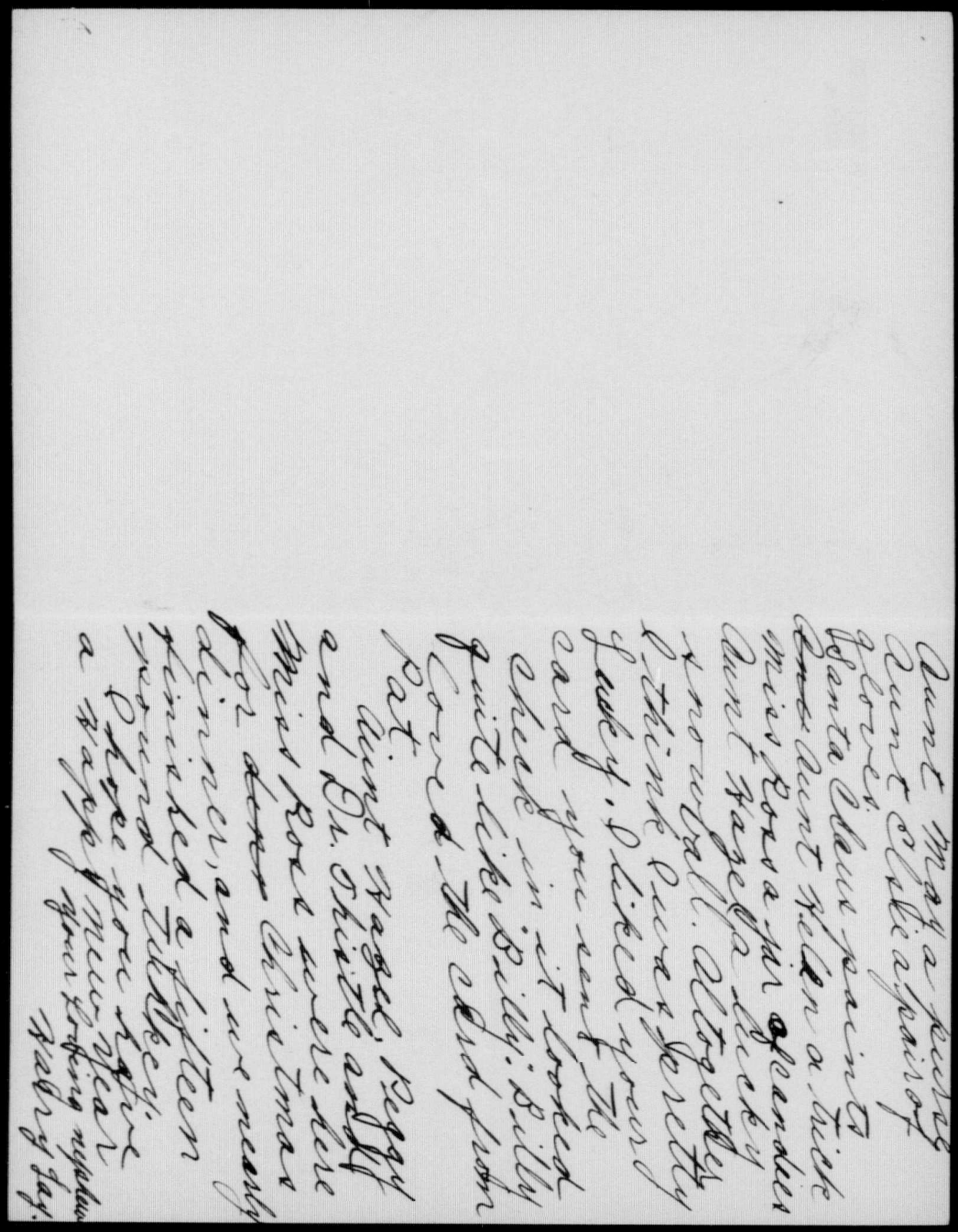
Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you very much for the lovely meccano and the pen, and the check for twelve fo dollars and fifty cents, you gave me; I am writing with the pen now. I have built quite a few machines already. I have built a Traveling Jib Crane and a Tipping motor Wagon, a Double Drop hammer, a violin, towel, wheel-barrow, and lots of other things.

For christmas I got, ~~from~~ John a book Peach a game and mother and Daddy ski-poles Jean gave me fifty-cents nelson a book called Chum

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 26
1930

Dear Uncle Willie:

Thank you very much for all your lovely present. It is awfully good of you to give us such a lot.

All of us recovered from yesterday I think except Mother, who is feeling its effects. I guess she is pretty tired.

It was awfully nice yesterday to hear your morning. They have made a lot of lovely things such as a crane, steam shovel, motor lorry etc.

Did you get many presents? I hope you did and I hope too that you had a very merry Christmas.

Your loving niece
Rosabel.

P.S.-Iam going to wear the ski-boots as soon as it snows.

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voice over the wire.

It seems wonderful to think that your voice was coming all the way from Ottawa as clearly as if you were in town.

On Christmas Eve we all hung our stockings in front of the fire as usual. On the morning after breakfast there was a general rush to get them. In the top of each there was a lovely red pear or apple. Harry and I each had pears and John and Jean had (3) apples. Harry was the first to sample his and sank his teeth into wax! In mine besides the nuts, raisins, candy and orange was a beautiful mouth organ. It is a Hohner Auto-Valve Harp. I can play a little and so I was awfully glad to get a decent one. I

John and Harry have been playing with the set of meccano you gave Harry for most of the

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 26
1930

Dear Uncle Willie

It was a great pleasure to hear your voice yesterday and to be able to thank you for your goodness to me, and I am very happy to put my thanks on paper. I think of all my lovely gifts the most delightful surprise was a beautiful pair of fur-lined gloves from you. I have already used them and found them fine. The razor I have not yet had occasion to use, but I have coveted one for a long time. The relieved, not to have him to consider while we were getting ready for Christmas. Still, I was sorry he did not come, for it would have ban a great chance to learn German. He speaks English more easily now than he does German. He has studied at Oxford, and spoken English steadily for three years. He has a most beautiful English accent. Some weeks ago he played the leading rôle in "The Way of the World," at Hart House theatre, and was excellent.

With sincerest thanks for your kindness to me and best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year. I remain

Your loving nephew

John.

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The weather has changed back to April here. The snow is all thawing and the grass is green on the lawns. I hope that we will get some snow before the end of the holidays. Time hangs rather heavy with neither skiing nor skating. Our evenings are going to be pretty full. We have been invited to four dances next week. Unfortunately two of them are ~~on~~ the same evening.

My German friend from Toronto did not come up. He did not get my letter till Wednesday afternoon, and had already had two dinners booked for Christmas day. In a way I was glad, or rather wonderful cheque was a very great help to a badly dented bank account. I think I have had almost as much enjoyment out of Harry's Meccano outfit as he has himself. We has already built a travelling crane, and a motor truck, and are ready to build more. It is very interesting and instructive.

We were all very lucky yesterday, I especially. We greatly enjoyed having the Thistles up here for dinner, and we had any amount of fun. Our tree was the prettiest one we have ever had. I took a couple of photo's of it, and I will send you one if they turn out well.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 26th 30.

Do we have to put stamps on your letters?

My dear Willie:

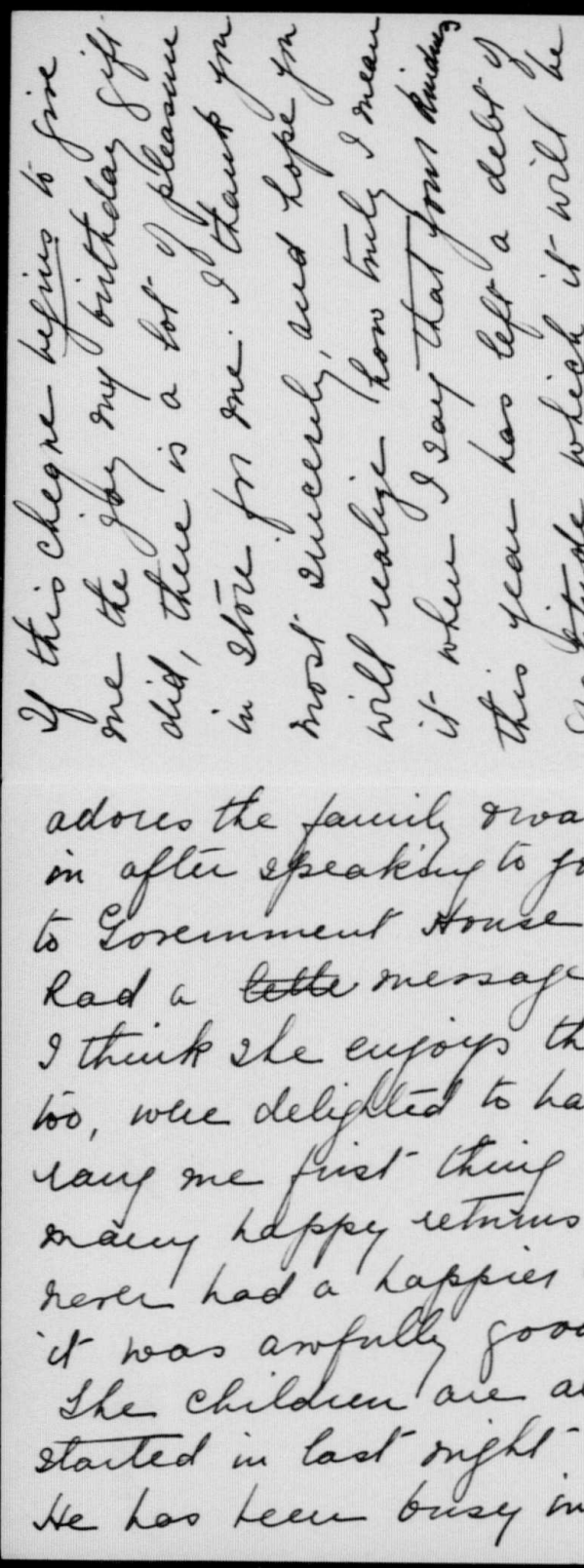
About this time twenty four years ago you were assisting at the marriage of Harry and myself. It was a terrible day to choose for a wedding but it has turned out alright!

I can't tell you how much we all appreciated the very great generosity you have shown to us all. After all you have done for us there I fear it is more than good of you to send us all such wonderful gifts for Christmas.

but I stayed in bed this morning as I was dead tired and didn't have to get up. I think the excitement this one as much as anything I do hope you approved of my gifts for the children. At any rate they were delighted. Young Harry was so proud of his cheque which "Pat" had in his mouth, and showed it to everyone. He is going to deposit it himself. Rosabel has been going about in her ski boots all day, though there is no snow. I hope you found the music roll. I searched all over for it on Christmas eve & suddenly remembered what I had done. It certainly was hidden in a safe place!! Soon you didn't find it!

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If this chegre happens to fall
me the joy of birthday gift
did, there is a bof of pleasure
in store for me. I daun for
most sincerely, and hope for
will realize. I remain
if when I say that from Auntie
this year has left a deep of
gratitude which it will be
Jaid ever to repay. I do often
wish I could do more for the
but perhaps the day will come!
Harry was delighted with his
book & has started to read it.
& like I entertained old Mrs.
Ross last night. He was eager
his book & I would gladly have
changed places! That old body

adores the family & was so thrilled when I came in after speaking to you & told her you were going to Government House for dinner & that you had had a ~~little~~ message from the King & Queen. I think she enjoys the reflected glory! The Shuttle too, were delighted to have a word with you. Hazel rang me first thing this morning to wish me many happy returns & to tell me that they never had a happier Christmas. We thought it was awfully good of them to come.

The children are all writing to you. Harry started in last night & wrote to you & Nelson. He has been busy in the greenhouse all day

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John razor 595
gloves 450
cash 1955
3000

Jean Vogue 600
shoes 565
cash 1835
30.00

Rosabel music case 495
shoes 300
cash 1250
2045

Harry mecanno 550
pen 250
Cash 1250
2050

Thank you, too, for your kind notes yesterday. I intended to send ones of my own on Wednesday evening but was so busy that it was eleven o'clock before I realized it. There were so many plans to be got ready & delivered, and everyone wanted something done, though we really got through this Christmas more easily than ever before. Doris is a splendid maid and so good natured. I went out & told her how well she had done everything, & gave her a dollar and she said "you don't need to Mr. Lay, for I have enjoyed doing it." It has made all the difference to me, for I

BOULDERFEL BARRIE

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have tried to save Harry in
every way possible & also to
keep Rosabel from worrying.
Everyone comes to
it is a wonderful
some one in the
take a little
the Christmas
from gifts on
spend them
could have heard
They hardly let me
read my letter
I was greatly interested
you had a car.
it- if you ever
it, will doubtless
your Allan as
and also what
Sol-?

I think too, you have been most generous to Mary
Lyon sent us a lovely box of candies and I asked
going to write and ask him to come up next week.
Mary wrote me a nice little note said she was not
giving any gifts this year. I told her the same &
only sent her a bunch of "dusters" & Arthur a tie.
Peach helped me make the dusters when she was
sick sit- Kept her occupied. She & Nanny made
the match boxes, cut out paper shellacked (?) them.
Now I must stop if this is to catch the train for there
is only fifteen minutes.

Our best love and many, many thanks
ever your loving sister
Jennie

C-007-000

December 26, 1930

My dear Jean,

I cannot thank you too warmly for all the loving good wishes, the beautiful letter, and many little gifts which have come to me from you this Christmas. I have all the presents from "Boulderfel" on one table, and they really look very lovely, and almost like a shop window on Christmas eve.

My housekeeper, Mary, was delighted when she saw all the assortment of jams, marmalade, grapejuice, and cucumber relish which came out of the box from "Boulderfel", and apparently have all come with love and Christmas greetings from you to me. I am not quite sure whether the plum pudding was from you or from your mother, though I imagine, in the making of it, you each have had a hand. If it is from your mother, please tell her how glad I am to have it at this season of the year, and how glad Mary, the housekeeper is as well. This is the third Christmas Mary has been with me, and she was naturally much interested in the gift I received, though particularly interested in this one. I shall enjoy all the jam and marmalade as the weeks and months go by. I am giving special instructions that it is to be used only on occasions, that I am to

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be told on each occasion of its use, and that it is part of the gift which I received from you.

I hope you had a very happy Christmas day, as I am sure you did. It was nice to hear your voice over the 'phone. Only I wish we could have talked for a longer time.

In writing you of Christmas let me also thank you for the beautiful little letter which you sent me on my birthday. It is really too bad that these two days come so close together, as it keeps my friends pretty busy writing letters at the busiest time of all in the year. I would like you to know, however, that your letter on my birthday, as well as your Christmas letter, added very much to the happiness of both those days.

WLMK/FM

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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December 27, 1930

My dear Harry,

I believe I have no less than three separate communications to thank you for, each bringing with it some kind thought and loving wishes. First of all, there was the telegram which I received from you on my birthday, and which brought its loving greetings from you all. Then there was the letter which I received before Christmas, with its loving Christmas greetings and news of the doings at "Boulderfel", at this Christmas season, and finally, the letter which I have just received, and which somehow you have managed to write on Christmas day, in which you speak far too appreciatively of my tiny remembrances to you. I know you will like Rutledge's book, for it is one of the best nature books ever written. It will bring to you, during the winter evenings many of the thoughts and feelings of the out-of-doors in the summer time.

It was awfully good of you and Jennie to send me the lovely gift I received from you both, to say nothing of the part you

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each had in making up the box of Christmas gifts which came to me from Barrie. I derived no end of pleasure from opening the box, and reading the many cards of greeting as well as the Christmas letters which I kept unopened until Christmas day. I was particularly pleased to get the little glimpse of the inside of your conservatory, which the card, attached to the box permitted me to have. I am also glad to learn from your letter, received this morning, that you did such a flourishing business at the Christmas season. I feel quite sure that once your business begins to get under way, it will increase to considerable proportions. I just hope that the new lease of life which you have won this year will give you, with the larger freedom of time which you now have, great scope for profit as well as enjoyment in the interesting occupation which you have made so completely your own.

I shall have to leave for another occasion discussion of the political situation. If I was ever fortunate in my life, I think it has been in having escaped all responsibilit for what is now taking place in Western Canada. The people there are not likely soon to forget the mistake they made in returning Mr. Bennett to power. I believe the new year will witness some interesting developments.

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 December 1930

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I am glad you have reminded me about the Bill which Bennett brought in some years ago compelling the banks to invest all their spare funds in Government securities instead of secured call loans. I shall probably make some reference to that in the course of the debates of the coming session.

I am glad you saw Knowles' interview at Laurier House. I had no idea he was going to write anything, or I should either have told him not to do so, or would not have extended an invitation to come to dinner. The interview was most kind, but I personally have a strong aversion to publicity on matters which are of purely private and personal interest and concern.

I hope you are feeling quite strong again. From all that the children and Jennie have told me, I gather that you are better than you have ever been. What a blessing in disguise the recent operation was!

H. M. Lay, Sr., Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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 December 1930

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December 27, 1930.

John Lay, Esq.,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

My dear John

I have so many things to thank you for that I hardly know where to begin. First of all, there is the letter you sent me on my birthday. I thought it so kind of you to take the time, ofn the middle of your examinations, to write me at such length.

Then, there is your Christmas letter which brought with it an equal amount of pleasure, especially was I interested in hearing of the valedictory address which you gave at the Barrie Collegiate. I have heard as well from other sources about it, and must congratulate you on what I believe was a real success.

Public speaking is a real art; one I believe which cannot be cultivated too early in life. What little success I have had, in the way of ex tempore speaking, I put down in large part to the Sunday mornings I used to spend at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. There I used to speak to a ward in which there were from twenty to thirty little patients. The nurses

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and doctors might be in attendance, and sometimes the parents. That always made it somewhat embarrassing, but it was the best possible training and practice. I hoped too that my little talks helped to be of interest to the children. Then, I used to speak at St. Andrew's Institute, and at Hull House Social Settlements, Chicago, and the Passmore Settlements in London, England. That was all good training. I have since realised what a most helpful preparation it was for mybpublic life.

I would advise you strongly, as opportunity offers, to take part in the debates at Hart House. A boy can afford to make no end of mistakes, and this may also be said of a young man, but the public will not overlook mistakes of one who is grown up unless he had very little in the way of opportunity in his early life.

Public life and the ability to play the piano are great assets to any man, no matter what his future may be. I put down both as important as any course that may be taken at a university.

I must thank you too, dear John, for the beautiful necktie which you sent me as a Christmas gift. It will, I am sure, be a delight to many of my friends as well as be a source of real pleasure to myself.

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To all this I must add your card of Christmas greetings, and thank you for the loving good wishes which came with everything. It has added very much to my happiness at this Christmas season to have these many expressions of your love and affection.

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December 27, 1930

My dear Roosabel

It was very sweet of you to send me a letter on my birthday, and also a Christmas letter, and to send so much love and so many good wishes for both these days. I can assure you that all your kind thought added very much to my happiness, both on my birthday and in the New Year.

I am simply delighted with the cluster of dusters which you sent me as a Christmas gift. Where ever did you find anything so beautiful? What a wonderful bequet it makes! I thought when I looked first at your gift that it was a bunch of beautiful flowers from your daddy's conservatory. Besides giving me much pleasure I know the dusters will be of the greatest possible service, for they are something that I would like to have close at hand. You may be sure I will see that everything is kept bright and polished from now on.

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I hope "Billy" had a happy Christmas. As I think I said over the 'phone, Pat sent his kindest regards and best of wishes for Christmas day. He and I went for a little walk in the afternoon, and he looked very fine with a red bow on his collar, of which he was very proud.

I wish I could have seen the Christmas tree, but I can imagine how beautiful it would look.

I was awfully sorry to hear about the trouble you had with your ear, but I am glad it got better before Christmas. I hope you will be quite strong from now on.

Miss Rosabel Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/FM

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December 27, 1930

My dear Harry

I was indeed surprised and delighted to receive from you a letter written by yourself on the typewriter, and so well written! I want to thank you for it very warmly, and for all the loving good wishes it has brought to me from you for Christmas and the New Year. I want to thank you, too, for the boxes of matches so artistically tied together, the boxes of which are so prettily colored. They make a very useful gift, as well as a very handsome one. Every box seems to be of a different design. They are just the thing I need in my library, and I am going to see that they are kept for use only there.

I am glad you have had so much fun skating. That is fine exercise, and will keep you in good shape, as well as making you grow up strong.

I have so many letters to write just now that I am afraid I will have to

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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 December 1930

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bring this one to a close. Before I do I want to thank you again for all your loving thought of me, and to send you with this letter, not only my thanks for your Christmas gift and letter, but my best of wishes for the New Year as well.

Harry Lay, Jr., Esq.,
"Boulderwal",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/FM

December 27, 1930

My dear Jennie

I have written you for Christmas, but I should like to send a little note in further acknowledgment of the gifts which came from you to me on my birthday. The little picture of grandfather is one that I remember very well from earliest boyhood. It is, I think, the only original that we had in the family. I believe grandfather himself had the frame made.

I have sent the picture to Wilson, the art dealer in the city, to have him put the frame in the best possible shape. It is indeed good of you to part with anything so precious, and, but for having grandfather's name, and taking the part I am in public life, I would hesitate to let you part with anything which you must treasure so much.

The tea cloth is very beautiful. You were right in remembering that I was sorely in need of something of the kind.

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 December 1930

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Mrs. Patteson also observed this, and made me a present of a tea cloth about a year ago. I have been using it and the one you gave me a couple of years ago ever since. The one you gave me had Japanese handwork on it. There were also a number of little doilies.

Let me again thank you for these loving gifts, and also for your birthday and Christmas letters. I would like to thank you again for securing for the children the Christmas gifts you did on my behalf. Apparently you have made the best of selections. I hope my little cards of greeting arrived in time to find a place with the gifts. It was about all I had time to do "with my own hand". I thought your Christmas cards were quite lovely.

It was a particular joy to have a word with you all on Christmas day. It was the next best thing to being on hand.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 27, 1930

My dear Jennie:

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King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morrison Lay and family (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) December 1930

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It was a particular joy to have a word with you all on Christmas day. It was the next best thing to being on hand.

Again much many many thanks and fondest love. Believe me, dear Jennie,

Your loving brother Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1930

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 28. 1930.

Dear Jennie:

As I shall probably not get another chance to write before the New Year is out, I am adding this note to the others I have dictated, just to wish you and the children, Harry and Yourself, for the New Year. May it be the happiest and best of years for you all.

This old year which is now disappearing so rapidly has had more of change and vicissitude about it than any we have

on for much longer. I do, however, see a place of fresh beginning, with a record of government unimpaired and in more respects than one well performed in our country.

I forgot to tell you - Henry at Communion Service this morning reminded me of it - that I was elected an elder of St. Andrews Church. On both occasions when the congregation was practically unanimous in wanting me. There was a secret ballot for some new elders. I did not feel that I should like to take on this additional responsibility at this time so declined to stand. It was gratifying, however, to know that the congregation felt as they did about it.

I hope in this New Year you will take all possible rest and care of yourself for we are not growing younger but older and have had many strains in the past year. May never reveal their effects abroad, but produce deferred reactions so take all the rest

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lived through for some time past,
but, somehow, I feel it has been
among the very best and kindest
7 years. Harry's illness was
a great anxiety to you and to
him: This year has left only clouds
on the horizon for the anxiety has
been removed, he came on well,
and given to him a new lease
of life, and to you and the
children a husband and a
father in the home for three
many more years to come. Harry
realizes of his connection with
a close banking seemed a
hard step to be taken at this time
but it was, has quite clearly been
all for the best. He looks on
as if he might come to do better
financially or well as in other

keeps with flowers than with
books and despatches. Then, by
John's commencement of his Studies
at the University is a great step
forward - all have been places
in new beginning, with a chance
to come into touch for a business
filled with men in the way
of promise.

I think the same is true of
what has happened to myself. It
was a kind Providence that
spared me from having to carry
responsibility for what is happening
in Canada at the present time
and may happen in the months.
I doubt if I could have stood the
strain of hard times for the
mass of the people. I doubt if,
without some relief from the moral
pressure, I could have carried

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

[illegible] Dec. [illegible] and
[illegible] Sunday
[illegible] Christ [illegible]
[illegible] family and friends [illegible]
[illegible].

[illegible] wd. [illegible] you
[illegible] an [illegible] a [illegible]
a [illegible] Benjamin from [illegible]
[illegible] - [illegible]
January 15. - [illegible]
[illegible] an old [illegible]
[illegible] a [illegible]
[illegible] -
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] -
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 30th '30

My dear Willie:

Jours letters to all the members of the family have been most loving and kind. We all think it more than good of you to take your precious time to write to each member so especially for himself or herself. All jours letters are very much appreciated. First of all, let me tell you that the music roll is safe. When I got jour letter saying it was not in a week. His birthday is on Friday & I asked him specially for that: Yesterday was Jean's birthday & she was seventeen, just my age when we went to Toronto! I made her a lovely little evening dress for a present & she wore the shoes you gave her, and had a wonderful time at a dance she & John went to.

It is too bad the Willingdons are going so soon. I saw in the Globe (which cannot be depended on!) that they might be gone before Parliament opened. It would be a sad disappointment for Bennett et al if there were no Drawing Room! I hope jou had a happy day on Christmas

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Ottawa, I sat down had a good
think, with the le reader that?
found it in the cupboard the linen
under the tablecloth!! It was the cloths!
is a flat box exactly the size
I found real box, I
hidden there, I
four things, I
concentrate on
what I did next
delightful with
she really wanted
been taking
month, but
now, and will
it next week.
four are dear
of the little

it a great pleasure and I only wish we could do more. You were right in thinking the family made the pudding! I like to keep up the old customs so always make the pudding when the family are at home so that everyone can give it a stir for luck! This year I have the great comfort of a good maid, who has relieved me of much of the drudgery. Long may she stay! I have written to Lyon, asking him to come up whenever he likes & stay till John goes back to Kinsil next Saturday. If he comes tomorrow that will give him almost

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meetings that take the time.

Harry is just going to the Bank so I will send this with him as I want you to get it for two days. We all join in sending best love sincerely good wish that blessings in every form may be yours in 1931. You have certainly earned more than the usual share & I hope your dearest wishes may be fulfilled in large measure.

This will be my last letter for 1930 so let it carry my and our best love to you dear Willie ever your loving sister

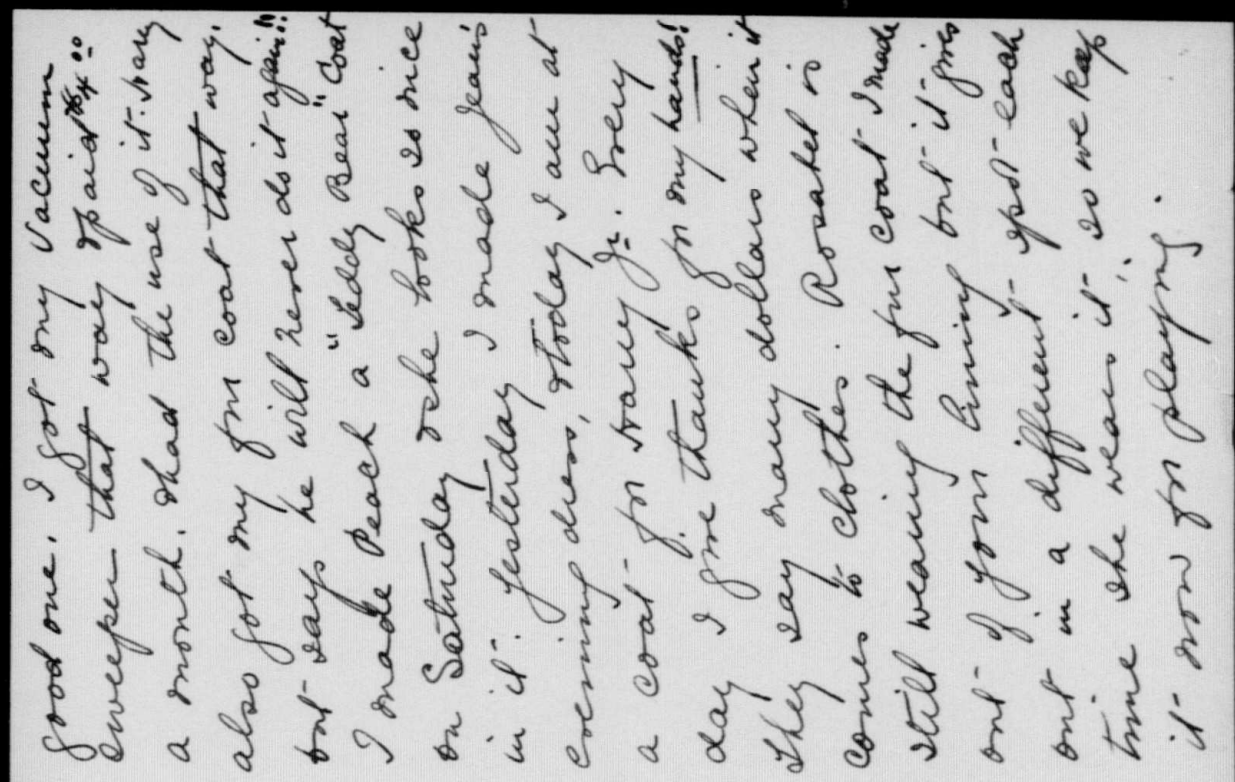
Jennie

Tell Pat, Billy got hit by a car yesterday but got off with a badly scraped nose & head. Four cars were in good time were lovely. J.

and that your tea party was a success. The willingdons have been specially congenial and BOULDERFEL BARRIE
I only hope the next Governor General will be equally so. I don't think Bennett can hold out very long but unfortunately he has the "say" just now. We are wondering who will be the next Lieut. Governor. I agree with you that this year is a good one to let Bennett do the explaining! We will not have an enviable time when next the House meets. I am so glad you are getting a car and, if they don't charge too high a rate of interest, the instalment (one "l"!) plan is a

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good one. I got my Vacuum
sweeper that was
a month. Had the use of it. Many
also got my fur coat that way.
but- says he will
I made Pearl a "Teddy Bear" coat
on Saturday
in it. Yesterday I made jeans
evening dress, Stockings
a coat- for Norma
day I give thanks
they say many
comes to clothes.
still wearing the
out- of town
out in a different
time she wears

Harry has got over the Christmas rush with much more work much less fatigue than he did last year. We have very many things to thank you for in this last year, and it is certainly true as you point out, that most of our seeming misfortunes have been blessings. It was very gratifying to be chosen as elder but all these honors carry with them an added amount of labour. Harry resigned from the eldership several years ago and is on the board of managers. He has always held that elders should not be appointed for life, so acted on his own suggestion, resigned. It is the extra

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BR BARRIE ONT DEC 31

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING 830

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

HARRY JOHN JEAN ROSABEL AND HARRY JUNIOR JOIN WITH ME IN SENDING EVERY LOVING WISH FOR THE NEW YEAR MAY HEALTH HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY BE YOUR PORTION IN NINETEEN THIRTY ONE WITH BEST LOVE FROM US ALL

YOUR LOVING SISTER

JENNIE

12K

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REPEAT
REPETITION

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

Exclusive Connection with WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.
Cable Service to all the World
Money Transferred by Telegraph

RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa December 31 1930

Mrs H M Lay
Barrie Ont

Every good wish, dear Jennie, to Harry, the children and yourself for a very happy New Year. With my wishes I send fondest love to you all.

ful42 Willie

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 December 1930

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa January 1 1931

Mrs H M Lay
Barrie Ont

Delighted to received New Year's greetings from all.
Renewed best of wishes and fondest love.

ful42

Willie

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-June 1931

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

January 2, 1931

My dear Jennie:

This is just a line to carry to you all a renewed expression of my good wishes for the New Year, and to thank you for your letter of December the 30th, which I received before the old year was out, and which I have read two or three times since.

I am glad the music roll turned up allright. You seem to have gotten through the Christmas season in remarkably good fashion. I really believe the secret of Christmas happiness is in not attempting to do too much. Certainly in the case of those who have families, it is best to concentrate on the little people, and not attempt more.

In a letter received from May, she tells me that this Christmas has left a sense of peacefulness and rest which she had not felt for many years,

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-June 1931

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and which she thinks is due to the fact that for the first time in ten years she did not try to do too much. I tried to keep down my own efforts this year, and started by not having any Christmas cards printed. I have received, however, in cables and telegrams, letters, cards and gifts, I am sure, over twenty-five hundred, separate communications, between birthday, Christmas and New Year's, and all these have had to have acknowledgments of some kind. In addition to myself, it has kept a staff of four pretty busy during the past fortnight trying to overtake this colossal task.

Yesterday being New Years Day, I was at home to receive, though I declined to allow the papers to make any mention of the circumstance. Notwithstanding, I had two hundred and fifty-five callers, according to actual count at the door. It was even a larger number than a year ago.

I have still a few letters to answer which must be written by hand,

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

but I am hopeful that this obligation may be ~~kept~~ *trust* by Sunday, and that from now on I will be able to give my undivided attention to public affairs. It has taken me about four months to catch up with the accumulation of arrears which have been part of the penalty of office.

The best word of your letter is the comfort and satisfaction you are deriving from having a good maid. Please remember the offer that I made to you, and do not hesitate to give her whatever additional amount may be necessary, not only to retain her services, but to keep her contented and happy in her work. One servant is all too little for a household as large as yours, and whatever you can do to relieve the burden of housekeeping will prolong your life, and make happier the days as they pass. We have all to learn how to live, but unfortunately, most of us do not acquire that lesson until near the close of life, even if by then it is acquired.

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-June 1931

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I gave Pat the message about Billy, and think he appreciated it, both from the look of sympathy in his eyes for Billy, and from the way he wagged his tail, evidently rejoicing that he himself had not been the one to be hit.

With fondest love to all,
Helen Mackenzie. dear Jennie,
Yours loving brother,
Willie

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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-June 1931

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Mrs Hinlay

January 2, 1931

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and which she thinks is due to the fact that for the first time in ten years she did not try to do too much. I tried to keep down my own efforts this year, and started by not having any Christmas cards printed. I have received, however, in cables and telegrams, letters, cards and gifts, I am sure, over twenty-five hundred, separate communications, between birthday, Christmas and New Year's, and all those have had to have acknowledgments of some kind. In addition to myself, it has kept a staff of four pretty busy during the past fortnight trying to overtake this colossal task.

Yesterday being New Years Day, I was at home to receive, though I declined to allow the papers to make any mention of the circumstance. Notwithstanding, I had two hundred and fifty-five callers, according to actual count at the door. It was even a larger number than a year ago.

I have still a few letters to answer which must be written by hand,

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but I am hopeful that this obligation
may be kept by Sunday, and that from
now on I will be able to give my
undivided attention to public affairs.
It has taken me about four months to
catch up with the accumulation of arrears
which have been part of the penalty of
office.

The best word of your letter
is the comfort and satisfaction you are
deriving from having a good maid.
Please remember the offer that I made
to you, and do not hesitate to give her
whatever additional amount may be
necessary, not only to retain her
services, but to keep her contented
and happy in her work. One servant
is all too little for a household as
large as yours, and whatever you can
do to relieve the burden of housekeeping
will prolong your life, and make happier
the days as they pass. We have all to
learn how to live, but unfortunately,
most of us do not acquire that lesson
until near the close of life, even if
by then it is acquired.

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I gave Pat the message about Billy, and think he appreciated it, both from the look of sympathy in his eyes for Billy, and from the way he wagged his tail, evidently rejoicing that he himself had not been the one to be hit.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/FM

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not give very much. I know that is how I feel, and there are many like me. When they collected for Queen Mary no one was allowed to give more than one dollar and they raised all they needed. It will be a long time before they get his people who will be as universally liked as Lord & Lady Willingdon. Harry is getting stronger every day. A week ago he was out skating with the children, & yesterday he had his first game of curling. I think the latter is a bit too heavy for him just yet, but he enjoyed it. The bay has at last frozen over and the children have had a glorious time for the last couple of days. I am sorry it was not frozen when Lyon was here, but they took him out to "Little Lake" a

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 11th, 31

My dear Willie:

We have been a busy household, getting the children back to school and trying to get back to regular ways. Lyon was here till Monday afternoon when he left with another boy, as they had lectures on Tuesday at nine a.m. John is still here but hopes to go back tomorrow. He has had a very bad ear and it is still running, but he thinks

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at Admiralty House on Christmas Day, as he was officer on duty. He had several invitations for the day but, of course, could not accept. One thing I love about Nelson is that he never complains. All he said was that he could eat as little or as much as he liked & then have a sleep before the fire. He will be glad to go to England again for a time.

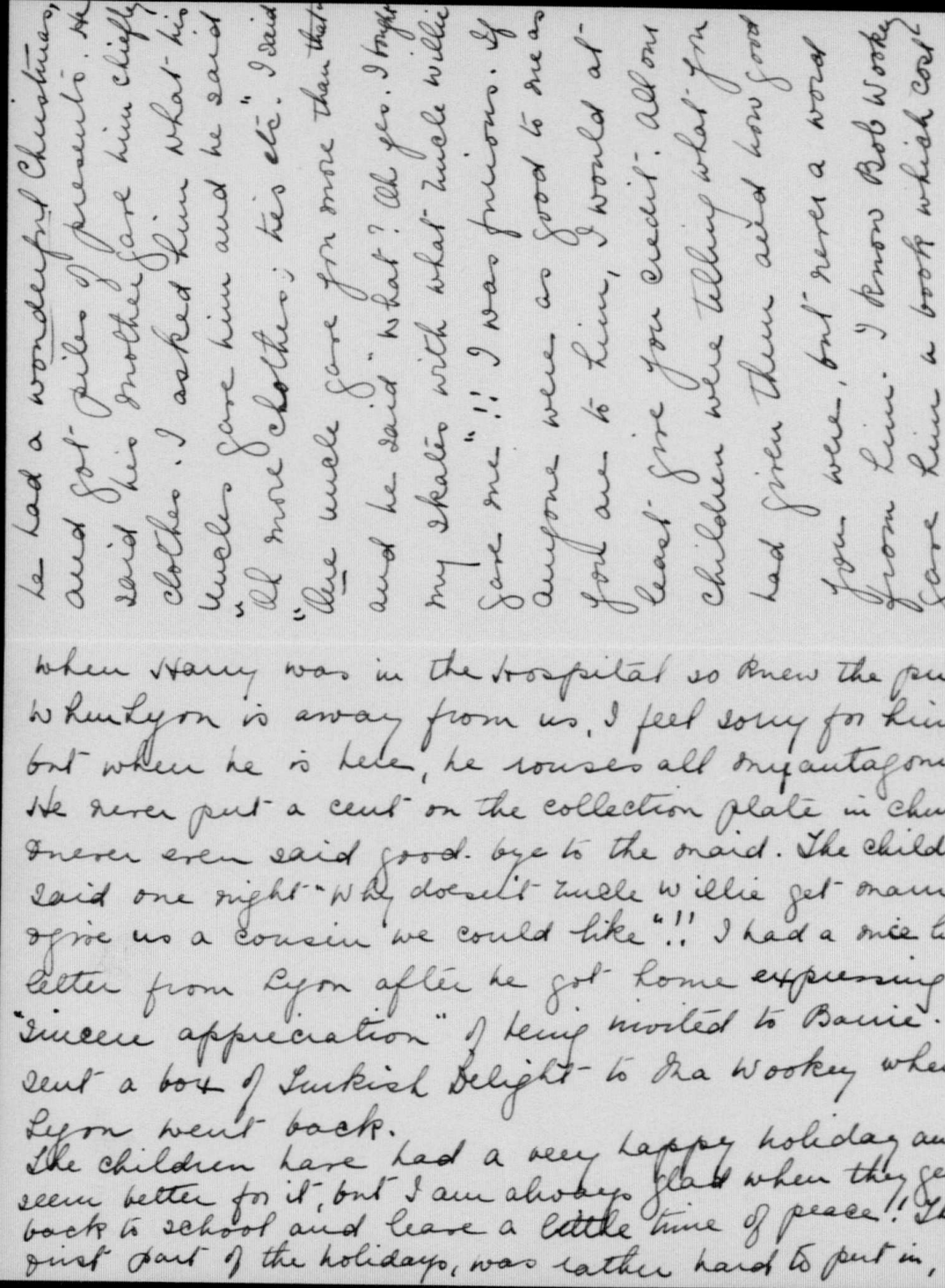
You will be sorry to see Lord & Lady Willingdon leave Canada. I see by the Globe that they are to have dinner with you tomorrow night - and with Mr Bennett on Tuesday. I wish, when they arranged to give Lady Willingdon a gift, they had limited the amount each one could give. I think a great many people would like to give towards it, but will not do so, as they can

there was no room to sit, & I was sorry
it - it would have been such a treat
did you hear the Presidential address
Canadian Republic speech today? It's
heard him very well and also the
American ambassador in Vienna.
Doesn't it seem marvellous?
Did you know that Norman Anderson
has had to give up the farm at Strathroy
altogether & is living here? His
here engaged a Mr. Wilson who begins
his work there in February.
Helen & Muriel Price with Mrs Sleeth
and when he was very ill at Chautauqua
time, Miss Pettie was the nurse she had
to help her. Helen asked if I knew of a
good nurse so I told her about Miss
Pettie who has right across the street.
I must go to bed. We will be thinking
of you tomorrow night and hoping
you have a great success,
for dinner party - it will be. Hope for
as I am sure it will be. Mother was
all well. Tom left for Ottawa with
interest. Good-bye dear Willie, with
all the family join me in loving

Couple of times
I don't think I
having supper
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
night worth it!
feeling is at
be there. We
and Clair
do. and Jo
set- him to
to off among
would die
and Ed Clair
We had flowers
bright sunshine
here and read
of Queen
time. Must
he went to Charlie

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when Harry was in the hospital so knew the price. When Lyon is away from us, I feel sorry for him, but when he is here, he rouses all my antagonism. He never put a cent on the collection plate in church never even said good-bye to the maid. The children said one night "Why doesn't Uncle Willie get married & give us a Cousin we could like"!! I had a nice little letter from Lyon after he got home expressing his "sincere appreciation" I keep invited to Barrie. I sent a box of Turkish Delight to Ira Wookey when Lyon went back.

The children have had a very happy holiday and seem better for it, but I am always glad when they get back to school and leave a little time of peace! The first part of the holidays, was rather hard to put in, so

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January 13, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I was glad to receive your long interesting letter this morning and particularly to learn from it that Harry has regained his old strength so completely. I was sorry to hear about John's ear, but hope that too will soon be well again.

I can imagine the strenuous time you have all had during the last three weeks, and how glad you will be to have comparative quiet once again. I have just about completed the acknowledgment of Christmas communications, which, between telegrams, cables, letters and cards, have run up beyond the 2800 marks

The word of Nelson is good. I gather that it means his appointment as an officer on one of the new destroyers which are among the

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the finest ships afloat. I am glad he is to be in the permanent Canadian Naval Service. He too will enjoy being at British Columbia again.

You will be sorry to hear of the death of Colonel J. G. Foster, the former U. S. Consul General. He died in Florida last week. Mrs. Foster has gone to Hammetta, British Columbia, to be with her daughter, Mrs. Carroll Aikens. I am sure she would be pleased to receive a letter from you. The Colonel was not well for about a year past, and had a stroke shortly before Christmas, and evidently another which carried him off immediately after.

I had the Willingdons to dinner last night. The Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Ross, and Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Massey came down from Toronto for the dinner, and Senator Wilfrid and Mrs. McDougald from Montreal. Mr. and Mrs. Dunning and Mr. and Mrs. Ralston and Captain Streatfeild, A.D.C. were the

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other guests. We had a most interesting and in many ways memorable evening. Mrs. Patteson decorated the house and table with flowers and arranged the different rooms very prettily. The house really looked very nice indeed, and Mary the cook served us a first class dinner.

The Willingdons have had a busy time of late, and it has kept the rest of us busy attending functions of one kind or another before their departure. I shall be truly glad to get down to preparing for the work of the session. From now on I am declining all further social engagements. Lord and Lady Willingdon send their love to you and are sorry not to have seen you again to say good-bye.

I think you are quite right in what you say about fixing an

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amount for the gift to Lady Willingdon. It is quite unfair to expect persons of limited means to make anything more than a nominal contribution, and, as you say, that is embarrassing where names are too frequently may public.

With fondest love and all good wishes to all, believe me, as always, dear Jennie,

Your affectionate brother,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/EAP

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

February 18th - 31

My dear Willie:

We were so glad to have your little note this morning and hope you are well though you did not say you were. I have been trying to get a note off to you for weeks, but have been so busy. My maid got ill and had to be taken to the hospital, and I was alone for three weeks, hoping each day she would be able to come back. She had an abscess on her spine & suffered them & does them beautifully. He says he wishes they were not for funerals! I wrote to Mrs. Foster at once and this little card came in reply. I kept it to let you see it. Thanks for letting me know.

They are putting up a memorial for Nellie Douglas at the Holiday House. It is to be a sun dial. That is all I have heard so far. It has just been started.

Nelson sailed on the 9th so has probably arrived in England. We haven't heard since he left Canada. All the family are well and send best love. Johnny has been home every week-end so far & as long as he gets a ride one way, it pays! He has no Saturday lectures and gets his laundry done here. I will write soon again but this is all for tonight. Hope you are well. Best

Love from Lily

Dear Willie

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desperately, so the hospital was the place for her. She left here last week for Ottawa but I have back for a while. is so easy with her self- the valuable little Nancy must be so wanted as he is allowed to do so much wanted you to know thinking of you and I didn't write. been so many things that I have wanted to write about!- have you seen "Maclean's" for Feb. 15th? I was surprised at the article about Bennett in it. I heard of the other day. Some one asked

me if I had heard that Bennett had bought 180,000 tons of hay. I asked if that was to help the farmers and the answer was "oh no, to feed the asses who voted for him"!! Is there any truth in the rumour that Willie Herridge is to marry Miss Bennett & go to Washington? I'd rather explain Willie Herridge's change of front.

Nancy had an awful cold but is better. He had two orders for Camp Borden today for wreaths!! one for $15.00 done for $5.00. Of course the flowers cost him quite a lot but he will make about 8.00 on the two & it advertises him! He loves making

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 1st 31

My dear Willie:

Thank you so much for your kind letter which came last week. My letter with five dollars, had just gone the night before to Daniel Smellie who is acting as treasurer for the fund They have about $250.00 but hope to have a good deal more by the end of the month. I got a ride down to Toronto on Thursday with Dr. Simpson and the first person I met was Helen Mc Dermuch who was telling me soon be better.

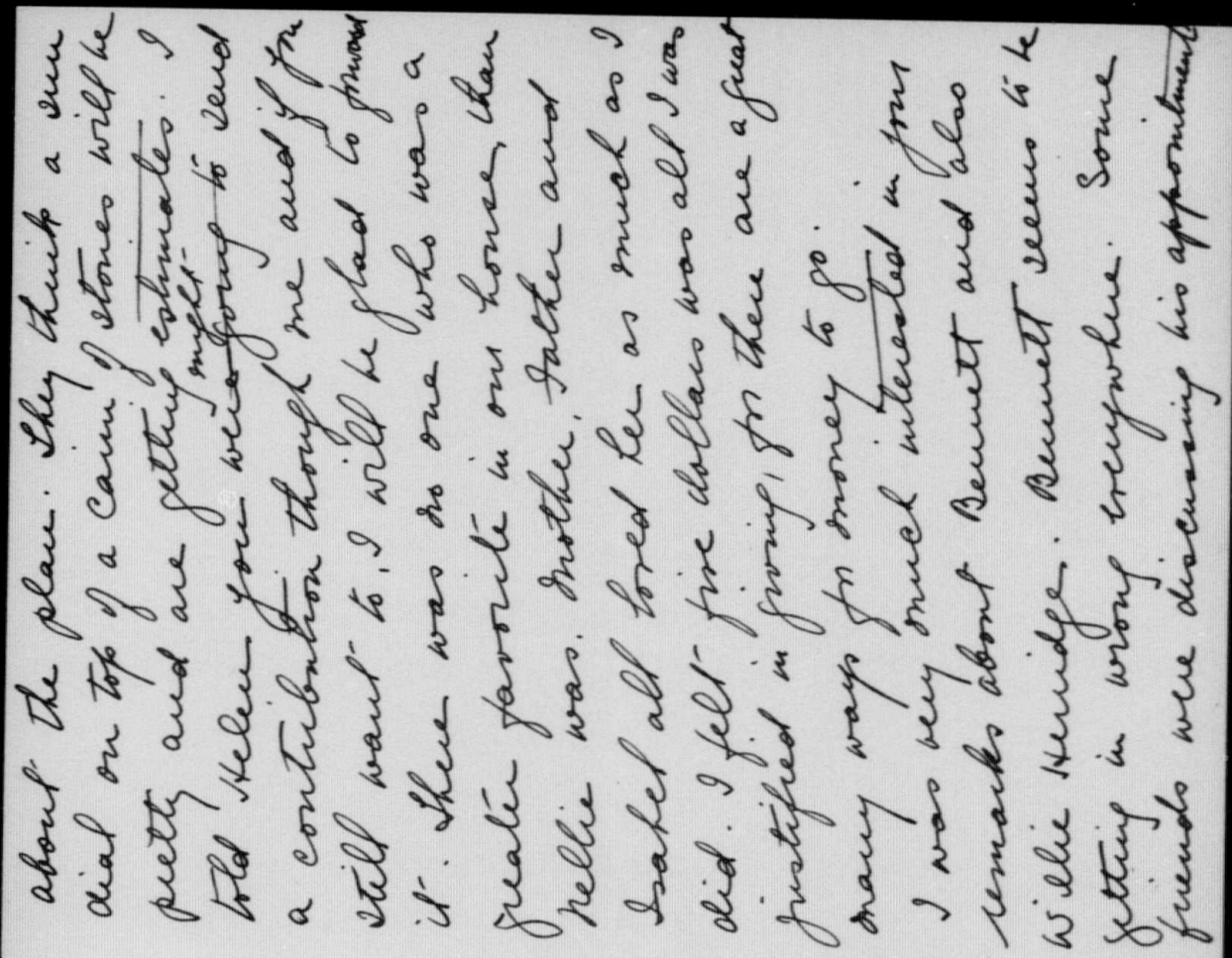
We had a letter from Nelson on Friday, written on board the "Aurania" and posted at Plymouth. He expects to be away from Canada till about June.

We have a young girl here for the week-end who came up with John. Her mother has been very kind to John since he went to Toronto so I told John to bring her up this week as exams will soon be coming on. She is a very nice girl. This is just a note but I wanted to enclose this leaflet. Isn't it lovely to feel we are nearly through the winter? We have already tapped a few trees, so spring must be near! Best love dear Willie in which all the family join

ever your loving sister Jennie.

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about the plan. Shy thinks a sun
dial on top of a cairn of stones will be
pretty and we are getting estimates. I
told Helen [illegible] to send
a contribution [illegible]
still want to, I will be glad to [illegible]
it. Shew was [illegible]
Scalie favourite [illegible]
Nellie was. Brother [illegible]
Isabel all love [illegible]
did. I fell [illegible]
justified in [illegible]
many ways [illegible]
I was very [illegible]
remarks about [illegible]
Willie Hemsley. [illegible]
getting in wrong [illegible]
friends were [illegible]

of an Englishman to come over here and teach
us how to construct our own harbours etc. Their
opinion of his judgment didn't rank very high,
and most of them were Conservatives.
I am awfully sorry Pat has been sick, and
hope he is better. It is so hard to know what-
is wrong with a dog. Jean took Billy up to
see the Dr and he is better than he was but-
I am afraid the car that hit him, hurt
him more seriously than we thought, for his
neck seems swollen and he is not himself.
I know how worried you will be about Pat &
how much you would miss him and his affection
if anything should happen to him. We will hope he will

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A BELATED MEMORIAL

A movement has been set on foot among some of those long associated with Women's Work in St. Andrew's to provide a Memorial to the late Miss Eleanor Douglas, one of our great workers, who passed to her reward on 10th. May of last year. Miss Douglas became attached to the Sunday School as far back as 1885, and taught in it till the year 1914. But her greatest work was the organization of the Girls' Own Club in 1894. For twenty years she laboured for the Club as its President,—the years of its greatest activity and usefulness. Perhaps the most notable achievement of the Club in those years,—for the influence it had on the lives of the girls is something not to be measured, and therefore, unfortunately, to be left without appraisal,—was the establishment of our Holiday House on Lake Simcoe, to which every year we are able to send both young and old for rest and recuperation. It was the first thing of its kind in Ontario, and the enterprise by which it was built in 1908 was kindled by Miss Douglas. The need appealed to her. For some six or eight years previously the Girls' Club had been raising money by Rummage Sales and Concerts, and sending mothers and children to rented quarters in the country. It seemed most desirable that a permanent place should be acquired; and the faith and courage of Miss Douglas were the driving forces by which the ideal was eventually reached. The Holiday House, as all know, is now the property, and is under the control, of the Congregation.

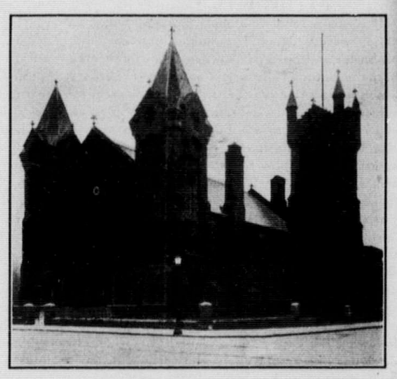
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S. C. PARKER.

PRAISE LIST FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 1	Morning	488	490		Ps. 27	476, 356	511
	Evening	436	487	469		356	546
8	Morning	127	84	146	Ps. 33	400	393
	Evening	261	91	231		419	331
15	Morning	89	86	295	Ps. 34	416	538
	Evening	298	109	289		433	603
22	Morning	255	102	372	Pss. 36, 39	417	602
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Saint Andrew's Church Presbyterian MAGAZINE



No. 59 FEBRUARY 1931

Minister: REV. STUART C. PARKER, D.D. 42 Admiral Road.
Assistant: Rev. Frank W. Beare, B.A.
Organist: Mr. Alfred Wilson.
Deaconess: Miss Christena Moffatt.
Session Clerk: Mr. F. C. Tisdell.
Church Officer: Mr. J. P. Robertson.

SERVICES

Feb. 1: HOLY COMMUNION.
Morning & Evening: The Minister.
8: Morning & Evening: Rev. Frank W. Beare, B.A.
15: Morning: The Minister, Evening: Rev. F. W. Beare, B.A.
22: Morning & Evening: The Minister.
Mar. 1: Morning & Evening: The Minister.

Sunday School and Bible Class in Church House at 3 p.m.

Baptism on 1st **Sunday** of each month, or by special arrangement.

Change of Address, cases of sickness, or any other difficulty should be reported to the Minister as early as possible.

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY

To explain the "Clergy Reserves" it is necessary to go back to the Act of 1791 by which the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec were formed, under the name of Upper and Lower Canada. By that Act one-seventh of all lands in the two provinces not already granted to others was to be reserved "for the maintenance and support of a Protestant Clergy." In 1817 the Church of England precipitated matters by claiming that it alone was entitled to the Reserves. The Home Government decreed in 1820 that the Church of Scotland was also entitled to a share of the Reserves. But Sir John Colborne, Governor of Upper Canada, paid little heed to the judgment of the Government, and gave to the Church of England a partial treatment which was one of the causes of the Rebellion of 1837. The Canadian situation became so serious that the Home Government again intervened, arranging for a division of the "Reserves" between the Protestant bodies. The Presbyterians in the strength of this official recognition, established Queen's College, Kingston, as a training-ground for the Ministry. Congregations and individuals sacrificed magnificently for its foundation; and in 1842 the College started upon its fine career. The divided ranks of Presbyterianism were partially closed, and the Presbyterian Church assumed a place in the Canadian sun.

A PRAYER

We thank Thee, O God, for Thy leading through the years. Thou hast never forsaken us. When we have sacrificed ourselves for Thee Thou hast given to us the fruit of our sowing. Keep alive in us that same spirit of sacrifice; and bless us in these days with the blessing Thou gavest to our fathers.

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-June 1931

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Change of Address, cases of sickness, or any other difficulty should be reported to the Minister as early as possible.

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY

To explain the "Clergy Reserves" it is necessary to go back to the Act of 1791 by which the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec were formed, under the name of Upper and Lower Canada. By that Act one-seventh of all lands in the two provinces not already granted to others was to be reserved "for the maintenance and support of a Protestant Clergy." In 1817 the Church of England precipitated matters by claiming that it alone was entitled to the Reserves. The Home Government decreed in 1820 that the Church of Scotland was also entitled to a share of the Reserves. But Sir John Colborne, Governor of Upper Canada, paid little heed to the judgment of the Government, and gave to the Church of England a partial treatment which was one of the causes of the Rebellion of 1837. The Canadian situation became so serious that the Home Government again intervened, arranging for a division of the "Reserves" between the Protestant bodies. The Presbyterians in the strength of this official recognition, established Queen's College, Kingston, as a training-ground for the Ministry. Congregations and individuals sacrificed magnificently for its foundation; and in 1842 the College started upon its fine career. The divided ranks of Presbyterianism were partially closed, and the Presbyterian Church assumed a place in the Canadian sun.

A PRAYER

We thank Thee, O God, for Thy leading through the years. Thou hast never forsaken us. When we have sacrificed ourselves for Thee Thou hast given to us the fruit of our sowing. Keep alive in us that same spirit of sacrifice; and bless us in these days with the blessing Thou gavest to our fathers.

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THE DULL TIME

It seems a long time since Christmas and all its joy were with us. It seems a long time, too, till Easter and Springtime will gladden our hearts. In the meantime February is upon us,—February which has no Christian meaning for us, no anniversaries for us to celebrate, no thrill to give us, and no prospect to offer us but the prospect of March, as sad as itself! Surely February is a month Mark Tapley might have chosen for his own! If at any time of the year there is credit to be gained by being jolly, it is now! With Christmas far behind, and Easter far ahead, we must put our heads down and plod on "without the band"; and the finest souls among us are those who, bereft of the inspiration of festivals and occasions, carry on through this dull time to a music of their own soul's making.

February never comes but I think of the time following the Crucifixion of our Lord, when His disciples, like actors upon whose stage the cold light of morning has broken, were faced with a prosaic duty and a sober reality from which all the glamour of inspiration had fled. They had to face the world without the bodily presence of Him Whose influence had hitherto kept them going. And the Gospel presents us with a picture of them, sitting disconsolate by their familiar seaside, not knowing what to do or where to turn. And it was while they were in that condition, if you remember, that Peter came into leadership. Almost he might be described as the Mark Tapley of the group. As they sat disconsolate, he sprang to his feet, unable or unwilling to bear the tedium longer, and—"I go a-fishing", said he. He saw that in the dull time there was salvation in work. We have no inspiration, virtually said he; let us occupy ourselves, therefore, and see what comes of it! And you and I, who know the Gospel story, know what came of Peter's activity: Christ appeared and gladdened the hearts of those who in simple service sought to brighten the dull days!

And down through all the centuries the message comes to us. Let us work faithfully at the works of God, and February will glow for us like Christmas and be filled as full of inspiration as Easter. The best of us are those who do not require to have our enthusiasm fanned by the recurring Occasions of the Christian Year. We can march even if the band is not playing! We can sing and whistle to ourselves, and so keep our feet going merrily on the old road, till such time as the inspiring strains from without are heard again! And February is the time for the cheery worker to "tip a stave" of his own, put his best foot foremost, and plod ahead as if all

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So may God help all of us in St. Andrew's to be of the best! There is black ice on the streets; let there be no reflection of it in our souls. There are frosts and thaws alternating with such rapidity that we do not know whether it is Winter or late Spring; let us not permit the outward conditions to affect the consistency of our inward purpose. The work of God must go on. There are holy days in the life of the Church, but no holidays. There are no times when we can lie back and do nothing. When Easter comes the hibernating Christians will come out and praise the Lord. But it is not the Christians who hibernate in the dull times and come to life only at the festivals,—it is not these who keep the wheels of the Church going round and bring the Kingdom of God a little nearer. It is those who never sleep, and, when the band has to stop, march so well that they are in perfect step when it begins again!

ABOUT THE CHILDREN

A word spoken at a Session meeting recently by one of our Elders has re-opened the question of St. Andrew's and its children. The problem is an old one,—as old as the ministry of Mr. D. J. Macdonnell. We are a down-town congregation. The children of our people cannot without great difficulty be sent to our afternoon Sunday School. Personally I wish it were possible, because we have in the Sunday School a staff second to none in this city, or in the entire Church. But the difficulties of distance are not easily overcome. During the first years of my ministry I thought it possible to meet the situation by the establishment of Branch Sunday Schools. It was a plan which had failed years before, and it failed, for various reasons, again. As a result our children are distributed among the various Presbyterian and Anglican Sunday Schools of the city. We do not question the training they are receiving there; indeed we are thankful to the various congregations for receiving them. But, being a down-town congregation, we can only prosper if we keep the children of our own members.

Sunday School facilities being ruled out, I have decided to revert to my practice in Glasgow, and have a children's address each Sunday morning before the usual sermon. Thereafter, during the offertory hymn, the children may leave Church and go into the Church House, where they will be kept occupied until the close of the service when their parents are free. Regarding that part of the children's proceedings which will take place in the Church House, it is sufficient to say that the superintendence of it will be undertaken by our own Miss Jean Hall, Head of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. The children will be suitably entertained until their parents are ready to take them away from Church. While Miss Hall has a staff of her own working loyally and efficiently each Sunday in the Church House, yet we shall require for this new enterprise additional volunteers. Will those who would like to help now and again in occupying the children during sermon-time please communicate with me? Girls who love children will find pleasure in this little bit of service; but so also will some men and boys. Come and speak to me about it, and we shall have a most successful "Children's Church" in a very few weeks. I hope to be able to make a beginning by the third Sunday of February,—with the co-operation of the parents; about the co-operation of the young people there need be no fear.

MR. WILSON'S RECITALS

Today our new Organist, Mr. Alfred Wilson, makes his official entry into the life of our congregation. He follows in a distinguished succession. The first Organist of St. Andrew's was the Bandmaster of the Highland Regiment then in garrison in the town of York. A successor of his, Dr. Fisher, was, to all intents and purposes, the founder of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, now one of the largest schools of music in the world, and one of the most reputable. The immediate predecessor of Mr. Wilson was one to whose artistry a Canadian audience never failed to respond,—so thoroughly did he understand the point of view of his people, and so wholeheartedly did he enter into their moods. Times have changed, as we know; and the younger musicians, tired of the accustomed transitions and familiar harmonies of a generation ago, are seeking to teach to the listening public a new idiom,—new harmonies, that at first seem strange, and new melodies that, while the old ear cannot at first follow them, yet to patient study tell stories that the old sugar-sweet melodies failed even to suggest. To this new school our Organist belongs. He has all the skill, and all the power of execution which can make the great old classics prove their excellence. But he has, in addition, the love of the new adventure in sound,—the love of the unusual and unexpected in harmony, the zeal of the Music that seeks not simply to please the ear with what it expects to hear, but thrills it with something unexpected, which it can never cease to remember. It is perhaps a paradox that there should be an old Church with an Organist of the New School; but in another sense we have something to glory in: —we are growing old as a congregation, but in all essentials we are abreast of the latest born.

Mr. Wilson will play a short recital on the Organ each Sunday evening from 7 p.m. till 7.30, when Evening Service begins. The first of these Sunday Evening Recitals will be played on February 8th. On Tuesday, 3rd. March, however, Mr. Wilson will give a Lecture-Recital in the Church on the music of César Franck, with special reference to the last and greatest work of César Franck's life,—the three great organ chorales which are reckoned as his greatest achievements. This Recital will be open to the public as well as to the congregation, and a collection will be made in aid of the Choir and Organ Fund. Members of the congregation are invited to bring their friends, and all are requested to be in their places before the commencement of the Recital.

OBITUARY

The congregation has been suffering severely these few weeks. There has been much sickness. But there have also been three deaths. Mr. JOHN CURRIE, 86 Pearson Ave., died very suddenly on 21st. January. He was in his 91st. year, and through all his long life had filled a useful and honourable place in the Church of God. To live to such an advanced age is itself a distinction; but to earn and keep through almost a century the respect and affection of everyone in one's circle is surely a sufficient proof of native worth and honest faith. Mr. Currie was enthroned in the affections of his two daughters, our fellow-members, and his son. Our hearts go out to them in sympathy; for we know, some of us, that whether our loved ones be young or aged, the pang of separation has all its accustomed bitterness.

Mr. WILLIAM McCLEERY died with tragical suddenness also, but almost in the prime of his life. He was seized with a heart attack in a street car, while returning from business, and died before reaching hospital. He was the eldest brother in a family which has been faithful to St. Andrew's for many years,—indeed, since coming to Canada from the north of Ireland. The name of John McCleery, a younger brother, may be read on our Tablet commemorating our "brave that are no more". Mr. William McCleery was a quiet, kindly gentleman, who by patience and labour had won from life the best kind of riches,—the riches of friendship and universal regard. We pray for the comforting of his brothers and sister.

Then, on Jan. 24th. a very "mother in Israel" was taken in the person of Mrs. D. T. McINTOSH, the beloved wife of one of our Elders. Mrs. McIntosh had been forced to live quietly and without exertion of any kind during these last four or five years, and we hoped,—those of us who knew and loved her; and no one could know her without loving her,—that she would be spared to enjoy with her husband that retirement to which, after a life of hard work, he and she both looked forward. The opportunity of retirement came duly; but one of the two has not lived to taste its pleasures. We need not grieve for her. She has entered into a more restful life than mortal conditions could ever offer. A sweet and kindly soul has been welcomed to Paradise; and He Who in the days of His flesh loved His gentle Mother cannot have any place but a high place for another gentle mother, whose feet her family today wash with their tears. May God comfort them with the

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Delaney met
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cleared about $60
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All here are well a
much love to you

Delaney met Harry the other day I asked him if he had heard from Jr. He said he would be willing to go without his family if necessary.
I had a letter from Cora today. They are in Martinique. This letter was dated Feb 6th & she said she had had two letters from you "last week" one written Dec 11th which had been travelling ever since! I don't know when she is coming back.
John tried an exam in signalling in Toronto last week & heard on Saturday that he got 100%. I hope he will do as well in his other exams! We are wondering what work he will get this summer for he has to earn some money. He only cleared about $60.00 last summer. He can have that same job but it seems to me he can make more at something else.
All here are well and join in sending very much love to you dear Willie.
Ever your loving sister
Jennie

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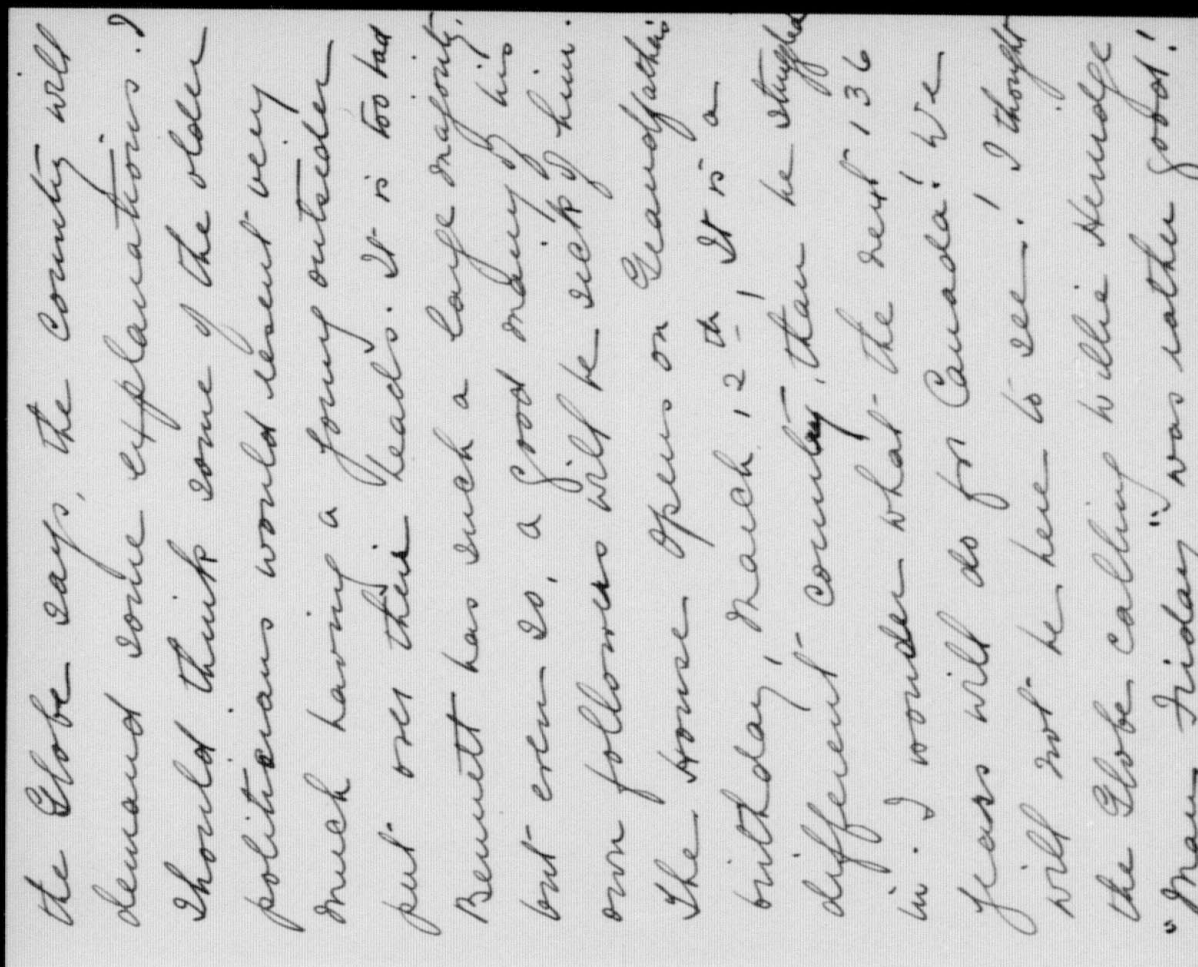
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 10th - 1931st

My dear Willie
You will be busy getting ready for the session which bids fair to be an interesting one! I suppose you saw that article in the Star last week about Field Marshall Bennett & General Mackenzie King! I cut it out and sent it to Cora with some other choice bits. I think Bennett has put himself in the "family compact" class by appointing Willie Herridge to Washington. Go

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I hope you are feeling in good shape for the Session. We have all been thinking about you and feeling a keen interest in the coming Session. I thought that comparison of you & Bennett in the Star a couple of weeks ago was very true. Surely people must begin to realize the mistake they made in putting out a good fellow. I suppose you have come in for your share of this snow. The roads here have been completely blocked. John dove up on here on Saturday on dry roads all the way from Toronto, but had to go back by train Monday morning. You would have laughed had you seen him starting off on his skis for the station at 4 a.m.! The snow in our drive was about six feet deep in places. We had to be dug out on Sunday & again on Monday but it is not very cold & the snow will do a lot of good.

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March 11, 1931

My dear Jennie:

It was very sweet of you to send the little letter from Bill to Pat. I intended to send an immediate reply but, to tell the truth, my little man has been so poorly that I have hardly had the heart to write either about him or on his behalf. I am hoping that he will get better, and I believe he will, but the pull is a long and trying one. I think he must have had his front paws poisoned in a scrap with either a cat or a rat, and the poison has evidently gone through his whole system. He is very plucky and still manages to run about a little and to eat his meals, but he is very thin and very weak. He is having the best of care and I believe has enough grit in him to win out in the end. I shall be broken-hearted if anything should happen to him.

I hope your little Bill is better, for I know what the anxiety will mean to the children as well as to yourself.

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A week ago I wrote out a cheque for $10.00 to be sent to you, the proceeds of which I was going to ask you to send as a contribution towards the memorial to Eleanor Douglas. The cheque somehow has disappeared, but it may have been put in a letter which has gone to you. I doubt that, however, and in all probability it has got into some of my papers and will turn up later on. In any event, I shall send you a cheque for that amount, which I shall be glad if you will have made as a part of your own contribution.

You will have noticed the appointment of Billie Herridge to Washington. Everyone here seems to be amazed, but the explanation is, I think, that he is to marry Bennett's sister within the course of the next few weeks. He was a great friend of Lord Byng's, and I think it is apparently through the Byng influence that he has come to be so friendly with the Bennetts. In going to Washington, he may find the task a larger one that he supposes. Naturally, I wish him well in the undertaking.

Parliament reassembles tomorrow, or I would write you at greater length. After my speech on the Address is over I shall send another line. Meanwhile, please let this letter bring fondest love to you all.

Affectionately yours,

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March 12, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I have just received your letter of March 10th. As Parliament opens this afternoon, I shall not do more than send a line of acknowledgment.

I think I would like to secure Delaney for the summer. If he came alone he could board with the man and his wife who are at the old Fleury homestead and who have to do with the vegetable garden. I would want Delaney for the lawn, flowers, drive, walks, etc. Were he to bring his wife with him, they could live in the little cottage by the lake; that is to say, they could use the kitchen of the cottage and have the garage for sleeping quarters. I really think it would be better to have Delaney without his family. Could Harry let me know what he would expect per month and also whether he would expect me to pay his fare down and back, or only one way. I probably want him about the 1st of May, to stay until the end of September. I will write you more definitely of this later on.

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I was delighted to hear of John's success in his signalling examinations.

Let me also thank you for reminding me that today happens to be the anniversary of Grandfather's birthday.

With love to you all,

Affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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Sunday evg.
1 - J.

Dear Mr Ilsley

Let me add just a line to Mackenzie's letter. Arthur & Ethel Meighen arrived in Ottawa at 1 o'clock this afternoon & Arthur said he must (I think) take you for Gordon (his godson) who quite like of the name) who said there never was a more

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telling a dramatic speech made in the House of Commons than from Premier Taschereau's speech. We said it "packed a punch" made from rock bristle" Tras just thrilling. I can't wedding Politics & Jobs said it was the most wonderful speech she had ever heard that she

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 15th '31

Dear Willie:

The family are all in bed so I must only send a short note. I am glad Pat is better and sincerely hope he will soon be quite well I know how badly you feel for I remember when Flip was run over, when we were living in Walkerton, we were all as anxious as if he had been one of the family. We thought he would die but he got better altered for years. I hope Pat will do the same. Billy is better

he finishes. I thought the comment in one of the papers which said that he paid no attention to the rousing cheers which greeted him at the Opening, showed a very boorish manner. Everyone seems to think Meighen will go back to be Leader. We shall read tomorrow's address with much interest.

Again many thanks dear Willie and with much love, in which all the family joins

ever your loving sister
Jennie.

P.S. I got a very pretty evening dress with part of my Christmas present; one I can wear in this summer. J.

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but he is so - the dear boy he was. Bill has had to make many sacrifices and is not as he should be! Also not as loyal as he "should" and he is not speaking financially. And we are all found of him. I think the Rt. Hon. Lead by the can- intellect-! There configurations- I love to have B alone. We will Past is better. W Thank you ag Keep me fo Including it- on to Muriel and to her how it has been

possible for me to send it. I am sure they will be very grateful to get it.

Hang I will see Delaney tomorrow & will let you know the result. Delaney would be specially good for just the kind of work you speak of, and is a steady worker. He keeps right on, and we found him very reliable. He is respectful too, which is a comfort. I hate these cheeky canadians!

In a calendar I have, the verse for March the 12th is the first part of verse 10 Psalm 37 - ~~the~~ That too, seems a specially good text for this session of Parliament! Bennett will be sick before

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Mar 17/31

My dear Willie,

Hearty congratulations on your dashing speech yesterday Everybody is talking about the unanswerable attack upon one of the most reactionary Governments of modern times. We shall hope to have a chance to read it more fully in Hansard. The Tories may affect to jeer but there is a quiet but certain searching of your Christmas present and made for her by her Mother.

We are awfully sorry to hear that Pat has been so sick. Billy looks up at me as he lies luxuriating on the library rug and wishes to send to Pat his sincere sympathy and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Jennie and the children join me in best love and wishes for good luck throughout the fray on Parliament Hill.

Yours affectionately,
Harvey.

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heard going on in the country and one of these days Master Bennett will find he has sowed a wind which will overwhelm him in a whirl wind.

I saw Delaney yesterday. He will be very glad indeed to go to you from May 1st until the end of September if you find him satisfactory. The wages I paid him namely 35 cents per hour will be satisfactory. He usually worked for me 9 hours a day. I didn't require him on Sundays.

I said nothing to him about his fare to or from Ottawa thinking you could consider that matter later as he made no enquiry in regard to it. He will leave Barrie his wife his family: one child of about three and a baby. He always found him industrious and willing to do anything he was told, with no bad habits.

John and Jean are going to a little dance tonight. Jean in a dress made from material purchased with part of

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March 28, 1931

My dear Harry:

I should have written to thank you ere this for your kind letter of the 17th instant. Parliamentary duties, however, have kept me closely applied.

I am glad you approve of my speech on the Address. I regretted its great length, but it was necessary to have somewhere a permanent record of the contrast of Liberal methods and policies in Parliament and in the campaign and the bearing of both upon the Imperial Conference of last year. The latter was a historical episode, as of course was also the change of government in July last. I was desirous to have somewhere, in a form available to Members of Parliament and journalists of today, and to historians of the future, a record of the causes which operated to bring about the change of administration. The speech is being reprinted and widely distributed. When I receive a copy of the rpprint I shall forward it to you.

I am greatly obliged to you for negotiating on my behalf with Delaney. Thirty-five cents an hour, nine hours a day, comes to $18.90 for a week of six days, or $81.90 for a month of thirty days. Usually, where the engagement is made by

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the month, that fact is a consideration. However, I have thought that it might be best to have the engagement on a monthly basis and that $80.00 a month would perhaps be in accordance with what he would expect where the engagement is by the full month. It would be understood that nothing would be expected of him on Sundays, and that on week days the hours of work would average nine per day. I would want it understood that Delaney would be prepared to turn his hand to whatever part of the work I might wish him to undertake. For example, there may be something in the way of raking up leaves in the early part of the season; there would always be the looking after the gravel drives and paths, and there are the lawns in addition to the flower beds. He would also have to understand that there is a sort of cluster of properties and that I would expect him to work on any one part of the whole as might at the time be most necessary.

The man who looks after the vegetable garden lives with his wife at the old Fleury homestead. He would give Delaney a room in which he could sleep, or perhaps what would be more preferable, when the weather gets a little warmer, is that I would give him a room over the garage. I would prefer him to bring his own bedding with him, but if he finds that impossible I could arrange to supply him with what is necessary

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in that regard. He would have to board himself, as I prefer to keep my own household staff quite apart from the outside service. He would probably have to count on paying as much as $1.00 a day for his board. That could be arranged with the man and his wife who have charge of the vegetable garden.

With regard to the vegetable garden, Mr. and Mrs. Patteson share to a certain extent the expenses with me. Mr. Patteson takes the supervision of the garden work generally. It might be that in this sharing of expenses I would arrange to have Delaney do a little work for the Pattesons on their flower beds. I would want him to be willing to give part of his time there, if I wanted him so to do, instead of working on my own place. The chances are that what would be expected of him in that particular would not be considerable. The arrangement I had last summer was to divide the time of the man who looked after the flowers, lawns, etc., between the Pattesons and myself. They took him two days a week, and I had him the other four. That, of course, helps me to keep down my expenses.

So long as Delaney is not expected to work more than nine hours a day, and the work does not fall behind in other parts, I assume he would have no objection to cooperate

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in this way under my direction. I would like him to know also that Mr. Patteson has helped in the supervision of the gardens generally. He is very good at that kind of thing; he is not interfering, but is helpful, and I would want Delaney to be prepared, when I am away, to take directions from him.

I find the fare from Barrie down comes to $10.70, with $2.50 for a berth. If Delaney is agreeable to turn to anything, as indicated, and makes good the first month, I will be glad to refund him, at the end of May, the amount he has had to pay to come down. If his work is satisfactory from then on, and he stays until the end of September, I will add to his cheque at the end of that month the amount of $15.20 to pay his fare and sleeper back to Barrie.

Perhaps you would be good enough to find out if these terms are satisfactory to him and, if so, I would be glad to have you engage him for me. I would then expect him to arrive in Ottawa on the 1st of May. I will have him met at the station and taken out to Kingsmere.

I imagine, from what you say, that Delaney is just the type of man that I would be glad to have - someone who knows his work and is prepared to go about it without constant supervision. Please impress upon him that neatness is one of

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the things to which I attach a great deal of importance.

I am glad to be able to tell you that Pat has recovered. The poor little fellow had a very close shave. Had I not taken him to the Health of Animals Branch, where his blood was analyzed and where he underwent all the tests which the ordinary patient does in a hospital, he would not have been alive today. Indeed, I have since learned that the doctors thought that another five days would have brought his life to a close. It has been most interesting and impressive to see the skill with which Dr. Mitchell made the diagnosis of his condition and the rapidity with which Pat responded to the treatment given him. He has had to take capsules, emulsion, etc., just like a child. He has been wonderfully obedient and sagacious in submitting to everything prescribed. Apparently, he had contracted influenza which, through weakness, had led to toxic poisoning and a diabetic condition. From all of this he has now happily recovered, though he is still a little thin.

I am glad to hear that your little dog Billie has recovered from his accident and is alright again.

I suppose the 1st of May would be a little early for Delaney to bring down with him any plants to be put out in the garden. If not, I shall be glad to purchase a supply

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from you. Also, later in the season, if you think the plants would stand shifting. I would much rather buy from you than from local dealers anything you have to sell. Please do not hesitate to let me know what may be available.

Please tell Jeannie that this letter is in answer to hers as well as the one received from you.

Let me thank you for the pictures enclosed with your letter. Jean looks very like Jennie, and Billie looks quite a little like Pat. I would not draw comparisons between the first two, as between the latter, but I think Pat is the finer of the two. I think Pat is the finer in appearance.

I am glad we are nearing the Easter vacation, for I have felt pretty tired during the past few days. With so many of my former colleagues out of the House, or indisposed, I have had to keep pretty close in attendance there, and find it most exacting.

With fondest love and all good wishes to Jennie, the children, and yourself,

Yours, as always, very affectionately,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

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P. S.

Tell Jennie that I think verse 10, psalm 37, as she said, is most appropriate for the beginning of the new session.

I give the present Administration this Parliament, but not the next.

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The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Head Office

Toronto

12th April 1930

Personal and Private

Dear Mr Mackenzie King:

Referring to your letter of 8th instant regarding Lay, about two years ago he spoke to Logan about retiring, at which time he was building his conservatory, and he then had in mind, we assume, that he would amuse himself, probably profitably. In July last, however, he spoke to Logan again pointing out that he would like another year's extension, which was very cheerfully granted, so that we assumed there was no question that it was Lay's wish to retire in July this year.

I did not reply to your letter sooner because I learned that Logan had an appointment with Lay to discuss the whole subject on Thursday last. At that interview it was quite obvious that Lay had in mind that he would like to be relieved of the management of the Barrie branch, and an arrangement has now been made whereby he goes on to the staff of relieving managers at full salary. While no specific time is set, Logan has intimated to him that he may expect to be held in that capacity, with residence at Barrie, for at least two years. Lay has talked the matter over with Mrs Lay and he writes to-day to the effect that the arrangement suits them both admirably. I hope this covers the whole situation to your entire satisfaction.

It is possible that Lay in the first instance, in his modesty, felt that he was doing the right thing in intimating that he would like to retire, having in mind the fact that the age for this is sixty years, and we probably took his decision too literally. However, the arrangement now concluded is highly advantageous to Lay and I trust pleasing to you. At the end of two years the matter can be reconsidered.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours faithfully,

"John Aird" - President

Rt Hon W L Mackenzie King, C.M.G.,
Laurier House,
O t t a w a.

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Ottawa, April 4, 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

My thoughts are very much of you on this anniversary so sacred to each of us. I send fondest love and heartiest Easter greetings to Harry, the children and yourself.

Willie.

F.U. 144

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them on their dressers this morning Isabel wanted Jean to have everything of hers dit seemed specially appropriate to give them to her on Easter Sunday. They are beautifully repaired, & have the added value of association. I well remember the pride I had in mine, dit did good service.

Jean's room looks very pretty now. It never had a window going directly outside & I always felt it was unhealthy not to get air & sun direct, so, when the carpenter who did this house came home for a week's holiday, Harry let me have him put in a window. Then of course the room had to be re-papered but we took off all the old paper

Nelson is in Portsmouth dis taking some "destroyer command courses." while he is waiting for the "Skeena".

Easter Sunday
April 5th, 1931

My dear Willie:

It was awfully good of you to ring up this afternoon and also to send the card and the wire. I intended to get some cards off on Thursday but Daddy wanted some flowers taken to Toronto, & John wanted us to bring him home. So Jean & I went down in a snow storm Thursday morning, and we were not back till six p.m. We seem to have been specially busy this last month, and just

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last week, I had a spare minute
I am always finding
even, for me, it is always a particular
with Isabel's clear
these years, I find
hour. It has been
live and much
I am thankful
to be thankful
that if friends
family circle. We
Harry free limbs
and able to
heart is filled
four children in his
difference in his

had to worry more than he did, his progress
would have been much slower. With part of
your Christmas gift to me, I had the brush
& comb you gave Isabel some years ago, mended
and gave Jean Isabel's brush & comb, & Rosalie
my brush. My comb was gone beyond repair!
I took them to the jeweller before Christmas
intending to give them then, but they didn't
come back till March & then they "stuck"
me $12.00! I told Reeve I intended them for
Christmas! However, Jean has had her
room done over and I knew what a thrill
the Reash would get out of having them, so I put

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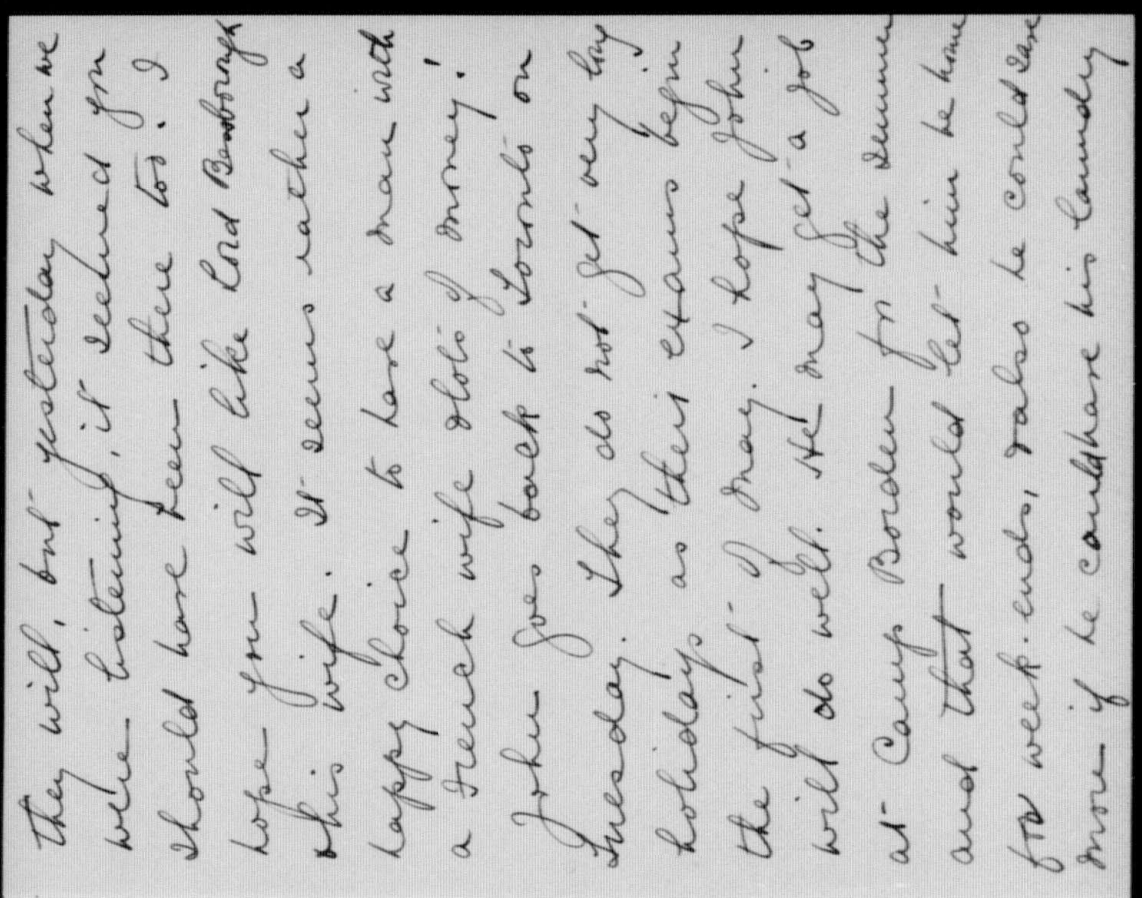
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way Bennett treats his own sister.
Judge Nolan, who was appointed
senior Judge here, came over from
Ottawa in. His wife is staying in the
same house with Mrs Simpson
and he doesn't know what to do
when he comes here to live. Harry met Mr Simpson
the member, the other day & he said he
had met you in Ottawa! He has quite
Boys' Parish, but is rather a nice
man. They bought Donald Ross' house,
Now I understand so he said. Was
glad to hear that Pat is better for
I know how worried you were. Jim
Owen sounds much more settled.
Again many thanks for your kind
thought of us at this Easter season
and with much love, in which
the children join, ever dear Willie
Your affectionate sister Jennie

willing slave.
to us to hear
in. Every day
perfectly awful
able to hear
all that distance! He has quite
time to the whole service
and heard the
Bennetts' address
have over him
Chair is nothing
order and it
It seems to me
both parties
he comes in
and the heads
welcome him.

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They will, but greatly reduced from what I should have been if I had been there for the Labour Day holiday. I should have been there for the Labour Day holiday. I hope Jean will like Bordentown better than Trenton. It seems rather a pity that Jean's husband should have a man with a French wife stationed in Trenton as a Customs officer. I hope Jean goes back to Bordentown for the Labour Day holiday. I may get away for the holidays as there will do well. We'll see. I hope I can get away for the holidays as there will do well. We'll see. I hope I can get away for the holidays as there will do well. We'll see. I hope I can

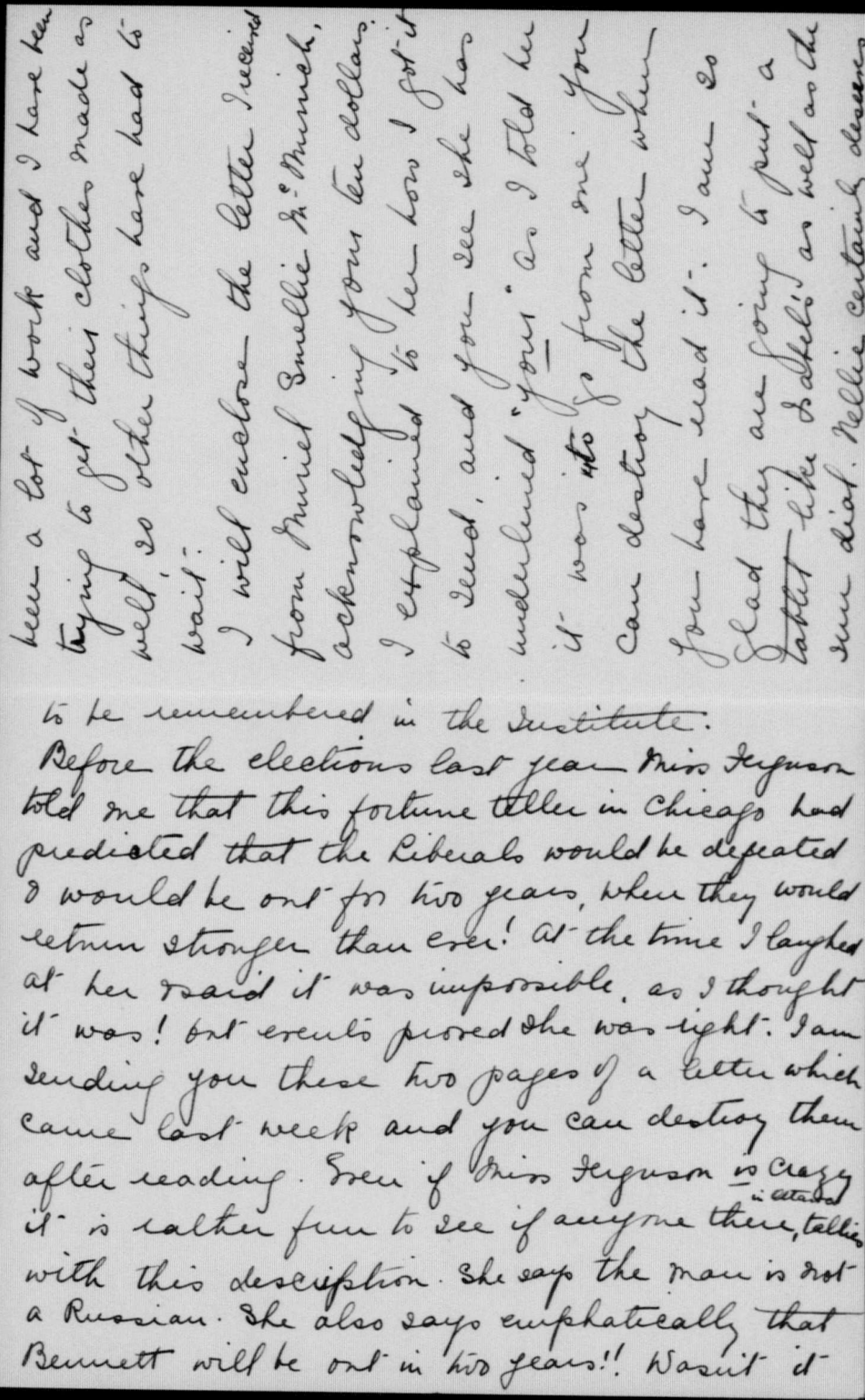
awful the way he spoke about his men losing their jobs if they didn't keep down expenses? You would think he had put them in power, instead of them putting him where he is! He is certainly the most conceited man I ever heard of. How old a woman is Miss Bennett? I thought Willie Herridge was older than 42. There must be a big difference between the ages of Bennett & his sister for he is older than you are. It will be some time before they go to Washington if they are to go to England first.

From his voice! I would think Lord Bessborough was a very different style of man from Earl

which is the most expensive part as it takes so long. Jean enameled the woodwork, and I made her new curtains, & she is delighted with her room. John's room has been our "hospital ward" & I have wanted to have it re-papered ever since Peach had scarlet fever. Harry said he would give me five dollars toward it & the house paid the other five. (you can see we were not very extravagant with paper) The Children all helped me & I am so glad to have it fresh & clean. I will get more joy out of $10.00 spent that way than having joy rides! It has

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to be remembered in the Institute.

Before the elections last year Miss Ferguson told me that this fortune teller in Chicago had predicted that the Liberals would be defeated & would be out for two years, when they would return stronger than ever! At the time I laughed at her & said it was impossible, as I thought it was! But events proved she was right. I am sending you these two pages of a letter which came last week and you can destroy them after reading. Even if Miss Ferguson is crazy it is rather fun to see if anyone there, tallies with this description. She says the man is not a Russian. She also says emphatically that Bennett will be out in two years!! Wasn't it

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Barrie, April 9/30

My dear Willie,

Jennie read me your letter of yesterday with the enclosure - the copy of your letter to Sir John And. I cannot say how much I appreciate your very prompt response to Jennie's suggestion. Your outline of the situation in which I find myself could not be improved upon and I do not wish to delay

Hoping you are very well and again thanking you very warmly for your active interest in our behalf with very much love in which Jennie and the Children join

Yours affectionately.

Harry.

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) ● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family - January-June 1931

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in expressing my very sincere thanks. That you should take so much trouble at a time when politics are at a more or less critical and strenuous stage touches me very deeply and I hope that while I cannot in degree ever hope to reciprocate your kindness there may be an opportunity at some future time to offer a return at least in kind.

I have an appointment to meet Mr Hogan tomorrow and may hear more definitely what the Bank can do for us, when we will let you know. I am sure your note to Sir John will ensure that my case gets the best possible consideration.

We have been much interested in reading the reports of your recent interchange of compliments with Messrs Bennett & Co.. I think the country will decide to re-employ them old "guide" Laurier tonight's Star".

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April 11, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive your long letter written on Easter Sunday. I return the letter from Mrs. McMurrich enclosed with it. I am delighted to know that a companion tablet to the one erected to the memory of Isabel is to be placed in the Institute to the memory of Nellie Douglas. Nellie's association with Belle in the work of the Institute and the Girls' Own Club was very close, and I can think of nothing which would have given to each of them more pleasure than to have this form of like recognition and of remembrance. I am glad too that the committee in charge have succeeded so well with respect to the memorial sun dial to be placed in the gardens of the holiday house at Lake Simcoe.

You have probably read even more than I have observed with respect to the arrival of the new Governor-General

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and Lady Bessborough. I confess that what I have seen of each of them up to the present has given me a very favourable impression. He seems a modest unassuming type of man, and she is distinctly charming and beautiful. I imagine they will do very well.

I am glad Mr. Simpson has told Harry of our meeting at Ottawa. I did not know him when he spoke to me, but I found him very pleasant. I hope you will make a point of having a word with him yourself. I think it is always well to have the good-will of members on both sides of the House, and certainly the way Mr. Simpson spoke gave me the feeling that he was a very decent sort of fellow, and that he had a real admiration for Harry, the children and yourself.

I am glad to be able to tell you that Pat seems quite well again, though he is not as strong as formerly. He cannot run as fast, nor take anything like the amount of exercise he did, but I feel sure that when the summer comes

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on he will regain his former strength. The poor little fellow had a very close call, but it was delightful to see the way in which he responded to medical treatment. His blood was examined and he was given capsules, etc., just like an individual patient, which he would swallow in the most knowing manner possible. I have never seen an animal that more closely resembled a human being in his knowledge of what is going on and his wonderful patience.

Please tell Harry that I shall be expecting Delaney on May the second which is a Saturday. Arriving on the Saturday will give me a chance to take him to the country myself. Have him let me know in advance if he is bringing his own bedding, as otherwise I will make the necessary provision myself.

Please let me know too if you are raising plants of any kind for

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putting out in the spring and, if so, whether you think they could be shipped to Ottawa in good condition, or whether Delany could bring any of them with him. This year I shall have to buy all my flowers, and I would sooner buy the plants from Harry than anyone else if he has them for sale and if he thinks they can stand the journey down.

With love and best wishes to all, believe me, dear Jennie,

Very affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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my work well in hand.

Hoping you are keeping well and with very much love from Jennie and the others in our family remaining always

Yours affectionately,

Harry.

File

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 17. 1931

My dear Willie,

We were very glad to have your letter of the 28th ulto. and also to learn that your little dog Pat had recovered from his serious illness. Our Billie is quite well again but suffers from wanderlust and sometimes keeps hours altogether too late for a well brought up dog. I suppose this partly comes from his having been passed from one master to another, and then again his former master left him last winter in the charge of his man while the family were absent

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● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family January-June 1931

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in Florida.

As mentioned to you over the 'phone we have explained your requirements when in your service to Delaney. He thoroughly understands that he is to do anything you wish whether in your gardens or at the Pattersons' as directed. He will leave here on the afternoon of the 1st of May arriving in Ottawa about 7 a.m. (I think) on the 2nd. I understand you will have someone meet him and take him to see you. He is willing to work at 80^{oo} a month.

I suppose like ourselves you were finding plenty to do in your garden during the Easter recess. The cold winds and frosty nights of the last few days make it better to delay removing the covering from Rose bushes, at least I have left mine covered. In former years a warm day or two have induced the removal of protective coverings rather too soon with bad effects on rose buds. We sowed green pea & sweet pea seeds and planted onions but this is about all we have done outside. I am keeping Delaney busy until the end of the month so as to get

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 19th '31

We are enjoying Hansard these days!

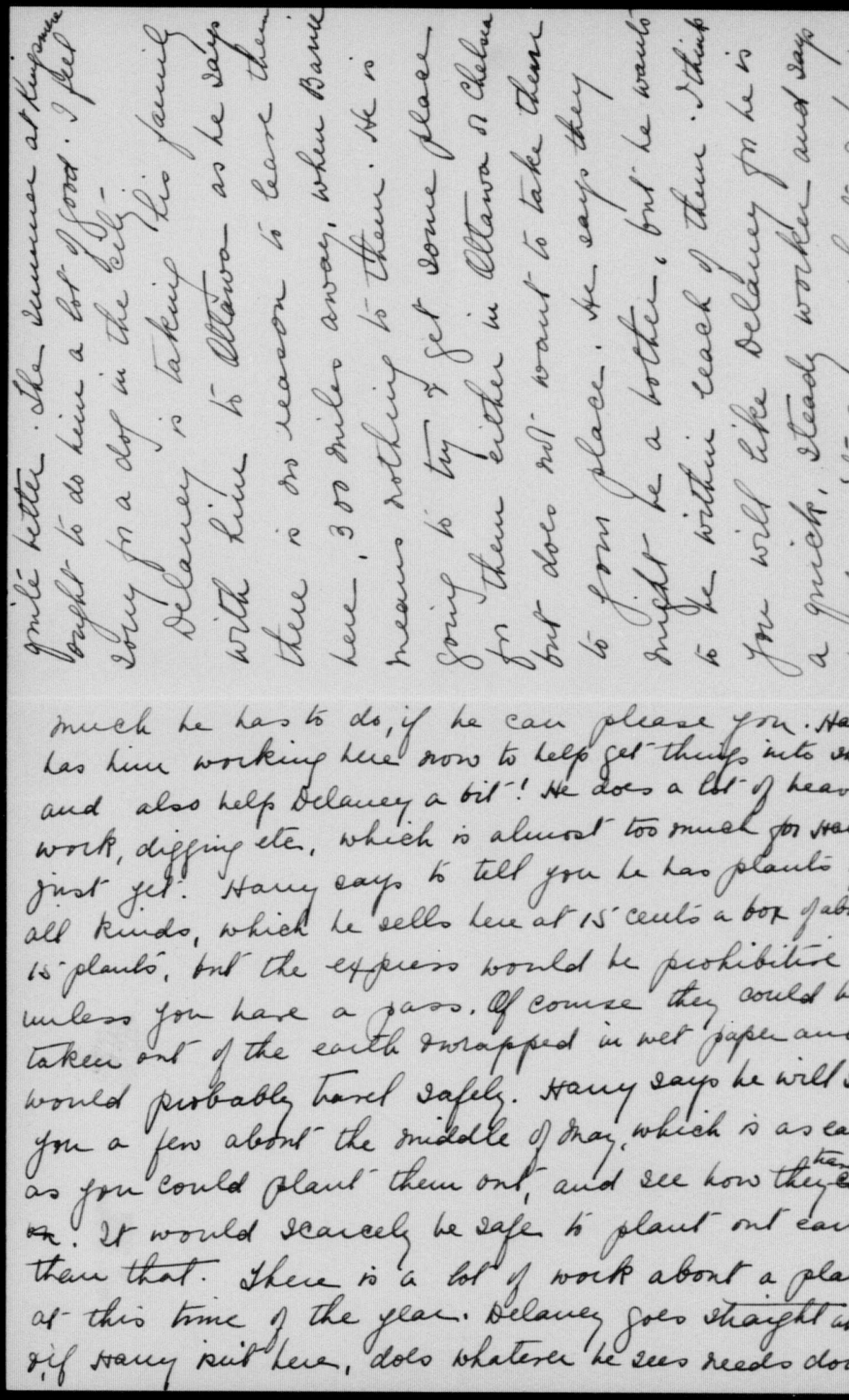
My dear Willie:

As we have a strange minister and Doris is away for the week-end, I have taken a day off & stayed home from church. Doris is the best maid I have had since Lavina in Walkerton, and I am glad to do anything to keep her. I have been sewing hard all week making suits for Jean & Rosabel so took it easy today and had a glorious sleep all afternoon! I was glad to get your letter last Monday & to hear that Pat is

we are sorry he is going away, but glad for his sake. He is delighted. The other night I turned on the radio to get the news from the Globe at 11 p.m. just as I did so the announcer was saying "Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King proposed the toast to Miss Bennett". It was the dinner given by the Speaker!

Cora is still in the South. She is going to try rent her flat till September and take a cottage for the summer. She is coming here for a little visit first. She tells me Elsa Kiely (Mrs Philip Kiely) is working in the publicity Dept. of the C.P.R. in Montreal, as Philip has lost all his money. It is rather a good thing, for Elsa & P. lived a cat & dog life last year!

John did not come home this week as he has to study from now on. He has nothing from May 12th to 20th so he will come home on the 12th & sit down for his exam on the 20th. I do hope he will do well. All here join in sending very much love to you dear Willie ever your loving sister Jennie



smile better. She seems quite happy to do housework & looking after a dog & cat. I feel very sorry for a dog in the city.

Delaney is taking his family to Ottawa as he says there is no work here, & no milk means nothing going to buy for them but does not to form place might be a bit to be within for will like a quiet, steady worker and says he doesn't - Carla wrkg in town

much he has to do, if he can please you. Harry has him working here now to help get things into shape and also help Delaney a bit! He does a lot of heavy work, digging etc. which is almost too much for Harry just yet. Harry says to tell you he has plants of all kinds, which he sells here at 15¢ cents a box of about 15 plants, but the express would be prohibitive unless you have a pass. Of course they could be taken out of the earth & wrapped in wet paper and would probably travel safely. Harry says he will send you a few about the middle of May, which is as early as you could plant them out, and see how they stand us. It would scarcely be safe to plant out earlier than that. There is a lot of work about a place at this time of the year. Delaney goes straight ahead if Harry isn't here, does whatever he sees needs doing.

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Ottawa, April 21, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive this morning your letter of April 19th.

I would strongly advise that if Delaney is taking his family with him to Ottawa that he should come down first and make certain of the quarters for them and have them follow later on. Otherwise, he might find it very difficult to obtain any place for them without considerable expense and delay. It must be fully understood that I can take no responsibility for the family in any way. If there were no children I would be very glad to let Mrs. Delaney have the use of one of the little cottages at Kingsmere for cooking, etc., and the servants quarters over the garage to sleep in, but I do not think I would be wise to have children about. They are destructive in every way and there is apt to be danger from fire, etc., and also sickness and other troubles which it is as well to avoid during the short summer season. When I see how Delaney gets on, and the type of man he is, later on it might be possible to make some accommodation for

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them, but I am anxious to avoid any obligation in that particular in advance. Also he should understand that I cannot undertake to find employment for him at the end of the season. Of course, I will do what I can, but past experience has shown me how difficult it is to secure winter employment for other, particularly in and about Ottawa.

It is very kind of Harry to think of sending me some plants. I would suggest that he send very few at the start, until I see whether they will stand the parcel post or express delivery. I have no express frank and I agree with Harry that the price might be prohibitive were they to be sent in any quantity in a way that would ensure their suffering no injury enroute. I do not think it would be safe to put out anything at Kingsmere until the 24th of May. Indeed, I have found about the 1st of June as early as one can venture with plants. However, if I find they can stand the transportation by packing in paper, I would of course much prefer to secure plants from Harry than from any one else.

This is just a hurried line in answer to the one or two points which your letter has brought up.

Do not forget, in reference to Doris, that the offer I made to you some time ago, about paying a little extra to keep a satisfactory maid, holds good in her case as well as

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any other. I think you should see, above all else, to avoid losing any one who has proven to be satisfactory.

With fondest love to you all,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. H. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

Barrie, April 29/31

My dear Willie,

Delaney is carrying this note by way of identification. He intends to leave his wife and children in Ottawa while he is in your service as he does not wish to return to Barrie. He leaves here tomorrow night in order that he can find quarters for them before starting work. I trust that he will be found satisfactory.

Jennie and the children join me in affectionate remembrances.

Yours

Harry

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H M Lay Esq
Barrie Ont

Ottawa April 30 1931

Will expect Delaney Saturday morning. Again would strongly advise against bringing wife and children until after arrival and arrangements here. Can think of no place they could go on arrival.

ful44

Willie

● 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-June 1931 ●

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

May 3. 1931

My dear Willie,

Your telegram re Delaney duly received last Thursday the day he left for Ottawa and the day after he had left us. I do not think you need worry about his family. He is very resourceful and as he said to me when he first announced his intention of taking his wife and children: "If you have the money you can always get a place to live in". He will probably have located a small cottage for them before seeing you. Anyhow he distinctly

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understood that they were not to ~~go~~ go to Kingsmere. He told me he had ~~sold~~ sold all his furniture but one bed! During the winter it was impossible for him to get work in Barrie and while he does not know conditions in Ottawa he hopes to land a job there as gardener. I think he is quite anxious to save enough to start a small green house for himself some time later. I should like to have kept him longer but found it impossible to meet the expense. However we were able to accomplish a lot during the Spring planting in the greenhouse.

Hoping you are keeping well and that Pat is quite well again with very much love from us all, Yours very affectionately Harvey.

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May 4th '31

Dear Willie:

Helen sent me the enclosed circular and I thought you would be interested in seeing it. Helen is to unveil the sun dial at the Holiday House and I am to unveil the tablet at the Institute next Sunday if Helen Oswald does not come up to do it. I rather think she will be there, but if not I will be only too glad to take

his behavior here, we can heartily recommend him. He was gone before your wire came & we seemed never to get a minute to send you a line in reply. We were out Thursday & Friday nights had visitors Saturday & Sunday. Dr Robert Laird was preaching here on Sunday & came down for supper. Hope you are keeping well and also keeping Bennett hot! Will let you know how the ceremony goes next Sunday. All here join in sending very much love

ever yours loving sister
Jennie

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her flat. She hopes I can
worked so many years together
that it seems as if Isabel, Nellie
Nellie & I should be associated
in these memories. Nellie
unveiled the picture
for probably
was not able
possible I am
Spencer the day
W. Stevenson
So she is about
and wants
Cora & Jim
Lord on the

Cora will come up with us for a little visit before she settles down in her flat.

I suppose Delaney is at work! I don't think you will hear anything about his family. He is very independent in that line and quite able to take care of them. You need not fear he will bother you about them. I think he was glad to get them out of Barrie for he has an uncle (by marriage) who takes a drop too much occasionally, & was sometimes rather a trial to them all. Judging from

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA
Leader of the Opposition

Ottawa, May 23, 1931

My dear Jennie:

You and Harry will be wondering very much at not having heard from me about Delaney since his arrival in Ottawa. Unfortunately, this has been a very busy month in Parliament and my correspondence has fallen very considerably into arrears.

Let me say at once that I am greatly pleased with Delaney and finding in him just the kind of man I was most anxious to secure. When he turned up at Laurier House on the day after his arrival in the city, I found he had brought his wife and two children with him and that the best they had been able to secure in the way of accommodation was a large room which was costing them $2.00 a day apart from their board. I felt quite sure that they would never be able to get any kind of accommodation in Ottawa, or as he had hoped at Chelsea, without using up every cent that might be earned in the way of wages. So I decided to let them use the little cottage at Kingsmere, pending such time as they might find accommodation elsewhere. I must say that Delaney was quite determined not to have his wife and children made an obligation

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in any way. He evidently realized to the full, from what you and Harry said to ~~him~~, that I did not wish the family on my hands in the country, and it took a good deal of persuading to finally have him fall in with my suggestion to take the cottage until at least he could find accommodation elsewhere. I was desperately afraid that the place might be cold and damp, not having been lived in through the winter, and I would not let him take his wife and children out until he had seen it himself. Fortunately, the days were fairly bright and clear and by using the garage for sleeping quarters and the kitchen for living quarters they have managed very well.

I have had the son of one of the farmers nearby come to help getting the kitchen garden and other parts into shape, and Delaney, I understand, has now arranged with him to secure a little cottage which he can obtain, I believe, at something like $8.00 a month. He is going to take his wife and children there in the near future, so that all will work out very well. I admire very much his independent spirit and he is a type of man that one feels a joy in helping to get along. I have no doubt that I shall be able to assist him in securing some work during the winter season, though just what I cannot say at the moment. Meanwhile, he is taking a very

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active and keen interest in Kingsmere, and likes the spot exceedingly. He thinks it is one of the prettiest "estates" he has ever seen.

I have at Kingsmere as well the old gardener that I have had for three years, who looks after the kitchen garden. He and his wife live in the old Fleury homestead. Last year, as I think I told you, they raised practically all the vegetables that I needed throughout the summer and for Laurier House throughout the winter. Also enough raspberries and strawberries, etc., to meet the requirements in the way of canned fruits and preserves. I figure that out of the kitchen garden, I have been able to more than make ends meet, taking the entire expenditures into consideration. As I have to do a lot of entertaining of Members of Parliament and others, it means a great deal to be able to raise practically all the vegetables and fruits I need, and also to have a supply of flowers. Last Wednesday night, I had a dinner of twelve, and all the flowers that we needed for the table and the different rooms came from Kingsmere. They were mostly tulips, but there were blossoms of different kinds, with forget-me-nots and other little flowers as well. Then there was enough asparagus for the entire party and, indeed, for four times the number. The asparagus bed has been a very great success. I do not know whether I told you that amongst other

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It is very nice to hear Delaney speak of you and Harry, as he often does when we discuss what seeds and bulbs should be planted and where they should go. No one could speak in nicer terms of another than he speaks of you. He seems very grateful for all you did for him and his little family. Mrs. Delaney, as a return for the use of the cottage, has cleaned it up thoroughly, and is also doing a little work on the windows at Moorside as well.

I am really delighted with the Kingsmere properties. For the first time they are beginning to show the fruit of the labours of the past few years, and I feel quite convinced that I could have made no better investment either from the point of view of income or health than what Kingsmere has meant and will continue to mean to me.

I am sure Delaney is going to manage very well and I purpose giving him more or less complete control of the entire place. Mr. and Mrs. Patteson are sharing with me some of the expenses of the additional help which we have had to engage to bring everything quickly into the shape it now is.

I thank you for letting me see the St. Andrew's Church circular with regard to the unveiling of the tablet

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in memory of Nellie Douglas. I shall be interested in hearing whether you performed the unveiling ceremony and how you like the tablet itself. I hope it makes an appropriate companion to the one in memory of Isabel.

I had a telephone message from Jim Lindsey from New York a few nights ago. I was glad to hear Cora's voice as well as his own. Cora is quite looking forward to her visit with you. Jim was anxious that I should give him a letter of introduction to Mr. Rockefeller, Jr. to ask his advice concerning brokerage houses in New York. All along I have had an understanding with Mr. Rockefeller that I would not give people letters of introduction on business matters. I do not see how I could very well do this for Jim without breaking the understanding between us and somewhat embarrassing Mr. Rockefeller. He could hardly advise in a matter of the kind without incurring some responsibility alike to Jim and the firms with whom he might speak, so I just had to tell Jim I felt I would have to follow with him the rule I have followed all along with others. I hope, if a chance presents itself, you will let Cora know that the matter was one of some concern to me and that I was much disturbed at not being able to meet Jim's wishes. I hope that she will fully understand the situation, as I am sure she will.

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This letter is intended for both Harry and yourself. It carries with it my best love to you both and the children.

Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Affectionately yours,

W.L.M.K.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

P.S. I forgot to tell you that while Pat got over the influenza; he has had a very long siege with his right paw which was poisoned a couple of months ago. One of the doctors at the Health of Animals Branch, of the Department of Agriculture, has taken a very keen interest in him and has personally treated his paw every day for fully a month past. He has had splints on his leg all that time, but is now running about with a little bandage, which will give place to a small laced boot in another few days. His recovery from his different troubles has been little short of a miracle and is, I believe, in large part in answer to prayer.

W.L.M.K.

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Ottawa, May 23, 1931

My dear Jennie:

You and Harry will be wondering very much at not having heard from me about Delaney since his arrival in Ottawa. Unfortunately, this has been a very busy month in Parliament and my correspondence has fallen very considerably into arrears.

Let me say at once that I am greatly pleased with Delaney and finding just the kind of man I was most anxious to secure. When he turned up at Laurier House on the day after his arrival in the city, I found he had brought his wife and two children with him and that the best they had been able to secure in the way of accommodation was a large room which was costing them $2.00 a day apart from their board. I felt quite sure that they would never be able to get any kind of accommodation in Ottawa, or as he had hoped at Chelsea, without using up every cent that might be earned in the way of wages. So I decided to let them use the little cottage at Kingsmere, pending such time as they might find accommodation elsewhere. I must say that Delaney was quite determined not to have his wife and children made an obligation

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Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
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May 24th 31

My dear Willie:

Delaney's aunt here had a letter from him she says he likes you & everything very much, so I hope you find him equally satisfactory!

You seem to be having a lively time in the House these days. It does my heart good to see the way the prices of butter eggs have dropped when the farmers were going to see Ethel Kirkpatrick for a few minutes one evening, & she took me upstairs to their sitting room to see your picture on the wall. She told me to be sure & tell you I saw it!! I like it very much. It is a good likeness and very natural.

Cora got home last Tuesday & she came up for the day yesterday: but is coming for a visit after the 1st of June She brought us each such a lot of lovely presents. It felt like Christmas! She looks well but is terribly tanned. Jim Lasnit "landed a job" yet. It is very cold here but they say we are soon to have warmer weather. John wrote his last exam on Friday & "Dad" is going to employ him if he does'nt get any other job. Harry needs help. Must go to bed. Best love from all the family ever dear Willie from loving sister Jennie

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family January-June 1931

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to be 20 minutes late - it's 21. and after the last - the Butler ... me the report was denied the next day, but no one took the trouble to show me that paper!

They had a very nice little service for the unveiling of Nellie's tablet and I was delighted to be allowed to do the unveiling. Helen Mc.M. is to "officiate" at the sun dial so they asked me, as one of Nellie's greatest friends & co-workers to unveil the tablet. I went down to Toronto & stayed with Helen at Mrs Steven's house, for the week-end. Mrs Grafton & Helen Oswald were up for the ceremony & they had Helen Mc.M. & me for lunch at the Royal York. It was a great pleasure to see so many of the Toronto friends again. Hazel & I went in

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Imperial Conference. Nelson said she presented them with a silk flag and her photograph. Nelson was summoned to appear at the Kings' Levée, on June 12th but we haven't heard from him since. I went down to Toronto last Wednesday to go to the garden party at Government House, but missed Hazel and did some shopping instead! Harry couldn't go, so I wasn't very keen, he would have gone if Hazel had been going. She was waiting for me, as the Dr. couldn't go, but she didn't hear us when we went to the door, and we missed Cora too, so it was not very satisfactory! However the Children enjoyed the drive & I got a hat! The next morning Cora rang up & said Jim had just arrived on his way to Chicago so it was well she did not come back with us. We expect her to come up soon. Jim has got work in Chicago but Cora did not tell us what it was.
Harry got word yesterday from the Bank

W. L. J.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 7th '31

My dear Willie:

We were delighted to have your letter of May 23rd telling us about Delaney. I am so glad he is making good, but we were pretty sure you would like him or we would not have recommended him. Harry has had another man working for him but he is no good and Harry paid him off yesterday. John is our new assistant. He did not get a "job" at Camp Borden or Trenton as he expected, and I was

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glad, as I think it will help both Harry & him at home. We want to have him at home. He works from 8 - 4 and gets $8.00 a week which is all he could make clear, any where. Harry would have to pay it - is some money, and he can't handle the business as he can handle the work, and the money is in the bank. He writes but rarely a will helps Jack. He has done well. We himself all over the country. He expect a very brilliant couple of dollars left: " to come out shaping for the results " to come until Christmas he had walking from 8 - 4 and gets $8.00 a week which is all he could make clear, any where. Harry would have to pay it - is some money, and he can't handle the business as he can handle the work, and the money is in the bank. He writes but rarely a will helps Jack. He has done well. We himself all over the country. He expect a very brilliant couple of dollars left: " to come out shaping for the results " to come until Christmas he had not a fair show, with Harry in the hospital & then Jack was ill most of January, but I believe he is O.K. now. He ought to be home in the spring. I saw in the paper

that "Robert" "Wookey" this wife had gone to Denver about the 10th July to visit Mary, who would probably return with them. I wonder if Lyon has gone too.

I suppose you have been desperately busy in the House. Surely this Budget will kill Bennett in the country. It is a disgrace. Did you see the editorial in last night's Star which says he is like a new man in a powerhouse"? Mr Simpson, the Conservative M.P. for Hamilton he thought the only comment he had heard was about taxing the rich man's income! When Harry asked him about 3 cent postage he said, it should never have been reduced!! Bennett certainly has them trained to eat out of his hand!

Did Willie Hemidge tell you he saw Nelson on the "Skeena". Major Hemidge & his wife went aboard to see the improvements which had been made since Miss Bennett christened the ship at the time of the

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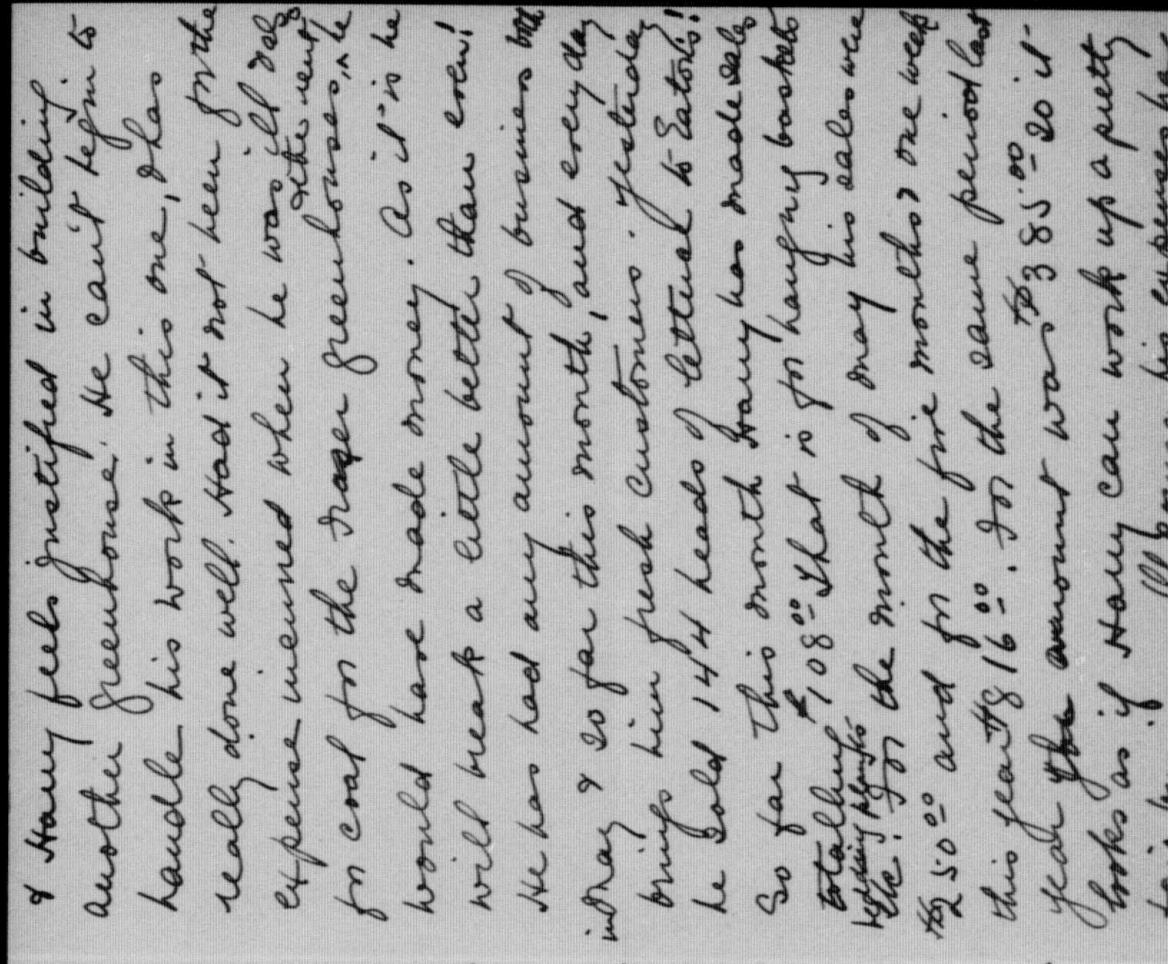
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the daily housework and housecleaning
the dining room sharing Wednesday
in Toronto. This week I will get
fixed up when set my own clothes.
I can't do that unless I have a good maid
and I can save [underline]Tennessee[/underline] by making
our clothes. In instance I made Rosalie
kid [illegible] dresses & a pair of bloomers
& cotton [illegible] for $1.10!!! I'm sure
I can do much any other way!
This is all about myself but I got
started in the subject! Am sorry Delaney
must have crossed. I hope Delaney
continues to do well. He has written most
enthusiastically about [illegible] & Kingsmere &
his relatives here and they think he is right
lucky. I was speaking to his aunt the other
day & told her [illegible] Delaney his wife was
her delighted. Now I must get M to [illegible]
Best love dear to Elsie in which all the girls
join, and hoping [illegible] are well
Ever [illegible]

that he would be retired on July 1st
9 so on a pension
which he would
to live they
said he was
Stock [illegible]
[illegible]
that they have
all this year
[illegible]
many does not
anything as the
[illegible]
increase, tickets
as he always
are feeling the
that the [illegible]
are a [illegible]
the Hotel [illegible]

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a very few years (say about 3 years) he should be able to pay off the cost of an additional green House. At any rate he can't do much with one so we have decided to build another at once. If Harry keeps well, which it appears he should do, there is every chance of a good business here. We have had endless discussions about it, as it means a lot, but it seems a good investment. Harry is better than he has been for years and by rigid economy we can soon make the grade! And of course the sooner it is done the better. I am so thankful that Doris continues to be such a comfort for it gives me time to sew. Last week I made three little dresses for Rosabel, a pair of overalls for Harry Jr and a uniform for Doris besides

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa June 10 1931

H. M. Lay Esq.,
Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ont.

Strongly advise you do not accept arrangement mentioned in Jennie's letter until you hear from me. Am forwarding president's letter to you.

ful44 Mackenzie King

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-June 1931

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June 10, 1931

My dear Harry:

I enclose the letter which Sir John Aird sent me on the 12th of April last. You will observe that Sir John says:

"While no specific time is set, Logan has intimated to him (that is, to you) that he may expect to be held in that capacity (relieving manager at full salary) with residence at Barrie for at least two years."

You will also observe that it also says that "at the end of two years the matter can be reconsidered".

I took that to mean, and you had a right to take it to mean, that your full salary would be continued for two years, and at that time a further extension would be arranged or a year's salary as a retiring allowance before pension would be paid. As I see it, the bank is simply cutting off at least one full year's salary which they had agreed to pay.

I doubt very much if this change would have been made if there had been no change of government, and I think that Sir

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John Aird should be told that both you and I expect him, as president of the bank, to implement the pledge which he made in writing. I am enclosing Sir John's letter, and you are at perfect liberty to show it either to him or to Logan in discussing the present situation.

I fear, of course, that you may have acted in advance of this communication. However, I do not wish to suggest any step which appeals to your judgment as unwise, but, as far as the Bank of Commerce is concerned, you need feel under no obligation to them whatever for the arrangement they promised to make last year. Your own services merit that apart from any other considerations, which no doubt Sir John Aird had in mind, and I would not allow any feelings of sensitiveness to stand in the way of exacting from the bank every bit of consideration to which you are so well entitled.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours very sincerely,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Manager,
Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/RAP

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 6 432

June 11th 1931.

My dear Willie,

Thank you very much indeed for your telegram of yesterday and also for your letter of the same date. Both Jennie and I appreciate more than we can express this further instance of your affectionate concern for our interests. Had Logan written to me last year along the lines of Sir John's letter to you of ~~June~~ April 12th 1930 I should feel no hesitation in filing a protest. The only understanding with Logan was that I was to act on the relieving Managers staff until July 1932 and then go on pension. This was giving me a year longer than the usual practice. Logan said they might use me to relieve for a few weeks in the year. As a matter of fact I have not been called upon to serve in a relieving capacity.

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PHONE 832

BARRIE

I enclose for your information Logan's letters of May 6th 1930 and June 2nd 1931. At the same date of the latter the Barrie branch was advised of the arrangement by Head Office memorandum so it appeared that my approval was not expected. I was led to ~~lead~~ acquiesce in ~~accept~~ the arrangement as one that left me entirely independent of liability to be called on to serve at a time when absence from my Florist business might be very detrimental. Greenhouse business has been double that of last year and if the improvement continues for the ensuing six months I should show a profit over expenses of at least $400. This may seem small but encourages the hope of further development. I do not wish to jeopardise the business which in the years to come may add materially to my family's income. It occurred to me that a letter from you to Aird suggesting that the arrangement outlined

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CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS
PHONE 432
BARRIE

in his last letter to you should stand would probably do some good. But if you prefer I will write Sir John stating that you have shown me his letter.

Jennie has told you of the addition to the greenhouse which we have under way. I believe it will be a great saving in economy and besides this indirect advantage will considerably enhance our business.

Thank you ever so much for your substantial assistance in the Bank connection. There is no doubt in my mind that the original arrangement was largely due to your powerful backing and that no change would have been made but for the change at Ottawa.

With much love from Jennis and us all

Always yours affectionately,
Harry

P.S. I return Sir John's letter of which I have a copy. Kindly return the Logan correspondence after it has served your purpose.

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COPY

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE
HEAD OFFICE

TORONTO, 2nd June 1931

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
c/o The Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Barrie, Ont.

Dear Sir:

With reference to the arrangement by which you were to be retained on full pay to the 9th July 1932, it has been decided to grant you the customary year's leave of absence on full salary from 9th July 1931 and the Chief Accountant is being advised accordingly. We assume that payments made monthly to your credit in the Barrie branch will be in line with your wishes. During this leave you will continue to be assessed for the Pension Fund as at present.

On 9th July 1932 you will become a pensioner of the Pension Fund and will receive a pension of $2,800 per annum, payable in monthly instalments. These payments also will be made through the Barrie branch unless you advise to the contrary.

May we take this opportunity of wishing you health and much happiness in the future as a reward for your long and faithful service.

Referring to the last paragraph of Head Office circular No. 117, "Dominion Income Tax: Pensioners", dated 22nd May 1930, a copy of which we enclose, we would advise that the amount contributed

Paid by you to the Pension

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by you to the Pension Fund before 1st January 1927 was $2,836.52 and the amount after that date to 9th July 1932 will be $1,071.37. The proportion of your pension on which Dominion Income Tax is payable is, therefore, $2.032.65.

Yours truly,

(Sgd) x S. H. Logan

General Manager.

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June 13, 1931

My dear Harry:

I return herewith the correspondence between yourself and Mr. Logan and enclose as well a copy of a letter which I have just written to Sir John Aird.

If the Bank of Commerce does not carry out the undertaking given by its president to me at the time that I was Prime Minister, I will say now that that institution will live to regret its failure so to do. There can be no doubt in the world that the only reason the bank is going to break its promise is the change of government; but, even in opposition, the leader of a party is not without some influence where a bank cannot be trusted to implement the word of its president, and I imagine the contingency of a return to power of the Liberal party is not so remote as to make it wholly improbable in the course of my life time, if, in the bounty of Providence, I should be spared in health and strength to continue in the public service of the country.

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I resent very strongly action of the kind on the part of the bank, dictated, as it can only be, by the circumstance of the change of government which has taken place since Sir John Aird's letter was written. You are quite at liberty to convey this view to either Mr. Logan or Sir John, if you feel it desirable so to do.

Of course, if there has been an oversight or a misunderstanding, that alters the whole situation, but an undertaking given by the president of a bank to a Prime Minister in office is not of a character that it can be lightly put aside, no matter what the circumstances may be, and I should like both Sir John Aird and Mr. Logan to know this before they make any decision which may leave on record a failure of the kind.

Your own life-long services to the bank, in large part in remote portions of the Dominion, without any absences on account of illness and the like, merit all the recognition which was accorded you at the time Sir John Aird's letter was written. If these were the considerations, as I assume they were, in the light of which the arrangement was made, they are as strong to-day as they were a year ago. If there were

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other considerations that are not equally strong, I should like to be informed what they are.

With love and best wishes to Jennie and yourself,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

FLMK/EAP
H. W. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 632

June 16th 1931.

My Dear Willie,

I received your letter of the 13th inst. and enclosures yesterday. Please accept my best thanks for your kindness in so vigorously championing our claim upon the consideration of the Bank. In common with other like institutions it is said that the Bank's profits have suffered during the past year and this may have caused a change of heart in addition to the fact that your Government suffered defeat. I cannot believe that Logan was aware of the letter written to you by Sir John Aird last year. As a result of your intervention I shall probably have a communication from the General Manager when I will write to you.

Jennie joins me and the children in best love .Again thanking you believe

Affectionately Yours Harry

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June 18, 1931

Dear Harry:

I enclose a copy of a letter, received yesterday, from Sir John Aird. From my perusal of it, I would judge that Sir John sees wherein a mistake has been made, and that he is prepared to have the original understanding carried out.

In my judgment, however, everything will depend upon both you and Jennie being quite firm as to what your own understanding was at the time Sir John's letter was written; and, in virtue of what I said to you, you should let Logan know, the first time he communicates with you, that you had been very much surprised and disappointed when the word came of immediate retirement, but that you had hesitated to say anything, realizing that it was not within your power to change matters if the bank had decided upon a different course. I think you should let him know that, throughout the past year, you had been making your plans upon the basis of the promise as given by Sir John, and that you still hope it will be carried out.

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Please let me know if I am not right in this: You are entitled, as a matter of right, to a leave of absence of one year, or the equivalent of a year's salary, in virtue of your forty years or more of service to the bank. That, I assume, you or any other manager would get as a part of the regular practice and procedure of the bank in dealing with its managers. The undertaking of the bank to put you on the list of relieving managers for two years at least before retiring you formally was, first of all, because of the fact that during the forty years you have served the bank you had no absences on account of sickness and had, moreover, taken up work in remote parts of the country where others might have been unwilling to go and where the opportunity of advancement was less than it would have been had you been in some larger centre. Also I understand that any pensions rights you have grow out of the contributions which you have made to the bank's pension fund, and are, therefore, wholly apart from any other consideration. You have been paying into the pension fund year after year for forty years and continue to do so while on the staff as a relieving manager, so that being placed on the pension fund this year, instead of next, which, I assume, means retirement, you

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are gaining no advantage in the way of pension, but are losing a year of salary which you otherwise would receive.

I shall wait until I hear from you before replying to Sir John's letter, but I wish you would write me immediately upon receipt of this letter, stating exactly what the position is. My understanding all along has been that you would be continued as relieving manager for at least two years. At the end of that time your position would be given further consideration, and one of two things would happen - either you would be retired on pension, but would be entitled to receive in addition on retirement one year's leave or the equivalent of one year's salary, or you would be continued longer as a relieving manager. If I am wholly right in this and there are no other features which need to be considered, you might send me a wire tomorrow so that I can get off a letter to Sir John on Friday which he will receive on Saturday. If, however, there are other features which you would like to explain and think it well I should know, please write. I would get your letter on Saturday and would write that day to Sir John, whowould receive my communication on Monday.

Meanwhile, please take a perfectly firm stand with respect to what is owing to you by the bank. Many of these

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corporations are ruthless in the way in which they treat those who have given their lives in their service. If, however, they realise that other forces may be brought into play to secure just treatment, they will be quick to recognise the wisdom of according it.

I hope you will not feel that there may be danger of their asking you to leave Barrie to do relief work, and give in on that account. It would be much more worth your while to be prepared to take a step of the kind, and get some one who could look after the conservatories in an emergency, than to lose the chance of having another complete year free of any call, which I believe is what you will have if the original arrangement is held to. If you have one more year secure as relieving manager and the year thereafter secure as the one to which you are entitled by way of leave of absence, you will, I believe, be able in the interval so to arrange your florist business as to find yourself, at the end of that time, in an even better position for the rest of your life than if you had continued on in the bank. That at all events is what I hope and expect will be the case.

- - I am sending you, under separate cover, a copy of the speech which I delivered in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

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It is the first time that I have felt that I really began to do myself justiseein speaking in the House of Commons. I could have done much better had I had just one more day for preparation and arrangement of my material, but I suppose that kind of opportunity will never come. However, I feel that, so far as this session is concerned, the opposition has played its part and that we are now at a place of fresh beginning from which we will go on from strength to strength.

With best love to Jennie, the children and yourself,

Believe me, as always, dear Harry,

Yours very affectionately,

WLMK/EAP

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

June 18th 1931.

My dear Willie,

Dr.L.J.Simpson M.P.P. called me up two days ago asking me to write and urge your acceptance of an invitation, the Liberal Association of Simcoe is sending you, to speak at a picnic to be held here in July. The present member of the Federal House could not possibly have been elected on his own merits and owed his election to the general slump which hit the country in a most unaccountable way. A visit from you at a time when we are not in the heat of a party election but when your own personal prestige never was so high would go a long way towards the long hoped for redemption of this constituency.

We are all delighted with the magnificent speech you made the other day "and yet the Prime

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BARRIE
PHONE 832

Minister of Canada laughs". Even the praise grudging Globe is impressed.

It needs no words of mine to convince you of the loving welcome you will receive from us all if you find it possible to come here next month. As we expect the new greenhouse to be finished by the middle of next month you will be here to witness the opening ceremonies! Be sure and bring Pat with you I think the change of air would do him a lot of good. Billie strongly supports the invitation.

With very much love from Jennie and the Kiddies and myself,

Always yours affectionately,

Harry

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BARRIE

PHONE 832

June 19th 1931.

My dear Willie,

Your letter of the 18th. inst. just received. In July 1930 I was entitled to claim a year's leave of absence, that is until July 9 1931. In discussing the matter with Mr. Leggan and alluding to the requirements of my Children's education, he proposed as an alternative that he would put me on the staff of relieving Managers his words being as I recollect " we may use you for a month or six weeks during the year for the next two years". I referred to my greenhouse plans and enquired if it were agreeable to him to continue them while in the Bank's service to which he replied " by all means" or words to that effect

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BARRIE

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This arrangement was in lieu of taking one year's leave of absence and Logan made no promise that it was to be reconsidered at the end of the two years. I was rather surprised to see afterwards Sir JohnAird's letter to you to the effect that at the expiration of the two years the matter could be reconsidered.

The trouble is that you cannot pick up a competent florist at a moment' s notice a man able not only to look after the growing end of the business but able to fill orders for design work as well. For this reason I hesitate to press for another year of active relief work. However I am willing to leave the matter in your hands trusting to your good judgment in this as in other things.

Congratulate you most heartily upon the magnificent impression you are making in Parlia ment and in the country. With best love from us all. Affectionately,

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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HAVE WRITTEN YOU TODAY

HARRY...

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Personal

Ottawa, June 24, 1931

My dear Harry:

Your letter of June 19th puts a different complexion upon Sir John Aird's undertaking than I had understood at the time. I did not know that you were being put on the staff of Relieving Managers "as an alternative to the year's leave of absence to which you were entitled". That seems to me, rightly in the nature of an Irish promotion. A year's leave of absence would have left you free of any possibility of being called upon to do duty of any kind, whereas being on the staff of Relieving Managers you would be subject to call at any moment, ~~which~~, even if advantage were not taken of the bank's right in the matter, there would nevertheless be the possibility of your being called upon + this ~~which~~ you would always have to have in mind and, to this extent ~~which would restrict~~ would be restricted your freedom. For example, during the year's leave of absence you might have felt free to travel abroad had you wished and been in a position so to do. You could hardly have taken a step of the kind so long as you were on the staff of Relieving Managers.

I had gathered from Sir John's letter that what the bank was doing was to retain you on the staff of Relieving Managers for two years, at the end of which time you would be

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entitled to your year's leave of absence, and at which time also the matter of your position could be further considered. Apparently, however, the arrangement made between Logan and yourself was not a year's leave of absence in addition to the two years on the staff of Relieving Managers, but two years on the staff of Relieving Managers as an alternative to one year's leave of absence, to which you were entitled in July 1930. Clearly, as Sir John Aird had one thing in mind and Logan another, though it is possible that Sir John, in speaking of the two years as Relieving Manager, may have had in mind that one was in lieu of the year's leave of absence, to which, regardless of other considerations, you were entitled.

Unless you were to receive an additional year's leave of absence, in addition to another year of active relief work, there would of course be no sense in your pressing for the latter, and in the circumstances I think I had better leave the decision as to what it is best to do wholly to yourself. Had your understanding with Logan been the same as mine with Sir John, I do not think there would be any question at this time about the Bank being willing to continue you for a year longer as Relieving Manager and allow you, at the end of the year, a year's leave of absence. The most I think it would be wise to do at the moment would be to have both Mr. Logan and Sir John Aird

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realise that your expectations had been raised to the point they were, namely, of having two years as Relieving Manager plus one year's leave of absence, but if, however, this was not Sir John's intention, as expressed to me, in view of your arrangements with Logan you would leave the decision entirely to Sir John and Mr. Logan themselves.

You can easily see that the promise to have matters reconsidered at the end of the two years would be meaningless if the arrangement had meant complete termination with the Bank at that period. It must have meant either decision at that time to have your connection with the Bank terminate then, except for the year's leave of absence, or a decision to have you retained longer as Relieving Manager or in some other association with the Bank.

I enclose a copy of a letter which I am sending to Sir John Aird and which contains about all I could say in virtue of the representations of your letter explaining the arrangement made between Logan and yourself, which, until it was received, I had not understood to be as indicated.

Will you please tell Dr. Simpson that much as I would like to address a meeting of the Liberal Association of Simcoe I do notthink it will be possible for me to make any engagements to speak anywhere during the month of July. It is apparent that Parliament will continue to be in session for some little time yet

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and when it is over I shall certainly need a rest before beginning any series of meetings either in the months of July or August.

I am glad to know that your new greenhouse is getting on toward completion, and you may be sure that if I find it possible at all be in the vicinity of Barrie during the summer months I shall not fail to pay Boulderfel a visit.

I received a telegram yesterday which I take to mean that Lyon has secured the Sir Edmund Walker scholarship at the University and has taken Grade A in his examinations. The wire, however, is signed 'Bill', and I am therefore unable to say definitely from whom it comes. It may have been sent by Leonard or some one else. Doubtless you and Jennie will know whether the communication is correct or not. I much hope it is. I shall be interested in hearing how John has come out in his examinations and, indeed, how all the little people are at this time.

With kindest love to Jennie and yourself, and all the children,

Believe me, as always, yours affectionately,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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Walter Lennie

June 27, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I was glad to receive your letter of June the 24th. I will look up the pictures of Isabel and, if I have not an extra one on hand, I will have one reprinted and sent on to you for the Holiday House. If you would care to have it framed at my expense, I shall be very glad for you to arrange accordingly. I am leaving the framing to you, so that whatever is done with Nellie's picture could be done also with Isabel's. Perhaps you would like to have both pictures suitably framed at Toronto and sent as a little gift from yourself to the Holiday House. If you would do this and send the account to me, I would be pleased indeed.

I am retaining as a memorandum the letter from Mrs. McLeod. I remember quite well the photograph to which it refers, but it will take a search to discover it, and that I will not have time for until the session is over. It is only a snapshot, but I have it somewhere and, if I can find it, I will see that a copy is made and sent on to Mrs. McLeod.

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Everything considered, I think John did very well in obtaining honours in his modern languages course, and having no supplementals to pass. This will let him get off on an even start at the beginning of next year. If between now and then he seeks to brush up a little on some of the subjects in which he may not have done as well as you would like, his chances for first-class honours in his second year will be quite as good as if he had reached that standing in his first.

Lyon has certainly done splendidly. I am greatly pleased. What happiness it would have given Max to have known that his boy has done so well! I believe the start he has made in winning a scholarship will be an incentive right through his university course, and I look to see him gain real distinction at the university.

Just now we are in the midst of the most exacting part of the work of the session which involves much in the way of preparation for speaking from day to day. For this reason I shall probably not write again until the session is over, and it will probably run on into the month of July.

I do not think I will attempt anything in the way of a political picnic until I have had a rest of at least some

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weeks. During the summer or fall I shall undoubtedly have a chance of visiting Barrie, but I do not think I will attempt to speak at any political pionic at Simcoe this year. My idea, if time permits, is to go to the West and hold a few meetings among the farmers in the prairie provinces.

I have a feeling that times are going to be very serious and that those who have responsibility in the way of leadership will have about all that they can do to keep the ship of state on an even keel. Bennett has sown to the whidlwhddhe is now beginning to reap the whirlwind.

I do hope that Sir John Aird will take the view that I think he ought to of the undertaking given in his letter to me last year. There is no doubt whatever that, had there been no change in government, there would have been no suggestion of the years leave of absence as an alternative to one of the two years as a relieving manager. Perhaps my letter to Sir John will help towards that end, or may result in some compromise as an offset to the disappointment which you and Harry, along with myself, have experienced. You need not be at all backward in telling

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Sir John and Mr. Logan how you feel and also how I feel. The Bank of Commerce received consideration from the government while I was at the head of it which it would never have received but for my own personal interest in seeing that some things were done which would not have been done but for my personal request. Also Sir John himself owes his appointment as chairman of the radio commission to me. That gave him the greater part of a year abroad at the government's expense and a very fine honorarium as well. These are things he should remember, and I shall be rather surprised if, after the receipt of my last letter, he does not have some regard for them.

With love to you all, believe me,

Very affectionately yours,

WLMK/EAP

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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-June 1931

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

June 28th 1931.

My dear Willie,

Thanks ever so much for your letter of the 24th of June with the copy of your letter of the same date to Sir John Aird. As you emphasize, the promise of the latter that "at the end of the two years the matter can be reconsidered", has been overlooked by Mr. Logan and it will be surprising if after Sir John's attention has been called to it, he does not move in the matter. I should have written to you yesterday but we had an order to supply the flowers for a wedding which kept us working until midnight on Friday night and from six a.m. yesterday until 1.30 p.m. Then in the afternoon I attended two weddings. The last one was that of a Miss McCarthy and

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PHONE 832

BARRIE

among the guests were Sir John Aird and Lady Aird. I shook hands with him but had no opportunity of any conversation with him in the hubbub of the wedding reception. He must have had your letter but did not refer to the question. It will be interesting to find ~~how he will~~ how he will reply to your remarks particularly to the last paragraph but one, which sizes up the matter very cleverly. The Airds have always been very decent to us. Besides the $100 order they gave me last year on the occasion of their daughter's wedding, Lady Aird has given me several good orders.

I think Lyon did extremely well in his exams. We sent May a telegram of congratulations. I believe Lyon desires to be called Bill at college. We were rather disappointed that John passed in 3rd class ~~in~~ honours in the honour course but as Jennie points out he suffered some handicap

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BARRIE

PHONE 832

by illness during his year which was a year ahead of Lyon. From all accounts he worked faithfully during the year. Young Harry passed 10th in 1st Class honours into the "entrance" Class at his school.

The Children join Jennie and myself in heaps of fondest love. Believe me dear Willie I appreciate to the fullest extent the pains and consideration you have exhibited in arguing my case with Sir John, all the more when you have been passing through a historic crisis with all the anxiety and labour that has involved, and which must leave you little ~~leisure~~ time indeed to interest ~~you~~ yourself in ~~mi~~ outside matters. I gave your message to Dr Simpson this morning . He fully appreciates your being compelled to refuse their invitation.

Affectionately yours,

N.S. The Wilsons came back! Found full of enthusiasm over your speech, every word of which they listened to & have studied. They say you were fully justified. Kind attention H.

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Ottawa, July 1, 1931

My dear Harry:

My letter of a day or two ago had been mailed before I received the communications from Jennie and yourself or I would have added a line of congratulation upon the outcome of Harry's entrance examination. I have written a line both to him and John, and I am greatly pleased with the results they both have achieved. I hope John will not feel in any way chagrined at not obtaining first-class honours, more particularly when Lyon won a scholarship. I well remember the year that Max was so seriously ill and the effect it had upon my work at university. John must have been even more concerned over your illness, and he had, in addition, to meet obligations greater than my I had at the time. I think the children have all done remarkably well, and that you and Jennie have every reason to be very proud of them, and particularly of yourselves having succeeded in being able to give them the start in life which they now have.

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I have not as yet had a reply from Sir John Aird to my last letter, but I shall be greatly surprised if he does not "come across" with some readjustment which will serve to keep him in countenance with all of us. There is no doubt in the world that he meant you were to have the position of relieving manager for two years and that at the end of that time an extension or your full years leave of absence before going on pension. I imagine we have all gone as far in the matter as may be advisable, but I hope, as I have said to you before, you will be quite firm, maintaining the position that you had expected to receive the additional year before going on pension and had planned accordingly.

I understand that there is a possibility Delaney may go back to Barrie for the winter. I mention this just in case you may have any need for his services at that time. I have permitted him and his little family to stay on at one of the cottages by the lake. They sleep in the upstairs of the garage which is really a very pleasant summer quarters residence, and only use the kitchen of the cottage. Both he and his wife are careful not to let the children be in evidence when others are around. In addition to his savings, he will be practically clear on the item of rent. I say practically, for, in deference

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to what he believed to be my wishes, he secured quarters for himself and family with Malvihill the farmer for which he agreed to pay ten dollars a month. This was before he saw where the quarters were located. Later he decided to pay the rent either in whole or in part and forego the quarters and move to another farmers nearby where he engaged rooms for the family. He found, however, that they were quite different to what he grown accustomed to at my little cottage, and also that the landlord was so heavily in debt that the bailiff was about to make a seizure. When I learned of this, I told him that he might come back to the little cottage, if he so desired, and this he did with real appreciation, I think, of the opportunity. He has worked very hard and been most faithful, and it has been a pleasure to help him in these and other ways to enable him to retain more in the way of savings than otherwise would have been possible. He will probably be with me until the end of September and possibly the 15th of October, if not the end of that month. I will, of course, hope to get him back next year, possibly a month earlier in the spring, as he now knows where everything is and will, I believe, be able to exercise the kind of supervision that I need to have exercised over my little property in the country.

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I hope you are not yourself overworking. If you feel that you need the assistance of another man and this would serve to save your strength and energies and also relieve Jennie and the others from pressure, I would very gladly make a contribution towards that end than have you run the risk of overtaxing your strength. I saw in The Globe an advertisement of a young man who, for board and clothing, wished to learn something about hot houses and green houses. There may be someone that you could secure at not too great an expense who could relieve you of too great a worry until Delaney comes back, if he does, at which time you could not do better than secure his services for part time through the winter months.

With love to all, believe me, dear Harry,

Very affectionately yours,

Hl M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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Ottawa, July 1, 1931

My dear John:

I had meant to write and congratulate you upon having successfully concluded your first year at the university. I hope you will not feel in the least discouraged through not having come into the first class in the honour list. All your friends know that you have had very much to contend with during the past year. Your father's illness and all that you have done to assist both him and your mother in meeting the situations to which it gave rise, has necessarily taken not only much of your time but, what means more where examinations are concerned, your thought as well.

I have no doubt that, if you get a chance before beginning your next year to brush up a little on the particular subjects in which you may not have done as well as you would have liked, you will have no difficulty in winning the honours you may

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wish to during the next years of your course. As I look back on my own university course, I can see how I managed to get out of the university with a fairly good standing in the honour list, but I have yet to make out how I got through my first year. In my second year I won one of the Edward Blake scholarships for the second year in arts combined with the first year in law, but that was, as I recall it, after a very ordinary standing at the end of the first year. I hope, therefore, you will not feel that, because you did not do as well in your first year as you would like to have done, you may not come very near the top of the list in the second.

I am sure you share in the pride which we all feel in Lyon's achievement. After making all allowance for the fact that he was able to give his time uninterruptedly to his work, the fine standing he made reveals how thoroughly he must have pursued his studies and the fine mental equipment which he has and which, after all, is the greatest

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asset that anyone can possess.

I was glad to hear that little Harry did so well on his entrance examinations and that, in the matter of standing, apparently all you young people are more than holding your own in the competitive arena.

With fondest love,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

John Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.
WLMK/EAP

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Ottawa, July 1, 1931

My dear Harry:

I have just learned from your father and mother that you passed with first-class honours into the entrance class at your school. I am much delighted at your success and am sending you this line to extend to you my warmest congratulations upon it.

The fact that there was less than ten marks difference between the first ten in the honour list would seem to indicate that, if the questions had been a little different, any one of the ten might have been first on the list. That is really a splendid showing and one that I hope you may find it possible to keep up as the years go by.

With love and best wishes, believe me, dear Harry,

Your affectionate uncle,

Master Harry Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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July 4, 1931

My dear Harry:

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have just received from Sir John Aird and also a copy of my reply thereto.

You will notice, as I thought they would, he and Mr. Logan have reverted to the arrangement as set forth in Sir John's letter to me of April the 12th, 1930. I hope you will feel no concern about continuing as a member of the staff of relieving managers, for I do not think there is the slightest probability of your being treated any differently in that position during the present year than has been the case during the year just past. Also, I feel pretty sure that, at the end of another year, there will be no doubt about your being granted the years leave of absence to which unquestionably you are entitled owing to the period of your length of service. The fact that the bank continues you on its staff for two years longer cannot in any sensible way be construed as freeing them from what undoubtedly is a right as much as a custom.

My experience with all these great corporations is that they have ways and means of expressing their agreements

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and undertakings so as to enable them to meet conditions as they may from time to time arise. I would accept with the best of grace and appreciation what Sir John is now proposing, regardless altogether of what it may in any way involve. You may be sure that the letter is written in the form in which it is to save the face of the bank in the light of Sir John's letter of April the 12th, while the intention undoubtedly will be to carry out the spirit as well as the letter of that undertaking.

With love to all,

Affectionately yours,

H. H. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

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July 4, 1931

Sir John Aird,
President,
Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Toronto, Ontario.

My dear Sir John:

I am indeed obliged to you for your letter of July the third.

I am sure that both my sister and Mr. Lay will appreciate the further consideration you and the gneral manager have found it possible to give Mr. Lay's position in the light of what was assumed to be the purport of your letter of April the 12th of last year. To their thanks I should like to add my own to Mr. Logan and yourself.

With kind regards,

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

WLMK/EAP

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The boat will take a cheque
keeper and he charges him
25 & 50 cents for load
according to quantity I have
Ent. The cooks for the
every day until 4 here.
Now all accounts it is very
difficult for many Indians
of Summer Visit. John
Evans arrived who have
been glad to get Hopkins
at Camp Nordin, washing
dishes, during the summer
Training School.
We what you say about
his Bank and Little Ri John
will have a vacancy again
must telegram if confirmed
with his refund letter I
I feel that there are some
Yukon Territory

by Barrie, July 5. 1931

Ry dear Uncle,
Thanks ever so much
for your letter
and for your
about the cheque
am very glad
has at Jasper
and vacation
think you have
enjoy Banff
don't it stay
cottages. It has
Bath and it is
rather annoying

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has an Instinman's appreciation
of kindness and loyalty
to those who have shown
it to him.

We had a busy week
end, receiving several orders
for flowers for the funeral
of a Mrs Habbick. Alex Habbick
her husband, was agent here
for the Kuntz brewery of
Waterloo and a sorry
agent for the Seagrams
in looking after Joe Seagram
from time to time when he
Reached over the traces.

We had to make up 6 sprays a wreath and a cross.
It is rather fascinating work
and as we used only flowers
from our own garden,
including roses and lilies
the net profit was good
about $30— I am thinking
of taking in a short course
in flowers to be held in
august at Guelph.
It is only for two days but
might give me some very
useful suggestions.

Some people who have
a tourist camp across
from our place, have employ-
ed John to run a motor
boat in the evenings. He is
very enthusiastic about it.

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Boulderfel
Bowie
July 5, 1931

Dear Uncle Willie;-

Thank you very very much for your letter. I was very pleased with all you said in it, for I believe you understand the difficulties I had during the year. Besides Dad's illness, I was sick myself for the greater part of January and I missed some of the most important work. It wasn't until the last three or four weeks that I realized that I hadn't touched, practically, a lot of translation that was assigned work. As a result, while I should have been reviewing for the exams I was doing original work, right up till the eve of the exams. This was especially true of my German work, which was the heaviest part of our course on the whole staff, and a very interesting lecturer. I got to be quite a friend of his, and I will be very sorry if he doesn't come back during my third year. Early in the year I asked him if he remembered Mother, and he said he did, quite well. He remembered you, too, when you were there, though he must have been just new at the time.

Let me thank you again for your very kind letter. I really appreciated it much more than I can say, and it cheered me up quite considerably. With love and best wishes

I remain, your loving nephew

John.

P.S. I enjoyed reading the Hansard copy of your speech on the Budget very much. It was very interesting and instructive, and an excellent model.

John.

I was very pleased with John's success, for I knew he earned and deserved it all. He

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I have been very lucky to be able to get work at all this summer. A city job lays off this time of year & I knew at Varsity are doing nothing at all. Dad is paying me wages that will not pay for my fees. I hope to make about eight dollars extra in the boat, so as to have a little spending money, and be able to buy some new clothes.

I thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Varsity. Languages seem to be my field, and I find them extremely interesting. I like the Spanish best, I think, probably because it was new, but both French and German are also very nice. Next year I hope to take one lessons in Italian and Swedish as well. I wish I could learn Russian somehow, for I think Russia will soon be an important factor in world affairs. I am sorry that Mr. & Mrs. Lay cleaning the front of their house, for it is really the most delightful part

Are playing by Leonard in a kind of a crazy, while the nearly all the children were doing them in Toronto at all.

Besides working in the garden for Dad, I am earning a little extra running a motor boat in the Bay. I arranged to start, although I did not the cash for it. It belongs to a lady who rents it to acreas the road from us. I may be able to buy it from her eventually, if I want to. It is a 35 feet long, and carries twenty-five to thirty people and I get fifty cents for each trip. I have taken about nine fourteen trips, so I am not quite paid for it yet. On the Fourth of July we had a very busy day, and got a lot of advertising done. I hope to make about twenty trips a day

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him later in the evening.

I am delighted to hear that you think there will be an opportunity of seeing you at Barrie sometime this summer. We shall then have an opportunity of adding our thanks in person to those we now assume you of.

With very deep acknowledgment of your successful attack on the C.B. of C. and heaps of love from us all Yours gratefully and affectionately Harvey.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 9. 1931.

My dear Willie,

Many thanks for your letter of July 4th with the copy of Sir John's letter of the 3rd to you and your acknowledgment to Sir John.

Jennie and I both feel deeply indebted to you for the results of your taking up the cudgels on my behalf.

I wrote yesterday to Mr. Logan acknowledging receipt of a communication from him a copy of which I enclose

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While he does not commit himself except as to "Status" we shall look forward to them doing something fruitful for me should I be spared until July 1932. To be in a position to further the educational opportunities of the youngsters who are fast growing up round our table will be a cause of the greatest thankfulness. I hope the current year will put the finishing touches on a real auxiliary position. If my wishes are realized it may become a source of help and possibly develop into an avenue worthy of enlisting the activities of some of the children.

Nelson in the Skeena was to proceed on the 8th from Halifax on his voyage via the Panama Canal to the Pacific coast. He brought out the wide paper on which I am writing and some other articles for us. I am sorry we can't see him in the meantime but that is the fortune of a sailor's life.

We are all going to hear Stefansson at the Chautauqua tonight. I am asked to introduce the lecturer and Jennie and are to meet

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Copy.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Head Office,
Toronto, 8th July 1931.

Dear Mr. Lay:

Referring to our letter of 2nd June, we have had some correspondence with the Right Hon Mackenzie King and gather that you are under the impression that the change in your status was not quite in accordance with the pl plan to which we had agreed a year ago. We have accordingly decided to restore your statu to the Staff of Relieving M anagers until July 1932 and you may therefore ignore the advices in our letter referred to.

Yours truly,

(Signed) S.H.Logan

General Manager.

H.M.Lay Esq.,
The Canadian B ank of Commerce,
Barrie.

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camps at King.
Did I tell you we had the pleasure of having Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson here lecturing? We met him afterwards (Harry introduced him on the platform) and he came out to see us the next day. This is a snap. Harry took on our front steps. He wished specially to be remembered to you. We were all greatly charmed with him; he was so natural and pleasant, & his lecture was intensely interesting. Harry was specially pleased as he told so many things about the North which Harry

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How do you like this paper? Relation got it for us in England. J.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

July 23rd, 31

My dear Willie:

We are all so sorry you have this extra worry about Beauharnois but no one can doubt that, so far as you are concerned, there is nothing wrong. I am glad you are asking for a royal Commission for everyone seems to think that the Conservative

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are pretty keen to have it
shut up. Sir John A. would
certainly turn in his grave
Croak his son must be a
out to be. It is unfortunate
all normal but I fail to
see wherein it is criminal.
As I was saying last night
if these Lauce people
in the Lauce press
lost", no word of
Said about it.
see why, because
were sharp, they
to trust their own
on the chance of a

they should be criticised. Isn't the Globe a miserable sheet? This editorials yesterday & today are disgraceful. It is a great pity so many people consider it the Liberal organ. Cora rang up on Tuesday night to ask me if I had seen the "Star" or had heard from you, & she said to tell you they were all right with you. Jim is still there but is hoping every day to get a seat on the Chicago Stock Exchange. I saw Cora last week when Jean & I took Rosalet to a Girl Guide

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has always tried to make us believe!!

We had a letter yesterday from Kingston, January 2nd. He said the heat was simply terrible. He said the water was 82 and the air only 60 but when you get the sun in the shade you roast. All day without ceasing, they hope to warm up!! Thursday, 8th January. Jack is painting the house at present. It looks fairly fresh. Keep him busy all summer. Jean passed her Music

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but haven't heard about her
native yet. One of the teachers
who has been working the Latin
(on the Argonne) Papers in Toronto, told us that
after working steadily for two
days only 40 had got through.
The papers were sorted this year.
The Secretariat is heard from
and looks quite pretentious.
has done what he did last time
than he did last and seems
to "take in" a little each alumnae
every day.
Mother Goodness I have had
Doris thought the sorted heat. If
has probably been worse in Ottawa
Our heat too dear Billie. We
are all thinking of you every
day hoping you will soon again
be at the helm
Jennie

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tomorrow is the anniversary of Betty's death & Cora is glad to stay with her till that is past. She asked the preacher to read from Isaiah the 61st & he asked for the 53rd for they understood from that & stated she is still for them & asked if from speech other than it splendid. Judge Winner remarked it yesterday was most entertaining from speech. He said you made a wonderful impression on everyone! & a man chose his character by the things he laughs at. Bennett will be laughs at. Bennett will be laughing in a way he will no-one else! Laughing is a wonderful weapon! That is a wonderful weapon! Last Friday 2 I went down to St Clair St to the unveiling of the sundial in memory of Nellie Brooks and also the opening of a dining hall

My dear Willie: June 2 4th '31

I Mrs. Mc Leod drove up from Aurora with Mrs. McKinnon the day last week, & when she was the 1st spoke of the time Mother & Father stayed at the Lodge from and said you took a days shelling & her mother, Mother. She said she would love to have one & asked me if I remembered it. Told her I would ask you about it, as she was in her letter which came yesterday as if explaining who she is.

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I suppose you saw the reaction in the Globe? I am not enthusiastic over Robin's 3rd class honors but he thinks he did well to get honors at all as he was sick all January & certainly until Christmas his time was pretty well taken up with Harry's illness. I don't think any of us realized what a terrible strain that was. We are delighted that Cyrus has done so splendidly, & H. and the Edmund Walker scholarship. We sent him a note at once, as I suppose he is in Devon. Doubt if he sees the

Mary & Jane that is always the Edmund Walker scholarship, you know it is detached, or I should be very much interested to know. Jean tweeted today that Basil & Mr. Bond were to be at Colgate, maybe Jean told her. Mary tweeted she passed the exams & Basil has passed his also. Mary is doing a Classics degree & is very keen on it. Basil has had a job with Geo. Jim is still there but I don't see him. He is going to Cleaves later

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that if Harry had not been left so long in Washington he would have had a much larger salary to have his Dean. He is getting half as much again as many did. Still we are very fortunate & having it well this summer & it means so we shall probably be better off & he can, from more people may come to him if they think he needs the money! I must go to bed as it is getting late & have been very busy trying to get my family clothed!! I made over four old flannel nightdresses for Mary & Ethel. But the dear little five look well. We may see you if you can come to the picnic. We are thinking & loving you both

Jennie

in memory of Ethelyn Thompson Rae, Miller Lash's first wife. Helen answered the sun dial & D. Stuart Parker had very nice services both there & in the dining hall. I saw Winnie & Thompson's daughter there & had a little talk with her and with Mrs Lash's wife as well as many others. One of the girls asked me if I could give them a photo & asked to pay for it in the Holiday House as they wanted one of her & Nellie to be hung there. I told her I would ask you if you had a spare one big as would be glad to have it there. It seemed strange to see Isabel "miss" last

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which I took to the first Soldiers
dinner, still during duty time!
How I want to thank you dear
sweetheart for the interest you have
taken in Harry's retirement. I
do feel that the Bank cut-woon
a year, and, though Dr. Logan
later mentioned any stated time,
I always felt that Harry would
be kind & fair on the Retiring staff
and then so certain. Harry
as many years, they have been very
good in March calling on him
this last year and the very
thought of having to go back to Bank

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Barrie, Ont.,
July, 5th, 1931.

Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you very much for the letter of congratulations of my standing.

I am having a great time because I sleep over at Lloyd Smithland sometimes I go out in John's boat. To-day it was very

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windy and the boat nearly tipped when we were taking it in. I must close now because I have (~~the~~) to go to bed.

Your loving nephew

Harry Jay.

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Ottawa July 28 1931

Mrs H M Lay
Barrie
Ont

Am sorry have had no chance write Harry and yourself. Will write soon as session over. This message just to assure you present situation at Ottawa not causing me any personal concern. Love to all.

Willie

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King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family July-December 1931

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LH

Ottawa, August 14, 1931.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

It was some little time since I have had a free moment in which to get off a letter to you.

Never do I recall a siege such as the past month has been, and if I thought anything of the kind had to be gone through again, I would simply drop out of all active participation in public affairs. The worst feature of the whole situation is that much of it was so wholly unnecessary, and the result of sheer stupidity. How Dr. McDougald could ever have turned into the Beauharnois Company a voucher on travelling accounts in connection with his visits to Bermuda and to have brought my name in anything of the kind is something I simply cannot comprehend. It looks very much as though he had been seeking to have the Company believe that he had an influence with me which he had

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no time, possessed, and if this were his method of ~~taking~~ putting 4-
the facts known. That phase has caused me the most
concern, because it lent itself to all kinds of misun-
derstanding and misrepresentations. As I mentioned in
my statement in parliament, Dr. McDougall simply came
to Bermuda while Senator Haydon and I were there to-
gether, and when leaving, without our knowledge, settled
part of the accounts himself. He neither went with us
to Bermuda nor did he come with us away from there.

The campaign funds contribution was a shocking
disclosure, but there was about it nothing different
from what has taken place in other campaigns, and what
took place, I am sure, on a much larger scale, in so far
as the tories were concerned, in the last campaign.
The Beauharnois people seem to think that if they spent
enough money in different directions they would be cer-
tain to obtain certain increased rights which they would
require in the future. We are certain that they would
have received nothing from me under any other grounds
than strict merit. What makes this whole business so
disheartening is that, in reality, it is a Quebec Govern-
ment affair, and not an affair of the Federal Government

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beyond that of seeing that all rights of navigation are duly protected. The St.Lawrence River in Quebec belongs to Quebec, the power derived therefrom belongs to Quebec and the right of diversion of water belongs to Quebec, all in the same way as the Niagara River and the power development there and the Hydro Electric Company belong to the Province of Ontario. We have nothing to do with giving or withholding any power rights.

The concluding weeks of the session have been very strenuous, and have left me very tired. Apart from Beauharnois altogether, the session was a very heavy one and I had the heavy end of it. At one time, I had to do practically all the fighting end of it for the Opposition. The fact that personal friends were involved in the Beauharnois matter, and that, to some degree, they appeared to have been taking advantage of their friendship with me to further ends of their own without any knowledge on my part of what was going on, has been a particularly distressing feature. However, it is something of which all men in public life are liable. Bennett's whole action in the matter has been contempt-

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ible. He has none of the instincts of a gentleman, and has acted in everything like a coward and a bully, both of which he is, in no inconsiderable measure.

When the King and Queen of Siam were in Ottawa, I declined the Government's invitation to dinner in their honour, and let it be known that I did not intend to accept anything from his government from now on. I have been decency itself, and more than kind to him ever since he assumed the office of Prime Minister. From now on he shall have to look out for himself. It was particularly gratifying to me that the committees which investigated the matter were unable to connect the Government, either directly or indirectly, with any oversight, omission, mistake or misdemeanor. Our whole part in the Beauharnois matter was as clean and clear as any public transaction could be. In political campaigns, things always happen that are more or less creditable, but no right-thinking person would associate an incident of a campaign with the Government's record.

Just as soon as the session was over, I came out to Kingsmere, but I have been so busy ever since, seeking to overtake an arrears of correspondence and

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other work arising out of the session, that I have had no chance neither to rest or to enjoy the country. However, I am now pretty well at the end of the worst part of the arrears, and another week should see me pretty well caught up, and in a position to begin to once again live a normal life. The weather here has been so hot and dry that the lawns are all parched and scorched that it detracts very much from the appearance of the grounds. In other particulars, Kingsmere is looking better than it has in any previous year. The work done on the place during several years has produced good results.

You will be interested in knowing that I have sold about three hundred boxes of garden raspberries and am selling apples and vegetables to my grocer who credits them against my grocery bills.

Delaney has worked very well and faithfully in the garden and flowers. He has been a real acquisition, and I shall always be grateful to Harry for recommending him to me. He plans, I think, to return to Barrie in September. Meanwhile, his wife wife and little ones have one of the small cottages

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by the lake. My secretary, Mr. Henry and his wife and children have the other cottage.

While I think of it, I must let you know that I have changed the number of my Kingsmere telephone which is not in the book, and which it would not be possible for you to get ~~Sfoggt~~ if you had it on hand. It used to be Sherwood 428; I have changed it to Sherwood 876. The private line at Laurier House is Rideau 180, and the public line, Rideau 4246. You had better put these numbers somewhere where you will have them at hand.

I hope Harry, the children and yourself are continuing to be very well, and that, with you all, this summer is passing pleasantly.

Please let this letter bring to one and all my fondest remembrances and love.

C-2-5
C-2-5-0-0-0
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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 18th, 31

My dear Willie:

We were so glad to get your long and interesting letter yesterday. It has certainly been a terribly trying session and having to deal with a man who has none of the finer instincts doesn't make it any easier. Bennett has shown himself a bully from the moment he got into power and the Beauharnois business has proved him a coward as well. I still believe that a determined

Fraser which he was running for hire in his spare time. He hoped to make quite a bit of money, but the boat was not at all what Mr. Fraser represented it to be & has been a constant source of worry & expense; so much so that Harry told John to put the boat up for the season and try sell it as soon as possible. It really wasn't sea-worthy & I was terrified whenever John took a party out. He paid $800.00 for the boat & had it been as represented John would have done well & had a happy time. Harry was in Guelph last week

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effort to have the whole home
proposal would win
supporters to form
even if some unpl
disadvantages were
Liberals, it is certa
would appear to
discredit. I wonder
is any truth in the
made by Mr Roy that
had $2,500,000 at
in the last federal
seems to explain the
turn-over. I loathe
but a lot of people
'implicitly' put
with a lot of people
by their thinking. She
been a terribly trying summer

with its intense heat & humidity, and I don't think I ever was more tired. We have had a constant stream of visitors and no end of young people. It is lovely in one way, but a terrible strain in another. I would give much to be able to close up the house for the summer & get it is the lovely time here. One thing, the children will be able to look back on a happy childhood. I often wonder if they appreciate their blessings. We had a specially trying week last week, which perhaps accounts for part of my "dumps". John, early in the season, through a neighbour bought a boat from Mr.

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them yet. I don't think Ray will come out - she may send the boys. I haven't heard from her except her note acknowledging my telegram & letter about Lyon. Jean has just got word that she has got her six subjects in Jr. Matric, and is delighted. She also got her Intermediate exam in music. They go back to school on the 3rd Sept. so the holidays are nearly over. Jean is with the Aids in Toronto for part of this week, & they are going to see the Falls. John has worked for Harry all summer but has managed to get in some fun after hours. He doesn't go back till the end of September so will have some holidays before taking a "Short Course" at the O. A. C. and on Tuesday, when John had a party on - they ran on a sand bar & wrenched the propeller, so John decided to take Harry's advice & put the boat up. He was to keep it in Mr. Fraser's boat house for the winter. The boat was put up & the place locked by 8 p.m. and at 2 a.m. the boat, boat house & all its contents went up in flames. Mr. Fraser & Harry were both away and it transpired there was no insurance on the boat house though John had $1,000 on his boat. Mr. Fraser says

BOULDERFEL BARRIE

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John the cowboy [illegible] Rivers of Calling down Hell [illegible] him responsible for the song is claiming every thing is co can insurance [illegible] were family worries kinds of grief is friendship yours friends written just had the [illegible] though only [illegible] When Harry [illegible] he went across [illegible] yesterday a Mr [illegible] more smooth [illegible] Mr Young is pure

(he knows he hasn't a leg to stand on) Harry told him that we had intended asking him to take the boat off John's hands as it was not at all what he had represented it to be. We don't know how the matter is going to end but pray John will get his insurance & be able to straighten up everything. If Mr Fraser gets $800.00 for a boat he couldn't use, he is not doing too badly, but it ends a friendship which we thought was true.

I have invited May & the boys to spend next week with us, but have not heard from

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them. It has been a great joy to me having him home this summer. He is a great comfort to me & most companionable! Harry Jr has a tent, which he bought with part of his Christmas money, & sleeps out there, by himself if he can't get a chum, with "Bill" for company. He is a member of the Independent Little Cub. He was at the Scout camp for five days & Rovered was at the Cubs camp for two weeks. We had Dr Christie & Rozel here from Friday till Tuesday on the Civic Holiday. The Dr. looks very worn and has had an awful time as all his savings are in

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Both which are true.
Jim, Madge & Charlie this
& the kids were down from
Penetang last week end
this for to-day. I also saw
Conrad Watt when I drove
to Guelph on Monday.
She is in the R.V.C. Library there!
This is all for just now. If
is enough!! Hope you will soon
feel more rested already &
take the affairs & state of
work. Am glad Delaney has been
a success. Hope we will see you
some time soon, if you are in
this direction. Reddan has arrived
in Edmonton with Mother
Mother clear white in which all the
family join in the loving hello Jennie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 27th '31

My dear Willie:

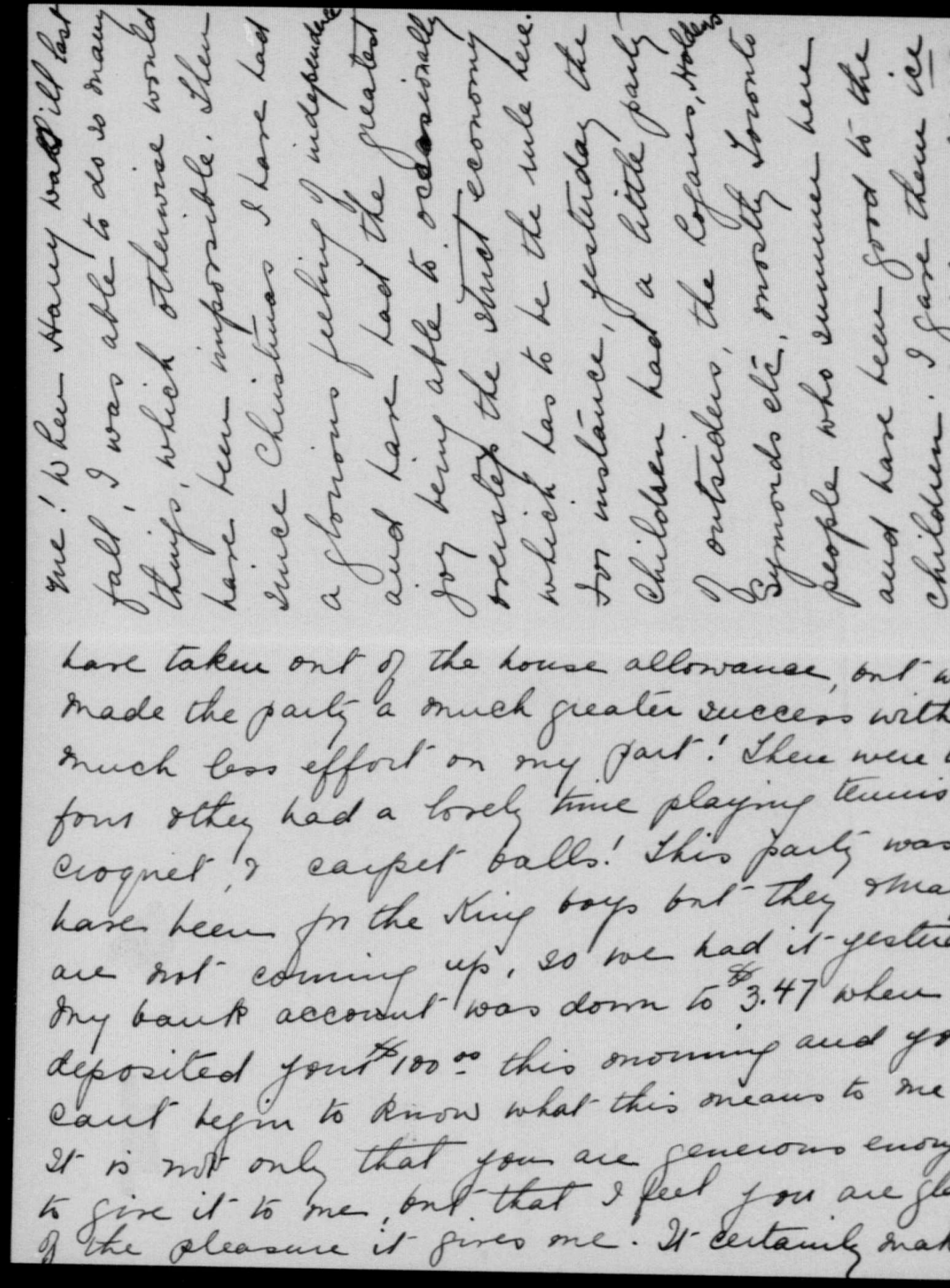
Your letter, which came yesterday, was the first one opened this morning, and your loving words and very generous cheque were a wonderful start for what, I hope, will be a happy new year. It is so good of you to give me such a very substantial sum to use for myself. It would be hard to put into words just what the last two cheques have meant to

life easier as well as pleasanter. Your letter is all kindness. Japie with you, we have to go a bit slower as we grow older, and I have found this summer that more rest is absolutely essential if I am to keep going. I remember your little medium telling you about Lord Byng of Vimy. I don't think it is wise to go to her for she might tell you something which would influence you adversely. It is hard not to believe some of the things they tell you! At any rate I am going to take her advice!

Mrs. Leach and her three children were here over night on their way from Muskoka, & have just left for their home in Toronto. She got no pension after her

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have taken out of the house allowance, but which made the party a much greater success with much less effort on my part! There were thirty-four others had a lovely time playing tennis, croquet & carpet balls! This party was to have been for the King boys but they may are not coming up, so we had it yesterday. My bank account was down to $3.47 when I deposited your $100.00 this morning and you can't begin to know what this means to me. It is not only that you are generous enough to give it to me, but that I feel you are glad of the pleasure it gives me. It certainly makes

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miles the day we took Harry to Guelph. Harry got several very helpful ideas from the course there. He met a Miss Simpson who is the daughter of the editor of "Hansard", who said she remembered the wonderful sweet peas he used to send to Dunlop from Walkerton!

The insurance man is coming up tomorrow & we hope to have things adjusted about John's boat. It has been a very anxious as well as unpleasant business. I don't believe in doing business with friends; sometimes you find out too much about them! We are going to a tea this afternoon, and as it is nearly

husband's death is now working in an office in Toronto. She is very plucky.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

I was very lucky today! Barry gave me $10.00 and a suit (knitted) John & Jean, a lovely tooled leather hand bag. Peach & Harry a pair of silk bloomers & stockings, Cora a beautiful cut glass decanter for raspberry vinegar. & a pair of silk stockings, Mr. Leach a box of candies, and a stack of letters from friends. There will be one from Nelson when we go to town. This last year has had a good many trying times, but never have I had more comfort than Doris has given me in the kitchen. She is a good maid and one of the nicest girls I ever had. Long

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may she remain, and as long as she does I shall not worry about me. She is so good to the children too, and though she is only 19 is a splendid maid. We were fortunate delightful at the result of the Quebec election. Surely Bennett must have got a clear majority in his own Province! Beauharnois has all thought. Do you think Mr. Taschereau will do anything to help Liberals in Ontario? Mr. Hepburn is a miserable failure. Mr. Karl the Prophet is another disappointment. Is it bound to come out sooner or later.

I am glad Mary & the boys are going down to see you. You will find a great change in Mary. On account of Jim feeling as he does, Cora has not been able to ask anyone there, and Mary evidently resents that too. I am sorry she has acted as she has, for she has made it impossible for me to make any more overtures in her direction. I would love to see Kingsmere & all the changes you have made. If only we were not so decrepit we might accept your kind invitation & the family land at Kingsmere, for it really is not a very long drive. John & I drove nearly three hundred

dear I must go & get dressed.
I wanted to write the first
letter to you & write it on
my birthday. Your message
was delivered to me before
nine o'clock this morning
just after I had opened all
my parcels, & felt for
the few moments from God!
I do hope you will get up
this fall. The pneumonia is
to be finished this week & I am
already has changed in the new air.
tomatoes growing in the sun.
It is splendid that you
done so well with your
audits a great satisfaction

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to see mother & all your
dear ones. We shall
probably be glad of Delaney's
help in the busy season but
though we can't keep him
working steadily. We should
much rather be without it for
then I must go. Best love
dear Willie in which all
the family join, and many
many thanks for all your
loving wishes and splendid
gift. Hope you will keep
well yourself and be ready
to take the job Reynolds
again best love
ever your loving sister
Jennie

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Ottawa,
September 16, 1931

My dear Jennie:

Miss Edith Sangster, of Stouffville, Ontario, who is one of the best Liberals and truest friends in North York, is ill at the Toronto General Hospital. I understand from letters I have received from her brother Walter that his hopes for recovery are none to sanguine.

I wish you would ask Harry to make up a suitable box of flowers and send them to her, with the card which I am enclosing herewith, and forward the bill to me.

I am sending this order to you rather than to any firm in Toronto as, being in the business, I naturally prefer to have the order put in your way, but please see that it is regarded as business and send me the account.

I hope all is going well with you all. The summer is passing too quickly here.

I had a very nice visit with May and the boys. They were with me one night at Laurier House and one night at Kingsmere; the day was divided between seeing the two houses and something of the city. They motored down and back

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Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

without mishap of any kind, and in about nine hours each way.

If, at any time, you and Harry and the members of your family find a like venture possible, be assured that the heartiest of welcomes will await you either at Laurier House or at Kingsmere.

Upon looking over some papers in the cottage I came across the enclosed little album, which evidently Max had when quite a small boy. I was somewhat in doubt about the wisdom of sending it on to May, but I thought that Harry and you would be interested in seeing the little verses which it contains written by Harry himself. If, after looking at the volume, you think it would be of interest to May or the boys, either keep it for them or send it to them.

With love to you all,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept: 23rd 31

My dear Willie:

Many thanks for your letter which came Monday morning. Harry immediately sent an order for a dozen talisman roses to Dale & we had word this morning that they had been sent. They will cost you $3.00/100 which includes express. We thought roses would be best as garden flowers now are rather up & much and there are not enough yet in the greenhouse. I am very sorry to hear this

came to Barrie. When I think of this time last year, my heart is filled with gratitude. He is so interested in his greenhouse which is now finished except for the blower in the furnace room. John is putting in the electric wiring & is almost finished. The tomatoes are coming on wonderfully. John got a drive to Toronto a week ago, crossed to Lewiston by boat "thilch-hiked" from there to Van Etten N.J. where some friends of his lived. Coming back he took the train as far as Rochester. There he saw a Toronto car with two men & an empty rumble seat. They gave him a lift to Toronto & he took the train home. The man in the car turned out to be Mr Argue of the Toronto Star who

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December 1931 July-

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Sanpeter is so ill. I remember her smile well. She was at Mrs Cavell. The day we were there and I was so sorry to hear of her death. She other times. She certainly is a good-hearted soul & has been so kind to me & to Harry. Her brother will miss her terribly.

I am glad you had a nice visit with Mary & Hector. I had a letter from her after she reached Denver, in which she said "your new house is very, very nice." I thought it delightful when I was there. I shall make a point of visiting the boys in Ottawa coming

it lets me out in future, for I shall certainly not invite them again. I am sorry for Mary for she has had a lot to contend with.

I am sending you a copy of the Canadian Florist which has a picture of Harry's new greenhouse. I hope you will see it some day soon. We saw by the paper that you are to speak in London(?) in October. Perhaps you may be able to take a day off then and come & see us. I am sure you will think Harry looks remarkably well. I think he has been better this year than any summer since we

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laid he knows you when you were Undersecretary! We thought John looked very like you. John was away nine days, crossed New York City, had a 250 mile trip through the Allegheny Mts., went to Cornell University, saw numerous other sights, thought was each a little different in all 30 ... the trip did him a lot of good & he has worked hard all summer & has had an auspicious time as well. We got $50.00 of his $100.00 insurance during sickness to get it over the cost of the last operation & he met a stump Poor Bills had a bad time last night: he met a stump and has been sorry ever since!

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We had to stay outside last night as we couldn't have Rin near the cradle night-kidneys dread times last night, but is bearable today! Mom is Pat? We would be glad to have the summer in Kilpatrick.

Hal Rae children are keep at school and John goes back to Varsity next week. We are going down on Saturday to Bonfin & room for Rin. We have to replate before then. We have to leave here on Saturday but come back Friday.

Harry & Nora greatly entertained with Rae's autograph album! Mr. Kilpatrick was last the other day the Harry spoke of Mr. Kilpatrick. Harry told me I need Rae's Rin to it was rather funny to see his name with Harry's Kilpatrick on the last page! I and sure the King hope would be

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be at all interested in the happy and gracious way you and Mr. Lay would [illegible] case for St. Still, it has one of those original "Sonnets", as the English-like to have it.

I had a letter from Mrs. Ferguson the other day about you seeing to be to be interested in this and I think I am sending it on. I read the part which concerns yourself. I it makes you feel. It is not the woman who told her about you before.

Love & much love. Mary had a twinkle 'I twinkle' boynets to make today, also your courage boynets this

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evening so it has been a
good day. We need it!!
Dear Love, dear Willie, in
which all the family join
and thanking you for your
business letter, and hoping
to see you soon
Yours loving sister
Jennie.

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file

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 4th '31

Dear Willie:

Mrs Whimster has just phoned me that Miss Sangster died yesterday. I am very sorry for her brother who will miss her very much, and have written him a little note of sympathy. Mrs Whimster wondered if I would be going to the funeral but I didn't think it necessary as I had only met Miss Sangster two or three times. I was in Aurora at a tea at Mrs Whimster's on Friday & she told me she had been to see Miss Sangster in the hospital & that poor

that they never got chicken when Mackenzie King's government was in power. Quick as a flash Mrs McKinnon replied "No, then we sold our chickens, now we have to eat them!" That would make a good election story.

I am going down to Massey Hall on Thursday to see the Passion Play. The Sinclairs are driving down & I am going with them. Only your generousity makes it possible, for I couldn't be so selfish as to dip into the family fortunes to that extent." John is at 720 Spadina Ave this year and has a very nice room at Mrs Hoodi's. She was Dora Rideout before she was married & I used to know her. She only takes two roomers and John has the back

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beautiful roses were there. She
Said Miss Sanford had enjoyed
so much walking
and that you had
such a beautiful
Said she had meant
to [illegible] from
Miss Sanford was,
part if ff. Friday
birthday and she
to take five of us
W.L. niece, Miss Crockett
was there and she had
tea. She is going to
your meeting on the
I have been expecting
birthday present. I
Thursday I went
Toronto to hear
J. Jefferson, 9 Mr. Bennett
Mr. Massey hall. I

anything poorer than Bennett. Did you see Knowles' write-up in Friday's Star? It was worth reading. Dr. Oliver gave as eloquent a speech as I ever listened to & Bennett, who followed him, was a sad contrast. The huge audience rose when he got up to speak & gave him a fine reception but he never even looked up or responded to it in any way. His manner is most objectionable.

I have a good story for you. Mr. Cornett was over here at a Kiwanis luncheon, & Tanny went to hear him speak. At Hanny's table were seven men all of them Liberals but one. They had chicken for luncheon and the one Conservative remarked

2.

Chairman room and is paying me dollar an hour to paint his little bedroom and den. He pays four & ten his room & as a special favour she is giving him his meals at twenty-five cents a meal, the same as he pays at Hart House. John is home today as it is his birthday. He is thirteen today!!

Will you be able to get up to see us when you go to Toronto? If there is any chance of your coming on Sunday the 18th for the Rugby as Dr. A. Phillips is coming to Barrie that day and I will not ask him to stay with us if there is any chance of your being here. It seems a long time since we saw you

You have probably seen the enclosed clipping so it is old

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but it's very interesting to read. This morning we had to Rev. Dr. Pallbacks Church preaching on no. We now talking about Lord Byng & he said "I remember hearing Sir Robert King say in a very thoughtful speech he made in Toronto, that his mentor in his home was a child who came into his room & said "We spoke to him after the dinner & Harry told him I was your uncle & he was much impressed. He said he had often thought of your address at St. Andrews on the evening the latter was unveiled.

We have just heard over the radio that "Bobs" Bilmer is entering the Dominion Cabinet "etc" We have a radio in our flat and it is very clear. Can not one is pretty well worn out, but don't think we can manage this one just now.

I must go to bed so will close. Hope to hear you are coming to see us very soon. All join in sending best love & kind regards to Jennie

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Form 6122, replacing Form 1-TW

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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OTTAWA OCT 10 140P

MRS H M LAY

BARRIE ONT

WILL GO TO BARRIE FROM LONDON AFTER MEETING THERE ARRIVE BARRIE PROBABLY WEDNESDAY EVENING OCTOBER TWENTY FIRST WILL LET YOU KNOW TRAIN TIME LATER

WILLIE

USE OUR DIRECT ALL CANADA SERVICE TO VANCOUVER, VICTORIA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA POINTS

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

October 12th 31.

My dear Willie:

There was great excitement when your wire came on Saturday telling us you would be here next Wednesday. If only this lovely weather will last! It has been a beautiful day today and Harry & the children had a good game of tennis.

John has just gone back to Toronto after spending Thanksgiving here. What a

6/6

Collegiate where they were having a banquet, & are them a boy as he said it wasn't worth asking the price! It can't keep up; it is too good to be true, from our point of view!! We are looking forward to having a good good talk & Hope you will not be too tired. I suppose you have been at Kingsmere today. It would be beautiful with autumn colors.

Sam Cora & Jim on Thursday. Cora went with John & me to see the Passion Play, which was wonderful. Will not write more tonight but we are all looking forward with the greatest joy to seeing you next week. All join in sending best love.

Ever your loving sister Jennie

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different Thanksgiving [illegible] this has been from [illegible] to Sun I booked at [illegible] afternoon playing [illegible] children and [illegible] that has happened [illegible] part year, I was [illegible] It was just a [illegible] that the D. T. [illegible] have to have his [illegible] be wonderful how [illegible] manage it etc: I [illegible] goodness to us, I [illegible] Blessings I that have [illegible] Amen what a lot we [illegible] to Thanksgiving [illegible] I started out to lay

we would be to see you, I got off on this side track! There has been great discussion as to whether you still have a private car. The children maintain you have, I think you have not! It seems to me this is about the best time to start a Liberal campaign! No one can have any respect for Bennett and his despotic ways, and certainly the farmers have never got such wretched prices as they are getting at present. Potatoes here were selling at 15¢ cents a bag on Saturday, and Jean said the farmer who brought a bag to the

0021-0008

October 13, 1931

My dear Jennie

I was delighted to receive the little publication containing the picture of Harry's greenhouse, and must congratulate you both very warmly upon it. I had no idea that you had anything so extensive and so beautiful upon the premises. I hope resultant business will justify the investment, as I am sure it will. I am looking forward quite eagerly to seeing you all again and the greenhouse at the same time.

As I telegraphed you on Friday last, I expect to run up to Barrie for a night one day next week. I leave Ottawa on Monday night and will speak in London on Tuesday night. I have half a mind to spend Wednesday night with Peter Sims at Kitchener. He is anxious for me to see his home in the country, and I have not visited the town in years, so I may stop off there Wednesday night, in which event I will come along and spend Thursday night with you in Barrie. If I do not stop off at Kitchener, I shall, D.V., spend Wednesday night with you instead. I

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would like to have one day at least in Toronto, but I feel I ought to be in Montreal on Saturday to be present at the marriage of Premier Taschereau's son to a young lady who lives in Montreal. I think the Liberals of the province will expect me to be there, so that I will not have more than just a very short time to divide between London, Kitchener, Barrie and Toronto. I will send you a wire just as soon as I reach a definite decision as to the day.

Delaney is returning to Barrie with his little family tomorrow. He will probably reach there before this letter. The family has increased by one since its stay at Kingsmere, Mrs. Delaney having given birth to a little son about the middle of September. She came in from the country to one of the city hospitals and her sister came over from the States to look after the children. They had part of one of the little cottages and the upstairs of the garage most of the summer, and were all very happy and contented there. Since the baby arrived they have been living with a family near Chelsea.

Had I expected to have this little family on my hands I doubt if I would have arranged to have Delaney come down. It was, however, not his fault, as he was quite insistent about keeping his wife and children away from Kingsmere altogether. I could not,

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however, think of his paying rent and incurring other unnecessary expenses for the time he was with me, so I have done what I could to save him here and there what incidental expenses I could. It has been a pleasure to do this, as he has been most appreciative, and he has also been very faithful in his work. There is something very pathetic about the whole family. They seem to be so completely without anything in the world, and how he manages I really do not know. I think he has saved most of the wages of the summer, and I am paying his expenses from and back to Barrie, and will give him a little something extra to help meet the additional outlay on account of the new arrival. Another year, however, I doubt if I will take him on unless he decides, as he himself said he would prefer doing, to leave his family behind. While they have not been a trouble, I have felt them a source of anxiety most of the summer, fearing something might happen to one of the children. Besides they are not too clean, having been accustomed, I imagine, more or less to a sort of hovel life. Delaney himself has had a very bad cold recently, and I have sometimes been fearful about developing into something worse. It seems to me the poor fellow does not get the proper food.

I understand that Fraser - I suppose he is the one you wrote me of - is giving

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Delaney and his family furnished premises, rent free, Delaney to give such time as is necessary to looking after his greenhouse and to assist him in the raising of tomato plants. No doubt Delaney will be over and give you all particulars.

Once the spring planting was over I saw that Delaney's knowledge of gardening was pretty largely restricted to what he has picked up in hothouse work. He understands planting flowers and caring for them, but he has no idea of how to plan a garden, or to arrange plants in beds, nor is he too skillful in the out-of-door management of flowers. He is very faithful and willing. No man could be more so. But he needs to have someone telling and showing him what to do. I have had one or two farm hands helping me during the summer to improve the lower part of my grounds. At the beginning of the year I had them working with Delaney, and to a certain extent under his direction, but I soon found that they knew much more about the care of lawns, underbrushing, and the like than he did. He has managed, however, very well, and I hope when you and Harry talk with him you will tell him that I have been very much pleased and well satisfied with his work, and that I have admired particularly his faithfulness. I do not know that I have ever met any

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man who was more conscientious and anxious to please. That in these days is worth very very much indeed.

I think Delaney feels very proud of the work he has done and his association with "the estate" at Kingsmere. I should like him to feel that that is something which gives me pleasure as well. In saying good-bye in the morning I intend to say to him that he ought to be on the lookout for something of a permanent nature which will let him remain with his family wherever he may be, and that I shall be glad to give him a reference, as I know you and Harry also will. I will tell him that if he can find anything of the kind I think he should take advantage of the opportunity. If, however, when another year comes around, if we are all spared and he has nothing better in view, I will be glad to take him on again at Kingsmere, though he will have to arrange to leave his family behind. I really hope he may get a settled position, for I do not like the idea of his being separated from his wife and little ones, and except for the planting in the spring, I can manage very well with the farm hands I have had this summer.

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I came in from Kingsmere on Sunday evening. The weather was getting quite cold, and I was afraid of frost which would freeze the pipes. Also having the London speech in hand I felt I could not conclude it satisfactorily out there.

The summer has gone much too quickly by, indeed it seems to me that, apart from moving in and out I have done little else. I have, however, worked hard most of the summer, and worked hard practically every day. I feel better physically, though still more or less fatigued. The worry of the Beauharnois matter at the end of the last session has been much more of a strain then I thought it would. I never knew before that I had quite the amount of pride which I believe I had, nor would I believed that the folly and stupidity of others could have wounded it so deeply.

As I shall be seeing you, I hope, in the course of a few days, I will not add more. Please let this letter bring to you all my fondest love.

Yours affectionately

P.S. Since writing this letter last night your letter of a day or two ago arrived this morning. Rodney, too, has been in and said goodbye, he is now on his way to Barrie

WLMK/FM

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Night Letter London October 20 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Have abandonned idea of visiting Kitchener. John and I will arrive Barrie tomorrow evening. John tells me you will wish to meet train at Allandale at seven twenty-eight. Kindest regards.

ful44 Willie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

October 25, 1931.

Dear Uncle Willie,

This is just a note to thank you again for all the kindness you showed me during last week, and for the very welcome gift you left me on Thursday. I can scarcely explain how glad I was to be able to get to London on Tuesday evening. It was certainly worth while taking the chance to hear your speech, and the notoriety I have enjoyed since has been very amusing.

with the States before then? I imagine it would have a considerable effect on the number and size of the Canadian exhibits, and the business to come from them.

Again let me try to express to you my very sincere thanks for your kindness and generosity to me,

Ever your loving nephew
John.

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interesting. He prefixed his main address with a few remarks concerning the situation in the Prairie Provinces.

Jean and I are going to Toronto by car early to-morrow morning. She is going to assist at Peggy Thistle's coming out party to-morrow afternoon. I hope we can leave at about half past seven so that I will be able to get some work done before lectures. I have one lecture at ten and another at twelve o'clock.

I started investigations to-day with y regard to your suggestion concerning the Chicago World's Fair. I believe I ought to be able to find some firm that would consider it. Couldn't someone give Mr Bennett a tip to improve our trade relationships

Doctor Simpson, our M.P.P., has threatened to read me out of the party for having my picture in a Tory paper! I think that everybody in Town saw the account in either the Mail or the Star.

I hope your umbrella has reached you by now. I got back to the station at Allandale while the train was still in sight, but just too late to catch it.

On Friday night mother and I went to hear Hon. Duncan Marshal speak to the Canadian club. He was talking about Scotland in the main, and his fund of Burns' poetry and stock of Scotch jokes seemed inexhaustible. He was very entertaining and extremely

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Dec.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 27, 1931

Dear Uncle Willie,—
I must seem like a very ungrateful child for not having written to you before this! I have really not had a moment to spare. I got back from Toronto this morning.
I want to thank you very much from the wonderful present I found waiting for me when we got back from the station. Uncle Willie, you were far too generous! I can

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Mrs. Ballantyne's was very
successful. Time was a
dance after. I can tell
you I sustained a good
time.
Well, I must close you
with many thanks Sunday
with much love, Claudia
you very much again, I
am
your affectionate niece,
Jean.

again you, that
letter must have
welcome sight. I
running only bra
to think some
learning Mother's
and Dad's silver
anniversary. I d
what I was going
after you got all
presents, there is
little Jean asked m
for me, was
a day my bank
Claude pulled
opened
a prayer I
it was
again and it did
a great deal good
I had a perfect
time in Toronto, v
Peggy's "coming-out
tea at

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct 30 1931

Dear Uncle Willie,
I hope you got down to Montreal safely because we certainly enjoyed your visit.
I am writing to thank you for the two fifty you gave me. I had earned fifty cents at home and (~~unbeat~~) the money I had earned and yours made three dollars. I at once put it in the bank.

it is time to go to bed
your loving nephew
Harry.

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Yesterday Miss Ferguson sent me some Halloween gifts.

This afternoon was "Shell-Out." That is the merchants giveaway all their stale candy to the children and the children grab for it

To-morrow evening is Halloween and I am going to wear a Cardinal suit.

Last night Mr. Kepburn spoke here and Dad went to see him.

Yesterday mother drove to Walkerton and back

I must close now as

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 1st - 31

My dear Willie:

Even since you left I have been wanting to send a line to tell you how much we enjoyed having you here. I was so busy (in one way!) we were so busy, it didn't give Harry a chance to talk to you as he wanted to, but we knew you understood. We had another big day last week after his Camp Borden men were killed!! It sounds heartless, does the children it, but such is life! They carried with your umbrella just as the train rounded the curve so it was useless to try & catch you at Craigvale. I hope it reached

Dorie asked me specially to thank you for the dollar, which will qualify delighted her. J.

Last night Harry Rosatti had the children in for tea & they had a glorious Hallowe'en party. They were all dressed up & had a lovely time. We had about twenty children call on us last night, but they were all gentle & there were no rough tricks. I am always glad when Hallowe'en is over. They couldn't use their Hallowe'en things last year as Harry was in the hospital & I was with him in Toronto, so last night that has been promised for a long time. They enjoy it all so much that I often wish I could have more such treats, but perhaps then it wouldn't be such a treat! Yesterday we gathered stocks, Calendulas, verbenas, nasturtiums etc in the garden & we are going to get some more today. I don't think that ever before we have picked flowers in the garden

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Saturday. I went
when we got home
6 p.m. till 6 a.m.!!
slept from
The next day Mama
Esther were here
was asking if Ruth
Saturday I made
little evening dress
Winnie Ballantyne
Peggy Shields
was at the dance
the evening from
"very pretty". She
time I everyone
Harry Short Scott
town all week at
and has been here
She was tired out
here for a rest.
with her yesterday

Mrs Wade who said she was a good Liberal.' I was sorry to miss Mr Hepburn's speech here on Thursday night. Harry went to hear him, but I was over in Walkerton pouring tea for Sadie Brenner who has just been married & gone back there to live. She taught Jean Rosabel music & was a friend of Nelson's, & I had promised to go before I knew Mr Hepburn was to speak here. Harry said Dr Simpson made a very good speech too did Hepburn. One thing the latter said was that if Beauharnois had happened in Ontario they would have run Senator McDougall out of the party. It struck me it was rather like a small boy correcting his father!! He isn't any very shining light, is he? Mrs Simpson brought Mr Hepburn down here but I was helping at a tea at the church so they came down there afterward.

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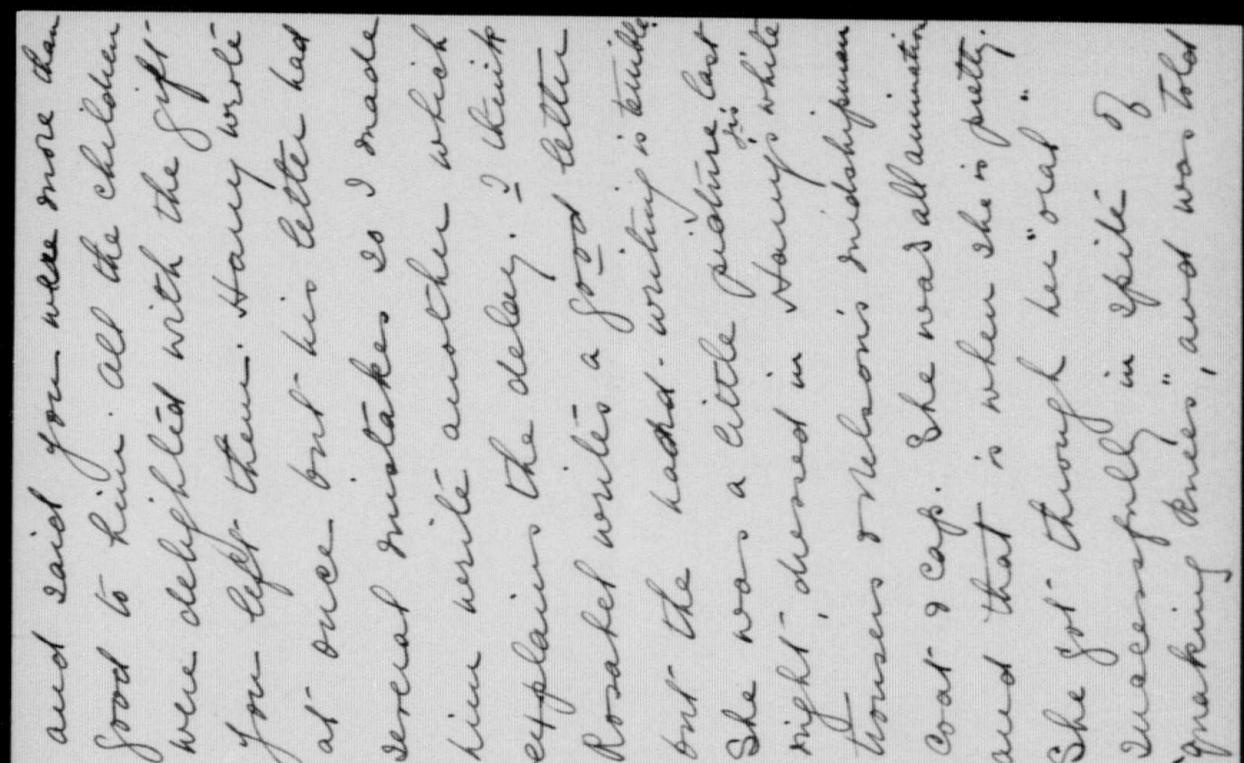
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I had quite a long talk from
day in answer to mine, & the
Lady both boys are doing well.
Lyon has been chosen vice
President & is to
the rugby team. Cotton too is
expected his college life. Jean
Edward the boys are happy but it
must be very lonely for them,
there were so many things
to ask from Ottawa for but they
all seemed to disappear when
came here. I think it was very
good of you to come to the time
when you are so busy, but after
all we are very little & the only one
missed for are really the only one, the
children will remember. I hope we
may see you soon again all join in
sending best love to you dear Wilkie &
with many thanks for all your kindness

the first I
It has been a
but today
much colder a
help have to pu
in the car! It
terrible storm
had this boys
John did
week. And his
a dance at the
Friday night
Club is having a
so to stayed in
we has been
boat week to
to get the week
Dearth thrilled
pleasures of the

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and said you were more than good to Kim. all the children were delightfully with the speeches from left them. Harry wrote his letter had several mistakes in writing so I made him write another one. I think he is getting on splendidly. Rosabel writes a good letter but the last one she was a little tired. She was up at 9 o'clock and that is when she got through. Duncan Marshall's speech was splendid

0021-2-0

Ottawa,
November 2, 1931

My dear Jennie:

I am sorry to have been so long in writing to thank you and Harry for the pleasure of my little visit to Barrie and all your kindness to me at the time. As you know, I went on to Montreal from Barrie and did not get back to Ottawa until Sunday. The past week has been one series of engagements, which made correspondence all but impossible. In addition, I have had a very heavy cold, which confined me to bed part of the time. I think I was over-tired after the London meeting and did not get properly rested after getting back to Ottawa. However, I think I have knocked the cold pretty well out now and shall be alright again in a day or two.

It was a great delight seeing you all again and particularly to see you all looking so well. I was particularly pleased to have a glimpse of the new greenhouse, which seems to me a very beautiful as well as valuable addition to your property.

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07-00-00

I do hope that in the way of an investment it will prove all that you and Harry hope it may. Certainly, if business on any considerable number of days reaches the propostions it did the day I was with you, it will not be long before you will be doing very well.

I enjoyed very much our little visit to the Miss Brocks. They are nice neighbours to have so near at hand.

When I got back to Ottawa I was distressed to find that Mrs. Atkinson had died evidently on the day I passed through Toronto. For months passed I had been meaning to have some flowers sent to her, and I also intended to call on Mr. Atkinson when in Toronto. Somehow or other the strain and pressure of the last parliamentary session caused me to overlook many matters of the kind. I rang up Mr. Atkinson at once, to explain why I had not sent a message to him or been present at the funeral. I assume you have already written him. If not, I hope, when you write, that you will let him know how distressed I was at not having learned of Mrs. Atkinson's death until after the funeral.

I was very pleased with the letters I received from the children. I am sending a further line to Jean, as I really had meant to give her a little something in addition, to equalize the trip John and I had together. I was greatly pleased to see

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into what a fine young lady Jean was developing.

I have had to make a change in my chauffeur, and you will be amused in learning that the new man I have is named Lay. This surely affords him every reason to feel that he belongs to the family. He was Lady Willingdon's chauffeur during the last year she was in Ottawa. I find it considerable of a burden having to keep a chauffeur in my home, but it is impossible to manage without someone in immediate contact with the house.

I am only beginning to overtake the correspondence of the past month, which accumulated during the time I was preparing my London speech and the period which has since elapsed. If not for this I would write you at greater length.

Please let this letter bring fondest love to all and renewed thanks for all the pleasure of my little visit. Let me thank you too for sending on the umbrella, which has duly arrived. Please let me know what the outlay was on express charges.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

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I met him walking down the street with his head bent and talking to himself" His friends answer was "He was probably having a Cabinet meeting!!"

Cora rang up the other night but Dad & I were both out so little Nancy had the conversation. John says she looks pretty tired, but I guess she is glad to have Jim with her. It is too bad he hasn't a steady job. Did you notice this article in the Globe, a week ago? It would be a good time to do something of the kind & I am glad, some one apart from the family, is suggesting it. The woman who wrote this evidently knew what she was

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Nov. 22nd 31

My dear Willie:

It is just a year today since Nancy came home from the hospital. I feel it is quite wonderful what he has been able to accomplish in this year, and I am filled with gratitude whenever I think of what might have been! He has had a splendid month in a business way & we hope it will continue. He has been rushed, and I only hope that by Christmas he will need help! Even if he doesn't, it is a great satisfaction to see

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such an improvement over last
year. The tomatoes are grand
this year. The tomatoes are grand
beginning to color and
a good crop. They
mean money!
first finished
a trifle coat.
big job but is a
savings. This
weather has made
to see in the
that is a joy.
saving. The children
still sleeping out
John has fixed
is trouble with
we came up with
festivities so did

cheap this week!

We were delighted to see the result of the S. Wellington election. It shows the feeling, for that has long been a strong Tory riding. I see you have been in Halifax & St. John. Mr. Bennett will be making some more blunders in England. Some of the remarks about his arrival have not been very complimentary. One of Jean's Camp Borden friends was in here last night & told us rather a good story. He said a friend of Bennett's was very worried about him & told a friend he thought Bennett was feeling the strain of his work." As by last week

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2.

Talking about
Cash recap Mrs Graydon and
Helen sent me a beef tikki
fold chair, certificate against hers
which had belonged to Nellie
Also Isabel's gold ring which
the dentist filled for her dated
I owe Jane to Nellie after deep
death. I am so glad to have this
the ring will have to be enlarged
as Isabel had very slender
fingers, I will send to Rogers
Banks Leo Jean's ring for her.
they sent Helen Mrs. A. Jean
Brown.

Our old car went back on us
Cecil and we are now getting
a Buick sedan. It does not
have to be paid for till May and

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I hope wild grapes will grow
here enough for us to have a can
and our [illegible] me was land
on the plains. Then to I was
always worrying about many
coming out of the green house
driving in that [illegible] car. I
hope the closed one will be
a few cents. It is a 1928 model
and belonged to W. N. Wright, the
same man who owned our last
car. We think it a great bargain
at $75.00 but only because it
made us get it. I really liked
our big old car better, but the
children feel very fine in this
I don't think we shall ever
have another car like that
7 passenger Buick, it would
hold any number of people

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and had a wonderful experience. Nelson is feeling badly that his car is still in Halifax. He offered it to us for $350.00 but-when we can only have one car it has to be kept empty to take the family. Nelson's old Pontiac roadster would be ideal in running about in, but he is too tall with his stiff knee! He will probably have it shipped by water, next spring. Alex has had the Governor of B.C. on a month's cruise up the coast and he now is in Seymour Narrows in search of gold that they will probably go south. Three new boats. Samuel he says one is getting on Delaney seems to be getting on

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quite well. We have a furnace
by furnace to look after, and
has Mr. Fraser's previous house
Mr. Fraser is in Windsor as
Delaney is in charge there. It
doesn't mean much financially
but he has his home free and
ought to be able to get through
the winter with his extra job.
I hope you are rested after
your strenuous time in London
and in the maritimes. It must
be a great strain meeting so many
people as well as giving addresses.
All are well here and join in
sending very much love to you
dear Willie. I am so glad you
were able to get up here for the
little visit. It was a great joy
to us all. With much love
we form loving wishes Jennie

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December 2, 1931

My dear Jean:

In a letter I wrote you shortly after leaving Barrie I mentioned that I had intended to add something to the little amount I left for you at the time of my visit to "Boulderfel". By this time you will think that I have completely overlooked or forgotten that intention. Just that you may see that I have not done so and to make good my promise I am enclosing $10. with this letter, which I hope will not be less acceptable because it comes now instead of a month ago. Please accept it with my love and best wishes.

Yours affectionately,

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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December 2, 1931

My dear Jennie:

It was very kind of you to write me as you did on the anniversary of Harry's return home from the hospital. I can assure you that the pleasure derived through Harry's recovery and what little I may have been privileged to contribute toward that end has been in my case second only to what your own has been. After all, there is no investment quite as good as one which means increased health and strength. It has been a source of delight to me, as it has been to you, to see how reinvigorated Harry is. He must, however, remember that his years are not what they were a half a century ago, and not attempt too much. The older I grow the more I realize that fatigue is the enemy we must all guard against. There is nothing which so quickly brings in its train all the other ills of life as over fatigue and exhaustion.

I am glad to know that the greenhouses continue to do well. The new one is a great addition to your property, and will prove, I believe, a very good investment, but Harry I think is

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wise in sticking to what he now has instead of attempting further extensions at least for a time.

By the way, in conversation with Miss Scrim (of "Scrim's", florists, Ottawa) I think I by mere chance happened to say a word which I hope may be of some advantage should flowers on any future occasion be ordered at Scrim's in Ottawa for Barrie or nearby localities. I happened to ask Miss Scrim if she knew that my brother-in-law was a competitor in the trade. She was quite interested in hearing that Harry had gone into the florist business and said she would immediately change the name of the firm to which they send their orders for anything relating to Barrie or round about. She said not infrequently they get orders for flowers for Camp Borden. I should not fail to remark that she asked me as to whether Harry was in the wholesale as well as retail business. I told her that I gathered he had his own arrangements for the trade on the same basis as other florists. Some day if Scrim's send you an order it might be well to keep in mind that they are the best florists in Ottawa, and if Harry thinks well of it let Miss Scrim have a word of personal acknowledgment.

You seem to have secured a remarkable bargain in your new car. I hope it will serve the family need as well as the old

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one. It certainly was a pretty good friend in its day. It is most wise I think to have a closed car in the winter time. I agree with you that it is positively dangerous for one employed about a hothouse to run out into the drafts of an open car in the cold season. I am sure that from the point of view of prevention if for nothing else the investment you have made is an excellent one.

With December already at hand I have begun to think of Christmas and I am wondering if you would do for me what you did last year in securing for the little people what you think they would most like to have as a gift from me. I have tried to make the amount a little larger than that of a year ago, though it is not as large as I should like it to be. I am enclosing a cheque for $150. which I would like you to divide among the four children. I would like John and Jean each to have at least twice as much as Rosabel and Harry, and I will be wholly agreeable to your making the allotment over and above this amount for John and Jean in any way that you might wish to make it. You may, for example, feel that something for Harry at $10. and something for Rosabel at $20. would give them as much pleasure as something more expensive, and would prefer to use the difference towards something of which John and Jean may be in special need and which they would

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like to have. If so I shall be wholly contented with any arrangement that you may make. Also please do not feel restricted to this amount if in order to obtain just what you would like to have for one or the other, the objective can be reached by the addition of a few dollars. If you prefer to give the children the gift in money either in whole or in part just feel free to do whatever you think best.

I wish you would give me some hint as to the kind of thing which you think Harry would like. If you have heard him make mention of anything in particular I would be very grateful if you would give me an idea.

One thing I was going to ask and that is that this year you and the children spare yourselves as much trouble as you possibly can with regard to anything for me. While I love the gifts which come from you all each year, I would be doubly happy if this year they could take the form of some one thing for the entire family, with possibly a little letter from each one individually. I do think it important that we should all conserve our time and energy, to say nothing of money, around the Christmas season, and it will help me to enjoy mine all the more if I know that all of you at Barrie are following this plan. Might I too suggest that if at all possible, whatever you have in

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mind for the children you will decide upon at once so as to avoid any rush at the Christmas season.

With best love to all,

Believe me, as always, dear Jennie,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 4th '31

My dear Willie

Jean's very kind letter and more than generous cheque which came yesterday, also the cheque to Jean, made a feeling of Christmas in advance! Jean was simply thrilled! That is the only word I can use, for she came up to me at noon, with her eyes shining, I simply glowing with delight. She said "That makes fifteen dollars Uncle Willie has given me this fall.

concerned, the cash will be a great blessing to him, for we find about all we can manage is to pay his board & help him with his books. He is paying his own fees out of the money he earned last summer and fifty dollars is going to look mighty good to him! Jean too is always wanting things I cannot give her and it will be a great joy to her to be able to get some of them for herself. I intended to go to Toronto this morning & bring John back tonight, but was too busy to make out my list and there is no use going to Toronto just now unless one knows exactly what one want. We are giving very few Christmas presents and already have some of our cards, so with Doris to help

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I never dreamt he would send
me ten "!" Oh
She had a fa
her eyes, tiff
she was still
wonderful! I
than good of f
is Ken and f
color now and
amount of ken
is give Ken
increase the
the children
presents is
rather expe
be a change
this year, g
how heavy yo

and also that a diminished salary goes with the Opposition: I think you know how much Harry & I appreciate your Kindness. It is hard to express just what I feel. The children mean so much to me, that Kindness to them is really Kindness multiplied to me. The other day, when we were talking about Christmas presents, Harry Jr. said "you can give me money this year if you like. I'm looking to Christmas to bolster up my bank account." Harry & I had a good laugh, but at the same time it is what we want the children to feel. I think, if you don't object, I will get some little present to put at each ones' place and gives them the balance in cash. So far as John is

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in the Riviera & no evidence
we ought to have one early.
Christmas. I got a woman in
to help me ten for two days last
week. It is the first time I have
had a examiners since I have been
in Ottawa, but it took me so much
longer than I expected to make
plans and get her in &
make a dress for me & help me
to catch up. She is coming for a
couple of days next week so it-
ought to clear up a lot of work.
Ian took lunch in her room last
which cost me $10.16 and cost $3.00
I am making one pay dat for car
to Roads!
Last night the Governor
I hearing Colonel Carnegie and
Engineer his Excellency so much. His

a charming dear & only wish I had known who he was so that he could have stayed here. Mrs Hamilton asked us in to meet him after the theatre and he was so nice to me. He said he had been staying with you and evidently admires you immensely. Any time you know of anyone coming here, if you let me know & it is possible, we will entertain them. I have to do my share you know.

Just as well to preside I would enjoy meeting, as the Rideau Club after have to take. Col. Cannon was to have stayed at the Caledonian, he knows Mrs C. but Mrs Caledonian died quite suddenly last week. Harry was

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too tired last night to go with me to Mrs Hamilton's to dine for Mr Grant Cameron. Fanny has been very busy and can't stand the late hours. So many people don't know when to go home! I've been to have been up to late the last few weeks. It was very good of you to speak to Mrs Selwyn and I am sure it will help a lot for Camp Borden was a sea of flowers & are among our best customers. Many Englishis the Air Force are very much with flowers for their dinner affairs as a tot- of individual orders. As he feels better known there will be more. The show-room is during its value for as many people he said they didn't know before that it was a commercial greenhouse to like on this subject. I might say

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that I think a book on Greenhouse work would be a most welcome gift for Harry. There is a book about by Dale, on "Floral Designs" which I have heard Harry say he wished he could get: I wish I could for a list of these and Brie Selim with the fern which would pave much help to him. If for cannot find that suggestion I am getting him "The Flower Shop", which is about my price!

The car is really a great joy in this wet weather! It is a marvellous bargain for we know its weight (2 with luggage) the cars is in perfect condition. Our Chev car was his 50's but he has millions, he can afford to get the best. I wonder Hodder have a used Ford car than a new one? Some roads like this, this Ford is unsuitable

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and I am glad I that I'm in
friends' ladder, especially when we
do to Toronto & for some time, though
I'm myself I don't mind too much
the bus is if it is paid for!
I hope Jean will have a very
happy Christmas & only wish I'm
near enough to come over
for the Holidays. I'll be writing
if you I'm for birthday & also
about the gifts I'm the children.
Again many thanks
dear & till I'm all yours

"Floral Designs de Luxe" $6.50
de la Rose
"New Design Album" 2.75
The art of Floral Designing 2.75
W.E. Harry

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kindness accd with much
love in which all the family
join our own loving wishes
Jennie

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Ottawa, December 7, 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

I am pleased you have decided to give the children their present for the most part in cash. I should think if you were to give Jean and John each $50.00, and divide the other $50.00 between the four, that would be the best arrangement. However, feel free to do just as you think best, and I shall most cordially approve. There is one thing I would like, however, and that is in giving money you see that fresh bills are secured from the bank. I dislike very much giving a 'dirty' soiled present. Also, if I can secure them in advance, I will send you little folders in which the money might be inserted and I will write on them myself.

I am glad to have the suggestion of the books mentioned in your letter, and in all probability shall act in accordance with it.

I am so sorry I did not write you of Col. Carnegie's visit to Barrie. I told him I would do so, but forgot about it completely. He is coming to Ottawa again, to be with me over this weekend. Col. Carnegie is one of the finest men I know. We were great friends for many years in Canada and, if I am not

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mistaken, he met Mother, or, at all events, knows very much of her. I do remember that we paid at visit to Kingsmere together many years ago. I have also had the pleasure of staying at his home in England, and his wife is just as charming as he is himself. Besides being a delightful man, he is a very good man. He might have made millions, had he cared to give the benefit of his scientific knowledge to those who were engaged in the manufacture of munitions, etc., as he is one of the world's authorities on steel. However, he prefers, even at the sacrifice of his own limited means, to give his time, out of purely christian motives, to do what he can to bring about world disarmament. He is as disinterested a public man as I know.

I was in Toronto on Saturday for four hours with Dr. Gow. I spent the previous night with the Masseys in Port Hope, and motored into the city. With the many things to be attended to before Christmas, I felt that I should be back before Sunday, so did not let any friends in Toronto know that I was there and slipped back quietly as soon as the dental operations were completed. You will be interested to know that Dr. Gow has a farm outside of Toronto and, amongst other things, has gone in for raising roses and other flowers.

With love to all,

Yours affectionately,

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 10th 31

My dear Willie:

Just a line to thank you for your letter which came yesterday. Jean & I went down to Toronto with John on Monday. It was a terrible day but the new car proved its worth. It certainly makes a vast difference having a closed car!

I hope you will approve of what I have done. I consulted the children about what they wanted most and all agreed that if they got enough money

I mean.

In looking over Nanny's books I find he has "The art of Floral Designing": but any one of the others is safe. I am not giving him a book.

This must go on this mail so will let the children take it. Heaps of love many many thanks. Hope you did not have too bad a time at Dr. Gow's. He is about as fine as any dentist I ever came across!

Ever your loving sister

Jennie

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this Christmas as they would like to give $10.00 each to Elva old one is pretty well done for. The new Baby Cost from $13.00 to $18.00 & I have Hardly expressed to them yet them this year, as we have the expenses of a radio & a motor car to run. I get it, as it means a lot to them & perhaps you can help me. Cost from $3.00 to $5.00 each. Record, temperature is so small, is only $1.00 each year, and might not the total, as it is, I think we should give them the most as it is pretty hard to get a little more. We have always given Elva something extra, and thought that outside how it is, I am not sure if we should give them anything extra this year.

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Ottawa, December 11, 1931

My dear Jennie:

What you propose in your letter, just received, is excellent. I am delighted that you have thought of securing a radio and that each of the children make a contribution toward it out of their own funds. It will be all the more precious to them and more carefully guarded. What you suggest by way of division of the amount I sent you is just what I would like.

I am enclosing little cards in which you might insert the bills for the children. They will serve to bring the personal note I should like to have them feel.

Would you send me, on a postcard, Nelson's address, so that I can send a little gift to him?

The suggestions you have given me in other directions will be most helpful. Now, if you can get Harry to suggest something that you yourself would like, and send me word of it, that will round off matters splendidly.

Tell Harry I am much pleased with his 'Boulderfel Greenhouse Christmas Price List'. If he feels sure that flowers would arrive in Ottawa in good condition from Barrie, I might as

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well place orders with him as with anyone here. I notice he guarantees that they will arrive in first-class condition. Perhaps we might try two Azaleas and two Cyclamen plants. I like the pink and white colouring best. I assume there will be extra charges for express. If this could be paid in advance, I will gladly remit the whole amount when the plants are received.

Again with love and best wishes to all,

Yours very affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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December 16, 1931

My dear Harry:

You should receive by parcel post, on or about Christmas Day, from the General Publishing Co. Limited, of 17 East Queen Street, Toronto, a copy of "Floral Designs De Luxe" and Fritz Bahr's "Commercial Floriculture", which books are published by the A. T. De La Mare Company Inc., 448 West 37th Street, New York City.

I am advised that these two books are likely to be of more service to you than any other publications. Knowing the pleasure, as well as interest, which your greenhouses have become, I have thought that they would make as welcome a gift as any at this Christmas season. I shall be glad if you will accept them with my love and best of wishes.

I have also arranged to have the "Florists' Exchange" sent regularly to you. This is a magazine published especially for the florists, seedsmen,

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nurserymen, and all others in the horticulture business. It, too, is published by the A. T. De La Mare Company of New York. You will be amazed when I tell you that the tax which the Canadian Government has placed on this magazine exceeds the regular subscription price. Could anything more iniquitous be imagined? Think of a tax upon knowledge, where a government professes to have at heart the development of the country's industries!

I am also arranging to have your name and address listed in the Horticultural Trade Directory - a New York publication which is sent to the trade all over the continent. The directory for this year has already been issued and it will not be possible to give this listing until the revised issue or supplement is published. That, however, may not be very long.

I hope that these one or two publications may be a welcome addition to your library and add to the interest and happiness of your work throughout the New Year. I often think of how wise you have been to take up floriculture as a business. You must, however, be careful not to overdo and, above all else, guard against catching cold when leaving the warm greenhouse, and especially in going anywhere in the car

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during the winter months. You were very wise to get rid of the old car and to get a closed one in exchange.

Only yesterday I received from Col. Carnegie, whom Jennie met while in Barrie, a letter telling me that he was ill in bed at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, and had to give up the rest of his lectures, because of a cold he got when motoring to one of the small localities between here and Montreal. The cold brought on inflammation, which may be quite serious. After your illness of a year ago, you will need, I think, to take additional precautions.

Though I do not expect this letter to be read until Christmas Day, I am writing it now to avoid, as far as may be possible, anything in the nature of rush and pressure at this season.

I hope this will find you all well and enjoying the happiest of Christmas days. To one and all I send again my fondest love and very best of wishes.

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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120 Spadina Avenue
Toronto
December 16/31.

Dear Uncle Willie,-

I am hoping that this letter will reach you to-morrow, for I want very much to wish you "Many Happy Returns" on the day itself. We all wish we could actually help you celebrate, and I know the family in Barrie are wishing you could be there.

I have hopes of starting a very interesting correspondance. She is French, and a Roman Catholic, so I have hopes of learning to use French a bit better than I can at present.

Give my best Christmas wishes to Pickering; I enjoyed meeting him very much, and he was awfully decent to me in London.

Let me wish you again "Many Happy Returns", and the best of everything in your New Year.

Ever your loving nephew
John.

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 July-December 1931

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to be able to get away in time to take the late bus or train home so as to have a full day at home on Christmas.

I haven't yet ceased to hear about my trip to London. It has certainly provided a lot of amusement to a lot of people! I think, though, that everyone agrees that it was worth it. I got one letter from a chap down in Quebec, who seems to be very interested in politics, Liberalism, and Mackenzie King. I haven't yet had a chance to answer his letter, but

Just at present I am in the midst of a set of term exams. The five worst are over, but there are still four more to look forward to. I will be finished for the term on Friday afternoon, but I don't know whether I shall go home or not. I have secured a position for the Christmas week at Dunlop's, the florists Dad used to supply with sweet peas years ago. I am to start work at eight o'clock on Monday morning, and I will probably work till late on Christmas Eve. I hope

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family July-December 1931

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Ottawa, December 17, 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

Your beautiful gift and letter, also telegram from Harry and loving wishes from all received this morning have brought with them great happiness on this birthday anniversary. I send you all warmest thanks and fondest love.

Willie.

F. U. 144
W. L. Mackenzie King.

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 July-December 1931

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Ottawa, December 17, 1931

John Lay, Esq.,
720 Spadina Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Greatly pleased to receive your loving letter today. Many thanks for its good wishes.

Uncle Willie.

F. U. 144
W. L. Mackenzie King.

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1931

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 20/31

My dear Willie,

We were very pleased
to get your note written on
your birthday and to learn
that you were having a happy
day although a very busy one.
This is to convey my very
heartiest wishes for a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Prosperous New
Year. It is a great cause
for happiness to find that

vestige of free trade is thrown
overboard. The working and
middle classes will have
a crushing load of indirect
taxation as a result.

We shall think of you on
Christmas Day and wish
it had been possible for you
to have joined our little
circle, but at any rate you
will be spared the noise
of our domestic celebration!
Once more let me join
Jennie and the others ~~and~~ in
wishing you the compliments
of this happy Season, with
the love, Yours affectionately,
Harry.

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) ● Harry Morrison Lay and family July-December 1931

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Christmas this year finds all our family circle in good health with all able to take care of their several responsibilities. I for one, have especial cause for thankfulness and will never forget your generosity of a year ago. Jennie + Harvey & motored to Toronto yesterday and brought John back for the week end. He has to be back on Monday as he has secured a job in Dunlop's Flower Store until Christmas. A Miss Simpson, daughter of Mr. Simpson who edits Hansard, is in this Company's employ. I met her at a Convention in Guelph last August and she put in a word for John. I expect he will pick up some pointers to pass on to me upon the conduct of a flower store. We hope to be fairly busy during the days before Christmas and the period has opened in a promising manner.

There was a great deal of jubilation over the return of a so called National Government in England. Some of us see with it the inauguration of an ultra-Tory regime which will not be satisfied until the last

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family July-
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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 20
1931

Dear Uncle Willie:—

This is just to wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. It certainly doesn't seem any time since last Christmas.

I also want to say that I hope you had a very happy be a relief to get holidays again.

Yesterday John, Harry and I went out to get the Christmas tree. We got a lovely big one and had quite a job bringing it from the bush to the car.

I guess I'll have to stop now, so again let me wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Love Rosabel

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This afternoon the O'rd family came up from Torontoand just left a little while ago taking John back with them

Our school doesn't get out till next Tuesday and we have had lovely lessons every day till the afternoon when the school is stopped. It will certainly

birthday.

Usually at this time so near Christmas we have lots of snow, but this year there is practically none. Mother says we're lucky but Harry says we're unlucky.

I suppose you have been very busy lately. We have here.

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1931 July-

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec 20, 1931.

Dear Uncle Willie,—

I'm afraid this is rather late in wishing you a very happy birthday, but I do wish you a very merry Christmas. It really doesn't seem much like Christmas yet. We have no snow worth speaking of, but I guess we'll be getting all we want soon. John came home on Friday and we got a beautiful Christmas tree from the woods. I love the scent from those trees!

John and I were at a dance last night at the Signallers' Mess, Camp Borden. Had a marvellous time and met a lot of very nice boys. We struck a snow storm

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yesterday — he spent the evening before at the Sunday school supper. They fed him everything he shouldn't have had.

John has taken a "job" at Dunlop's in Toronto. They're the big florists. He will come home late Christmas eve or early Christmas morning. He'll be dead tired probably but that will soon pass. Christmas Eve is always a very exciting time at our house. The flower Christmas tree is decorated and stockings filled, etc. Everybody here hopes that sometime you will be able to spend a Christmas at Baulkfield. A politician does have some life!!

Well, I must close now wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

I remain

Your loving niece,

Jean

on the way home but the snow helped to fill in the holes! Colonel Powers, the commanding officer of the signals, has five children. Janet, is just my age and Joan is Johnie's, so we fit in quite well. The whole family is awfully nice.

I started this letter about two o'clock but the whole Ord family arrived from Toronto and created rather a diversion. I had to tear about getting enough food to feed the hungry multitude. This done, I had to dress for church. I've just got home (it's now ten o'clock) We've been practising Part I of Handel's "Messiah". I have two rehearsals to look forward to. We've just finished a whole week of exams and we have French tomorrow and Latin on Tuesday.

How is Pat? Billy was terribly sorry when he heard that Pat had been ill. Billy was quite ill, himself,

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 20th 31

My dear Willie:

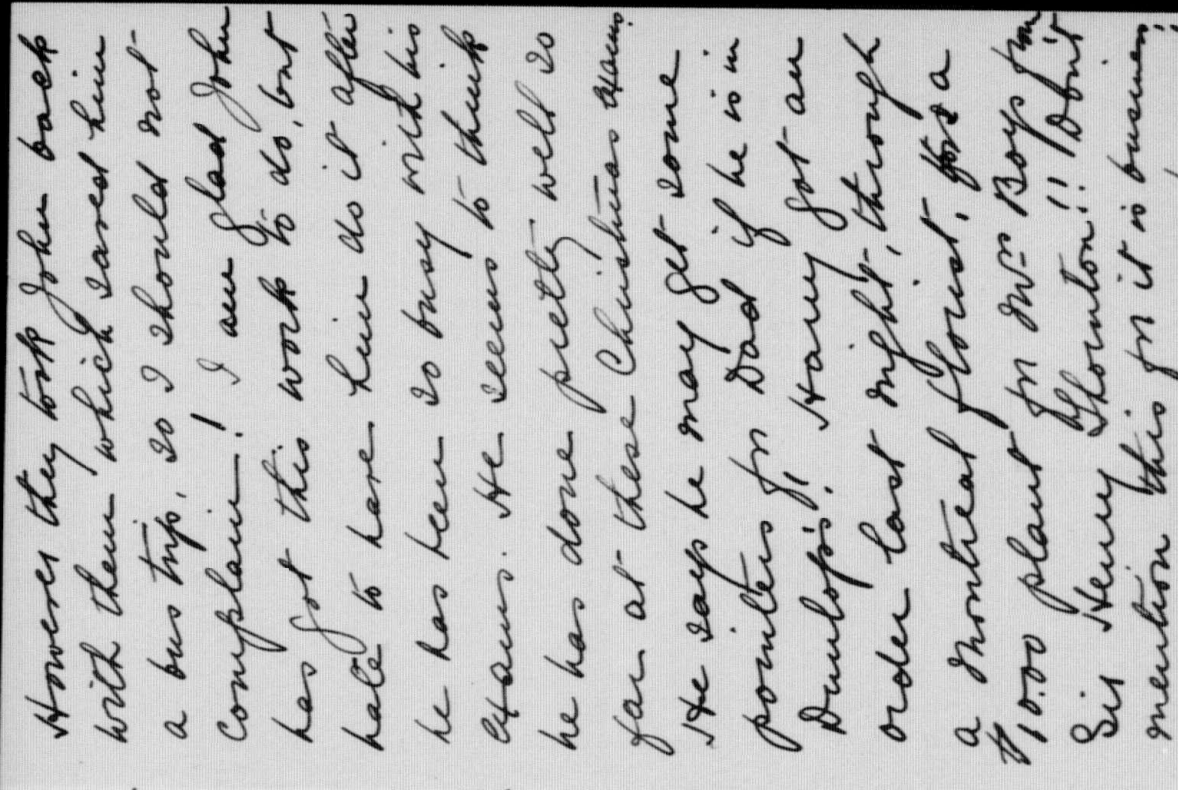
This is just a short letter to wish you a very merry Christmas & all joy & prosperity in the new year. I intended to spend the afternoon writing letters, but five of the Red family arrived from Toronto shortly after two and stayed till after six. so I got nothing done -

the new car myself to Toronto but I managed splendidly & John drove coming home. Cora had lunch with us. She says Elsa Kiely is home. Elsa wanted to know if I wanted would like to buy her Steinway grand piano which cost them $1700 [illegible], for $600." but I declined with thanks!

We are sending our little Christmas gifts to you tomorrow but they are not to be opened till Christmas. I got off my books to Nelson & Douglas Lay last week and have now only the local gifts to attend to. I took plants to Hazel & Bill Kirkpatrick when I went down on Friday and feel quite ahead this year in having so much done. I have still a few cards to get off & candy to make but it will be easier this year than ever before, I hope! Best love dear Willie & if I don't get another chance to write before Christmas, let this carry my fondest Christmas greetings & best love from one & all in this home [illegible]

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I think Harry will do well at Christmas for he has orders from a lot of outside places, & the town people will come later in the week. The chef from Camp Borden was in the greenhouse last week & he told Harry he would take all the tomatoes he could raise not less than five pounds & not more than twenty lbs a shipment. That means quite a bit with tomatoes at 25 & 30 a lb. Harry is getting now about 4 lbs a day. I am glad our birthday remembrances reached you in time. It was so good of you to acknowledge them so promptly. We saw by the paper that you spent the day quietly! You were never out of my thoughts! Friday morning Harry & I drove down to Toronto. It was the first time I had driven

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 22nd, 1931

Dear Uncle Willie,

This is just a little note to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Last Friday mother and I drove down to Toronto. We shopped in the forenoon and then went to Simpsons

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 22nd, 1931

Dear Uncle Willie,

This is just a little note to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Last Friday mother and I drove down to Toronto. We shopped in the forenoon and then went to Simpsons

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REPEAT
REPETITION

for lunch. In the afternoon I went to toyland and shook hando with Santa Claus. After that we went to John's boarding house and took him home. I must close now because it is tea-time.

Your loveng nephew,
Harry.

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 July-December 1931

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Ottawa Dec 24 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ont.

Loving Christmas greetings and best of wishes for the New Year to all at Boulderfel.

ful44

Willie

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1931 July-

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Ottawa, December 25, 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie, Ontario.

Your loving greetings just received. My fondest love to all.

Willie.

F.U. 144

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~~RA310 10~~

STANDARD TIME

BARRIE ONT 25 1110A

1931 DEC 25 AM 11 30

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING 121

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

WARMEST LOVE AND BEST WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

BOULDERFEL.

● 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 July-December 1931 ●

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RA310 10

STANDARD TIME

BARRIE ONT 25 1110A

1931 DEC 25 AM 11 30

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING 121

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

WARMEST LOVE AND BEST WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

BOULDERFEL.

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REPEAT
REPETITION

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 28. 1931

My dear Willie,

The delightful books which were unwrapped on Christmas morning were a very pleasant surprise. The "Floral Designs de luxe" is a work which I have often coveted and will be of tremendous practical value in my little business. For your kind generosity in sending me these books please let me gratefully thank you. In addition to these which alone are a wonderful Christmas gift, I do not know how adequately to express my thanks for the

was glad to know that your plants travelled safely well though sorry only her pots was broken. This Saturday morning it has been my practice to take plants and flowers to the local market but I came absolutely sold out of everything in the moment! John had several interesting days working in Dunlop's Store Toronto. He tells me that prices there are a good many cents beyond those obtained in Barrie.

Once more thanking you for your letter and delightful presents and for your kind message received by telephone and telegram yesterday with my much love and best wishes from us all

Yours very affectionately
Jennie Mackenzie

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
● Harry Morrison Lay and family July-December 1931

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a "Florists Exchange" which you have ordered for me and for the insertion of my business card in the Horticultural Trade Directory. From past experience I have found direct results from the little advertising I have done and I expect that through the coming New Year your kind assistance in the above mentioned way will bring me substantial returns.

Yesterday's business included out of town orders from Sarnia St Thomas, Montreal and Kirkland Lake. The florist at the last named point wrote "I seen your advert in the Canadian Florist"!

Jennie was overjoyed with the beautiful little antique gateleg table which you sent her and equally with the wonderful gift of money. The table was the centre of our afternoon + evening refreshments yesterday a company of young officers came in to dinner from Camp Borden and spent the evening here. The children all write themselves to thank you for the presents which you sent them. Uncle Willie in this opinion is the very essence of generous kindness and brought happy joy to each member of the family.

I hope you spend a very happy Christmas Day and that Santa Claus was able in some measure to offset the loss you have sustained with our fire and other losses.

It was very kind of you to give us the pleasure of a telephone talk and I

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 632

Dec. 28. 1931

My dear Willie,

The children are waiting for me to drive them down to a show so I take the opportunity of writing a line to thank you for your kind note of Christmas morning. Let me again thank you for all your much kindness this season to me and mine. Jennie and the children will write forthwith.

As requested I enclose invoice of plants in the express charge I have deducted the cost of 15¢ which was a personal matter.

With renewed good wishes for your happiness and health in the coming year

With affectionate & thankful regard

Copy of Letter

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Dear Uncle Willie -

Bellefield
Barrie
December 28, '31

This is just a line to supplement the Christmas card-for I said over the phone on Christmas day. We radio is working beautifully - I have it going in my room, attached to the bed-spring. It is very small and handy for morning around from room to room. Last night and the night before I had a station in Mexico City as clear as a bell. Over

Did last year in my studies. We wrote mine exams at Christmas time, and I feel fairly confident that I got the A.D. I think French is developing to be my strong point. I don't find much difficulty in using it at any time. Did I tell you of the chap in Barrie, Paul Barrette, who wrote to me after your London speech? He is French, and we have started a very interesting correspondence. By a curious coincidence he is a good customer of Mrs Hunt's my landlady. She has told him several times of yours.

Again thanking you and the best of wishes for a very happy and prosperous New Year

Ever your loving nephew
John.

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 July-December 1931

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around the farm here. On the four days I was there I worked at four different jobs, including the most important branches - preparing for business, selling, and packing. I did not count them, but I figure that I packed one hundred and fifty dozen roses on Thursday, beside other flowers. I was well paid, too — $3.00 a day and half a day's pay for the evenings. I worked four days and three evenings, and came home with $16.50 in my pocket and a lot of experience, which is by far the most valuable.

I feel a great deal more confident of myself this year than

proud of the fact I could follow every word the answer paid in Spanish. As for the balance, it is the most acceptable and most useful present I could have received at this time. I have already had an interest offered to me in a wholesale house in Toronto, and am going to have a suit made as soon as I get introduced me to the firm. I bought each. Quite today Jean got clothes a guarded the cheaper than in the I am excellently dressed, which cost me $24.50. The suit will cost the same amount.

I enjoyed my work at Dunlop's tremendously, and learned a great deal that will be of use

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec. 29/1931.

Dear Uncle Willie,—

I'm rather excited to-day — it's my birthday and I am eighteen years old. I feel quite the young lady, especially so, because of the cheque lying in my box at the bank. I really don't know how to thank you, Uncle Willie, for the radio and the cheque. We have had the most beautiful music and plays since Christmas. I have put the money in the bank to use it as I

New Year's resolutions.

Everyone was so good to me at Christmas and I am so happy today I just feel as if every person in the world should be happy too.

I must close this note, thanking you once again for your lovely letter, cheque and radio. I must not forget to tell you how I loved the card with the children pulling the green log up the hill.

With much love and wishing you health, happiness, and success in the new year, I am

Your affectionate niece
Jean.

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skating on a pond this afternoon. The bay doesn't look as if it will freeze over this winter and we have no snow at all. It spoils any skiing but we can always find lots to do.

The house and Christmas tree look lovely. A great many people have their trees lit with lights outside. We have the curtains pulled back and our tree can be seen quite easily from the street.

I think your motto that "the world is a mirror, try smiling at it," is beautiful. I'm going to make it one of my need and it gives me a very "content with the world" feeling. It was very good of you and you were far too generous. That last sentence does express half what I want to say!

Last night John and I were at a lovely dance. Somehow the hostess knew that after 12 o'clock it would be my birthday. They had a special dance in my honour and presented me with the sweetest painting of a garden. I was thrilled. It's a beautiful day and I'm going to go

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 29th 31

My dear Willie:

This is the first word I have written since Christmas. This house is altogether too popular, and it is impossible to write letters when people are here. Jean's loving notes, written on Christmas morning, arrived yesterday and we all appreciate very much Jean's taking time & energy to write to us after so bawdy thanking us over the phone. That little talk on Christmas

bpe.

about midnight. This is the first Christmas I have been homesick!! I think it was having evening dinner & thinking of the toasts etc we used to have at home. Also it was our "silver wedding" and twenty-five years ago we were all together. Now only you & I remain of the family, Nelson is far away. We combined Christmas & wedding celebrations, as the day after, no one feels like another celebration! Harry gave me a lovely diamond ring. That sounds well to outsiders, but the truth is, he had three diamonds, which his sister

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day was a very great pleasure
for we so seldom
back half, that
to express my
his large cheque
adorable table!
I have had a long
wished for one
seven. parcel
a triumph of
not - a thing
it - had to be
time I come
my eye - sees
table, also
greatest
of - beside

one has some use for it! When the big box arrived from Jenkins' I was filled with curiosity but did not open it till we had read your letters. That was the first thing we did when we came in here after the first excitement of the radio was over. There is so much to thank you for! My cheque is deposited in the bank & is going to stay there as long as possible! This is the first year we have had dinner at night and we had old Miss Ross, Anne McKay a friend of Jean's from Detroit and two of the officers of the Signals from Camp Borden. We had a lovely dinner & afterwards they danced & sang to the piano & radio, till

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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 July-December 1931

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flattered! Altogether we were all tremendously [illegible] feel that every [illegible] much to good to [illegible] the children went [illegible] and Harry & I [illegible] in over half an hour [illegible] believe we have had [illegible] alone together to [illegible] talk, since [illegible] hospital! I do the [illegible] young people were [illegible] Sunday the Burnes [illegible] McDonald were here [illegible] to church twice as [illegible] Handel's Hermiah [illegible] night to go. I was to [illegible] when I got home, [illegible] Salvation Creek [illegible] staying with her [illegible] we had to get

the house tidied! Last night the Beynnees were here and so the days go. John & Jean were at a dance last night & have four more this week. Today is Jean's birthday. She is eighteen. I am glad you liked her picture. The proof was lovely, but he seems to have taken all character out of her face. I only got six. The man came up here and took them, & said there was no obligation to buy any, but after he had taken 24 different plates, I had it the face not to take a few! They are nice to have later on.

Your little cards for the children's money were splendid. John's Scotch one has caused great amusement! They were all lovely. You certainly get the loveliest cards. Your own & the tower is

business. He doesn't know yet what he will do. I am thankful Harry had his greenhouse to go into. Douglas' salary has had a cut of 7%. He says he got off better than most, but it is hard for him. Times did not improve with the change of government!!

Well dear Willie I must write to Nelson, as he sails on the 5th for the West Indies. Let this little letter carry with it's best love and every good wish for 1932. I hope it may prove "the best yet" and that all blessings and happiness may be yours in the new year. Best love & again many thanks
ever your loving sister Jennie

morning. Doris has been a trump and is such a comfort. I am letting her go home for New Year's Day. She is going on Thursday night & coming back Sunday night. She certainly deserves the little holiday. Delaney was delighted with your Christmas present to him. He came in on Saturday & told us about them. He hasn't much use for Mr Fraser! We sent Delaney a tie, and candy elephants as well as some toys for the children. I also gave him our old high chair and baby's sleigh for which he was very grateful. He is hoping his uncle will not come back from Ireland, and

BOULDERFEL THOROUGH BARRIE

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he will get Miss [illegible] Brooke's place.
Rozakis and Harry are out at
Camps Borden for the day. Cora
Powers' little girl & boy are
the same age & they have had
and they share the
after I learn? Jo
Latter has rare
all the Symons
Mrs Raymond
dance tomorrow
if we go, it will
dance, expect
I have been at
before the war.

Cora phoned me that Jim had got a job in New York and is so delighted to be at work again. It has been quite a strain on Cora having Jim there staying to keep him cheerful.

Did you see the little item in Saturday's Star about the laziness in the States, about Mr. W. D. Herridge's relations? I meant to cut it out but will have a look for it

Murray Lay is to retire on full salary on Jan 1st 1932 & go on pension a year later. I fancy it came as a bit of a shock to him, but he says they want a younger man who will go after

Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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W. G. BARBER, GENERAL MANAGER

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa Dec. 31, 1931

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Every loving good wish for the New Year to all at Boulderfel.

ful44 Willie

King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1931

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec. 3, 1931.

Dear Uncle Willie,—
I can't seem to find any words to thank you enough for the wonderful and most acceptable present which arrived to-day. Being in very great financial depression the ten dollars saved me from the "poor house." I had concocted all sorts of plans for earning Christmas money, but none were successful. Every day the papers are full of Christmas presents. Now I'll be able to send in my order!!!
Mother is out at the

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family July-December 1931

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the school basketball team. (Thats one of my secret desires.)

Well, you certainly don't want to hear about my secret desires! I only want to thank you again very much for the letter and its contents.

So with much love, I am
Your loving niece,
Jean.

Women's Canadian Club. Colonel D. Carnegie is giving an address on "The Disarmament Conference". Last week they had Mrs. Plumptre. Mother is very interested in both addresses I think you know Colonel Carnegie, don't you?

Daddy has asked me to thank you for mentioning his name to Miles Scrims. One never can tell when we will get an order from that florist.

The show-room of the greenhouse is very pretty now. Last Saturday I decorated it with Christmas things and it looks like a Christmas tree.

Basket-ball and badminton are taking up most of my spare moments. They are doing me a lot of good. I hope to get on

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 1st, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,

Thank you very much for the radio and the fifteen dollars.

On Christmas I got lots a presents such as a baby climbing tank, the Boy's own Paper, an owl made of soap, a pencil box with pencils, ties, a belt, two books, a scarf, money, handkerchiefs, and a game of ~~Blow~~ football, and a box of candies.

Yesterday I went skating on the rink (~~yesterday~~) and the ice was very good. a few days ago I was out at Camp Borden and I skated there. I fell twice on my Knee and Now

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
Harry Morrison Lay and family January-May 1932

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it is all black and bitter.

I must close now but have a lot of other letters to write, and (read) happy and receiving your expected Xmas greetings

Yours loving nephew
Harry H.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 1 1932

Dear Uncle Willie:

I never expected such a lovely present this year but anyway I want to thank you very much for my share in the lovely Roger's radio. It is a present which the whole family enjoys. The

to spend the day at Colonel Power's house at Camp Borden. There is a pond out there and we skated nearly all day and I had a chance to try out my new skates.

I guess I'll have to stop now as our maid is on holidays and I have to help.

Your loving Rosabel

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rest of my present is going to get a pair of skates and then into the bank.

This is my first letter written in 1932. It seems funny to start writing 1931 and then remember that it's 1932.

Yesterday we got Germany over the radio, and Daddy

was quite delighted.

To-morrow night I am going to my first dance in my first evening dress.

The ground is still pretty bare but there is quite a hailstorm outside.

The day before yesterday Harry and I were invited

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Jan. 1st 1932

My dear Willie:

Your new years greeting have just been phoned to us. Thank you so much for all your loving thought of us and the many things you do for us. I hope my letter reached you in time to wish you a very happy new year. I was going to send a message to you last night but was out to tea and the telegraph

a "home" atmosphere here! The radio is proving a great joy, even Harry St. enjoying certain hours with it. Last night he dream were alone, & they got Germany & heard the Heidelburg students singing & had some wonderful music. The other four members of the family were having tea with old Miss Ross!! Doris, the maid, has gone home till Sunday night. Rosabel goes to her first dance on Saturday night & I have made her a lovely pale blue long evening dress. She looks the daintiest little lady & is so like mother. She is so excited about going every time dance music comes on the radio, she does a little practising. Must get several letters written but wanted to send my first good wishes to you. Best love in which all the family join and may 1932 be the best year you have ever had. Ever your loving Jessie

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office was closed when I
for home this morning
it- didn't open this morning
till nearly 10 o'clock
took it in December
very much surprised
evening or 2 January
service. Hope
and I are
own friends
I hope it-
Blessed Je
that called
prosperity
We have
it at this
and I don't

the many blessings which surround me. As "Amos" says, I am going to try make a few more people happy in this new year!! It takes so little to brighten some lives. One of the boys from Camp Borden came in last night and stayed to welcome in the new year. I could have dispensed with his company an hour earlier, but I think the boy was homesick as it is his first Christmas away from his home in the West, and there is decidedly

C 3 0 3

H. M. LAY

BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

January,4th 1933.

Rt. Hon.W.L.Mackenzie King C.M.G.

Laurier House,

Ottawa.

Dear Willie,

Thanks very much for your order in your letter to Jennie received yesterday for Azaleas. We shipped you by express by train leaving here at 4 p.m.yesterday two $5. azaleas. I shall be glad if you will let me know at your convenience if they arrive in good condition.

A Florist here who has been and probably still is a Tory came into the Greenhouse yesterday and was swearing at Bennett's new duties on bulbs etc.He said he had to pay $80 on his importation from Holland! The bulbs grown in Canada are comparatively few. Perhaps next Christmas there will be a change.

Jennie and the children join me in best love and good wishes for a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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-May 1932

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Boulderfel Greenhouse

H. M. LAY

74 Blake St., Barrie

Phone 832 Highway 11

CHRISTMAS PRICES

ROSES—Pink, White, Red, Yellow, Talisman
Per Dozen: $2.00, $3.00, $4.00, $5.00

Prices are graded mainly according to length of stem. Those at lowest price are of first-class quality.

CARNATIONS—Pink, Crimson, Scarlet
$2.00 and $3.00 per dozen

Lily-of-the-Valley	$1.20 per dozen
Snapdragon—Pink	$2.25 per dozen
Calendula	$2.00 per dozen
Violets—Single	.25 per dozen
Darwin Tulips—Red	$2.00 per dozen
Daffodils	$2.00 per dozen
Paper-White Narcissus	$1.00 per dozen
Yellow Narcissus	$1.50 per dozen
Cyclamen Plants in Bloom	75c each
Azalea Plants in Bloom	$1.50 to $2.00 each
Azalea Plants—Extra size	$5.00 to $7.00 each

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64.

Esquimalt
January 5th

Dear Uncle Willie.

Thanks ever so much for your letter and Christmas present. The latter was most generous in these hard times! (And all the more acceptable)

We leave for our spring cruise to-morrow. Everyone is very disappointed

I've just had letters from Bouldenfel They've had a pretty stormous time too and young Harry had to have his appendix out in the middle of the festivities.

My hands are greatly improved as a result of the operations in Vancouver the right one is still a bit stiff but I can still use it for writing.

Again many thanks for your Xmas present and every good wish for 1933.

Nelson.

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that it has been cut so badly. Its rather a shame because the destroyers on this side have never had a chance of doing exercises with other ships. This is absolutely essential in order to maintain any kind of fighting efficiency. Our actual cruise at present seems to be a complete waste of time because because we

spend nearly three months in small Mexican ports. However there is at least the satisfaction that we won't be able to spend any money!

We've had quite a strenuous Xmas season. There was several small dances and of course the usual New Years party. I went to the Empress Hotel after a large dinner party onboard the "Skeena".

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Mrs. H. M. Lay

January 4, 1932

It was very sweet of you to write me your first letter in the New Year. I thank you very warmly for it, and shall be glad if you will thank Harry and all of the children for their messages and letters to me. The letters from the young people have given me much pleasure. They all seem most appreciative of the radio and their other gifts.

I figure that something like two thousand different communications went out from Laurier House between my birthday and the end of the year. Everything was splendidly organized and we closed the year with practically all obligations, in the way of communications, debts, calls, etc., duly met. I have a heavy task ahead this year, and wish to give it as much in the way of undivided attention as may be possible. You might let the children know that it is for this

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reason only that I have not written them individually, also Harry and yourself, at the beginning of the year.

You know how many and sincere are my wishes for you all for 1932. I imagine it will be a year of tribulation for many nations and individuals, but I think we shall find a change for the better towards its close. I do not look for much improvement in the interval. Fortunately, we in Canada are better off than those in any other country, and you and I, in our respective spheres, have everything to be thankful for.

The main thing is to keep from getting over tired and to cut down unnecessary obligations in as many directions as may be possible. I hope you and Harry will be very careful not to overdo. You should give yourself a certain margin every day - regard the day as having eleven hours instead of twelve, and you ought as well to allow yourself at least one day in the week of fairly complete rest. That is the kind of advice that all leading physicians give to those, whose lives have been active, as they advance in years. The one resolution that I have made, which I hope to follow in the New Year, is to heed this advice more than I have heretofore.

Tell Harry that his plants continue to bloom beautifully and that from day to day they give me the greatest possibl pleasure.

With fondest love to you all,
Ever affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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Ever affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie,
Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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January 5, 1932

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

Dear Mr. Lay:

Mr. Mackenzie King has asked me to thank you for your kindness in sending so promptly the flowers referred to in your letter of January the 4th, which were received in good condition at Laurier House.

Attached please find a draft for $10.00 convering your account.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. L. Henry,
Private Secretary.

EAP

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
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Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, January 5, 1932

Lieutenant Nelson Lay,
H.M.C.S. Skeena,
Esquimalt, B.C.

Your letter received. Hearty congratulations and all good wishes.

W. L. Mackenzie King.

F.U. 144
(To be radio'd if necessary)

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. W. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family - January-May 1932

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

January 7th '32

Dear Uncle Willie:

We see by the Star tonight that you are leaving for the West on Saturday. We are looking a Saturday to see you before you leave for Ottawa. We will probably be down on the 9 o'clock train on Saturday morning. Hope to see you then.

Love from all the family

Jean

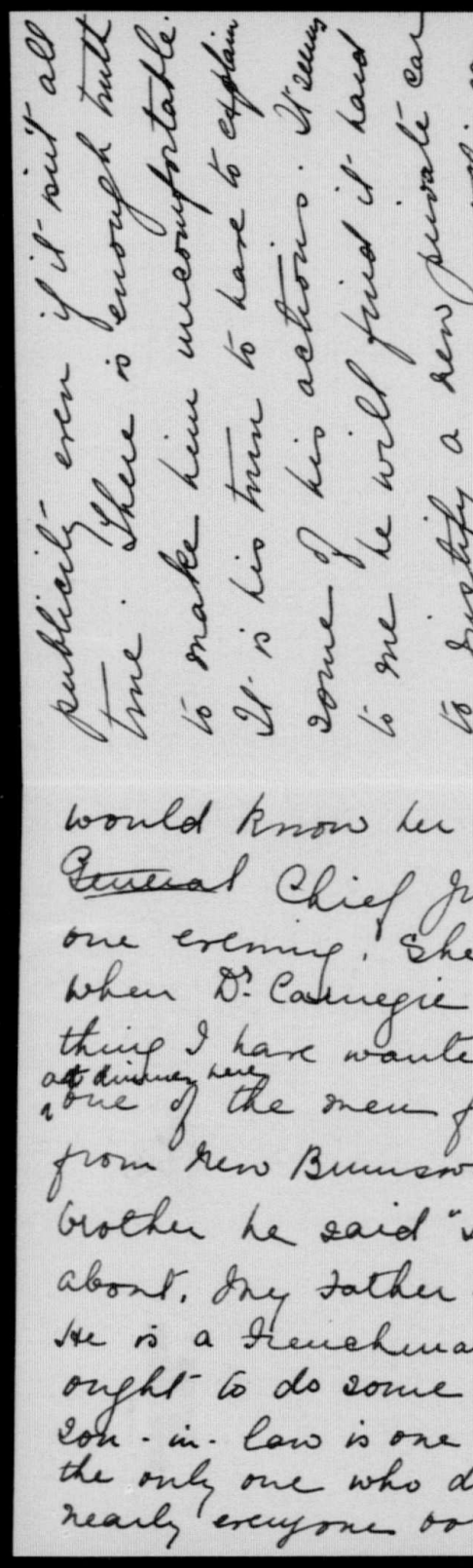
Did I tell you that Murray Lay was put on pension on Jan. 1st. He did not expect to retire so soon, but they wanted a younger man.

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publicity ever if it isn't all true. There is enough truth to make him uncomfortable. It is his true to explain some of his actions. It seems to me he will find it hard a Rev. Armitage came was talking about to tell Mrs Hamilton (I think Mrs Hamilton and I several times. She said been talking to her "I didn't know you of my aunt, Mackenzie Dr. Carnegie knew her. She said remember her, for would know her by her husband who was Solicitor General Chief Justice of Manitoba. She was here one evening. She was staying with Mrs Hamilton when Dr. Carnegie was there too. Then another thing I have wanted to tell you: At Christmas one of the men from Camp Borden was a Mr Gagnon from New Brunswick. When he heard you were my brother he said "That is something to write home about. My father is a great admirer of Mackenzie King. He is a Frenchman, or part French! The Liberals ought to do some work out at Camp Borden. Boy's son-in-law is one of the officers out there and is about the only one who does any work at election time, nearly everyone votes conservative. If they knew better

January 10, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I was delighted to receive yesterday your letter of January 7th.

I am just off to Winnipeg, so I have not time for more than this word of acknowledgment. I want you to know, however, that your letter was duly received and that it has given me the greatest pleasure.

With fondest love,
Affectionately yours,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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February 4, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

Dear Madam:

Mr. Mackenzie King has asked me to send to you the enclosed acknowledgment of a Christmas greeting which he sent to Miss Elsie M. Lay at Tunbridge Wells, England. As you will see from the envelope, the communication has been returned by the postal authorities with the indication that Miss Lay is no longer at that address.

Yours respectfully,

H. R. L. Henry,
Private Secretary.

EMP

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-May 1932

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daughter in a mental sanitarium and a son in another kind. No wonder she looks sad. Don't tell Mrs Patteson, or she might think I was gossiping!! Mrs Gregory was very nice to me & spoke so sweetly of Jean, who had been helping at a tea Winnie gave in the winter. Then I was at dinner at Mrs McEvoy's. She & Cora are great friends, having lived in Jennie at the same time, & Mrs McEvoy always liked Mother very much. Mr McE. said he had been talking to a prominent Conservative

Feb. 17th '32

My dear Willie:

It is a long time since I wrote to you, but I have been down with Cora for a couple of weeks. We never seemed to have a spare minute then, and since I came home it has been steady business trying to catch up with the mending etc.

You are evidently going

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to have a little Sermon. Dr
is generally unpopular in
Toronto that
been put in the
to stop any
westward into
and I sincerely
Conservative
known will
up. I met Lady
a shop in Toronto
she looked quite
must be a typical
them, for they
a lot of talk
to John Aird's

couldn't have been nicer to me than she was I asked me to come any time, even for breakfast, & she would make it convenient, but I had no spare time. Everyone was awfully good to me and I had a lovely visit. Winnie Ballantyne had a lovely luncheon for me Mrs Gregory was there. She asked me to go out to her house in Lakeville but again I hadn't a spare minute. I felt very sorry for her. She has glaucoma in one eye that had an operation; is getting quite deaf; has one

C3

Mother were passing through Toronto on their way to England and John brought them up by bus for lunch, we drove them back in time to catch the six o'clock train for New York. We liked both the mother & daughter. The only thing we wonder is how Nelson will manage on his salary! He has been having an exciting time on his trip! Our letter from him yesterday told of the excitement on board as they prepared for action! I sincerely hope they will

who said to him "Do you know what is the matter with our leaders?" "Jones talks too long and Innes talks too often." I told Mr. McG. if that was the only criticism the Conservatives could make of the Liberal Leader, we needn't worry! Do you like Mr. McEvoy? Cora thinks he is very fine, but I didn't care for him. Mrs. Gibson was another of your friends who did everything she could for me. She always does whenever I go down. She

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worked us there one evening and had a supper party. Jean looked sweet as I have not seen since I left Berlin! A whole lunch basket besides all the eats! She could possibly have! She is very Russian! The waiter thinks she is that Mother was one of her pals when she was a little girl. John was so glad to have me in town and showed me all through Hart House. It was open to visitors. Jean came down 2 weeks ago with John 2 had a very fine

They met Mr Bickerstaeth who was very nice to them. Jean has gone down to Toronto today to see John in a French play they are putting on at Hart House tonight. Mr Wilson, her music teacher, took her down & she will come back with him tonight.

Did I tell you that Nelson has got himself engaged? I can't remember whether I wrote that to you or not. It was just before I went to Toronto. The young lady is Phoebe Hogan and she is a very sweet little girl. She then

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these small towns is "Leader" The Victoria College Dramatic Club is coming up here on Friday to give a performance and they have asked me to lend our house for a dance. It is rather good, having a dance for Victoria College! Times have changed!

I hope you will keep well and be able to give them good Opposition this session! All the family join in sending much love to you dear Willie

ever your loving sister
Jennie.

P.S.
You had May Kay's old address on Elsie's card. I'll send it on to Elsie. Elsie has been very ill.

not be needed in the Chinese mix-up.

While I was away Harry had what might have been a serious accident. The car skidded on the icy pavement & struck a tree. The car was pretty badly smashed up but no one was seriously hurt though they got a good scare. Then the next day Harry Jr. was bobbing and a small boy ran in front of his bob & she fell off & struck her

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eye. Jean received Dan's letter
are eye as he had written
it was time to come home!
We drove up after
dance and for
before from a.m.
a lovely drive as
so happy. It is
home. Thank
all the family
well this morning
is better than
for years. Barrie
been family for
this is the last

We have been interested in reading Hansard. There is a lot of interest there which never appears in the press. I do hope you all go for Bennett on his Unemployment relief. There has been a lot of graft there. I wish Sinclair would bury his jealousy, which would help him to be a little less selfish. They are starting a Liberal Club here and I hope it will "go". The great lacking

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Ottawa, February 19, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I was delighted to receive this morning your letter of yesterday, and particularly to learn from it that you had been spending a fortnight with Cora in Toronto. The oftener you can take a change of the kind, the better. While in London, England, in 1928, I had a talk with Lord Dawson (The King's physician) about health matters and had him give me a thorough examination. I had felt that the strain of my public work might be telling on my system and as Lord Dawson was a good friend of Dr. Badgerow, who was also a friend of mine, Badgerow persuaded me to take advantage of the opportunity for a conference with him. I had known Dawson before, but not very well. He gave me a thorough examination and said I was in perfect condition, but would have to arrange matters so that I could have more in the way of relaxation. He advised shorter hours of work every day, where that was possible; a complete break at the end of the week for both Saturday and Sunday, if that could be arranged, and a vacation of some weeks in the summer every year. Along with this, periodic rest and change as often as that could be arranged. Of course, this had reference

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to one in public life, with all its high pressure and strain, but what I recall particularly was his telling me that once anyone had passed the age of fifty an arrangement of their time in some such way as this was imperative if they were to avoid breakdowns and illnesses and hoped to reach advanced years with faculties unimpaired.

I might say that I got exactly the same advice, when I was with the Rockefeller Foundation, from Dr. Barker, who was Osler's successor at Johns Hopkins Hospital. He, by the way, without doubt, saved Lapointe's life a year or two ago, and gave him exactly the same kind of advice. I took advantage of my association with the Foundation to consult Barker at that time, he having offered to have me given a thorough run-over by a group of physicians on the staff of Johns Hopkins. I have always gone on the theory that prevention was better than cure and that it was wise to periodically have tests made to see if one's blood, nervous system, etc., is in proper condition. Only by watching one's self in this way can one keep pace with the demands which seem to come with increasing number as the years go by.

I would strongly advise both you and Harry to give yourselves whatever in the way of leeway you can for rest and change. It will be the best of investments in the end.

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What you tell me of the activities of the family is most interesting. It recalls much of our own home life in university days.

In a letter which I received from Nelson, acknowledging a little gift sent at Christmas, he told me of his engagement, but as he said it was a secret, I thought I should say nothing about it until I heard of it from you or Harry. I think the young lady is of a very nice family in Montreal, but more than this I do not know. I am glad that you have met her and her mother and that you like them both. That will give great pleasure and satisfaction to Nelson. Like you, I have wondered how he is going to finance a home, but that is something which, like others, he will just have to work out for himself. On the whole, I think he is to be congratulated, and that it is fortunate that he has become engaged early in life. Where no mistake is made in the choice, that certainly is much to be desired. At the time I heard from Nelson, I wired him an acknowledgment of his letter. That was, as I recall, just about the moment that the Skeena was starting south from Victoria.

Heaven alone knows that may yet develop out of the Japanese-Chinese situation. There is little doubt in my mind that Japan has made up her mind to become all-powerful in the Orient and the master of the Pacific. These have been her ambitions for many years and she is only taking advantage today

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of the weakened positions of the other nations of the world to go ahead and, not only secure Manchuria for herself, but a stronghold on the Yangste River as well. It was inevitable, once the white races went to war with each other, that the yellow and the brown would soon assert themselves. I imagine that England will be inclined to keep out of the existing situation, but she, and other nations, may get round to at least an economic boycott or something of the kind. I greatly fear that the day will come when Japan and the United States will be at war, but I pray it may not be in our life time, though I am not sanguine enough to believe that that conflict will not come fairly soon.

With the session on, I am again very busy. Fortunately, I am feeling the benefit of the comparative absence of pressure during the past months, and I also have my material for debate in much better shape than it has been in any previous year. I doubt if the session will last very long, and so far as it may be in my power to limit its length, that will be done. With the Imperial Economic Conference meeting in Ottawa in July, the Government will need the weeks immediately preceding for preparation. I hope, therefore, that we may be through, at the latest, by the beginning of June. I would give a good deal for a stretch of six or eight months between any session of parliament, as I would like to have

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time to get my own books, papers, letters, etc., in shape; have a little rest at Kingsmere; a chance to visit my constituency in Prince Albert and, if the opportunity came, a trip to the Old Country as well. Every time I have been in Britain it has been at a moment of great pressure. I should like to get in touch a little more with British public men and affairs in a quiet way.

I am glad to hear that business keeps up and hope that with the advent of spring all will continue to go very well.

With much love to Harry, the children, and yourself,

Believe me, as always, dear Jennie,

Your affectionate brother,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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Feb 23. 32

Tuesday morning

My dear Willie

This is just a note to let you know that Harry sent the wreath by the midnight train last night. It was really lovely, made of pale pink, white, mauve, sweet peas, carnations & hyacinths. We sent a spray of daffodils & tulips. It was so good of you to phone. I don't know how we missed the notice. I was in bed most of the day, sorting after my strenuous week-end! I had not read the paper at all, and Harry had not noticed it. Cora rang us a little later & she & John are going to the funeral. I phoned Bob's house. He was out but Lyon answered the phone. This is all I have time to write now. Thank you so much for your letter & also for the talk last night. It is very mysterious & wonderful. Best love from all and many thanks. Just loving & grateful

Jennie

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Personal

Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King
Leader of the Opposition
House of Commons
Ottawa

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March 4, 1932

My dear Harry:

I enclose my cheque in payment of the attached account. In doing so, let me thank you very warmly for attending to the matter so promptly. Getting the wreath away by the midnight train made all the difference between its due appreciation on arrival and the confusion which would otherwise have been inevitable.

It is a great satisfaction to me to know that, in anything that relates to Toronto or round about, I can get orders filled through you. They are not likely to be many, but they do arise from time to time, and I may, if very busy, simply wire instead of writing or 'phoning to you. I will trust to you treating me just as any other customer. It would, however, be a help to me if, unless there is some special reason to the contrary, you yourself would judge what, in the circumstances, would be suitable. For example, in sending flowers to a hospital or sending a

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spray or wreath at the time of a funeral, I would much prefer to leave to your own judgment to select what you think would be appropriate or adequate. Anything which you yourself may decide will be quite satisfactory to me.

Another thing I have in mind, and that is to purchase plants from you in the spring for Kingsmere. If you think they would stand the journey all right and transplanting when the time comes, if you will let me know what you have that I could buy from you, I would, of course, prefer to buy from you than others.

The flowers you sent me at Christmas time have done well, and there has been an added pleasure in having them from you.

Tell Jennie that I was glad to receive her letter a few days ago. I will send an answer when I have a little more time than at the moment I have.

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/EAP

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

PHONE 832

BARRIE

March 8th

Dear Dear Lucille,

Thanks very much for your kind letter & the £1 - 1/- cheque. It will be a great pleasure indeed to fill any little commissions you may entrust to us. We will carefully preserve the roots you sent for use when required. When the time comes I will advise you what variety Mrs Lay would like to have which would stand a journey to Kingsmere. We have had a wonderful

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Tell Jennie that I was glad to receive her letter a few days ago. I will send an answer when I have a little more time than at the moment I have.

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

PHONE 832

BARRIE

March 8/32

My dear Willie,

Thanks very much for your Kind letter of the 4th inst. and also for the cheque. It will be a great pleasure indeed to fill any little commissions you may entrust to us. We will carefully preserve the cards you sent for use when required.

When the time comes I will advise you what leading plants we have which would stand a journey to Kingsmere.

We have had a wonderful

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

winter and the demands
on fuel for both residence
and greenhouse have been
heavier than usual.
There was tremendous con-
sternation at Camp Borden
(and also at Barrie) when
it was learned that 2/3rds of
the instructors were dismissed
on short notice. The O.C.
tells me that these are most
valuable men and that millions
have been spent in their
training and equipment.
In a country of great forestry
assets it is each year more

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 832

evident that the air patrol
of our forests saves each year
millions of dollars worth of
lumber which year by year
becomes more valuable. The
impoverishment of the air force
is most mistaken economy.

Hoping you are well
and that Pat also is his
old self again
With very much love
from Jennie the children
and myself and again thanking
you for your help in our business.
Yours affectionately
Harvey.

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managed to twist that too. Then the time she says I told her I didn't know where her mother lived was when I told her that I never was in Toronto over night and that I had only a couple of hours at best and that as her mother had snored I didn't even know where she lived. It was after that that she wrote me (& also Cora) the insulting letters she did. Now of course I am done with the whole outfit. May forgets the years of unselfish Kindness She & her whole family received before we ever thought of any closer relationship. May's letter has hurt me desperately because for years I have been ignoring her unkind hints & suggestions and have written her just as kindly as I could. Now I am not going to write to her again or read any letters from her. Neither am I going to bother about the boys, for it is impossible to work against an influence like that. When they are

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 14th '32

My dear Willie
We were delighted to read in Senator McDougall's evidence the statement about your Bermuda bill. I should think that would cause rather a sensation! I am glad a few of these things are being sifted. Do you think there is any truth in the report that the John Aird papers can be procured for a price? I thought his statement under oath, that they "went out with the garbage" was a disgrace to any business

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many people are wavering. The new Budgett does not look very promising. It may not be as bad as it promises to be, but I see nothing encouraging.

I am enclosing Mary's letter to let you see her attitude. I wrote as nice a letter as I could and in it said that it seemed a pity to let a slight misunderstanding spoil the friendships of years. You see how she answers it. When the time I came from Denver, I got into Toronto at 9.30 a.m after a terribly hot trip, and Harry was to meet me at Eaton's at 10.30 to drive home to Barrie. I didn't know whether I could make the visit to her mother in the time, feeling as I did, but wrote & told her that I felt (as I always do) that "a rose to the living is more, than sumptuous wreaths to the dead" She has

old enough to decide for themselves, they can make their choice, but after a little like this, I don't intend to try and influence them in the slightest. I feel very sorry for the Speech from Throne, but others have had a hard time, and others have not had it all easy days, and it has sometimes been pretty hard to make the best of things & only the determination to see the brightest side, has made it possible to carry on. I don't like the work to carry on. I don't like the work Parliament as a whole so if they can decided they don't like me, why all the satisfied!

Harry had a big order yesterday and made more than $20.00 on the Credit Day! He & John worked like mad all morning, and that is

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what we hope it do!
two weeks ago John brought us his French class card, 25th then, for afternoon tea on Sunday. they were the nicest boys & girls and gathered away in French like natives. it is splendid practice for them having it had a Hallowe'en party & Friday little boys & girls in Friday night & thought we would serve tea-then fields! it is the first time this winter we have had enough snow to ride sleigh-ride. Jean was in Orillia & Collingwood with the basket ball team Saturday both games. She was thrilled. tonight reading & are going to church & hearing his father preach & spring a talk on the U.N.A.S. then! it is very cold here today. It was 2° below zero when John left here this morning. Bee are well and is sending very much love to you dear Willie can from Mary Alice, Jeanne

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Mar. 16, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,—

Jean got this for I had to mash!

She has a debate next week in which she takes the negative! Can your secretary send her any useful information?

Excuse mush

Best love from all

Jennie

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720 Spadina Ave,
Toronto 4, Ont.
March 15, 1932.

My Dear Uncle Willie,-

I am taking the liberty of writing to you for a little advise, and perhaps also a little help. When I was at home last week-end Dad and I were talking over my prospects of a job for next summer. He advised me to write to you and more or less state my case. One idea I have in mind is to go out to Victoria for Nelson's marriage, and then get some work on some steamship for part or all

and was highly successful. Unfortunately, a bad attack of laryngitis on the very day of the play kept me in bed and off the stage. It was very disappointing, especially after six weeks rehearsing.

As the time of examinations draws near, my feeling of misgiving is much less than it was last year. I have been very fortunate, and but for a few days last term and this when I was laid up with colds, I have had comparatively little to interrupt my work.

Mother and Dad were in town today, but I didn't know it and didn't see them. Dad was on a rush business call. They brought Jean and Harry with them, to do some shopping.

I apologise for taking your time, and remain

Ever your loving nephew,
John.

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Mr. and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family
January-May 1932

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Good Friday morning, but as yet I can
see no way of getting back to Toronto.
If I could find a way home, would
it be absolutely convenient for you
if I came down? I know you will
be absolutely frank about it, so I have
no hesitation in asking you. We
have almost a week's freedom from
lectures at Easter, but I feel I should
come back on Easter Monday and do
a bit of extra studying.

At present we are working on
a Spanish play which we are to present
a week from to-night. I have quite a
heavy part in it, but it is good fun
and excellent practice. It is fairly short
for an Italian play is being presented on
the same bill. The French play that
we put on last month in Hart House
Theatre was a full four-act comedy,
of the balance of the summer. I thought at
first of some boat going via the Panama
Canal, but any at all would suit me,
wherever bound. This, of course, may
vanish into thin air like many more of
my dreams. However, the problem
remains of finding some way for me
to earn next year's fees and expenses.
Dad suggested that you might have
some ideas on the subject, which is
becoming rather imminent, as we have
roughly only ten more weeks at University,
or that you might be able to suggest
some gentlemen who might help me
out.

I would like very much to
talk these and other matters over
personally, but that is rather a hard
order. I have been offered a ride that
would take me almost to Ottawa on

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Personal

Ottawa, March 17, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I was very pleased to receive your letter a day or two ago.

I am glad you noticed McDougald's evidence, and I hope you also saw the editorial in The Globe on the following day entitled "A Discredited Inquiry". It is now quite clear that what was done last year, before the committee of inquiry in the House of Commons, was a deliberate plot to bring my name into a matter with which it should never have been associated and for which there is no justification whatever. The outrageous part of the whole proceeding is that those who were responsible had in their possession the vouchers attached to the slip, which set forth Senator McDougald's expenses, and which made up the full amount of his account, not a dollar of which related to any part of my trip to Bermuda or stay there. It is hardly conceivable that men would descend to tactics of the kind, but it only serves to confirm what the Tory nature is capable of. I think the country is now beginning to find out that the whole business of last session was an effort to obscure

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some of the wrongdoing of the Tory party itself. At least, that has come to be the impression which those who are following the inquiries that are now going on at Ottawa have reached.

I had a letter from John this morning, asking if I would be able to talk with him at Easter, if he could arrange to come down and get back during the Easter recess. I was sorry to have to write and tell him that it would not be convenient to have him come at this time. The truth of the matter is that I shall need every moment of the Easter recess to prepare for the debates on the Imperial Conference, the budget, the St. Lawrence waterways, and other matters, which will come up immediately after Easter and to which, thus far, I have had no chance whatever to give any attention. In addition to the time for study, I need every moment I can get for complete rest, as the strain of the parliamentary session is very considerable. John was quite clear that he would expect me to be quite frank in what I might say and he will, I am sure, understand my telling him that it will not be convenient for me to have him come down at this time.

In his letter he spoke of the possibility of going to Vancouver to Nelson's wedding in the summer, and get work of some kind there. I have told him that I think he ought to consider very carefully any step of the kind. There are thousands of

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unemployed in Vancouver and Victoria, and were he to go there with the hopes of getting a job, I am certain that he would only add one more to the number of unemployed. Besides, the expense of the journey there and return would, in itself, be equivalent to what he might need in the way of university fees. I sympathize with his wish to be present with Nelson at the time of his marriage, but I really think that it would be most unwise of him to contemplate going any such distance, unless he had secured in advance some definite employment.

I shall keep in mind his wish to secure something for the summer, and will talk with those who I think are in a position to make a suggestion. I would not, however, like John, you or Harry to rely upon me to discover anything. Although I am in touch with Members of Parliament, and others, it is very seldom that I learn of an opening of any kind. Members of Parliament, for the most part, are looking for openings for their own immediate friends and supporters. A tenth of my correspondence relates to my being unable to be of assistance in the way of finding positions for those who feel that they have some claim upon the party and myself, as its leader.

I am returning May's letter herewith. It is perhaps just as well not to concern yourself in the least about it.

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May gets very definite ideas, and is very strong in some of her own views, and at a time like this is apt to be over-sensitive. The older I get the more I go on the principle of doing the best I can at each turn, and, having done that, give no further thought to what others may feel or say.

I was glad to hear of the success that Harry has been having with the greenhouse, and hope that Easter will mean a further advance.

I have read with interest what you told me about the formation of a Liberal Club in Barrie. No doubt they will try to get you to accept the presidency, or some office, therein. My own advice would be to not hesitate to take some part in the work of the club, once it is formed, but to refrain from assuming any office or responsibility in regard to it. For business reasons, it may be just as well for you and Harry not to be too active politically. Of course the time will come when we will have an election. Then, I think, it will be well to do what you can to help, but you will have to guard against others trying to expect more of you than should be expected, simply because you happen to be the sister of the Liberal leader.

With fondest love to you, all,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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-May 1932

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March 17, 1932

My dear John:

I am glad you wrote me about your thought of coming down to Ottawa at Easter. I am sorry to have to tell you that I shall be more than busy during the two or three days that we have for Easter vacation, and it really would not be convenient for me to have you come at that time. I have been very busy since parliament assembled and have not been able to prepare at all for the debates on the budget, the St. Lawrence Waterways, the Imperial Conference and other very important matters which will take up the time of parliament immediately after Easter. I shall need every free moment of the Easter recess, which is only from Thursday to Monday, to work on these problems. But for that, I would have planned to get away from Ottawa for a brief rest, of which I am also in need by way of preparation for the work of the remainder of the session. What I am planning to do is to divide the time between retiring early, and taking as much in the way of rest as possible, and devoting every other minute of time to what I have already planned for the Easter days.

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As to what it may be best for you to do in the summer, I cannot, at the moment, suggest. It is not easy to advise on a matter of the kind at a moment's notice. One has, particularly in times like these, to turn matters over in one's mind and speak with others about possibilities. That necessarily takes a little time. I shall be glad to think over possible opportunities for the summer and to speak with one or two who may be in a position to make suggestions themselves.

Of all the years, this year is pretty certain to be one of the most difficult in which the pick up temporary employment, as there are so many who are seeking opportunities, and openings are so few. Certainly I would not advise anyone to think of going any distance from home, with the expectation of finding something to do. I can understand your wish to be with Nelson at the time of his marriage, but a journey to Victoria is a very long and expensive one, and what you would spend going and coming, and the stay that you might make there, would, of itself, probably equal the university fees, etc. I doubt very much if you would secure any work on a ship at Vancouver or Victoria. There are literally thousands of men seeking that kind of opportunity there. The fact is that trade

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is tied up as it has never been heretofore, and I very much doubt if you would have any success at all in an effort of that kind.

Naturally, I do not wish to discourage you in any venture you may have in mind, but, as you have asked me in particular about the possibility of anything of the kind, I feel I ought to say quite frankly what I think about it. I certainly would advise against anything which meant an absence from home before a position is secured. If something were found, which would mean certain and definite employment, it would then be time to decide whether what would be involved in the cost of going and coming and board would be worth what would be saved in other ways. As long as you are in the vicinity of your own home, you at least are spared outlays. That in itself is a saving.

Let me again say how sorry I am not to be able to have you here at Easter. This year, with what I have in the way of pressure of my public work, that would not be possible. You will, I know, as you have said in your letter, fully understand the situation.

With love and all good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

John Lay, Esq.,
720 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto 4, Ont.

WLMK/EAP

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March 18, 1932

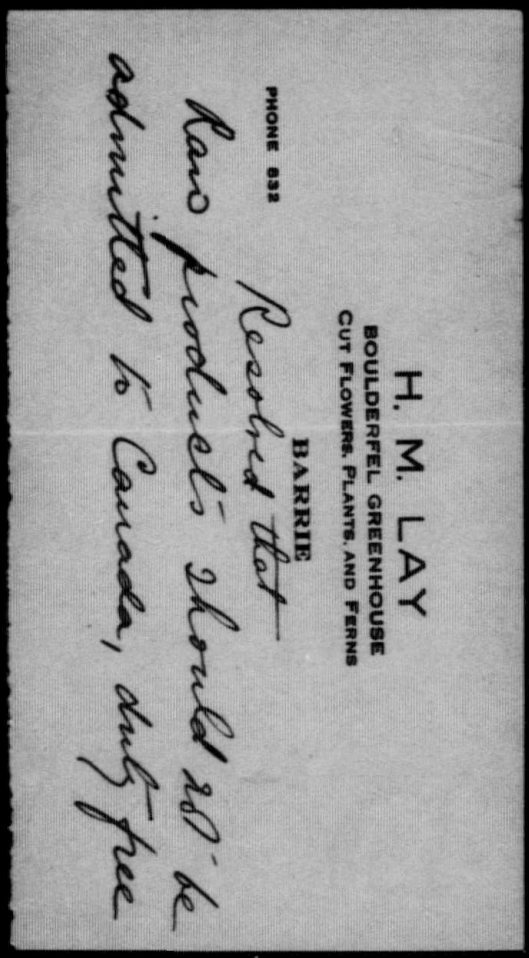
My dear Jean:

Your mother tells me that next week you are taking part in a debate, "Resolved that raw products should not be admitted to Canada duty free", and that you are upholding the negative. I am glad to know that you are on the negative side in the debate, as I think it is in the stronger position of the two. Your father, as an old free trader, will be able to give you more in the way of arguments than any of my staff or myself.

The points, however, that I think you might well make are, first, that trade is the basis of all prosperity, and that what is needed is not restriction, but more in the way of freedom of trade, that people should be free to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, and to give whatever they like for what they want, so long as it is the fruit of their own labour which they wish to exchange for something else. You could make a strong point through the industrial depression in Canada at the present time as due, in very large measure, to the many restrictions put on commodities coming into the country,

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS
BARRIE
PHONE 632

Received that
Rare products should be
admitted to Canada, duty free

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which has the effect, first of all, of causing much in the way of purchasing power to be withheld; and, secondly, in the long run, imports are paid for by exports. Trade cannot all be one way. If we want to export our goods to foreign countries, we must be prepared to take theirs. This is necessary to balance accounts, but also to keep down costs of transportation, which can only be kept down if ships are laden both ways.

The second point you might make is that it is inthe interests of all consumers to keep down the cost of living, and, if commodities can be bought mayebecheaplyabyybeing imported than by being grown at home, we should welcome the chance to secure them. Particularly do the masses need to have food, clothing, etc., as cheaply as possible.

The third point would be that it is in the interests of the development of industry to have raw products secured as cheaply as possible, because they are subsequently worked up into finished products, the process meanwhile giving employment to large numbers. For example, by importing raw cotton, a cotton industry can be built up. The whole textile industry in Canada is dependent upon importing raw materials. This is also true to some extent of the woollen and other industries.

A final argument might be that, if we want to develop a large export trade, especially in manufactured goods, we must

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keep down the cost of production as much as we can, which means the cost ofraw materials, the cost of living, etc. If you keep down the cost of living, the same wages will go further than otherwise they would. If the cost of living goes up, wages must go up, and, consequently, the cost of production is higher. With competition what it is in the world markets to-day, that may result in another nation winning out just because of our higher cost of production.

I am sending you the speech I made on the address at the opening of the present session of parliament. You will see in what I said after dinner about trade: how important the export market is, particularly to manufacturers. All that is said there might used as an argument for raw materials.

The other side will probably say that we ought to protect our own producers. You could tell them that they are already protected by nature and geography. In things which we really produce in any quantities, we need fear no competition from outside, unless we are anxious to encourage monopolies. You might tell them that all duties on raw materials simply mean helping these trust and combines and monopolies of one kind or another.

I shall be interested in hearing how you get along in your debate. I hope you may win.

With fondest love,

Yours affectionately,

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE TELEGRAM

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, March 18, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Assume you have heard of Percy Lindsey's death last night. Please ask Harry to send suitable flowers with my card of deepest sympathy and affectionate remembrance to Mrs. Lindsey, 163 Balsam St., Toronto.

Willie

ful44

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-May 1932

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

FORM 6124

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

W. G. BARBER, General Manager

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1932 MAR 18 AM 11 13

PA118 10 STANDARD TIME

BARRIE ONT 18 1010A

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING 121

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

PERCY DIED YESTERDAY | FUNERAL TOMORROW | SENDING FLOWERS YOU AND OURSELVES

JENNIE.

● 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- May 1932 ●

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

March 23,
1932.

Dear Uncle Willie,—

This is just a short note to thank you very much for all the information you sent. I can assure you that I greatly appreciate all the trouble you took. The debate had not taken place yet, but when it does, I have a good side to defend. We are having six speakers, three on each side and, each to speak for five minutes. We will be judged and the three best speakers will get medals or

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All at Boulderfel join with me in sending much love and hoping you have a very Happy Easter.

With many thanks, Uncle Willie, I am

Your affectionate niece,
Jean Lay

books. I certainly hope I get recognition. I love medals for swimming and paddling but not for public speaking!

Mother was very glad to get your letter and will write soon. Daddy sent a lovely crescent from you and spray from Mother and himself for Mrs Lindsey. Cousin Flora said that the flowers were beautiful and that Hollie appreciated them and the messages very much.

We've been reading with great interest about the time you've been having in the House. We have just heard on the radio how Premier Bennett ~~has~~ applied the "closure" this afternoon.

● King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12)
● and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie)
● Harry Morrison Lay and family January-May 1932

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Form 2A-TW

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Day Message	
Day Letter	
Night Message	
Night Letter	

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RECEIVER'S NO.	TIME FILED	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa March 26 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

Loving Easter greetings to all at Boulderfel.

ful44 Willie

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and July so his wedding can't be till August or September. I don't know what John is going to do this summer, but he has several "stings" and hopes to get some good pay job.

We had a call on Friday from Mrs. Jacques (?) asking about a table which his grandfather gave our grandfather. He said it was a desk-table combined and had a silver plate attached. Told him we had never had such an article of furniture in our home since Mother was married. I showed him the "curly-legged" table which Grandfather had before the Rebellion, but don't know what you referred to when you said I had it. I have

P.S. Cora said Nellie was "much touched" by our kindness at the time of Percy's death. Your wire & mine must have crossed, but we sent a crescent from you & a spray from us. I didn't know whether you wanted it "kept quiet" as we did when Nellie died. That was why I suggested sending one between us. J.

THOROUGH
BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

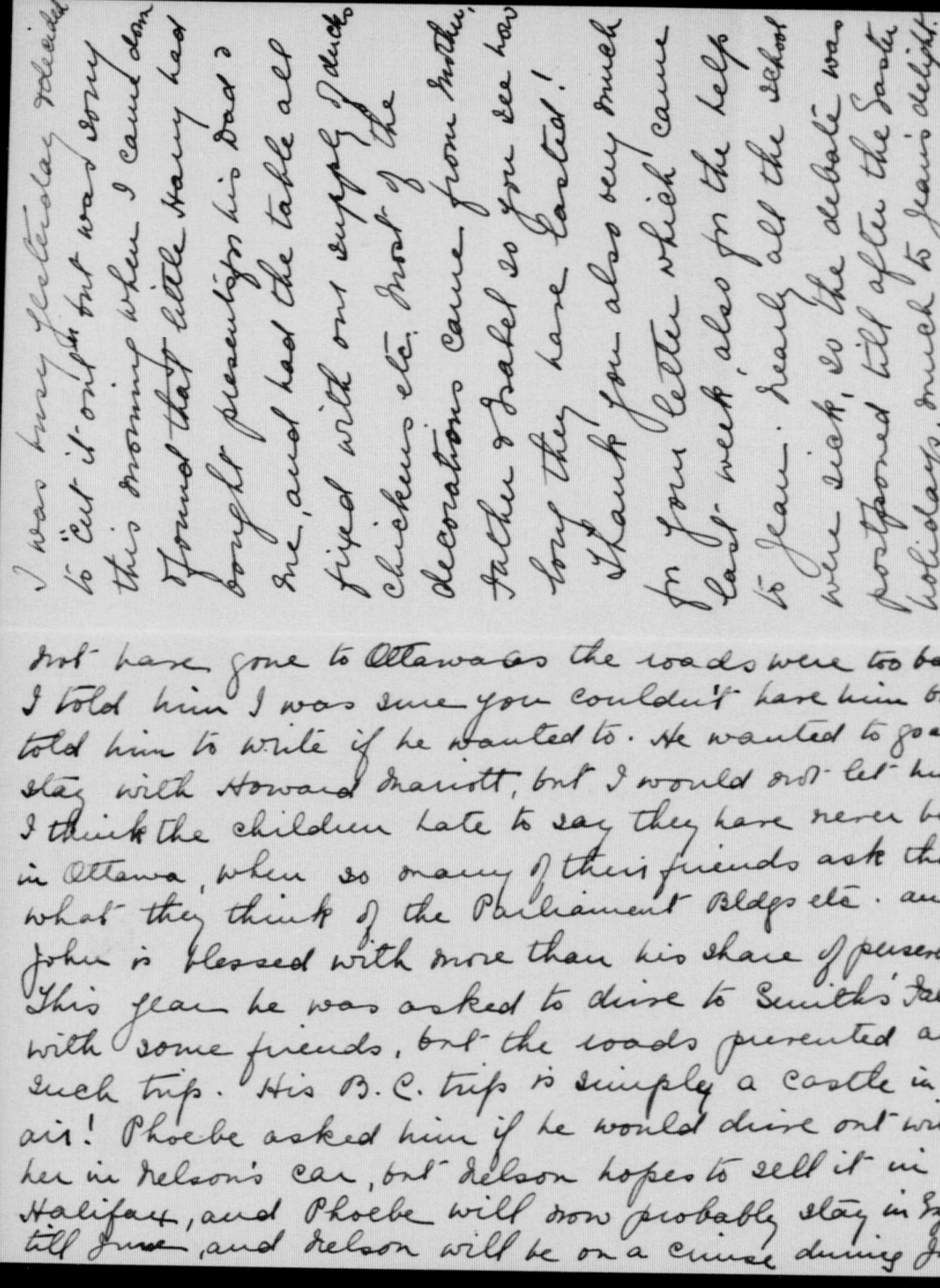
March 27th 32

My dear Willie:

Many thanks for your Easter greeting which reached us at breakfast time this morning. I am always glad when Easter is over. This year, for the first time since I was married, I have not colored eggs! Every other year the children have hidden their caps and "the bunny" put eggs and some trifles in, and they have had to hunt for their caps.

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I was busy yesterday to get it out but was sorry this morning when I came down found that the little Harry had brought presents, and had chickens etc. decorations father & Isabel long they have Thank you last week, alas to Jean. Really were sick, so postponed till holidays, much As it turned

but have gone to Ottawa as the roads were too bad. I told him I was sure you couldn't have him but told him to write if he wanted to. He wanted to go and stay with Howard Marriott, but I would not let him. I think the children late to say they have never been in Ottawa, when so many of their friends ask them what they think of the Parliament Bldgs etc. and John is blessed with more than his share of perseverance. This year he was asked to drive to Smiths Falls with some friends, but the roads prevented any such trip. His B.C. trip is simply a castle in the air! Phoebe asked him if he would drive out with her in Nelson's car, but Nelson hopes to sell it in Halifax, and Phoebe will now probably stay in England till June, and Nelson will be on a cruise during June

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relief to get rid of a lot of stuff and she has six little children living on a farm where they can use old things.
I wonder whether you saw this article in the "Star"? I don't want it back. Bennett is getting more despotic than ever. It was "great" hearing over the radio what a splendid speech you had made. The Globe hates to give you any credit. The rest of the family are in bed so I must go too. Best love dear Willie and many thanks for all your kind thoughts of & for us
ever your loving sister
Jeannie

wondered since he was here if Percy Lindsey could have had it. I have a dim recollection of seeing a mahogany desk at Percy's house and am going to write and ask Cora about it. Mr Jacques said it was not walnut but mahogany and my curly-legged table and the marble topped table are both walnut. They are the only ones here. Who is Mr Jacques? He was speaking to the Kiwanis Club here that day none of the gentlemen drove him down. I think I said you "must have been dreaming" when you remembered

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

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if here, she said he would talk you what I said!! I would the table in the top cabin at the Exhibition, by any chance be the one he is? I am sorry it is looking for? him any information I could furnish but I never had any such Rivers we are in summer.

times a day! I am glad the children will have a week's holiday for there is so much sickness at school that I hate to let them go. Jean is going to the Ada's in Toronto till Friday & John has to go back tomorrow so we will have a nice peaceful time!

I got a present of two chickens & two dozen eggs from "Clara", the maid I had when Isabel died. Every Christmas she sends me some chickens, cream etc but this is the first time she has sent an Easter gift! She has certainly been faithful, but I ought to say that I send her a lot of the children's old clothes every spring & fall and she is truly grateful. It is a

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Ottawa, March 29, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I was pleased to receive this morning your loving letter written at the Easter season. The little card which came from you all at Boulderfel a few days before was very welcome and added much to my happiness.

I was too busy with the work of the session to have a chance to secure any cards or to write any letters. Indeed, the few days adjournment came as a Godsend in what it afforded by way of opportunity to overtake the serious accumulation of arrears. Notwithstanding that I worked very hard every day of the vacation, Sunday included, I go back to the House this afternoon with work just at the point it should have been at when parliament adjourned.

Thank you for sending me the clipping referring to Grandfather and the events of 1832. I am always interested in items of the kind, and am likely to miss them as I have so little time to read the papers. Anything you send me will, therefore, be most welcome.

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I was sorry not to be able to have John down at Easter, but I just could not contemplate the addition of any extra charge on my time, however slight. I would like to have Jean, and the other children as well, see Ottawa, also Kingsmere and Laurier House. Perhaps some time in the summer, or the early fall, you could all do as May and the boys did, motor down for a little holiday. A trip of the kind would be something not difficult to arrange. I expect, while the Imperial Conference is on, to have to do a good deal in the way of entertaining visitors from different parts of the Empire, but after the conference is over, I should have more in the way of freedom.

The table I had in mind as the one given by Mr. Jacques to Grandfather is the table with the white marble top. I remember Mother telling me that Grandfather had either selected or designed the fuchsias himself which were carved on the side of the table. I do not recall the table having been mahogany; my impression has been that it was walnut. I feel quite sure that whatever else may have been presented to Grandfather by Mr. Jacques the table with the marble top was one of his gifts. There may have been some other desk of the kind referred to in your letter, and which may be in the possession of some other member of the family - most likely some one of the Lindsey family. I do not know young Mr. Jacques, but I do know that his grandfather and our grandfather

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were very close friends and each, in his lifetime, had much to do with the affairs of Toronto.

I feel relieved to know that John is not banking too seriously on going to British Columbia for Nelson's wedding. Only one who has taken the journey across the continent can appreciate how considerable the venture is and what it is certain to involve in financial outlay. Motoring through the mountains, moreover, would be most hazardous. It may well be that Nelson will find it necessary to postpone his marriage for a little time, but even if he does not, it seems to me it would be a mistake to make it an obligation on the part of the other members of the family to be present, unless some way, quite unforeseen, should open up for an opportunity of the kind.

This is just a little line to bring my love and best of wishes to you all as we enter on the spring months. I suppose from now on Harry will be particularly busy. - By the way, that reminds me, I must thank you both for looking after the wreath sent to Toronto. Please tell Harry not to fail to send in his account at once.

I hope Delaney is not counting on coming down to Ottawa this year. You better let him know at once that I am planning on getting along with young Mulvihill and, if necessary, his friend Jack. I hope Delaney, his wife, and the children

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have got through the winter alright, and that they are all well, and that he will have employment for the approaching season.

Again fondest love to you all,

Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Yours very affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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the cars had an awful time getting up our drive.
I wonder if anything further will develope when Ferguson testifies. The Henry government doesn't seem to be much more popular than the Bennett! Everyone talks against them, but will they vote against them?
This is just a note to let you know about Delaney, so I must stop & go to bed. The others are already there! Hope you are well and that you can keep R.B. running! It must soon run out! Best love dear Willie from all the family. This letter does not require an answer.

ever your loving sister
Jennie

April 3rd '32

My dear Willie:

Thank you so much for your letter which came early in the week. I meant to tell you before that Delaney is going to work for Miss Brock this summer so you needn't worry about him. He has managed very well this winter and is still living at the Grages house, and has had most of the furnaces on this street to look after. I don't know where he is going to live when he starts work at Miss Brock's, but at any

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[redacted]

hate he will be coming a good ways. We said he had 4 pcs 9 ins to Thanksgiving but little Chin the first.

I wrote to Cora and asked her if Percy had that clock, because if he has, I would not like it if he had, and Nellie will be pretty sure to tell Percy if Bauer offers Percy's present. She can't have both. She had been paid. She expects had been paid for one boarder but kept two has one boarder but kept two for more as that is about all Cora says she can do. Cora says she will have to look after her

all things get straightened out. I told Mrs Jacques about your table with the fuschias etc carved on it, but he said that was not the one, as the one he was looking for was a desk-table and was mahogany, not walnut. I asked him if his father was "Jacques Hays" but he said he was no relation. I know we had no other table which belonged to Grandpa.

I suppose you have as much snow in Ottawa as we have here. The roads are in an awful state, and it is not safe to get off the Highway. We had a children's dance for Peach last night (just 26 children) and

April 5, 1932

My dear Jennie:

Under separate cover, I am sending you the Book of Proverbs which you recalled as having been in father's library. I hope it will be of some service to you.

I am glad to hear that Delaney has secured the Brock position.

With fondest love,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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said she would visit us on her way back.

John didn't come home last week as he has an exam on Thursday and wanted to study. I hope he will do well. We are glad to see the Aird business is to be pushed. I am glad he is not my son!

Harry is working very hard but this continued cold weather burns up all our profits! The roads have been in a terrible state. We loved your "apology" about "deliberately deceiving". It was so back-hand!! Hope you are well. All are here, join in sending much love ever yours loving sister Jennie.

bgk

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

April 19th '32

My dear Willie:

Thank you so much for sending me the book of Proverbs so promptly. I meant to thank you at once but have been desperately busy & so neglected to do so. There are a few pages gone, & unfortunately they were very necessary! I don't know whether I stand any chance but sent off my list yesterday.

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and will return the beginning of the decision of the Appeal. I am wondering whether you saw the article in the April "Reporter" in Canada. Jessie brought it home to me & I am sending it on, in case you have not seen it. Prof. Hunter is also in Ottawa at the Conference and would be glad to come to see Rowe. Isabel Rowe is quite well & so glad I am almost sure it is the same

In a letter from Nelson last week he tells us he had been to see a specialist about his hands. The tendons of some of his fingers were tightening; the result of his work. When he was home he showed me the centre of the palm of his hand, which was quite hard & I think he said it was from rowing. At any rate he will have to have about a month off, but I don't know whether he has to be all the time in the hospital. He never says one word about himself! Phoebe was to sail for home on April 15th so may be here this week-end. She

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 10th '32

My dear Willie:

Under separate cover, I am returning the "Book of Proverbs" as all chance of my winning a prize, is nil. I got only two wrong, but nearly two hundred were ahead of me with either no mistakes or only one. It is too bad to be so near and yet so far, but I enjoyed doing them so the time was not wasted! Thank you so much for lending me the book.

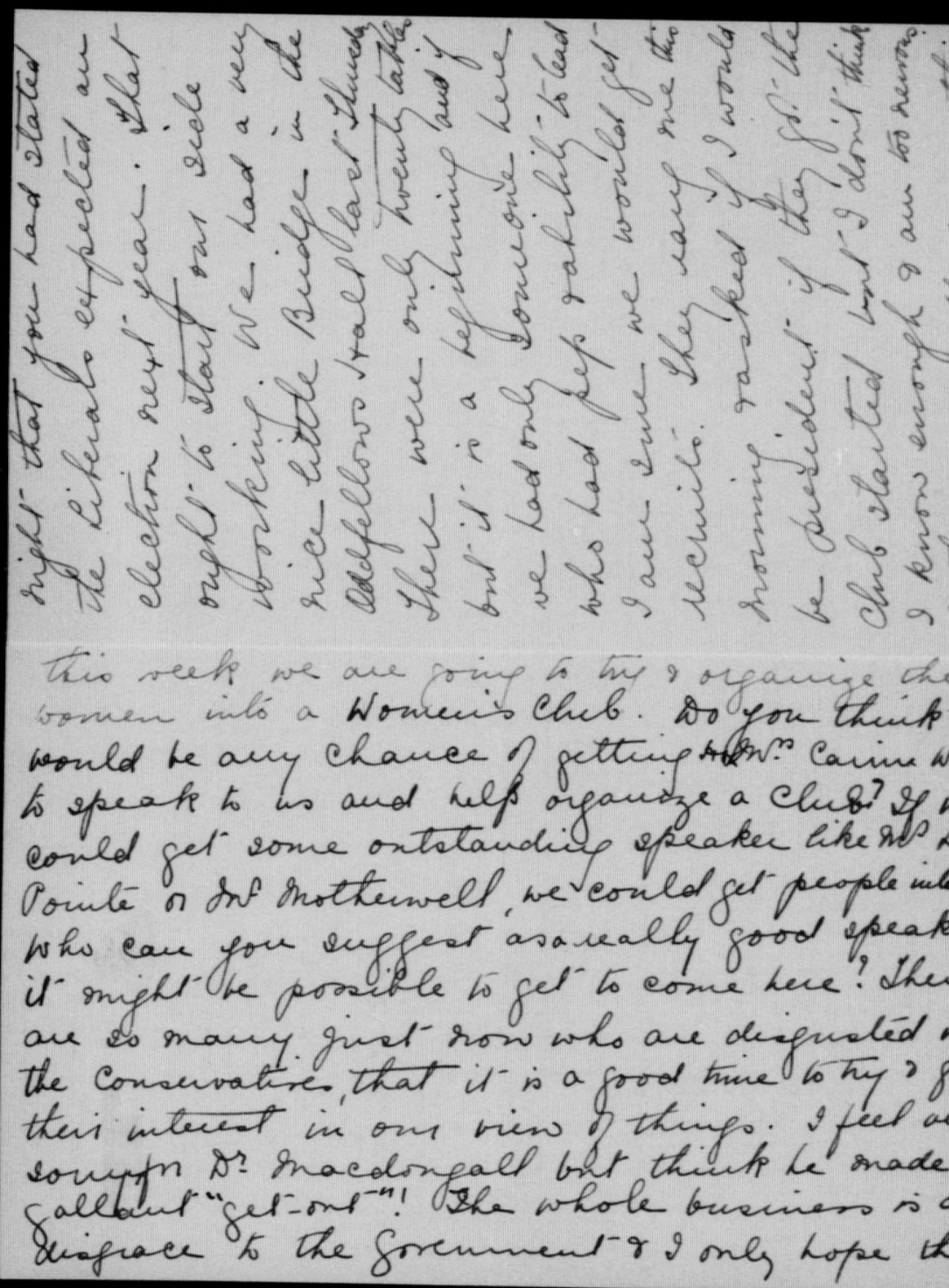
We heard over the radio last

will show up some of the Tory misdeeds. There doesn't seem much chance when, every time they come anywhere near the truth, the commissioner shuts them up. Still, the country at large is not blind. We had a Mr. Mooney from Mattawa calling on us last week. If other people take him at his own valuation he is "some fellow" but he is a good Liberal & a warm admirer of yours.

John finishes tomorrow & we are driving down to bring him home. So far he has not landed a job though he has tried a good many places. Mr. Tory said he would like to make a place for him if any one of the staff dropped out, even temporarily he would take John on. In the mean time I will be glad to have him home as Harry really has more than he is able for alone. We had a big day on Saturday, & were busy till eleven p.m. and then had to

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this week we are going to try & organize the women into a Women's Club. Do you think there would be any chance of getting Mrs Carine Wilson to speak to us and help organize a Club? If we could get some ontstanding speaker like Mrs La Pointe or Mrs Motherwell, we could get people interested. Who can you suggest as a really good speaker & it might be possible to get to come here? There are so many just now who are disgusted with the Conservatives, that it is a good time to try & get their interest in our view of things. I feel very sorry for Dr Macdougall but think he made a fatal "get-out"! The whole business is a disgrace to the Government & I only hope they

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finish up on Sunday morning. If the
wicked were not so heavy, Harry's
really doing quite well, but coal and
carrying the furnaces eat up
everything. Still, every month this
year had been ahead of last
year so it is encouraging. Thank
goodness nanny is still
for that reason is in the hospital
in Lancaster having his hands
on? The left hand was done a week
ago & he has the splints off but does
not move yet. You remember it is
the right hand
they will not touch the left has fractur
till they are sure the
Phoebe returned from the Old Country
last week but, as her brother Rich
was both with her, did not stop on.
I was rather glad she didn't as it
is not an easy time to make a
visit - pleasant.
I suppose you have seen enclosure
but, on the chance you might have
missed them, I enclose them. The

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caution is very good I think! Everything is beginning to look so green about us in the garden but it still keeps very cold. We need some sunlight to make things grow. I will soon be getting out to Kingsmere again. Delaney is working on Mackenzie Manor. Mrs. Mackenzie does not like them [illegible] they are still living in the [illegible] I have been doing a bit of sewing and mending our [illegible] It is so cold I hate to get out. We are paying 12½ cents a dozen for fresh eggs. That never happened in the King government time! The farmers did not get so far ahead as they appear when the government came in. Hope you are well and that you will get some real spring. The summer seems like [illegible] We are well and enjoying our garden [illegible] Yours loving Uncle Jimmie

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Form 6102, replacing Form 2A-T.W.

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, April 23, 1927

Master John Lay,
Care of H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie, Ontario.

Greatly pleased with your loving Easter greetings
and gift for both of which I send warmest thanks and love.

Uncle Willie

Mr.W.L.Mackenzie King,
Laurier House; DH. PS 104.

- 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-May 1932

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

May 11th 1932.

Rt.Hon. W.L.Mackenzie King,

Laurier House,

Ottawa.

My dear Willie,

Thanks for your order by telegram this morning for 5 dozen mixed varieties Rose bushes also 2 standard Rose Bushes. I have always found the Dale Estate of Brampton supply excellent rose bushes and have just planted 50 in addition to those I had last year. I therefore phoned them to ship you either to-night or tomorrow the 5 dozen required. They had no standard Roses therefore I am enquiring of Dunlop and another grower and will advise you later. The price of those ordered from Dale will be 25 cents. Thanks very much for passing your

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H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

May 11th 1932

order through me .

We have been following the proceedings of Parliament with very great interest and wish to congratulate you ~~for~~ the powerful advocacy you have given to the interests of the citizen as against the plutocracy. I must say I look forward with misgiving to the Imperial Conference which seems likely to be nothing but a conference of the Tories of the Empire as to how ~~th~~ they can best squeeze the poor man.

Jennie and Jean have gone down to Toronto this morning to bring John home as his ~~t~~ term has expired.

Much love from us all,

Yours affectionately.

HMLay

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Ottawa, May 11, 1932

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Will you please order for me five dozen mixed variety rose bushes also two standard rose bushes either from Dunlop's as per their advertisement yesterday's Globe or any other source price somewhere around that mentioned by Dunlop's. Bushes to be sent Laurier House.

ful44 Willie

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Personal

Ottawa, May 13, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

My dear Jennie:

I have received both your letter and the book of Proverbs, which you so promptly returned. I really meant to tell you to keep the latter, if it were of any value to you. I am sorry that you did not win the prize you were after, but there may have been some pleasant diversion in the endeavour to do so and some satisfaction in coming fairly close to winning.

I am not surprised that the Barrie Liberals are making a strong effort to have you accept the presidency of their organization. Let me advise you again very strongly against consenting to accept any office. First of all, it will add very much to your time and obligations in different directions. Secondly, it is almost certain to lead to squabbles sooner or later, and, in the third place, it may lead to a lot of foolish publicity, which would be annoying. You are perfectly free to say to your friends in Barrie that I have advised very strongly against your taking any official position,

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though you will be glad to help actively in any other way.

This, of course, is all subject to your own wish and feeling in the matter. If you have a real desire to become prominent in a political organization, of course feel free to do so, but my own opinion is that a good many people will try to exploit whatever you do for purposes of their own. You may be sure that if, in speaking, you ever use a phrase that was capable of being misinterpreted and misrepresented, reporters would at once take it up and endeavour to use it to the disadvantage of the party as a whole. I am not afraid of your doing this, but I know something of the methods of the Tory press. It is better to avoid danger than to run deliberately into it.

When we get the National Liberal Association formed there will be an organization here which will help local organizations to obtain speakers. Until that is done, and I doubt if it will be done before the fall, you will have difficulty in finding anyone to take on additional obligations. Those who have taken part in the session are pretty certain to be very tired at its close.

Tell Harry that I am more than obliged to him for attending so promptly to my small order for roses. I will trust to him letting me have the account, if it is to come

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through him. Should it come through Dale's, I will see that a cheque is promptly sent.

I have been fortunate in securing a Scotch gardiner who, I think, will be even better than Delaney. He had been in Guelph for the last seven years doing general gardening, and seems to understand flowers fairly well. He was delighted with the roses which came from Dale's and which were received yesterday.

If Harry will send me a list of any of the plants (annuals) which he thinks will stand the journey to Ottawa, for purposes of trans-planting, I will be glad to place an order for some a little later on, should any of the same be needed, as I expect they will. He will know best whether or not they can stand the journey.

Please thank Harry for his letter which came this morning. The carbon copy of one page was stuck to the original. I return it herewith, in case Harry may wonder what has become of it.

I hope John has done well in his examinations, and that he may be able to land something which will be helpful to you all, and to himself, during the summer months. This, I fear, is going to be a very difficult year for odd jobs, but something to his liking will, I trust, turn up.

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I was sorry to hear of Nelson's misfortune, but trust the operation on his hands will prove very successful. It has been quite a trial to him, especially at this time.

I think our parliament will be over in another fortnight. and you may be sure I shall be more than glad. Once the Imperial Conference commences, I suppose I will be overrun with guests from all parts of the Empire. I am glad I have the country to which to take them for purposes of entertaining.

With fondest love to you all,

Very affectionately yours,

WLMK/Z

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liked him very much.
as a boy I thought him
the best of the family,
though they were all very
Rude.

Jennie & the Kiddies
join me in very much
love. Hoping you are
feeling quite fit and
that the garden is looking
very lovely.

Yours affectionately,
Harry.

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

May 26. 1932

Dear Willie,

I enclose bill
for your Rose Bushes: the
account for the Standard
Rose bushes has not yet
come to hand and I have
been wondering if they were
despatched to you. I ordered
them from a nursery man
recommended to me by
Dale who was unable to
supply them himself -

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We have been busy with the Spring transplantings. In addition to John who has been working since the term ended I have had two men employed temporarily so I am hoping business will be good!

I could send you asters - ann. Beauty Crego Comet, & other varieties
Balsam
Cosmos
Heliotrope
annual Larkspur
Nemesia do (Delphinium)
Marigold, African & French
Phlox Drummondii
Scabious
Salpiglossis Superior
Stocks mixed

I am not sure however if it would pay you to get them from me I retail them at 20 cents a box of 12 to 15 plants but could sell them to you for 15 cents. The express to Ottawa is 2.70 per 100 lbs 60 boxes would weigh about 300 lbs so that if you can buy them at Ottawa round 20 or 25 cents a box it would not pay to ship from here.

The enclosed cutting from the "Times" refers to my half uncle Tom Legge. He was in Canada & came to see us in Barrie at the time of Harry's birth. Jennie

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June 1, 1932

My dear Harry:

I enclose herewith a draft in payment of your account for the rose bushes. The two standard rose bushes came a day or two ago, but there was no account with them. Doubtless, the account will be sent to you, and when you let me know what there is to pay I will forward the amount at once to you.

I imagine you are right about the smaller plants. The combined risks and cost of transportation will hardly make it worth while to order the small amount that I will wish to have. I am moving out to Kingsmere today, and after spending a few days there will be in a better position to judge what may be necessary. If I find that there is an order worth while, I will certainly place it with you.

I am glad to know that all is going well at Boulderfel. A little later I will get time to write you and Jennie at greater length.

With love to you all,

Affectionately yours,

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie, Ontario.

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now. Our own place is so pretty. Our magnolia tree has had about ten blooms this year so we feel it is established. The wisteria vine on the house is a perfect picture. I never saw so wonderful a vine. The whole side of the house is covered with mauve clusters with scarcely a leaf showing. Harry took a snap which I hope will show it.

We are all well though I have been in bed for a few days with a bad cold. Nancy says it is from housecleaning!!!

The children are just leaving & will post this in Toronto. Hope you are well. Were delighted to see Mr. La Pointe's defence of his chief. Baumont need hope for no mercy when your day comes! Best love from all here. Ever dear Willie your loving sister

Jennie

Did you see in "Over the Tea Cups" in Last night's Star, the new game they are playing?

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

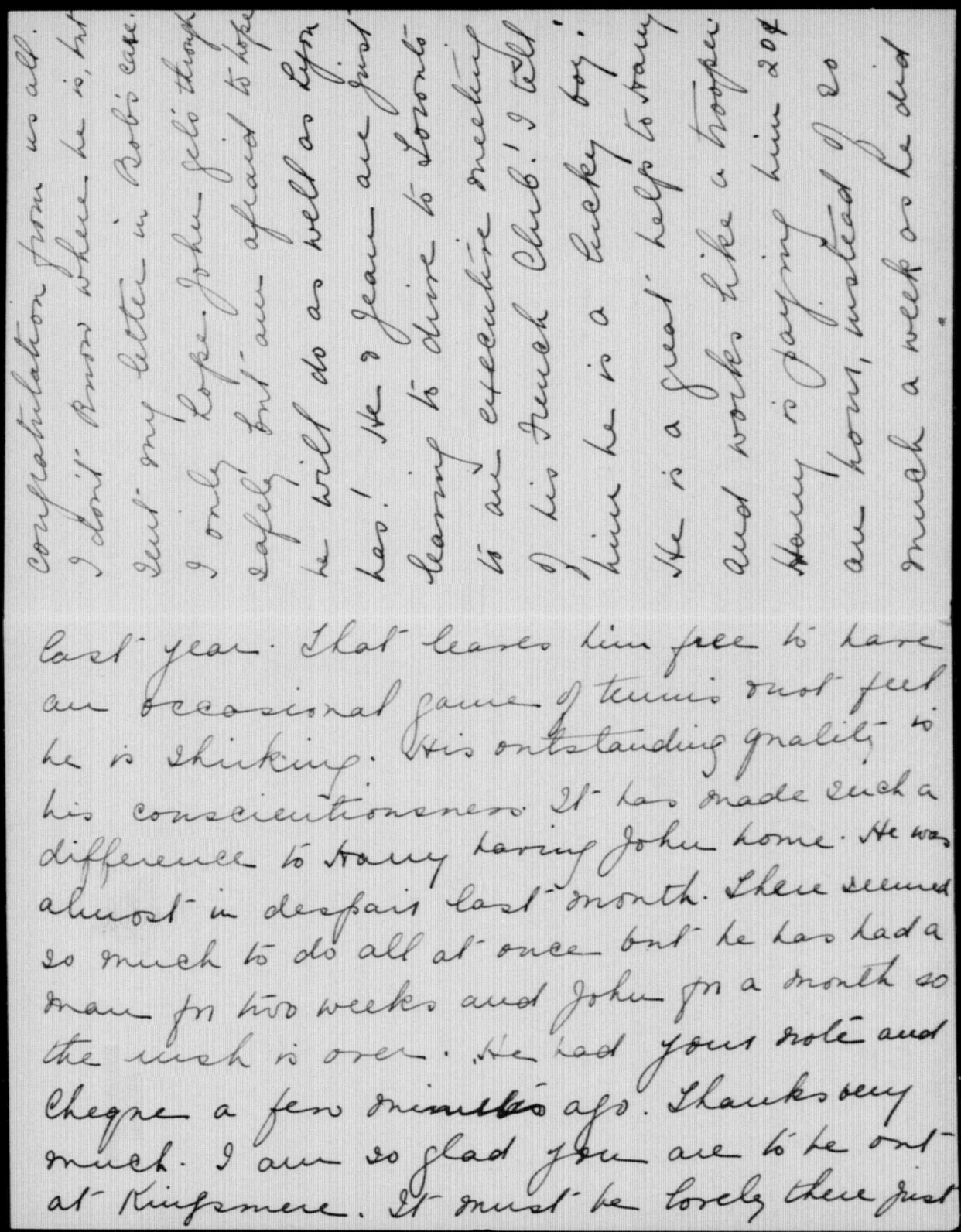
June 3rd 32

My dear Willie:

Did you see how splendidly Lyon did in his recent exams? He stood 4th in his year in 1st class honors. I think that is a remarkable fine stand especially when you remember he had a sick grandmother for nearly a month. He deserves great credit and I have just sent him a line of

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last year. That leaves him free to have an occasional game of tennis and feel he is thinking. His outstanding quality is his conscientiousness. It has made such a difference to Harry having John home. He was almost in despair last month. There seemed so much to do all at once but he has had a man for two weeks and John for a month so the rush is over. He had your note and Chegne a few minutes ago. Thanks very much. I am so glad you are to be out at Kingsmere. It must be lovely there just

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Ottawa, June 7, 1932

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie,
Ontario.

Would you please send suitable wreath from me, with affectionate remembrances and deepest sympathy to Miss Margaret McMillan, daughter late Thomas McMillan, M.P., Rural Route Number Two, Seaforth.

Willie

F.U. 144

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H. M. LAY

BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE

CUT FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

June 8th 1932.

Rt. Hon. W.L.Mackenzie King C.M.G.

Ottawa,

Dear Willie,

I received your telegram last night instructing me to send "suitable wreath "from me with affectionate remembrance and "deepest sympathy to Miss Margarate MacMillan "Daughter late Thomas MacMillan M.P. R.R.2 "Seaforth."

Accordingly we despatched on the train leaving Barrie 8.40 a.m. today wreath of Magnolia leaves with deep purple Iris, white carnations, mauve and white Stocks and candy tuft, white cyclamen etc. Under the circumstances we made a wreath valued at $10. If possible should you be ordering again could you indicate price ? Thanks very much for the order.

Best love from Jennie and us all Yours Harry

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 17th, 32

My dear Willie:

It was good of you to ring us from Toronto last week. I had just been saying to Mary that I wished we had known you were in Toronto when the phone rang. It was lovely to hear your voice; next best to seeing you. It was good of you, too, to send Mary the order for the wreath. I wish you had seen it, for I thought it was lovely. Mary

John has not yet got his results so is still living in hopes!
I had a very nice letter from Lyon early in the week. He probably wrote to you at the same time.
We had Dr. Lyons Biggar here last night. He was addressing the nurses at their graduation. He & Mac were Brecken together. He came down after the meeting and we had a nice talk. His wife is Helen Mc Munich, a cousin of ours. Helen's
We are having very hot rainy weather & suppose it is much the same in Ottawa. You will be thankful to be in Kingsmere. The children have been swimming every day, but I am not sufficiently over the to visit it. Mary & all the family join in sending best love
Ever, dear Willie, Your loving sister Jennie

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had magnificent
foundation and
foundation was
shocked down
stocks is white
Harry has been
I always work
and if market
as there is not
our planes will
growing them
dividend this
for us. Had
Yr? Yr's & Yr. Had
for us up
to high, but
from 5.00 up
Yr? Yr's & Yr. Had
Yr? Yr's & Yr. Had
Yr? Yr's & Yr. Had

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

June 21st 32

My dear Willie:

Did you see the 2nd year results? John got through but is transferred to the Pass course. He & we all, are desperately disappointed but it can't be helped, and he did his best. He thinks he is down in German (he got pass but not honors) He can't do anything till he gets his marks. When he will see if he can't get back into the honor course. It all depends on his other marks.

to Dr Grassi Pk yesterday and had tea with Helen & Mabel Roberts who are there for a few days. We also went over to Minnie Collier's house for a few minutes. Her house is lovely. We can go to the Point from here in half an hour.

Today we have been making wedding bagnets & have had a busy morning. There are people coming in to afternoon tea so I must rush. If I had had good news I would have been keen to send it, so lonely compels one to send the news even when it isn't so good :: We have just had a most welcome shower, the first for three weeks. All are well and join in sending best love and hope you & are well

ever your loving sister Jennie

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wedding at Pickering last Saturday and had nice talks with Sir William, Mr. Ross Mrs. Starr, Mr. Leigh and several others. Sir William said he had written to you, scolding you for not going to see him when you were in Toronto, but I told him you were busy all day with the dentist and had not a minute. I had to go to the D. yesterday to have my ears cleaned out! I have been quite deaf since I had flu, and got frightened when it didn't clear up. My hearing is almost back to normal today & I am thankful. I had the same thing once before after flu so was not worried till I found no relief after doing all I had to do then. I felt more sympathy with Helen than I have often done! Harry & I went down

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Ottawa,
June 27, 1932

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

Mr. King has asked me to send you the attached Money Order for $10.00 in payment of the wreath which you sent to Miss Margaret MacMillan.

Yours faithfully,

Edward A. Pickering
Assistant Secretary.

EAP/FM

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 June-November 1932

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July 2, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I am indeed sorry to have been so long in writing to you, more especially as I wanted you and Harry, and also John, to know that I shared your feelings of disappointment and regret at John not having obtained the honours which he hoped to win. Personally, however, I do not think that either he or you should feel any great disappointment or other than a momentary regret. Examinations are only one test of ability, and there is a good deal of a lottery about them. Had John neglected his studies generally or been behind in many subjects, instead of not reaching the total desired in one or two, the situation would be quite different.

It is very difficult to say what in the long run is for the best. It may well be that any change which he is called upon to make in his course at this

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time will prove for the best in the end. I wish I were in a position to advise John, but I know so little of the present curriculum that I do not feel in a position to do so. Please tell him for me that I trust he will not be unduly discouraged and that I feel all will work out for the best in the end.

Since your letter was received, I have been, as perhaps you are aware, in the Maritime provinces. I am now at Kingsmere, but am leaving tomorrow for a fortnight's trip through the province of Quebec, and possibly as far as the Atlantic, with Mr. Lapointe. We expect to visit a number of the constituencies, not making public addresses, but spending an evening with each of a number of the members, meeting some of their leading men. A tour of that kind should, I think, be quite as beneficial at this time as a number of public meetings. When I get back, the Imperial Conference will be opening, and I shall do what I can in a quiet way to look after some of the delegates while following its proceedings from the outside.

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I was greatly relieved to hear that you had completely recovered from the effects of the "flu". It is a very treacherous sort of trouble. I hope you will take no chance in the matter of getting all the rest you can, and as speedily rid as you can of its ill effects. I would not fail to take further medical advice if you think it can be of the least service. Each year makes it imperative that we take more in the way of precautions with respect to our health. There is nothing, I am sure, like rest, and rest immediately after a mid-day meal. Max, as you will remember, used to remember this above all else.

I hope the summer is passing pleasantly with you all. I shall hope to see you before it is wholly gone.

With love to one and all,
Believe me, dear Jennie,
Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

WLMK/EAP

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July 31st 32

My dear Willie:

These clippings may interest you if you have not seen them. You seem to be having a very gay time in the Capital, and though I don't seem to get much time for the papers, my friends keep me informed! Delaney told me the other day, that he had seen that you had been entertaining the Irish delegates! It must be most interesting meeting and talking to so many distinguished people. The weather isn't typical Canadian weather at all, but this rain & coolness keeps the country looking its best. I am sure Kingsmere must be beautiful just now. It is really too cool for summer. Neither

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Harry not I have been in swimming this
year but the children go in every day. Jean
left today for Thunder Bay where she is to
spend a week with friends. John got home
on Thursday from the Military Camps in
Orillia where he spent ten days. He had
a touch of sunstroke & was in hospital for
a few days but was well enough by Wednesday
to carry the new colors which were presented
to the Simcoe Foresters. We went up to see
the ceremony which was very interesting.
Harry J. was at a camps in Georgian Bay for
two weeks. Instead of going to Camp Roslee
took the money it would have cost, & bought
a tent where she & two friends have slept
all summer! It has done her more good
than any camp could have done, and I can
keep an eye on her & see that she does not
do too much. They have all played a good
deal of Tennis & have had a happy holiday
so far. The summer is going far too
quickly. We seem to have a constant stream

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I wishes and, though we are disappointed
we can scarcely expect it to take a boy out of
the house. I think it takes a boy out of
Nancy has been so well this summer
has been busy as well. He plays tennis
every afternoon in an hour or so, when the
weather is fine, that is a pretty sure
that he is feeling fit. Today he had
the D. Hazel up for the day. It was
to stay over the holidays tomorrow but the
could it be away over night. He was
clearance to take them in I am very fond
them all.

I wonder if you remember my old
Miss Ross? She died last week after
unconscious for the days following
Sir John was one of her pall bearers
Lady Aid came back for an hour
after the funeral. They were working
Miss Ross made Mary her executrix
the exception of her watch to Jean, the
me sole beneficiary. It will not be much,
there will be a few hundred dollars
will be most acceptable! She was getting
quite a care but was a great blessing

Harry & I went down to see the Australians play & thoroughly enjoyed the game. We saw Bob Wookey bowl, but he did not make much of a showing after the Australians! I suppose Ray & the boys are in Toronto but I haven't heard from any of them. Neither has Cora. I looked for them at the cricket match as Bob was playing but I don't think they were there.

John is probably going to spend the first week in September with a French boy down in Quebec somewhere. The change will do him good, & living with the people in their homes should help his French. He found from the class lists that he was only below the line in German & is going to see what can be done. He has a certificate from the Dr saying he was run down his care with flu during the exams. The Dr said today he wasn't fit to write on any exam at the time, but John didn't apply for a postponement because he thought he would probably escape through. I will not worry if he goes into the pass course as it is much more interesting than the honour course, and if he gets honours in that course it would do just as well.

Do you read "Alice in Wonderland" in the front page of the Star? It is splendid. All join in sending best love Ever lovingly Jennie

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C 5 1 0 0 0

Ottawa,
August 19, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I should have written sooner to thank you for your letter of July the 31st, and also for the cuttings enclosed. My summer, however, has been very much cut into by the presence in Ottawa of so many delegates from different parts of the British Empire. While I have gone into the city to only a very few of the functions incidental to the Conference, I have more or less kept open house at Kingsmere, and have had a steady stream of visitors. The servants here tell me that since the Conference opened something in the neighbourhood of three hundred persons have been here to either dinner, lunch or afternoon tea. Happily, we have been favoured with good weather, and most of them, visitors have, I think, much enjoyed the glimpse of the country and the contrast to the city and its ways which a visit to Kingsmere has afforded.

I do wish that you and Harry and some of the children could find it possible to run down in your car over a week-end. That, I know, is asking a good deal, but I hope that at any time

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you feel like doing so, you will be sure to come. Just let me know a few days in advance, to avoid a possibility of any engagement which would take me away at the time.

I was rather expecting that May and the boys would be down for the next week-end. I wrote some weeks ago, saying that I would be glad to have them as soon as the Conference was over, and I had just written them yesterday saying I hoped they might find it possible to come at the end of next week or the week after. In a letter received from May this morning she mentions that they are starting off for Denver on the 28th. She, therefore, regrets that it will not be possible for them to repeat the visit of a year or two ago. I am sorry for this, as I should have been glad, not only to see May and the boys, but also to talk with them of many things.

Leonard has turned up once or twice at functions associated with the Conference, including a Garden Party at Government House, for which he had written to ask if I could obtain him an invitation. I replied that I would hesitate to ask any favour either of the present Government or Government House. However, he managed to obtain the invitation from some other source. He also turned up at another function - the opening of the Research Bldg. I did not invite him out to Kingsmere on the occasion that I saw him here, as I had other engagements at the time. I fear

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he may be offended, but in matters of the kind I have to do as best I can, and all things are not possible at all times.

I was delighted to hear of Miss Ross's remembrance of you. As an expression alike of affection and gratitude, it must have given you a very real pleasure. I was pleased, too, that she had remembered Jean as well.

You will doubtless have heard that your Barrie friends came out to Kingsmere on their way to Aylmer. I was sorry at the moment of their arrival to be leaving for the Canadian Club Luncheon, at which Mr. Baldwin was to speak, and not to be able to stay. Fortunately, Mrs. Patteson had come over to lend me a hand in arranging for a Garden Party I was giving later in the afternoon, and she took them about the grounds. They would tell you what the Grahams are like. They seemed to be most favourably impressed. Unfortunately I do not yet know what their names are, as they assumed that I knew them all, and I hesitated to disclose my ignorance. Please do not give me away to them, but let me know when you write who they were.

I am glad that you and Harry and the children are all so well. Your friends seemed to think that you were overdoing a little, and would have to ease up. I hope you will do that if

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you possibly can.

With fondest love to all,

Believe me, dear Jennie, as always,

Yours affectionately,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/VM

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letter after her mother's death and it might have been better if she had treated mine in the same way. The people who called on you were Mrs McLaren (a sister-in-law of McLaren of Ottawa) the two sisters, Mrs Vaghan & Miss McConkey, and a friend Miss Laidlaw. Mother used to know Miss Laidlaw and I think she has lived in Toronto since the flood! I have not seen them, but they sent me a card from Ottawa, telling me they had called at Kingsmere.

John & Jean are just leaving for Camp Borden so I must give them this note. Let me know, without hesitation, what you think of the plan. Best love from all & many thanks

Yours lovingly Jennie

W/

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 22nd/32

My dear Willie:

There has been wild excitement here since your letter arrived this morning. The children go back to school on Sept. 1st so this coming week-end would be the only chance they would have of accepting your kind invitation. Would that be convenient for you, and could you put up the whole family? I know it is rather a large order, but they will not go without me, & I

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will not leave Stony St. at home etc. etc. I'll leave tomorrow for Portland, which is about fifty miles from Ottawa, and is a lovely drive through Quebec. I'll be sure from there with a little rest. I'll be with a young friend boy. He was looking forward to call at Ottawa en route, but, Sunday lose busy for me. I'll have been, I would not ask you to have morning we leave here, him. If we leave Ottawa, 11 Kingsmere, take Friday night, as you are on short time. We could have all day Saturday with you, and start back in good time on Sunday morning. I admit the least to turn down the invitation when I saw how keen they all were. If, however, it is not perfectly convenient for you it will make no difference, we can go some other time.

I haven't had a line from Ray or the boys, neither has Cora or Elsa Kiely who usually sees a good deal of Ray when she is here. I feel we can quite justly ignore the whole family of Wookeys, for they certainly have never put themselves out for us, and we have nothing in common. Ray never even answered Cora's

W.L.M.K.

August 25th/32

My dear Willie

It was very good of you to phone us on Tuesday evening, and we are all looking forward with the greatest pleasure to our week-end with you. I do hope the weather will be fine. Much to our delight, the dance at Camp Borden has been cancelled, so the Pine girls will not be here and we will be able to get a better start. Added to that

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is the fact that the new highway from Peterborough has just been opened which cuts off about seventy three miles. We may make good time if the highway truck traffic and we don't get tangled in town!

Both
From letter has just come, and we shall do as you say. Thank you so much for the directions which will be a great help, for will phone from Ottawa as soon as we arrive there. If all goes well we should make the trip in ten hours or less. Yesterday's mail this morning. Best love from all.

The children also send greetings. Jennie

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CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	D L
Night Message	N M
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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W. G. BARBER, General Manager

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ORIGINAL OF MESSAGE

Telephoned

TO BE

RA462 14 COLLECT STANDARD TIME 1932 AUG 29 PM 8 19

BARRIE ONT 29 810P

THE RIGHT HON W L MACKENZIE KING

500 LAURIE HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

SAFE HOME AT SIX | AFTER DELIGHTFUL VISIT | ALL MY BOULDERFEL

SEND BEST LOVE |

JENNIE.

This is a Collect message, and will be charged to your account unless we are notified at once to the contrary.

● 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 June-November 1932 ●

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 29,
1932.

Dear Uncle Willie,—

I can assure you that we talked of Nothing but our visit while we were driving Lome. Poor Pat came into the conversation many times. I do hope he is using his four leg now. He looked so perfectly miserable when he said good-bye. However, it was a more boisterous dog who welcomed us Lome! Billy

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Laving the whole
cattage between John
and me. I still thrills me.
Please forgive our
tardiness at meals.
I blame it on the air.
I can now say that
I have seen Ottawa and
suburbs, for truly no one
could have obtained better
views than we!
I do hope that now
you can settle down
and enjoy peace and
rest before you start
your heavy work.
Thanking again and
again I am
Your affectionate niece
Jean.

almost went crazy with
joy when he said us
arrive back safely.
I must not go any
farther without thanking
you very much for
every kindness you
showered on us all.
I enjoyed every single
minute of my trip
and stay with you.
The birthday present you
gave me quite took
my breath away. It is
going to help my bank
account so much. I
can not express my
gratitude to you in words.
I shall never forget
the glorious feeling of

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 30th 32

My dear Willie:

Our lovely little visit to Kingsmere and Ottawa, is over but the memory of the happiness of those few days will last me a lifetime. I don't think grown ups realize the thrill children get out of many of the things older people take as a matter of course! Everything the children were wonderful, and they have talked incessantly about the wonderful place and the kindness of you, and everyone, to them. They go back to school on Thurs-

pen and find it a great joy. Nelson is always right on the day & I don't see how he manages it!! John & Jean gave me a set of linen doilies etc for the table and Jean added the gift of a string of beads which I had admired. Rosalie gave me some little ash trays & Granny is to buy something when he is at the Ex. tomorrow. Then I got a few little gifts from friends & a bunch of letters, so, coming on top of my lovely gift from you, I feel I have got off to a pretty good start this year! It was a great joy being with you on my birthday & I felt when you were speaking about

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so that literally, last week was the only time we could have gone. Harry & I are deeply grateful to you, not only for your great kindness to us, but for what you did for the children as well. They were so excited about the "flunkies" at the Parliament buildings "saluting" you etc & thought it was great to be with Uncle Willie when he saw the places of interest. It is something quite new for them for there are no distinguished people here! I heard Harry J. trying to teach Bill to sing last night, and I wished he would stop, as I

weren't feeling like home! I had a terrible time when we first got home, so I went straight to bed and asked Dad to come to see me. I was so sick and I was very glad for another holiday today. I have been awfully busy. Harry has had a portable electric sewing machine. My old one has been getting steadily worse but it does not one anything as it is the one Rae gave me a wedding present! I am so confident that this election power machine will have a lot of energy. Nelson is a lonely person especially at. I am using the

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Mother & Father that nothing would please them more than to see us together. I do, as for think, the Lyons what we are doing. If Lehmans us to try & please them. I know that he always has my cheque, & it's a great comfort to know they understand our motives. They must & it would all be clear! If was the greatest joy to me to see your dear place with all its beauty & peace. The walks through the fields where we used to have many beautiful visits & I see my sorry problems of them. I am so sorry that I had such a wretched cold which made me rather a poor companion! Harry has it now & quite will be rid! We all liked all your servants so much & that

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the nice old maid's mind. She makes a great difference in the happiness of a home. I loved staying late again & always remember how good she was when Brother was so ill. I wish you would tell Mary that her lunch was delicious and we all enjoyed every bite of it. It was so delightful just up to do. I will take good care of your basket and send it back the first chance I get. Mary & I were perfectly delighted at having his shoes cleaned for him but because he got out of the fire but because he felt important. She was treated safely & I for the in our blue library. I guess I am more accustomed to their than ours! It doesn't seem long since they were on the mantel at home! We had a pretty full car when we set out! We looked at the Patteranos but no one appeared

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so we did stop. I favour
the bare ones with
their hands full with
visitors! We were lucky to have
such good weather for our little
jaunt; for it certainly makes a
great difference. I hope you
did up Mount Assiniboine. I
when I "did" the mountain!
the clergy really did me more
good than either the walk or the
food! Oh I had it felt so empty
I missed her enjoyed the climb!
I have been telling Doris about
Lake Louise Chateau etc. of
the spectacle etc. of
is lovely to have those things no
in a while even if it is not-
possible to keep it up. I hope
the snaps will be a success. Bring
your camera, Mary; John, Mary,
Phil Doris, we should have no
with us! We left

John at the station and expect to hear from him tomorrow. Shirley phoned today to ask us up for Sunday tomorrow but said the girls were going on the canoe trip as John & Dr. will be food fun. I have had many interruptions today & this letter has been done in installments but I am still understand the typing thanks to all your kindness, which it is pleasant to convey. The last I the family will each in turn get a line off to you. Many congratulations & Grace Annette since to get home safe & sound, the kid younger must have been away today & are to be away again tomorrow, but they join with me in sending heartiest and many, many thanks. I hope you will like a keepsake for the occasion. Yours & Jack's photo will adorn ours duties. Again best love Jennie

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Will you tell Mary Ann was the only birthday cake I got!! Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

August 31
1932

Dear Uncle Willie;

I don't see how I can ever thank you enough for the lovely time I had at "Moorside". I certainly enjoyed every minute of it.

Yesterday I went down and banked the check you gave me. When we got home from our lovely visit, Billy just about went wild with delight at seeing us again. He hasn't got over our getting back yet.

I guess I'll have to stop now but first let me thank you very very much for our lovely week-end

Your loving niece
Rosabel.

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This morning on the early morning bus, Harry and Lloyd Smith started off for the Toronto Exhibition. The bus doesn't leave Toronto till about nine to-night so I expect they will be about dead by the time they reach home.

We're going up to aunt min's for the day.

It raised my account quite high.

Yesterday I was in swimming for the first time since I got back. The water here is not as warm as Kingsmere but it was warmer than usual.

We have not heard from John yet but I guess he is having a good time.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 4th, 1932.

Dear Uncle Willie.

Thank you very much for the lovely time you gave us all in Ringsmere.

I enjoyed the lake and the swimming I love walking through the forest along the paths beside the stream

I tried to get Billy to sing but there was no response to my pleadings.

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I loved seeing Ottawa from the air or rather from the the Peace Tower I thought Laurier House (very "majestic and beautiful" If I had a lovely drive home and the whole week-end was most enjoyable.

On Wednesday last I we and Lloyd Smith went down to the "Ex" alone on the bus and got back here (and) at twenty minutes to one a.m Thursday morning with a lot of junk

I was very tired but happy I saw the swim as well.

Thanks very much for the lovely time and the money and I shall enclose a photograph of yourself

Your loving nephew

Harry

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out as I decide to have dinner
the dance this summer. I can't
say any more! I always
feel that spoils it any how
keep it to keep your friend. Jean
has tried his hat to make Billie
do Pat tricks but Billie is not
to be taught! It rained Sept 4th '32
Yours Lucy!

Dear Mr. Lay

Now I am sure to thank you
& except all afternoon, and we were
both tired. Mary still has a bad
cold so we took the day off. Jean
Jean typing to get done off my
birthday letters announced. I hadn't
had a minute all week. The Pine
Tree Girls all sent their love to you.
Charlie looks pretty big. Eric on
Sand wishes to the Patterson Falcon
to Mr. Dennis!! when for the next
Be sure remember Mother's picture
Again had for many thanks for Lucy

the Thanksgiving dinner. It's
envelope. Can't manage to post them
only one I could find. Mary
Dear Mr. Lay

that we were
this time last
Recovery I hope
always. It was
my Forced rest
birthday. This
difficult. Jean
Lucie. Jean
and Doris is
holidays. It is
Tennis for us

Sept 4th '32

Lucie!

-Lecun possible
in Kingsmere
I'm sorry
will
happy one,
being with
for my
if
week is very
is 2 till in
is in Toronto
on her
a very busy
when we get-

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down to four, but the peace
is most welcome after our
Skimmons week. We were up
in Penetang on Wednesday
and in Toronto on Thursday
Harry wanted to show his
delightfulness to me
down more than ever
I have been sleeping every
time I get near a bed!
Thank you so much for
your very kind letter. It
was good of you to write
when I know you must
have been busy
up so much trouble
I don't think you

regret having had the children with you
for I don't think anything quite equals the
love of your own people, and I want the
children to be found of you, not of your
position or reputation, there is no greater
blessing than disinterested love. The children
speak a hundred times a day of different
things which happened in Kingsmere & Ottawa.
Jean is in love with the little cottage & said
she felt like a "princess" with her own castle.
It is a lovely spot to spend the summer.
It is too bad you are giving up Jim swimming

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 5. 1932

My dear Willie,

Just a line to say how very much we all enjoyed our visit to Kingsmere and Laurier House at the end of last week. It was a very ~~fine~~ great pleasure to have the opportunity of meeting you again and having your views on both public and personal matters. I noticed a vast ~~improvement~~ development in your landscape gardening since Jennie and I were there nine years ~~ago~~. You have

Again thanking you for your
kindness to Jennie, the
children and myself and
hoping before winter sets
in that you will find it
possible to come and see us
at Baldenfel with best love
from us all,

Yours affectionately,
Harvey.

P.S. Please remember me
to the Pattesons.
H.

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certainly produced a scenic prospect which it would be difficult to surpass and of which you do right to be proud. Two of the snaps I took did not turn out well but I enclose several which I thought you might like to have.

Since our return I have been kept pretty busy catching up on my work. The lawns had almost gone to hay. Yesterday I had a man helping me and shall probably keep him until Johnis return this week.

Let me thank you most sincerely for our very delightful little visit and for your great kindness and charming hospitality to each and all of us. I hope Pat has quite recovered from his dog fight. I think our Billie spent most of his time in our absence sleeping on the bed in Avery's tent.

Jennie and I took a run down to Toronto on Thursday. I exhibited some delphiniums at the C.N.E. and was awarded 2nd for 6 spikes. I also made an entry in the basket class but was not successful There were some wonderful flowers in this class. We called at Cora's house but she was out.

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C 2 1 1 0 0 1

Boulderfel. Barrie
September 10th, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,-

Now that I am safely back from my wanderings and have more or less settled down to civilised life, I want to thank you again for your very great kindness to me, among the rest, while we were at Kingsmere. As my very first visit to Ottawa it will long stand out in my memory as one of the most interesting visits I have made. To me it was like a fairy tale and a long cherished wish come true. I have heard the beauties of Ottawa and the surrounding district sung by many a person, but one must see for ones self to be able to appreciate them.

At the same time I want to thank you again for the very generous gift of the world's most useful comodity

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which for some one or the 27th. Of certain
was Heaven-sent, if ever a gift was. And
Certainly did a lot to make the rest of my
trip the success it was. I had a most
interesting sail down the St. Lawrence, and
the subsequent week spent in and around
Quebec was really delightful. Even a week
living with a French-Canadian family
has given me a rounded deeper insight
into and appreciation of the spirit and
feelings of a tremendous portion of our people.
A supporter and warrior for the Liberal
cause and ideals, the people of the village
of St. Romuald are almost fanatical, and
I don't think that for which I could find a
more ardent admirer and champion
anywhere than in the person of Paul
Bilodette and his father. Any favor shown
to them would certainly bear fruit an hundred
fold. They are worthy examples of Christian
Liberal to follow. I wish there were a few more
like them.

Again let me thank you for everything
and believe me

Yours affectionate nephew,
John

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 June-November 1932

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no car today, it is a bustle. All join in sending very best love & many, many thanks ever your loving sister

Jennie

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 14th 32

My dear Willie:

The lovely lunch and two arm chairs have just arrived and the children are unpacking them. John & Dad are in Toronto at a flower convention so there will be a wonderful surprise for them when they come home tonight! Thank you very, very much. I am sorry I haven't had

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a minute to get a note off
to you since your letter
cause telling us
produced them. B
been away for
and I love beeu
Coop and everyt
So you will un
I have just had
tells minutes. S
back tomorrow
be glad to see
these charis
will be lovely in the front

and when we get them in place we will take some snaps that you see them. They will be a great addition to the place. Jour very Kind birthday gift to me, I have applied on an electric ironer, a thing I have wanted for years which will save untold labour. It is very good of you to make this possible for me. I will write more fully later on. The children are waiting to take this, as they have

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September 14, 1932

My dear John:

I was greatly pleased to receive your kind letter and the photographs which you enclosed with it. They are very good indeed, and I am particularly glad to have the one with you and me together.

I have read your letter with the greatest pleasure, and I am delighted to know that you had such a pleasant week in Quebec. I am sure what you have seen of that Province and the French-Canadian people will be a real inspiration to you through years to come, as I can see from your letter it already is.

With the announcement of parliament reassembling on October the 6th my letter-writing will have to be considerably abridged. Please make mention of this to your mother and father and to the others. They, I know, will fully understand.

I would like once again to say how very much I enjoyed the visit of you all to Kingsmere, and how happy, as well, are the many memories it has left.

With affectionate good wishes,

Believe me, always,

Your loving uncle,

John Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/FM

0 0 1 7 6 0 0 0

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Sept 19th 32

My dear Willie:

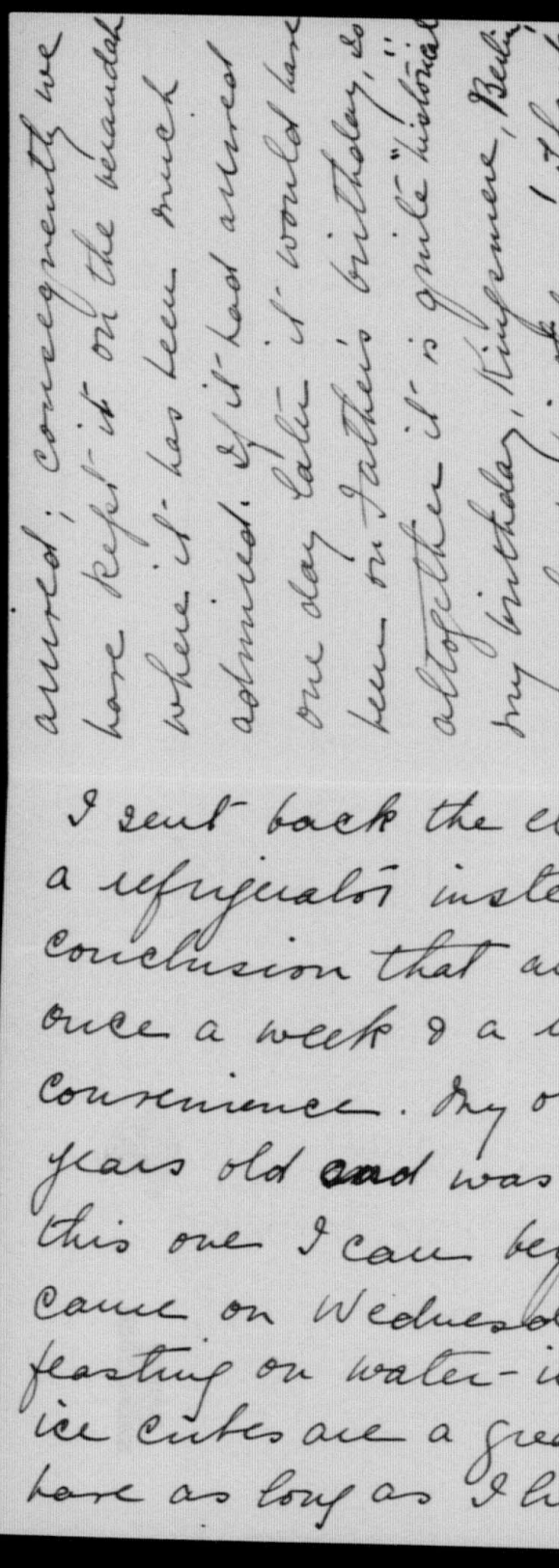
John was glad to get your letter last week & thought it was very good of you to take the trouble to answer his note. He held his over for three days for me to put in an enclosure but finally despaired & sent his alone! Doris got back on Thursday night & I was truly glad to see her. It is too much to manage alone yet it is more trouble showing strangers. It has rained every day since our new garden furniture

going to use the rest of Miss Ross' money & get out of debt! Some day in Toronto I will pick up a second-hand stove for much less.

John goes back to college next week. Harry & John saw the Registrar when they were in Toronto last week. He said John would have to go into the pass course but assured Harry that, in every way, it was a much better course than the honour course. He said that a man who could get honours in the pass course was in far better shape for life than the honour course man who is limited to three subjects. I think Harry was greatly re-

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I sent back the electric iconer and got a refrigerator instead. We came to the conclusion that an iconer is only useful once a week & a refrigerator is an every-day convenience. My old one was twenty-three years old and was in pretty bad shape, so this one I can bequeath to the family! It came on Wednesday too, and we have been feasting on water-ice every since. The little ice cubes are a great entertainment! I have as long as I like to pay for it, but am

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annoyed by his talk with the Rt. Quebecers, who spoke very highly of John A. Macdonald saying that he was only one of a number who went under in Canada. He said that unless a boy had had a good grounding in Canada, it was impossible for him to carry on the Macdonald of course that is one of the weak points in this College and I have decided that it may be the best thing for John at the present time if he can obtain a good deal of his fees in Varsity but I hope in the later days he may make more confidential friends.

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We are wondering whether you have been in Kingsmere during this unsettled weather. We were lucky in the week-end we had with you.
Cora tells me that Eleanor Kirk Phillips are legally separated though the are not-broadcasting it. Eleanor has gone home to Ric. Mr. is a great blame, but mine! I am sorry for me to be crooked right into another session. Don't worry about writing us, we know you are busy. All the family are well again and join with me in sending best love and wishing you Merry Christmas and every happiness
Jennie

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Oct. 4th '32
8.a.m

My dear Willie:

We were delighted to hear over the Radio at eleven last night, that you have won the Huron by-election. The Globe's remark, as usual, was not in praise of the Liberal party, but said it was a clear vote for lower tariff. Heartiest congratulations. I hope it is the beginning of the end!

Today is Johnie's 20th birthday

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We have friend phoned him
to wish him many happy
returns. I was telling
Harry that 20 years ago
we were playing Euchre
was white, & Mrs. King
from here?
playing with him or keeping it
Life is just
he took his
the Kaiser
allowed
Rawdon
him in the
he was just

below on his total German subjects but evidently far down in one & far up in the other. He is substituting English which I think is wise. He is going to hitch Kike up for tea tonight.

Excuse the short note & writing etc. This has to go on the 8.25.

Best love from all
Ever lovingly
Jennie

Ottawa,
October 6, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I thank you for your letter received this morning.

The victory in South Huron is overwhelming. The latest figures make the majority over two thousand. McMillan, in the last election had only 347. I am sure our modern Belshazzar will see in South Huron something of the handwriting on the wall.

From Seaforth I had to go on to London and Windsor and then get back to Ottawa by Saturday. But for this, I would have run over to Barrie to see you all. That chance, I hope, will come a little later on.

I wish it were possible for me to make a note of the children's birthdays. I have been so afraid that I might overlook one or the other, both at Barrie and Denver, that I have, as you no doubt have noticed, not attempted to send any word of greeting at any time. You know, however, how near my heart is to all the little people. That

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expression, I fear, is getting beyond the mark. To think of John being twenty years of age makes me shudder at the way in which the years have been going by.

I am so glad that John's mind has been relieved regarding his studies at the University; that will give him fresh heart and incentive.

As Parliament reassembles tomorrow, I must not write more, but send you all my fondest love.

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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Ottawa, October 24, 1932

H. M. Lay, Esq.,
Barrie, Ontario.

Please send spray or wreath, say five dollars, with my card expressing deepest sympathy, to Mrs. C. N. Bowman, either to Kitchener, where Mr. Bowman died last night, or to Southampton, where remains to be buried Wednesday, as may be possible and as press may indicate which may be best.

Willie.

(W. L. Mackenzie King)
F. U. 144.

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C3

H. M. LAY
BOULDERFEL GREENHOUSE
CUT FLOWERS. PLANTS. AND FERNS

BARRIE

PHONE 832

October 25th 1932.

RT.Hon. W.L.Mackenzie King C.M.G.

Laurier House,

Ottawa.

Dear Willie,

Thanks for your telegram instructing us to send wreath value $5. to Mrs C.M.Bowman. As Mr. Bowman's funeral is to be in Southampton on Wednesday the flowers went forward from here by first train this a.m.

You made a rattling good speech on the Imperial Conference Agreements. I hope if we ever have another conference it will be called the"Commenwealth"Conference.The word"Imperial" seems rather interchangeable with "Tory". Much love from us all and thanks

Harry

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among them Dr Gow's daughter Mary, and Alsa Mc Dougal from Ottawa. Her father is Sam Mc Dougal & she said she thought her grandfather was Lome Mc D. We had five girls here and John was home so there were eleven! It doesn't take very many extra to make a party! John got a ride up (which liked) yesterday & some friends took him back tonight. I am always so glad to have him home. I have been sewing and made Rosabel a winter coat & Jean a plaid dress. Do you remember my Gordon tartan, when Lord Aberdeen was Governor General? Jean's is the same tartan & I couldn't resist it when I saw it. Jean is just about the age I was when I had mine!

BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

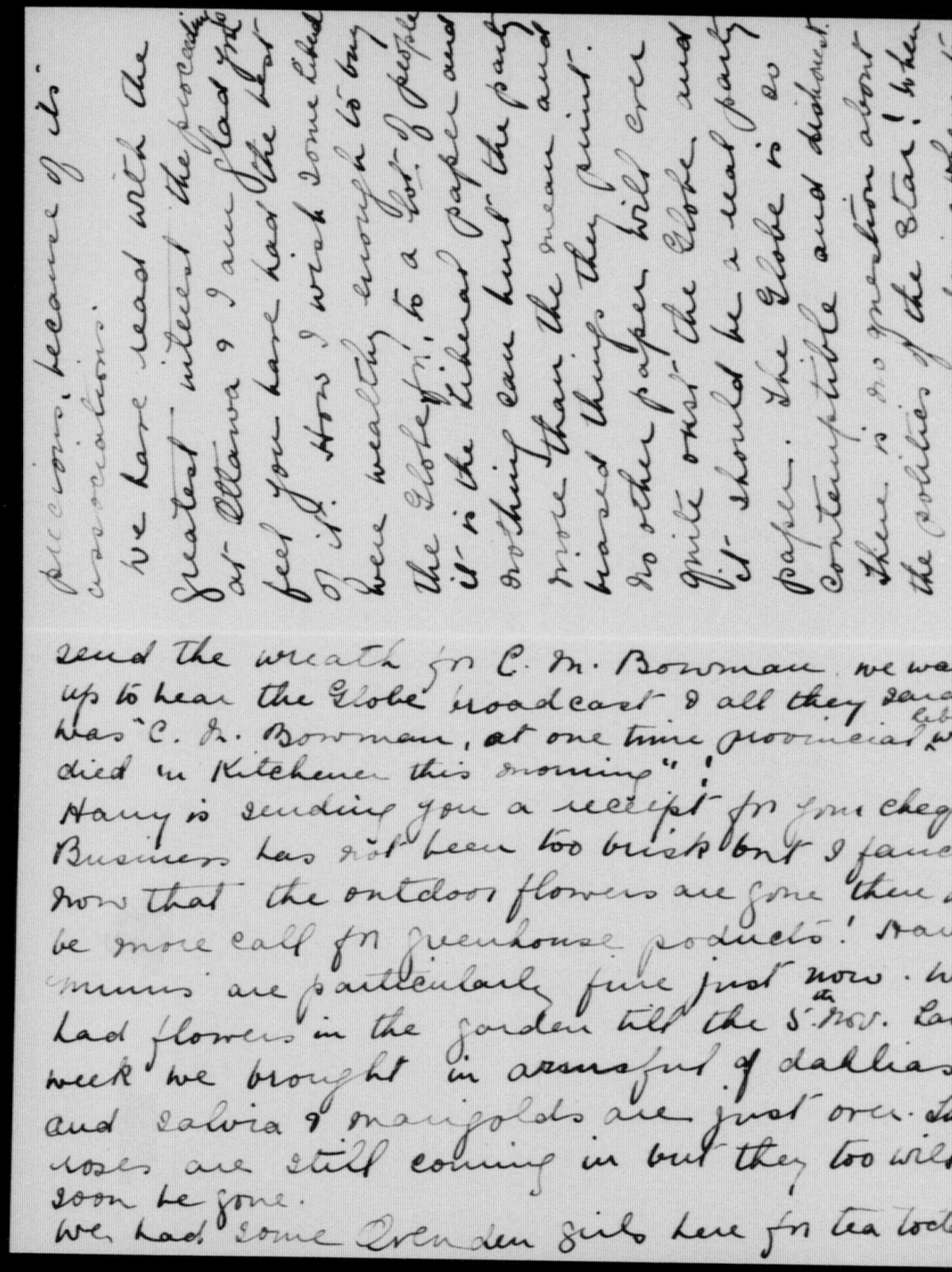
Nov. 6th 32

My dear Willie:

We were so glad to hear from you yesterday and also to receive the book and cheque. I n all many thanks. Memory is a shaky thing. The sight of that book took me right home and I could see Father reading passages out of the book & perfectly oblivious of what the rest of us were doing. It is very good of you to let us have it & it will be a welcome addition to our library, doubly

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Kitchener, because of the
crowd reactions.
We have read with the
greatest interest the proceedings
at Ottawa & I wish you had gone
feel you have had the best
& if so. How I wish we could
here wealthy enough to buy
the Globe & run it as a Lib. paper
& it is the Liberals must have a paper and
nothing can hurt the party
more than the present
biased things that pass for
no other paper
quite other the
it should be
paper. The Globe
Constantinople
There is no
the politics of the
we were worried to

send the wreath for C. N. Bowman. We waited up to hear the Globe broadcast & all they said was "C. N. Bowman, at one time provincial Liberal whip died in Kitchener this morning"!
Hany is sending you a receipt for your cheque! Business has not been too brisk but I fancy now that the outdoor flowers are gone there will be more call for greenhouse products! Hany's mums are particularly fine just now. We had flowers in the garden till the 5th Nov. Last week we brought in armsful of dahlias, and salvia & marigolds are just over. The roses are still coming in but they too will soon be gone.
We had some Dresden girls here for tea today

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I wish we could have you here for Christmas. It doesn't seem possible that Christmas is just seven weeks from today! We have to get our letters off to Edward Lay this week if they are to reach him for Christmas.

All the family are well, and join in sending best love to you dear Willie and hope you are well too. You seem to be kept on the go!

Again many thanks and best love

ever your loving Sister

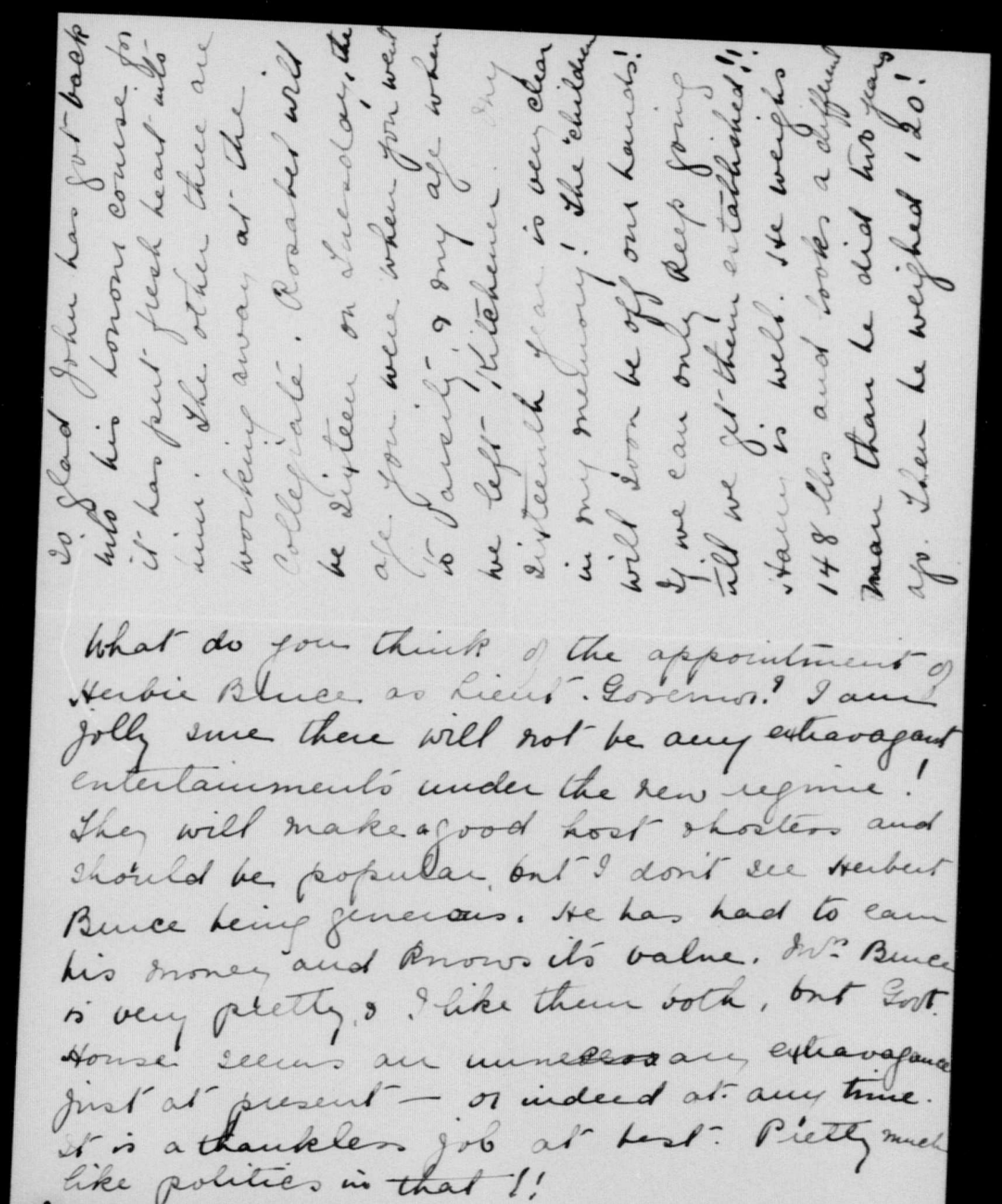
Jennie

Nelson has been in the hospital in Vancouver having his right hand operated on. In his last letter he said the splints had been taken off and they hoped everything was O.K. It means so much to him, and we are thankful the operation is over.

John is enjoying his work at Varsity. He is taking English instead of German and loves it. One of his lectures is Arthur Woodhouse (Kate Hogg's son) John says his lectures are wonderful, and that he is tremendously popular. At present they are taking up Milton's "Paradise Lost." I am

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What do you think of the appointment of Herbie Bruce as Lieut. Governor? I am jolly sure there will not be any extravagant entertainments under the new regime! They will make a good host & hostess and should be popular, but I don't see Herbert Bruce being generous. He has had to earn his money and knows its value. Mrs. Bruce is very pretty & I like them both, but Govt. House seems an unnecessary extravagance just at present — or indeed at any time. It is a thankless job at best: Pretty much like politics in that!!

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Ottawa,
November 3, 1932

My dear Jennie:

In looking through a volume of Goldwin Smith's "Reminiscences" in my library this morning, I notice that it was a presentation copy from yourself and Harry to father. I have thought that you and Harry would wish to have it for your own library, and am sending it under separate cover.

I enclose with this note my cheque in payment of the wreath sent by Harry to Southampton. I notice he has not included express in his account, so am adding fifty cents to the amount, which I hope will be sufficient to cover the outlay. If it is not, please let me know. I wish you would thank Harry for me for his prompt attendance to this matter.

I hope you are all keeping well and that everything is going along in good shape, so far as you and Harry and the children are concerned.

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Here at Ottawa we have been having a very busy time, but in the House of Commons we have had the best of the fight so far.

With fondest love to all,

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Ottawa November 8 1932

Miss Rosabel Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Hearty congratulations, dear Rosabel, upon the celebration today of your 16th birthday anniversary and best of wishes for many happy returns of the day. Love to all.

ful44 Uncle Willie

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Nov. 13. 1932

Dear Uncle Willie:

I was never more surprised than when I received your telegram on my birthday. It was very good of you to remember my birthday and I enjoyed the thrill of having the telegram delivered to me.

I was very lucky in

have her at Camp Borden.

Before I stop I want to thank you very much again for your lovely telegram.

Your loving niece
Rachel.

King, Rt. Hon. King, Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie (MG 26 J 7 volume 12) and Mrs. (Janet Lindsey King - Jennie) Harry Morrison Lay and family June-November 1932

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match between Queens and Varsity. We heard it over the radio at home and it seemed that quite ~~that~~ a few of the players were getting heart on the hard ground.

Wing commander Anderson has been appointed instead of Wing commander Croil at Camp Borden. We are glad as (mary granet) Mrs. Anderson will probably be staying with Mr Granet this week. It will be nice to

the presents I received and even Nelson remembered me with two pairs of lovely silk stockings.

We had our first lasting snowfall last night and it hasn't disappeared yet. I guess it wont be long till we're out skiing and tobogganing again.

Yesterday Jean went down to Toronto to see the rugby

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Nov. 13th/32

My dear Willie:

Seeing that Peach is writing to you, I must put in a line too! You have been having a pretty hot time down there, and I think Bennett is contemptible. He shows just how much of a gentleman he is. Some of the things he says are beneath contempt. The only way to get even with him is to ignore him. Did you see what the Star said after the U.S. elections?

our Christmas letters to Edward Lay as they have to leave by the 15th in order to reach Australia by Christmas. Edward's wife died just before Christmas last year so he has had a lonely time.

It was very good of you to send Peach the wire on her birthday and she was thrilled when it came. She had to sign for it! She had a very happy day & the telegram, which came before she left for school, was a splendid start!

We are so glad Mary Grassett's husband, R.R. Anderson, has been appointed to Camp Borden. It will be lovely for John & Jean especially, as Mary is very fond of them.

I wish it were not so far to Ottawa for we would love to have you here for Christmas. So far we haven't made any

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the logging elk when he was a boy. He came in to sell me apples, and for the sake of old times, I bought a barrel. He is the toughest-looking old farmer and is dressed like one. He never was a dandy but he is less so now. He was asking very particularly for you, & said I had not changed at all, though I question whether he even knew me well enough to know what I looked like!

It is getting terribly near Christmas, just six weeks from today. We are writing

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Dec 4th '32

My dear Willie:

We are wondering whether there is any chance of your coming up here after the dinner and spending your birthday with us. We would all love to have you as you know, and it will be a week-end. Do come if you possibly can. I hope Harry will be able to get down that evening but we can't plan so far ahead. If you can come up we will

real surprise to me for I did not know she was going in for it. I do hope the children will do well this year. They should, as so far they have had no set backs.

You must be glad the Session is over for a time. Certainly Bennett hasn't improved things? I don't blame him for saying there will be no election in the Spring! He must know what would happen.

I have to write my English letters tonight so must get at them. We will all hope to hear that you are coming to see us on the 17th. Trusting you are well and with much love dear Willie, in which all the family join

ever your loving sister

Jennie H. Lay

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drive down if the roads are good.
Jean & Stanley & Mr. Lyon Mackenzie
down last Sunday and I spent
a few days with Ora Strud to
shop. I found it very hard to
get any Christmas shopping done when I
had a companion with me, so
my next efforts will be by
myself, & so would be very little one
are to be entertained this year.
There seems to be very little
can afford, and I will not
buy track. She is getting pretty frail. If
are all ill. It is the
and mighty scarce
after all it is the
Nelson is to be
Christmas day.
in the hospital

taking any leave at Christmas. He says his hands are doing well and he hopes will be all right soon.

We were delighted to hear that Mary Grasett Anderson's husband had been appointed O.C. at Camp Borden. They came to Barrie about two weeks ago, & on Friday last were told they are to go to Ottawa instead. We are very disappointed as we are specially fond of Mary, and she feels very badly, because her father was so depending on her. He is getting pretty frail. If you come across them in Ottawa you will know who they are! Mrs Grasett died three years ago.

We were very proud of Jean who won the 1st prize in Oratorical contest at the Collegiate on 1932. She got her prize at Commencement on Friday. It was a

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Personal.

Ottawa, December 9, 1932

My dear Jennie:

I wish very much that it might be possible for me to spend my birthday with you in Barrie and you yourself were good enough to do with me at Kingsmere, but I really do not see how I can possibly manage so to do. My birthday always brings communications from many parts of Canada, and sometimes elsewhere. Unless these are acknowledged as nearly as possible at the time of their receipt, they either are left over altogether or become intolerable burdens through the days immediately following.

I have not yet caught up on much of the correspondence that came to hand while parliament was in session, and I have done nothing whatever by way of preparation for Christmas. Even the Christmas card has not yet been selected, and those that go to Great Britain ought really to be leaving at this time.

I am speaking in Montreal tomorrow over the radio. Unfortunately, I have been able only within the last few hours

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to make a brief outline of what I have in mind to say. Next week, I speak in Toronto on Thursday night to the Men's Liberal Association, and on Friday to the Commercial Travellers. Both addresses are likely to be broadcast, and thus far I have not had a chance to give so much as a thought to either. While in Toronto, I have to attend a couple of luncheons as well as see innumberable delegations. Just how I shall manage it all, I really do not know. I do know, however, that, until the Toronto meetings are over, I shall not have a free moment in which to look at any mail which may come to hand next week, and it will probably take me from the morning of my return to Ottawa until Christmas Day to overtake what is certain to accumulate within that time.

Were I to come up to Barrie with this load of obligations on my back, I should not be in a mood really to enjoy the kind of a day I should like to have with the children, Harry and yourself. It would be better in every way to let the visit stand over to a time when I may not be as driven as I am at the moment. I should like you to feel, however, that I particularly appreciate your very kind invitation. Were I giving any time whatever while in Toronto to other than the most immediate political obligations, I should certainly arrange to cut that out and substitute Barrie instead. You, I am sure, will understand just what the situation is.

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I hope you and Harry will not think of coming down to the meeting. It is a long drive, and not a wise one at this time of the year. It would also be, I think, an unnecessary waste of money as well as time, both of which are most precious just at this season.

Like you, I have been giving a good deal of thought to what ~~might~~ may be best in the way of Christmas gifts. I should be glad indeed to follow the practice of other years, and send you a cheque to purchase something for each of the children if you think that receiving something in the way of a gift already purchased would be appreciated by them more than my sending to each a cheque for the amount itself and leaving them to do as you and they may think best with the proceeds. I should be very grateful if you would let me know at once just what you think would be preferable so that I can immediately arrange accordingly. I know the pleasure to be derived from an individual gift, and, personally, I like that form of expression better than the other. It may well be, however, that the children have in mind something for which they themselves would like to have a little money, and would feel a gift in this form would afford them more in the way of satisfaction, and enjoyment.

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If you agree, I shall send separate cheques to each, either to be applied in any way they please, or towards any specific thing which you may mention. The amounts will not be large but, realising the need which all are experiencing, I shall try to do a little better in the case at least of John and Jean than last year. So please don't hesitate to make a suggestion of any kind even if it is one which my contribution may help to meet only in part. A line from you at once will greatly ease my mind.

Let me express the hope that neither you norethe children will attempt anything more than letters with respect to my birthday and Christmas. I should feel much happier if I felt you were avoiding a rush and pressure at the Christmas season, for no one knows better than I do what this means in the end. Personally, I intend to keep everything down to within as narrow a margin as I possibly can.

Please tell Jean how delighted I am to know of her having won first prize in the girls' oratorical contest. Please give her my warmest congratulations.

I hope you are all keeping well, and that despite the depression and the heavy obligations of the children, you are

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finding it possible, without too great strain, to make ends meet. I hope, too, you have sufficient help.

Physically, I am in first-rate shape. The comparative quiet and change at Kingsmere during the summer have done me a lot of good. On the other hand, the questions of the day are so very important, and so many new issues are presenting themselves that I experience great mental anxiety at not being able to do the reading which is necessary for a proper discussion of them on the platform and in parliament, to say nothing of the kind of leadership which one at the head of a Liberal party in these days should give. Only those who have responsibility of the kind as white mine can begin to imagine the mental torture which is inseparable from public speaking. It is for this and no other reason that I need to snatch as many moments of quiet to myself as I can possibly manage to do, and save myself additional expenditure of time and energy at every possible stage.

With fondest love to all, believe me, dear Jennie,
Your very affectionate brother,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Boulderfel,
Barrie,
WLMK/Ontario.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec 16/32

My dear Lillie,

Just a line to say again what a very great pleasure we enjoyed last night in attending the banquet in your honour at the Royal York. I am reminded also that tomorrow is your birthday & our best wishes go to you that very many happy returns are in store for you. The years already counted have been toilsome and often difficult but as Sermon Knipfel he preached on the connection

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of hard work and happiness and so we can confidently predict for you an ample share of blessedness.

I enjoyed your speech more than I can tell. The doctrine of production seems at last to be suffering unpopularity. Just as the dire distress in old England and Ireland brought about the overthrow there of protection, so in this country it seems to me we ~~cannot~~ have now the most favourable opportunity that has presented itself in 30 years of enforcing its futility.

We were sorry that your engagements made it impossible to come up to Barrie, but hope an early opportunity of coming to see us again will present itself.

Once more wishing you a very Happy birthday with best love from us all,

Yours affectionately,

Harry

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We were sorry that your engagements made it impossible to come up to Barrie, but hope an early opportunity of coming to see us again will present itself.

Once more wishing you a very happy birthday with best love from us all,

Yours affectionately,
Harriet

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 16, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,—

I just want to wish you a "Happy Birthday." I am afraid you will be very tired after your strenuous visit in Toronto. I listened to your whole speech last night and enjoyed it very much. Mother and Daddy were awfully glad to see and hear you. I think they

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'though cold, you are certainly being given beautiful weather for your birthday.

Don't work too hard. I must rush back to school now, so, with much love and every best wishes.

Yours sincerely.
Jean!

were extremely lucky to get a table because faithfully you are getting very popular in Toronto. The Jewish element is supporting you, anyway.

I have a German Author exam this afternoon. It is set by my Jewish teacher, Miss Helpel, and she is too clever for me. However, I'll use my imagination in answering the questions. It helps a great deal.

I suppose Ottawa is as cold as Barrie. But

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Dec 16, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,

I do hope that you will have a very happy birthday.

Last Tuesday I had a birthday and got quite a few presents and I hope you will be equally lucky.

We have lots of snow up here. This morning it was 10° below.

The bay froze over this ~~m~~morning and

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I hope there will be lots of skating and skiing. I'll bet there is lots of snow up ~~there~~ in Ottawa and around Kingsmere.

I heard you speack over the radio last night.

Closing & again wish you a happy birthday and new year

your loving nephew

Harry Jr.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 16th '32

My dear Willie:

We arrived home from your splendid meeting, at 2.20 and Jean had hot cocoa ready & a lovely grate fire waiting for us. We thoroughly enjoyed the meeting & I need not have worried about my dress! You must have been dead tired, for you put a lot of yourself into your address and must have been gratified at the reception it, & you, got. The children were listening in and said they thought the

Birthday 1932

in office. Then too, though you have been busy, it is not as strenuous as if you had been prime minister and even the comparative rest will put you in better shape for the coming fight. I was glad to see you looking as well as you do and hope your new year will be one of health, wealth & happiness. You have done much, dear Willie, to make others happy and surely kindness does not act as a boomerang! If they do you need not worry about the future. All in this home send best love and every good wish for the happiest birthday you have ever had. My little gift

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December 1932

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people would never stop
cheering. We
Galsworthy and
Mr. Robinson, M
the Ottawa meet
thought last
the Ottawa Sp
thing is to be
tremendous au
an hour! It
for me to believe
Harry was fou
Simpson, Wall
thought - Mr. S.
of course I grum
quite a differe
the St. during
and Harry sho
night - that
him. We were

coming home & were in bed before then: John was not with us at the table but we took him really home. Nelson's tuxedo has come in quite well! We went over and spoke to your secretary. Neither B or us had met him before but John introduced us. He was very nice and we enjoyed our talk. It was 4° below zero when we got home, and 10° below when Harry went out at 7.30 this morning. I'm afraid it will be a weary man who wakes up on Dec. 17th! These meetings must take an awful lot out of you. Still you have the satisfaction of knowing that the year which has gone has had much in the way of progress, and probably you are now in a stronger position than if you had been

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week. My early in the week, and I hope you are not already supplied and that this will help to preserve your Rock Table from finger all stains! It does carry a very great deal of love and appreciation for your many kind efforts on our behalf. I am glad John is having such a time with you. He was so proud to tell me about his visit to you and how he had been in your room and was to see you again this morning. It is hard to realize that [illegible] Dad's home must be very lonely without the many people associated there this and how large they loom in memory; sometimes altogether out of proportion to what they mean to us. I was glad to hear you had seen Lyon and am sorry that it is not possible for

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no is to be kind to him. I drink to see him a Charlie Rinaker there for night. I offered to stand treat for him to take care to the hangover. He didn't feel equal to it. She stood back about the last time I was down. She had been sick on the week. He noticed Nancy Lipton come in last night & was speaking to Billie Dulmage in a few minutes. We had to go to Faulkner at our table.

Doris I must get to work as time is precious so dear Charlie. Again our best love and every good wish for December the seventeenth and from us all dear ever fond Tommy Dalie

Lennie.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

Dec. 16th '31

My dear Willie:

All the family unite in wishing you a very happy birthday and many happy returns of the day, and our best love goes with the wish. The years are going very quickly and each year is shorter than the last. The past year for you has not been quite so strenuous but you have had more to worry you in many ways. I do hope the new year will

little things they notice which influenced them. They thought it was "mighty" good of Uncle Willie to go see Mrs Drury for that suit much fun"!! It was too bad the day had to be spent as it was. Well this is the beginning of a new year for you and I hope we may all be dearer to each other at the end of the year.

Thank you so much for your letter, enclosing the cards, which came yesterday. I think they are <u>lovely</u>. I am so glad you do not disapprove of the radio. It will be a great joy to us and that leads me to say that it is a present to Mary one as well as to the children & I wish you would think of it

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more than make up in joy
pleasure, for all past trials.
December is a full month
so far as amusements
go! If seems there
end of them. Have
twelve last Sunday
your brithday is to
and fears the end of the
month and Christmas
between! If must
your busy academic
your brithday greetings
in time to be clear
you have been so
us all this year
don't doubt there

others who, like us, find much of their pleasure comes directly or indirectly through you. I am so glad you were able to come up for the day for, apart from the joy it gives me, I feel it makes you so much more real to the children. I don't want them only to know you through your gifts, for that is too much like Santa Claus. I want them to love you as their only uncle on their mother's side of the house and to love you for yourself alone. They are all getting big enough to appreciate personality & it is astonishing the

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as much and act accordingly. I feel very sincerely that what is given to the children is quite as much given to me and I love to see their joy. We are twice blessed. Nancy was delighted to get your order & will ship his Apples right on Monday under separate cover. Mr Brandon writes from coast that world all-round trip for them to Europe & back before Christmas, so will send them on the evening train & should arrive in Toronto Monday morning. We will expect you to be perfectly honest with us & tell us all about it as soon as you get back & tell us how ships arrive.

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Dear Uncle Allen & Aunt Lou
the time they last showed
well.

I am sending you a little
birthday remembrance with a
great deal of love. I am glad
early in the summer & hope
you will like your chair. Sin
Jane one some several years
ago & I have used them constantly
it is hard to decide what to get
for you! With one it is always
something useful! We shall
be sending a line together from all
to wish best love, and hoping
tomorrow will be a very very
happy day
Ever your loving Jessie

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Ottawa, Dec. 17, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Your exquisite gift and loving letters from yourself, Harry, Jean, and Harry, Junior, received on return to Ottawa this morning. I send to one and all heartfelt thanks for these many expressions of your love and affection. Was so glad to see you and Harry and John at Toronto. Fondest love to all.

ful44 Willie

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December 17, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie:

This is just is a short note to wish you many happy returns of the day. I hope you have a very happy birthday and a bright new year.

This probably won't get to you till after you're birthday but anyway you'll know that I was was thinking of you on your birthday.

When the others wrote the other day I was just getting ready to write a chemistry exam so I didn't dare leave my notebook, as chemistry isn't a specially easy subject for me.

Last night we all listened to your speech over the radio and we certainly

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thought you were wonderful. I don't see how you can possibly remember everything when you speak to such crowds. We heard you too the night before last and enjoyed every word.

Again with love and best wishes

Your loving niece

Rosabel.

Dear Willie

We are all thinking specially today of you, and hope the day will be a very happy one. We chattered with the greatest interest to your speech last night; and I thought it was one of the best you had ever made. The whole performance was most interesting & we all joined in the singing! The Last Post must have remained impressive We missed the part of your speech about the call with Mr Mc Nichol for there was such a noise over the radio that we couldn't hear what you were saying. The rest of the speech was perfectly distinct. They evidently had a grand time, but that class of man is generally jolly. I hope you will have a very happy & prosperous new year and that 1933 will see you again Prime minister of Canada. You will be if that is what is best? I agree with Browning that whatever is, is best ever lovingly

Jennie

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Ottawa, Dec. 20, 1932

Miss Rosabel Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Delighted to receive your loving birthday letter. Love and best wishes to all.

Uncle Willie.

ful44

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Dec. 23. 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,

It is only two more days to Christmas and so I just wanted to write this note to wish you a very merry Christmas. It doesn't seem possible that it's so near Christmas as it is raining as hard as it can now.

Last night we all went skating on the bay. The ice was marvellous as it was just like glass. In the afternoon we went across the bay and skated round the end of the bay and back home again.

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there were one or two bad cracks but the ice is perfectly safe & goes there won't be much more skating if this rain doesn't stop soon.

We haven't got our tree up yet but it's over at the school. We had it there for the Upper and Middle school Christmas party we had on Wednesday. Everybody got presents and gave a present. There was a mixed assortment of drums horns, dolls, etc.

Before I stop I want to wish you again a very Merry Christmas

Your loving niece
Flora.

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To be delivered Christmas Morning — Ottawa Dec. 23, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Every loving wish, dear Jennie, to Harry, the children and yourself for all happiness at this Christmas season.

ful44 — Willie

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Dec. 23, 1932.

Dear Uncle Willie, —

I can hardly believe that Christmas is just the day after tomorrow! It just seems to rush up to one. Our house is one continuous scurry all the time. The greenhouse business is beginning to pick up and the cards going out in every direction.

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very much. You certainly are stirring the people! (The cloud high of relief you hear on the radio, Ladies and gentlemen, is from G. Howard Ferguson when he hears that R.B. Bennett is sailing for Canada)

Well, what I want to wish you most is the very happiest and merriest Christmas and a successful New Year.

I am with love, Your affectionate niece, Jean.

P.S. Please give Billy's best wishes to Pat.

The day has been perfectly wonderful this last week. I was down on it last night. We skated 'till almost ten o'clock. The weather was comparatively mild but lovely for skating. Today it's raining in torrents so it's goodbye to winter sports for a while.

I guess you're terribly busy too. Our correspondence problem is bad but yours must be frightful.

We enjoyed your two Speeches on the Royal York very

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Dec 2nd, 1932

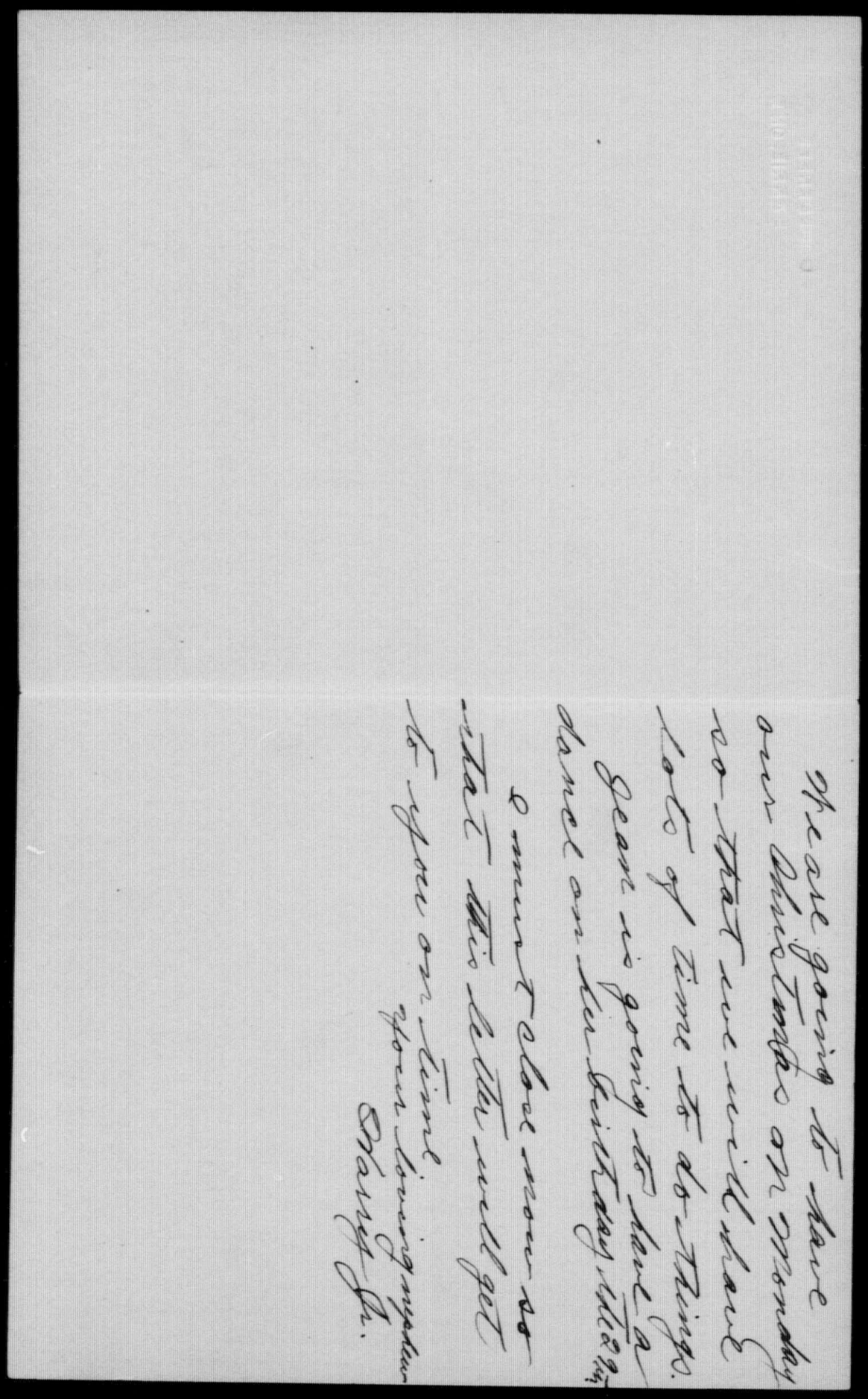
Dear Uncle Willie,

I am writing to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new Year I hope you had a very happy birthday

The bay was great yesterday but today it is raining. We started our Christmas holidays yesterday and we have till the third day of the new Year

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"Boulderfel"
December 23, 1932.

Dear Uncle Willie,

This is just a note to wish you a very happy Christmas and the best of everything that comes at this season of the year. I want to thank you, too, for the delightful breakfast party at the Royal York last week. I enjoyed it all very much, for it always gives me great pleasure to be able to discuss things with you. I can hardly say which of your two speeches I enjoyed most. I listened to the second one on the radio. It came undoubtedly genuine. He is asking $500.00 for it. The address, if you are interested, is Creaser's Bookshop, 660(?) Yonge Street. I believe he has sent you a catalogue, but you may not have seen it.

Again let me wish you a very merry Christmas, and send my best wishes to Henry, Pickering and the rest.

With the season's greetings and the best of wishes,

Ever your loving nephew

John.

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I hope you will find time to read the novel I sent along from Toronto. Dad and I both think it is one of the best we have ever read. It is not in the least heavy going, but is really delightful from cover to cover. We have read two of the other books, but I think "The Small Dark Man" is far and away the best.

I am enclosing in Mother's box an old Bible I found in a box of books in our barn. It is the one used by W.L. Mackenzie for clipping verses for his letters. I hope it may be of interest to you, and an addition to your library. I do not know whether you know of the manuscript that is in the possession of a Toronto book dealer, Mackenzie's attack on Bishop Strachan. I have seen the volume, and it is through perfectly for the whole of the program. The family were all listening to it up here too, and heard it even more clearly than is possible in the banquet hall. I enjoyed very much being at the big Liberal gathering and meeting so many people. It is the first one of its kind I have ever attended, but it certainly won't be the last! It made me feel that I would some day like to be the leader of a Party. I do think that the next election will see me actively engaged at least.

I finished off my term exams on Wednesday and went home with Mother and Jean, who motored down for me. I was really glad to get out of the city at last; it is such a noisy, filthy place at this time of year. I like Varsity, but I don't care so much about Toronto!

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Dec. 23rd '32

Dear Willie:

Just a last line before Christmas to wish you all that the day can bring in happiness & joy. I am sure you will have a happy day and am sending the plum pudding for you to use whenever you like. Having tasted Mary's cooking I will not suggest that it be used on the day, but it is the only way we can have you share our dinner!

We love your card. Before we saw the inscription below, we were trying to decide whether it was the dining room at Laurier House or the dining room at Kingsmere! It is very pretty indeed.

Tell Mr. Patterson we are all enjoying her card and Mary is going to make

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a couple of copies: I like this card of Harry's least of all he has done I wish I had kept one he did in sepia which were much prettier. The trouble is, I send them away as quickly as he paints them! I wish we had a more imposing parcel to send but this carries our best love, and when the greenhouse has made our fortune, we will increase the gifts though the love will not be any more deep sincere.

Thanks so much for your telegrams to Peach myself. I am glad you liked the "coasters" and hope they will help to protect your lovely table. This is all for just now. Our best love to you dear Willie and may the New Year find you feeling ready for all its demands. Harry will write after Christmas. He is working very hard

Ever your loving sister
Jennie

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Ottawa, Dec. 24, 1932

Lieut. H. Nelson Lay,
H.M.C.S. Skeena,
Esquimalt, B.C.

Heartiest Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year, dear Nelson. Am writing.

ful44

W L Mackenzie King

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STANDARD TIME

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1932 DEC 25 AM 9 37

BARRIE ONT 25 850A

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING

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LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

LOVING GREETINGS AND BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES FROM ALL AT BOULDERFEL

HARRY AND JENNIE.

● 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 December 1932 ●

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LOVING GREETINGS AND BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES FROM ALL AT BOULDERFEL

HARRY AND JENNIE.

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Boulanford, Barrie,
Dec. 25. 1932

My dear Willie,

The kind letter which you wrote on the 21st was on the table of Christmas presents in the library this morning. (It is surprising how early abroad the family was on a Sunday morning.) Kate accept my very best thanks for your most kind note and for the enclosed draft which is supremely acceptable. Your generous gifts to me, Jennie and the children call forth our very sincere gratitude and the more so accompanied as they are by the affection which you express

The past period of the year was better than 1931 but our Christmas trade was only about 1/3rd of last year's. I suppose we cannot expect to escape when others are experiencing similar results in business. Let us hope that the tide has turned and that 1933 will bring renewed prosperity to us all. Canada forever!

H.

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with so much kindly feeling.
Your kindness makes our Christmas happy indeed.

As no doubt Jennie has told you we had rather an exciting Christmas morning with the verdict of the doctors that an operation for appendicitis was necessary in Harry's case. Slocking. We are thankful that while a very necessary operation the case was not an acute one. Harry underwent the operation soon after 3 p.m. and was back in his ward soon after 4. The doctors showed us the appendix showing decided signs of congestion and proving that it would have been a mistake to try and ward off the Surgical treatment. The boy is doing splendidly.

We had the pleasure of hearing King George's little Christmas message this morning which was delicious, just as we had looked at our gifts. I expect you have had a very busy day receiving your presents and Christmas messages. Among the latter assure you none are more heartily affectionate and sincere than those from the branch of his family.

With very much love and thanking you once again for so thoughtfully and generously remembering me

Yours very affectionately
Harry

P.S. The last three months have shown a decided shrinkage in our Horse business I am sorry to say.

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE
Dec. 25, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie,—

You certainly started our Christmas off very very Happily. I wish you could have been here to see our shining faces when we opened the envelopes. As for me, I could not believe my eyes and I had to read the cheque several times. Well! Words can't express my gratitude and thanks. Honestly Uncle Willie you were far too well because every light seemed to be reflected in every glass pane of. I got a beautiful ring from my aunt Elsie Lay. It's Last three rubies encircled with diamonds.

This letter sounds terribly jerky but I'm scemdrathy worried.

Daddy came home and said that Harry's operation was very successful and Mother is still up there waiting for him to wakeup.

May I thank you again very very much and send you ~~H~~ best wishes. I am your loving niece Jean.

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Daddy just phoned that Harry has just gone up to the operating-room!

We expect Violet Ord any minute now. She's going to spend her Holidays Here. I hope they turn out happily.

We all went out in the cold, pouring rain ~~to~~ yesterday and after plowing through swamps (we) finally got a Christmas tree. It really looks beautiful. Dad had one in the Greenhouse all last week with lights on it. I think it advertised the conservatory

good to me. But — There are so many things I can get now. I promise I wont squander one cent. I guess Harry will be spoiled. I intend to spend most of my time during the Holidays at the hospital. There are going to be ten guests for Christmas dinner tomorrow night and poor Harry will have to miss everything. I guess John has told you everything that has happened today. It's been the worst Christmas I've ever put in. The maid is home for the week-end and my cooking has nearly killed the family.

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ROSABEL E. LAY
BOULDERFEL,
BARRIE, ONTARIO

Dec. 25, 1932

Dear Uncle Willie:

I hope you had a very merry Christmas. I certainly did. It was awfully good of you to be so generous to me. Your cheque will increase my bank account a lot. Also I want very much to get a badminton racket with part of it. There are lots of things you can do with money and I certainly appreciated your gift.

Let me thank you too for your telegram which I received ~~about~~ few days ago.

Thank you very much again for your lovely cheque and letter. I hope you have a bright and prosperous New Year.

Your loving niece
Rosabel.

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We tramped in the pouring rain for about two hours before we found a decent tree. The bush we went to didn't seem to have the right kind of trees but was mostly all cedar.

I got the loveliest gold watch from Aunt Elsie. It seems to be quite old and must be very valuable. John and Jean gave me a silver bracelet, so I wear the watch on one arm and the bracelet on the other.

Mother and Daddy gave me this notepaper as well as an evening dress.

Even though we are getting pretty old we all hung up our stockings last night and Santa Clause didn't forget us.

Poor Harry got a nice present of appendicitis. So far he seems to be getting on all right and Daddy and Jean are just going up to the hospital to see how he is.

Yesterday we all went out to get a christmas tree

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[illegible] Dec. 25-32

Dear Jennie:

Just a word to wish you all the compliments of the season and to say how much we have enjoyed your letter and the photographs. We should like to have one of the whole family. Your photograph is very good indeed. Is Janet's hair really as dark as it appears? Is Harry's as well? Do you think you could send us a snapshot of the house and garden? We should like very much to see them. Is Janet at school? Is she learning French? Is she fond of music? Is she learning to play the piano? Is she a Girl Guide? Is she a Brownie? Is she a Girl Guide? Is she a Brownie? Is she a Girl Guide? Is she a Brownie

sue for you and to know that you are
having a peaceful Christmas
Fortunately for us, we are
having our Christmas dinner
tomorrow evening! Christmas
has been shut out of the
factory & today for the
last time for 9, unless there
are complications, & during
the hospital 9, unless there
are complications, & during
the hospital 9, unless there
are complications, & during
splendidly. The Drs said it was
a clean case of appendicitis.
The appendix was not
inflamed but was
not been well for
weeks past has
his appendix
bothering him.
Terrible pain,
through, this

rising steadily, so the Drs advised an immediate operation & the second Dr. agreed, so there was no sense waiting for a more convenient season when it had to be done. I called the Dr. about nine this morning and by four this afternoon the operation was over & he was back in his bed. Doris is away for the day so you can understand it has been pretty strenuous! Nothing matters when things turn out right; so we have a great deal to be thankful for. But we were not asking for hospital expenses as a Christmas gift!

I was very much interested in your account of your visit to Mrs Mc Nichol and would thoroughly enjoy a call on her. It is most interesting to meet anyone who knew Father & Mother when they were

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"Baldersfel"
December 25th, 1932.

Dear Uncle Willie.-

This may be the only quiet moment till I get back to College, so I am taking advantage of it. Things are exceptionally quiet here for Christmas afternoon, as Jean and I are alone in the house. Mother and Dad have been at the Hospital with Harry since dinner time. He is being operated on for apendicitis, which came on him just a little differently at Christmas. I can see no reason for dissatisfaction on the part of Dad's customers. He certainly gives them their money's worth.

Again let me send my very heartiest thanks and my best wishes for a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Ever your loving nephew
John.

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a few things that I absolutely need, and which I could see no way of procuring.

Santa as usual was very good to me, though he had his humourous moments too. For the second time in two years Nelson has sent me a box of cigarettes, while I never have smoked one yet! He doesn't smoke himself, so I can only think someone gave them to him!

We have not been as busy as we might have liked in the greenhouse, though business has been about as good as could be expected in a year like this. I have been able to put the experience I got at Dunlop's last Christmas to good use helping Dad in the work. Things have to be done just over night. Dad has just phoned that they have taken him up to the operating room, and will be about an hour at the job. It is rather nerve racking sitting waiting.

I cannot say how much I appreciate the letter and the cheque, the letter fully as much as the cash. None can know better than you just how hard it is to live at Varsity on a limited allowance. I know that it is pretty close sailing to get along without the occasional bit of extra expense. I can assure you now that your trust in sending me such a sum will not be misplaced, and I will try to use and save it as best I can. There are indeed

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Harry Morrison Lay and family December
1932

December 27th 1932.

Dear Harry:

This is just a line to supplement the telegram sent Xmas morning, and to thank you both and the children again for your many loving thoughts and words and gifts of Christmas.

I do, how listening in to all the broadcast on Christmas morning. It was indeed a marvellous address. To hear the name of Bethlehem mentioned from the lips of Christ on Christmas morning, more than ever manifest that it was His Birthday - deeply impressive on that score. Someday the world will listen to a broadcast from the skies, to say yet unborn the second coming of Christ in some such mystical and heavenly way.

Fondest love to you all - hoping that you will all be remembered for good in the Almighty's will for 1933.

Affectionately yours,
Mackenzie King

Mr. Mackenzie King desires to thank you for your kind greetings and to extend to you his best wishes for the Christmas Season and the New Year.

"Rideau Hall", Ottawa
Christmas, 1932

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● Harry Morrison Lay and family December
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December 27th 1932.

Dear Harry:

Here is just a line to supplement that little visit Sunday evening, and to thank you both and the children again for your many loving thoughts and wishes and gifts at this Christmas season.

I do, now listening in with you all at the broadcast on Christmas morning, it was indeed a marvellous affair. To hear the name of Bethlehem mentioned from the lofty tower there on Christmas morning, more than ever before made real what the Christ-child - deeply impressive as that was. Shortly the world will listen to a broadcast from the Christ, to many yet unborn the second coming of Christ in some such mystical and heavenly way.

Rockefeller has it for all time, by his affectionate gift, Jerusalem

Thanks for 1933.

Mr. Mackenzie King desires to thank you for your kind greetings and to extend to you his best wishes for the Christmas Season and the New Year.

"Canada House", Ottawa
Christmas, 1932

December 27, 1932

Dear Rosabel:

This is just a little line to bring to you my love and best of wishes for the New Year, and also to thank you very warmly for your two lovely letters, the one written on December 23rd, and the other on Christmas Day.

I want also to thank you and Harry very much indeed for the gift box for gentlemen, which you so kindly sent to me. I can assure you that it is something which I am at all times in need of and that so long as it lasts it will be of great service as well as of great pleasure.

I must say that I like your letter paper very much, and I am sure it was a most welcome gift.

With renewed good wishes for 1933, and with fondest love,

Believe me, dear Rosabel,
Your loving Uncle,

Miss Rosabel Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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December 27, 1932

My dear John:

I just cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate the Christmas wishes, letters and gifts which have come from you. I must, however, make immediate and special mention of the Bible, which I think I could almost say means more to me than anything I have received since I began to take an interest in public life. I have often wondered where the bible was to which Mr. Lindsey refers in his "life and Times of William Lyon Mackenzie", and I now feel quite sure that the one you have sent to me is the one referred to there, and that this is the bible my grandfather had in his possession before Toronto became a city and while it was still known as York. The passages which are marked throughout indicate clearly the thoughts and feelings which were uppermost in his mind and the convictions which were deepest in his heart. It means very much to me in my public life to have this book just at this time, and I shall always believe that your discovery of it was not in any way a matter of chance but wholly providential.

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I have not seen the manuscript in the possession of the Toronto dealer to which your letter refers, but I shall have a look at it the first time I am in Toronto. Some day I may be able to have our Government Archives purchase it. I doubt, however, if they would do so today, with a Tory Administration in office.

It looks to me as though for what time remains for me the fight will be very much along the lines of Mackenzie, prior to the period of the rebellion. The real effort will be to save the people from the oppression which they are under, through the economic system being what it is today. It was the same struggle, only under different conditions and different names - the struggle for liberty for the many against the monopolies and privileges of the few. It was political ~~freedom~~ which Mackenzie fought so strenuously for and which was needed to bring about a larger freedom in other ways. It is economic freedom which is required today, if the heart and mind are to have the freedom which is their rightful due.

I, too, enjoyed very much having you with me at breakfast in Toronto, and seeing you again at the banquet in the evening. I am glad you have thoughts of public life and, seeing that you have, I hope you will make the most of every opportunity you have at the

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University to become as thorough and as accurate as you possibly can. The public man of the future will have to be equipped to speak to the world without a note, and knowledge, as well as character, will count for more than they ever hitherto have.

Having discovered the Mackenzie bible where you did, let me suggest that you go carefully through all the papers and books there may be in the boxes or barrels in which you found this particular volume. It may well be that the barrels contain some old papers of Mackenzie's, or some things which were kept by my father, that are certain to have a value if their real contents were known. The things that are inherently the most precious often appear worthless to those who have no interest or association in the matters or persons to which they relate. Certainly, the find of the bible is the greatest you will ever make in your life. Perhaps you could send me a list of the names of the books, if any of them seem to be of interest.

I am much looking forward to the reading of Lawrence's novel which you have sent to me, and I want to thank you for it, as well as for your other gift. Again I want to thank you very warmly for sending

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the bible to me.

With my very best of wishes for the New Year, and with much love,

Believe me, dear John,
Your affectionate Uncle,

John Lay, Esq.,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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December 27, 1932

Dear Harry:

You have indeed given us a great surprise at this Christmas season, but I imagine that you yourself were more surprised than anyone else. I was very sorry to hear that you had to spend Christmas Day in the hospital, and also of the anxiety which your operation would naturally occasion, but I am delighted to gather that everything went splendidly and that you are now on the way to complete recovery and will soon be out of the hospital.

I imagine that all your life you will think that the Christmas of 1932 was one of the best you could have had, for it is a great thing to feel that you can never be troubled with appendicitis again. Your operation is a sort of assurance against at least one of the more serious ills which our flesh apparently is heir to.

I want to thank you very much for the letter of good wishes which you

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sent me two days before Christmas, and which added not a little to my happiness at this Christmas season. Let me thank you, too, for the shaving equipment which came to me from you and Rosabel in the box I opened from "Boulderfel" on Christmas Day. The shaving cream and lotion, also the soap and powder, will be of great use and also of great comfort and pleasure as long as it is available for use, and I thank you very much for this welcome gift.

I hope that the New Year will be a very happy one for you and that you will more than make up in strength and enjoyment throughout its months for the misfortune which has overtaken you temporarily just at this time.

Again with fondest love and all good wishes,

Believe me, dear Harry,
Your loving Uncle,

Master Harry Lay Jr.,
General Hospital,
Barrie, Ontario.

WLMK/Z

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December 27, 1932

My dear Jean:

I was so pleased to receive your two very loving letters, the one written two days before Christmas, and the other on Christmas Day itself. Let me thank you for them, and also for the love and good wishes, gifts and greetings which came with them. I shall never be able to tell you all how much pleasure your loving thoughts and remembrances at this Christmas season have brought to me.

I was glad to hear of the lovely gifts which you and Rosabel received from your Aunt Elsie. She certainly has been very kind to you both, and I am sure it is because she is so very fond of you.

This is only a line, but it carries with it my warmest thanks for all that you have done to make the Christmas season so bright, and my best of wishes for the New Year.

With fondest love, dear Jean,
Affectionately yours,

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ontario.

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December 27, 1932

My dear Jennie:

Again I wish to thank you and Harry and the children for your loving thoughts and wishes and gifts at this Christmas season. I have most of the latter before me on the table as I write, and they make a Christmas in themselves. It was more than good of you all to have gone to so much trouble on my behalf, but I can assure you that it has been amply repaid by the pleasure it has afforded and the place it will always hold in my memory.

Your Christmas greeting was the first I opened from any part of Canada on Christmas morning. I expect to have the Governor General and Lady Bessborough here for dinner early in the New Year, and I shall probably reserve the plum pudding for that occasion. Also I may make it the occasion for inaugurating the use of the silver coasters which you sent me on my birthday. I cannot tell you how pretty I think the coasters are, and I know they will be of very great service. I want, once again, to thank you and Harry for them.

The Christmas cards of greeting have all added their joyous note to Christmas. I think the little painting of "Boulderfel"

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exceedingly good, and I am glad to have it to be able to show to the Pattesons and others. It gives one a splendid idea of your lovely home. Please tell the children the pleasure their card to "Uncle dear" also brought to me. Also tell Harry Jr. how much I enjoyed the card painted by him. I think it is exceedingly well done, and indicates real talent, which I hope he will develop.

I must not proceed further without saying how sorry I was to learn of the operation which little Harry had to undergo on Christmas day. You certainly must have had a very anxious time of it, and the day would hardly seem like Christmas, but with your anxiety relieved yesterday you would, I hope, be able to enjoy the dinner you had planned for last night. It is a very fortunate thing for little Harry that he will have his appendix out of the way for good. You never know what a stitch in time in matters of the kind may save. In this case the figure of speech may be taken literally as well as metaphorically. I shall await further word of Harry's progress, and hope it will be all that you can expect and wish.

I received this morning all the loving letters which came in acknowledgment of the little present I made to each member of the family for Christmas. Along with these letters came your own

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and the others sent with your loving good wishes for Christmas day. I was much relieved to receive the latter letters, as I feared they had gone astray. The explanation is that, having been addressed to the House of Commons, they reached there on Saturday and were held until this morning, there apparently being no one in the House of Commons post office over the weekend and yesterday. Personally, I am just as pleased that they came by themselves this morning, as I have been able to enjoy all the letters at the same time, and I shall be able to make acknowledgments of both in the one communication. I assure you one and all have brought me the greatest possible pleasure.

I am glad you liked my card. I only sent it out to a few. The acknowledgment I am sending Harry will indicate the form of my Christmas greetings and acknowledgments. It seems to me I have had even more cards but fewer cables and telegrams this year than last. I should put the number of separate greetings somewhere between fifteen hundred and two thousand. We are all very hard at work trying to get out acknowledgments.

Among the gifts I received were two beautifully framed autographed portraits of Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Bessborough, and a very pretty Christmas card from the Princess Patricia with a picture of herself and her boy.

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Mr. MacNicol's address is 3 Glenholm Street, Toronto. His mother may come to live with him there, or she may stay at the little house he has secured for her at Weston, which is about twenty minutes run from Toronto. I think you would enjoy going to call on her some time. She would give you a very intimate and interesting account of mother as a girl. Evidently they were very close friends. It would be well to write or telephone a little in advance, to make sure that she was at home. Knowing the pleasure it would give you, I would strongly advise that you take the first chance that offers to go and call. There were some interviews with her in one or more of the Toronto papers about mother after my call, but these I have not seen. Perhaps they have come to your attention.

I mustn't forget to add my thanks for the little dog calendar that came with love and best wishes from all. I have told Pat that I thought it was intended for him as well as for me, and that no doubt Billy had a hand in sending it. On account of the rush this year, Pat's cards were all delayed, and I am afraid will have to stand over for some little time to come. However, he sends very affectionate greetings to you all. He is really a most lovable companion and devoted friend.

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I want to speak especially of the little bible which John sent to me. I really cannot tell you what this gift means. You will be interested in knowing that I found on comparison that in my own bible I have underlined both in the Old Testament and the New many of the pages exactly as they are marked in this little bible which was grandfather's, chosen over a hundred years ago. He evidently had it before Toronto was a city, as the place designated is York, Upper Canada. I shall try to get further particulars about the Toronto manuscript, and some day I may be able to have the archives acquire it. I have not seen it myself, but I should like to very much. I must say that if I had received nothing other at this Christmas season than the little bible I should have felt that Christmas was worth more than all that had preceeded it put together.

This will in all probability be the last letter which I shall write to you in the old year. I must confess that in many ways I feel it to have been the best year in my life, and I hope it has been the same for you and Harry and the children. I trust that 1933 will be an even better year for us all, and I believe it will. I shall probably not have time to send more than just a line of acknowledgment to each of the children for their several gifts and letters, so please let them feel that this letter is intended

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as a family communication. With my thanks for all the love and kindness you have all sent to me at this Christmas season, please let this letter bring with it my fondest love and every affectionate good wish to each and all for the New Year.

Your loving brother,

WLMK/FM

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BOULDERFEL
BARRIE

December 27
1932

Dear Uncle Willie,—

Mother asked me to drop you a line to tell you that Harry is O.K. His condition is perfect and he is a very good little patient. Yesterday he began to feel the effects of the ether and was very sore. However, today I was up at the hospital all morning and there wasn't a word of grumbling

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and we all appreciate, the wonderful Christmas presents. I banked them this morning and I feel really rich for me in my life!!

I often think of the glorious visit at your Kingsmere and of the cottage by the lake. I felt quite thrilled being in the Highlands and climbing to that cairn.

I must close now and get this note on the train. Mother sends loads of love as does your loving niece, Jean.

out of line. Mother is working away at an evening dress for Pedel, which she wants to wear tonight.

We are having perfectly gorgeous weather and the temperature is just 40°. The ice has all gone out of the bay.

I'm afraid my letter to you on Sunday was a very poor affair. I was so upset but if I may be excused, I hope you will do so. I want you to know that I appreciate more than I can say,

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bpc.

Dec. 11th '32

My dear Willie:

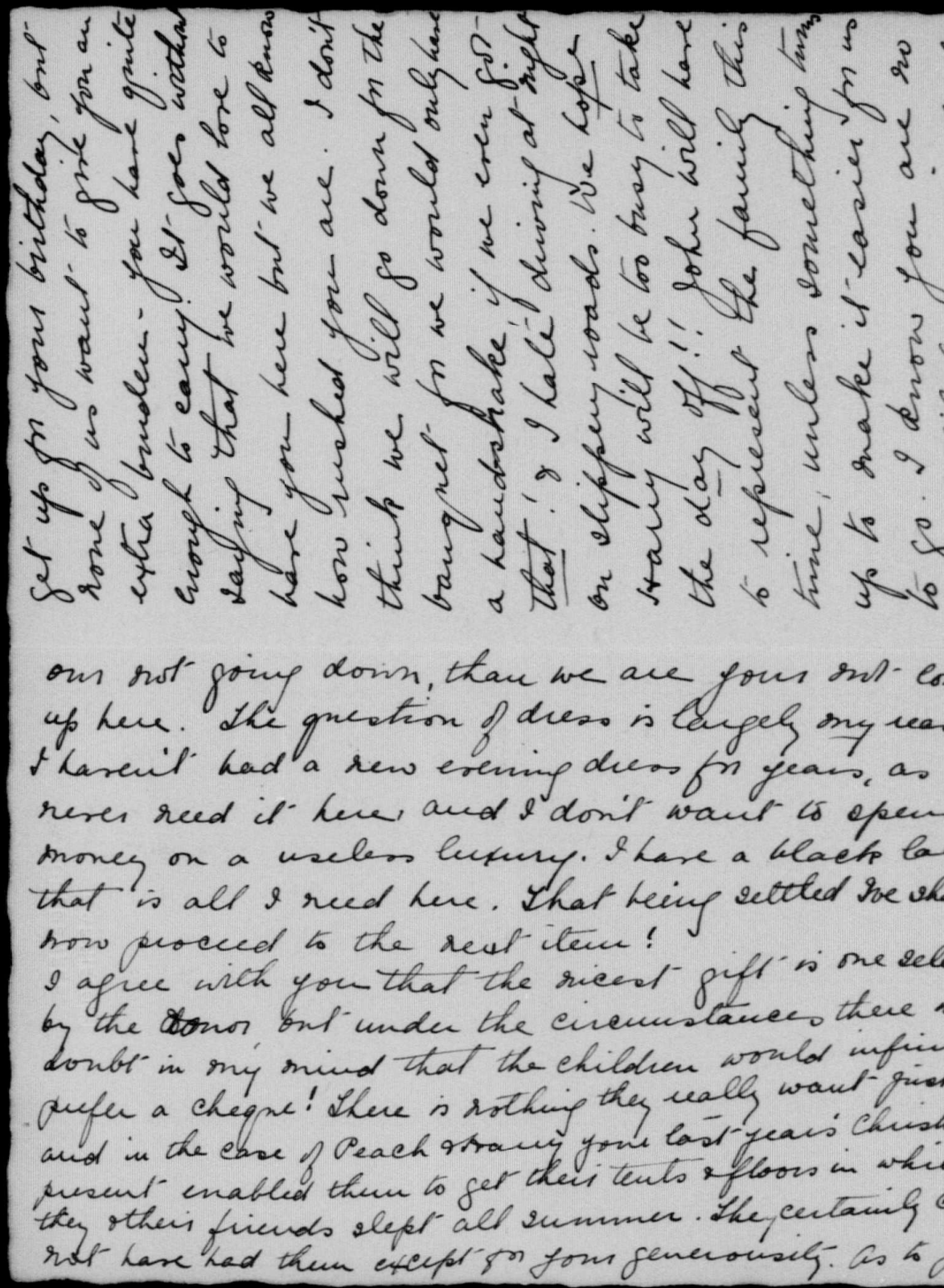
Many thanks for your letter which came yesterday afternoon. Just here let me tell you they have no "Special Delivery" here, so they took your 20 cents for nothing However, the postmaster phoned me and told me there was a 'special delivery' letter for me and we went down for it. It was too late to catch the afternoon mail & tonight's mail is the next.

We are all very sorry for Canada

& Jean I would never be able to give them the "extras" which your gifts have made possible. You don't know what it means to have four insatiable appetites always clamouring for more and not being able to satisfy them, especially when the four are all dearer than life to you!! It is hard to say "no" but good for the children! John badly wanted a new suit; but we could not manage it just now, so Peach came to the rescue & lent him twenty dollars. They have so much that others have not, that I always feel we should be thankful instead of rebellious as the children would sometimes like to be! My legacy from Miss Ross has meant a lot to me. It enabled me to help Harry finish paying for the car, $380.00, help with a blower for the greenhouse furnace and partly pay for the refrigerator which means so much in comfort

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ours not going down, than we are yours not coming up here. The question of dress is largely my reason. I haven't had a new evening dress for years, as I never need it here, and I don't want to spend money on a useless luxury. I have a black lace that is all I need here. That being settled we shall now proceed to the next item!

I agree with you that the nicest gift is one selected by the donor, but under the circumstances there is no doubt in my mind that the children would infinitely prefer a cheque! There is nothing they really want just now and in the case of Peach Tranby your last year's Christmas present enabled them to get their tents & floors in which they & their friends slept all summer. They certainly could not have had them except for yours generousity. As to John

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is working faithfully & that is all one can do. We have been home in a couple of weeks but I was in Toronto two weeks ago with him. We are all well. I had his hair the week before I went to Toronto, & feel as if a ton weight were removed. I owed everyone, & feel so thankful to have had done. I hear people with I will never have to have again. Business has not been so bright but this cold weather makes it seem like Christmas & we hope it is here. For will be relieved when the strike is settled & we, and even if we don't get down, we will hear from you the radio. We confident get your last night but I think the Leaders misled & wrecked the country, & I am sure Paul for one. I shall be glad to see you all & hear all about the children & your visit to Ottawa. Jean is very well & is working faithfully & is a great help to me. I can do things with my left hand now & can write a little. Jean is planning to go to Toronto for Christmas & will be away about a week. I am sending the cards to the children & hope they will be pleased with them. Jean joins me in sending love to you all & to the children. Yours affectionately Mackenzie King

And Constituency. Bessie thanks Jean for her letter which I have replaced the electric heater which gave out, & I have paid for out of my allowance. It is one dollar & fifty cents. I am glad the house etc. is in order. It is to be able to be away. I am glad it has been of help to you all. Jean is very thankful for the gift of money which I sent her last week. I am sure she will be glad to get it. I have been very busy since I returned to Ottawa, but there has been a lull in business & politics & I have had a chance to get a little rest. I am glad you all enjoyed your visit to Ottawa. Jean is very busy with her work & is a great help to me. I can do things with my left hand now & can write a little. Jean is planning to go to Toronto for Christmas & will be away about a week. I am sending the cards to the children & hope they will be pleased with them. Jean joins me in sending love to you all & to the children. Yours affectionately Mackenzie King

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greatest comfort. She has the
plain knowledge to make and
Yesterday we started to make
the candles which we finished
I have all my candles
nearly all my fifty
Mr. is numerous as
Mr. trying to make
So you see we are
advanced this year
year that the week
I could do nothing
with the phone etc
to be done in the
I next week. We
may happen, but
plans. Jean is
this week and
to do their shopping
did mine a week
town day, with
wonderful relief

away and know that the family will be as well fed and looked after as if I were at home. Doris is so reliable and Jean is very capable. On Friday Harry was talking to Mr. Gridwood, the Principal of the Collegiate, and he said "We consider Jean the most reliable girl in the school. We said you could always call on her to do anything & know it would be done and also she was a regular little mother to the younger children. Jean isn't a star in geometry and Harry was asking Mr. Gridwood about her work. He said she was coming on all right" & then went on to speak of her. It was a great pleasure to hear this about Jean for though I know what a comfort she is to me, I didn't know the school felt the same. I hope John will do well this year & justify the consideration they showed him. Mr. Wood says he

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Ottawa, December 27, 1932

Harry Lay Jr.,
General Hospital,
Barrie, Ontario.

I hope you are progressing favourably. Fondest love from

Uncle Willie.

(W. L. Mackenzie King)
F. U. 144.

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LAURIER HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

December 27, 1932

My dear Jennie:

Again I wish to thank you and Harry and the children for your loving thoughts and wishes and gifts at this Christmas season. I have most of the latter before me on the table as I write, and they make a Christmas in themselves. It was more than good of you all to have gone to so much trouble on my behalf, but I can assure you that it has been amply repaid by the pleasure it has afforded and the place it will always hold in my memory.

Your Christmas greeting was the first I opened from any part of Canada on Christmas morning. I expect to have the Governor General and Lady Bessborough here for dinner early in the New Year, and I shall probably reserve the plum pudding for that occasion. Also I may make it the occasion for inaugurating the use of the silver coasters which you sent me on my birthday. I cannot tell you how pretty I think the coasters are, and I know they will be of very great service. I want, once again, to thank you and Harry for them.

The Christmas cards of greeting have all added their joyous note to Christmas. I think the little painting of "Boulderfel"

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exceedingly good, and I am glad to have it to be able to show to the Pattesons and others. It gives one a splendid idea of your lovely home. Please tell the children the pleasure their card to "Uncle dear" also brought to me. Also tell Harry Jr. how much I enjoyed the card painted by him. I think it is exceedingly well done, and indicates real talent, which I hope he will develop.

I must not proceed further without saying how sorry I was to learn of the operation which little Harry had to undergo on Christmas day. You certainly must have had a very anxious time of it, and the day would hardly seem like Christmas, but with your anxiety relieved yesterday you would, I hope, be able to enjoy the dinner you had planned for last night. It is a very fortunate thing for little Harry that he will have his appendix out of the way for good. You never know what "a stitch in time" in matters of the kind as in all else may save. In this case, the figure of speech may be taken literally, as well as metaphorically. I shall await further word of Harry's progress, and hope it will be all that you can expect and wish.

I received this morning all the loving letters which came in acknowledgment of the little present I made to each member of the family for Christmas. Along with these letters came your own

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and the others sent with your loving good wishes for Christmas day. I was much relieved to receive the latter letters, as I feared they had gone astray. The explanation is that, having been addressed to the House of Commons, they reached there on Saturday and were held until this morning, there apparently being no one in the House of Commons post office over the weekend and yesterday. Personally, I am just as pleased that they came by themselves this morning, as I have been able to enjoy all the letters at the same time, and I shall be able to make acknowledgments of both in the one communication. I assure you, one and all have brought me the greatest possible pleasure.

I am glad you liked my card. I only sent it out to a few. The acknowledgment I am sending Harry will indicate the form of my Christmas greetings and acknowledgments. It seems to me I have had even more cards but fewer cables and telegrams this year than last. I should put the number of separate greetings somewhere between fifteen hundred and two thousand. We are all very hard at work trying to get out acknowledgments.

Among the gifts I received were two beautifully framed autographed portraits of Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Bessborough, and a very pretty Christmas card from the Princess Patricia with a picture of herself and her boy.

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Mr. MacNicol's address is 3 Glenholm Street, (off Davenport Rd) Toronto. His mother may come to live with him there,or she may stay at the little house he has secured for her at Weston, which is about twenty minutes run from Toronto. I think you would enjoy going to call on her some time. She would give you a very intimate and interesting account of mother as a girl. Evidently they were very close friends. It would be well to write or telephone a little in advance, to make sure that she was at home. Knowing the pleasure it would give you, I would strongly advise that you take the first chance that offers to go and call. There were some interviews with her in one or more of the Toronto papers about mother after my call, but these I have not seen. Perhaps they have come to your attention.

I mustn't forget to add my thanks for the little dog calendar that came with love and best wishes from all. I have told Pat that I thought it was intended for him as well as for me, and that no doubt Billy had a hand in sending it. On account of the rush this year, Pat's cards were all delayed, and I am afraid will have to stand over for some little time to come. However, he sends very affectionate greetings to you all. He is really a most lovable companion and devoted friend.

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I want to speak especially of the little bible which John sent to me. I really cannot tell you what this gift means. You will be interested in knowing that I found on comparison that, in my own bible, I have underlined, both in the Old Testament and the New, many of the pages exactly as they are marked in this little bible which was grandfather's, ~~chosen~~ marked or it is over a hundred years ago. He evidently had it before Toronto was a city, as the place designated is York, Upper Canada. I shall try to get further particulars about the Toronto manuscript, and some day I may be able to have the archives acquire it. I have not seen it myself, but I should like to very much. I must say that if I had received nothing other at this Christmas season than the little bible, I should have felt that Christmas was worth more than all that had preceeded it put together.

This will in all probability be the last letter which I shall write to you in the old year. I must confess that, in many ways, I feel it to have been the best year in my life, and I hope it has been the same for you and Harry and the children. I trust that 1933 will be an even better year for us all, and I believe it will. I shall probably not have time to send more than just a line of acknowledgment to each of the children for their several gifts and letters, so please let them feel that this letter is intended

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as a family communication. With my thanks for all the love and kindness you have all sent to me at this Christmas season, please let this letter bring with it my fondest love and every affectionate good wish to each and all for the New Year.

Your loving brother,

Willie

07-03-03

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Night Letter Ottawa, Dec. 28, 1932

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

Love and best wishes, dear Jean, for a happy birthday
and many happy returns.

ful44 Uncle Willie

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December 29, 1932

My dear Jennies

In writing you a day or two ago, I was so anxious to speak of the pleasure which the coasters brought me that I omitted to make special mention as well of the mirror centre-piece for which I thanked you over the 'phone. I want to tell you that it was something I had really been anxious to secure both for my table in town and in the country. It has a way of reflecting the walls and ceilings as well as flowers which may be on the table, and so helps to double the note of beauty all round. It was very good of you to send me such a lovely gift.

One year, when I was Minister of Labour, I attended a conference in Paris and was present at a dinner given in the Louvre by the French Minister of Finance, who lives in one part of the palace. The dinner was given in one of the rooms in which not only the walls, but the ceilings were covered with paintings.

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The table itself for the most part was covered by a mirror in which one could see all the pictures which were behind and above as distinctly as those which were in front. On that evening the gold plate which belonged to Napoleon was used for the service. It was a great state dinner, and I shall never forget the impression it left. It was quite the most beautiful thing of the kind which I ever recall or ever expect to see. Your gift has reminded me of it, and will often do so.

I am glad to know that Harry Jr. is doing so well. He will come through all right, and will be better the rest of his life for the operation. I hope, however, you will be spared for some time further anxieties of the kind, and that you will all have a very happy New Year's Day and the very best of New Years.

With fondest love to one and all,
Very affectionately,
Yours very sincerely,

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

WLMK/EAP

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December 29, 1932

My dear Jean:

This is your birthday and I wish to repeat the good wishes which, in anticipation, I sent you by telegram last night. I hope the day will be a very happy one for you and that you will have very many very happy returns.

I thank you so much for letting me know of Harry's condition. I am indeed glad to hear that he is progressing so favourably. No doubt he will be out and about again early in the New Year, and better than ever in being rid altogether of a wholly unnecessary appendix. Where there is no need of a thing, it is usually worse than nothing, for it gets in the way or in other respects makes trouble.

I can't tell you the pleasure I am deriving from the little Irish terrier calendar which I received from you on

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Christmas Day. Pat seems to think it belongs to him, but I tell him it is for both of us.

I am glad you continue to have happy remembrances of Kingsmere, and I hope that they are but the beginning of very many which you will enjoy.

Let me again wish you a very happy New Year and, through you, all the members of the family.

With fondest love to one and all, believe me,

Your affectionate uncle,

Miss Jean Lay,
"Boulderfel",
Barrie, Ont.

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"Bouldcrest"
Barrie
Dec. 30th '32

My dear Willie:

Your loving letters to us which came this morning, have given a great deal of pleasure. The little trifle we sent were not anything except an expression of love. I was sorry the little mirror was not prettier. I sent for it some time ago, & they were sold out but assured me, they would have it here in lots of time for Christmas and it didn't arrive till Thursday — too late to exchange it. However it will do under flowers for any part of the house & some other time I will pick up a more suitable one.

I am so glad you value the Bible John sent. To me, it seemed most interesting, but we decided that no one would appreciate it as you would. I think it was Aunt Lybbie's for I have a dim idea that it was among her things when she lived on Elbridge St. & she gave me "anything worth keeping". It was with some old books which I have not unpacked since we came to Barrie & John was looking for anything which might be of interest to Mr. Hood, when he came across it. Mr. Hood collects rare books &

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if Jean gets a chance to go to Toronto to school, she will probably never have to have these children here again. There are certain social duties one has to perform! Violet is to have Peach out of bed tomorrow and Harry ought to be home the end of next week. It is well this happened in the holidays! Let us hope next year will give us all a fresh supply of health "pep".

This is all I have time to write if I am to catch the mail for you to get this for New Year's. Best love dear Willie from each and every one of us and I hope you realize how much we appreciate all your kindness & generosity to us all. I find it hard to put into words my feelings, but hope you understand. May 1933 be very good to you in every way, and all joy & happiness come to you in the new year. Harry & the children join with me in sending best love ever your loving sister

Jennie.

Jean has Violet & Ted with her this week and has very few spare minutes. I am writing this beside the bed so please excuse writing. Harry was delighted with your

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telephone 920 was Jean's birthday
for Rue a when her birthday came.
)

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Nelson Lay
1932

Esquimalt B.C.
December 30th

Dear Uncle Willie.

Thanks ever so much for your most generous Xmas present and greetings. I'll give your messages to Commander and Mrs. Brodeur. At the moment they're at a Naval Dance at the Barracks

leave for the West Indies on Jan 5th where we meet the two from Halifax. It'll be a very memorable occasion - the first time the four ships have been together. We are very proud of the two new ones. They have been most satisfactory in every way and are an immense improvement on the latest R.N. destroyers. We all hope that this is the beginning of a full flotilla on each

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here. I, having a "day ow", am trying to catch up a bit in my correspondence.

We had a very cheerful Christmas here. The Captain and Officers did the usual round of the mess decks in the forenoon and then had all the Petty Officers down to the Wardroom. In the afternoon I

worked off some of the X mas pudding. Ivy playing nearly an hour's squash. Then we had a small dinner party onboard before going on to a very pleasant dance at Government House. The new Governor is a very charming person and we very much enjoyed having him with us on our last cruise round B.C. "Skeena" and "Vancouver"

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I can't imagine myself a married man and I never intended to get married until I'd at least become a Lieut.-Com, however you can never arrange these things!

I hope you had a very successful X mas; I haven't heard from Bouldeyd yet but I'm sure they would. Please give my kind regards to Mr. & Mrs. Patterson.

With the best of wishes for 1932.

Your affectionate nephew
Nelson Hay.

side of Canada which would be a very fine thing for Canada and a great asset to the combined navies of the British Empire. The latest rumour we hear is that they hope to lay down one of the four new sloops shortly. These were originally proposed for this year but of course economy has been the most

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essential thing this year.

Uncle Murray is retiring from the Bank this next year. He's had 42 years service so I don't think anyone could grudge him a pension! He was quite ill this summer but when I saw him last was much better.

I've just got engaged uncle Willie! At the moment it's most unofficial

and I haven't even told anyone at Boulderfield that we hope to get married next summer. That is if I can manage & save enough cash during our 4 or 5 month's cruise! The girl is Phoebe Hogan who lives at Duncan about 45 miles north of Victoria. You may have known her people as Sheliene they lived & live in Montreal years ago. (Her grandfather was one of the original members of the Montreal Hunt Club)

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RB66 38 NL

BARRIE ONT 31

RIGHT HON MACKENZIE KING

LAURIER HOUSE OTTAWA ONT

ALL THE LAY FAMILY SEND LOVING WISHES FOR A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HOPE 1933 WILL BE FILLED WITH HEALTH AND HAPPINESS HARRY JUNIOR DOING SPLENDIDLY AND ROSABELLE BETTER TOO BEST LOVE FROM ALL

JENNIE.

1932 DEC 31 PM 10 16

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Ottawa Dec. 31, 1932

Mrs. H. M. Lay,
Barrie, Ont.

Every loving good wish for the New Year to all at Boulderfel.

ful44 Willie

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