

506 Royal Bank Building,  
Vancouver, B.C.

14th September, 1945.

K. W. Wright, Esq.,  
Office of the Custodian,  
Victoria Building,  
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Ken,

Time is passing quickly since you left. A slight atmospheric fog this morning may suggest that it is not only the Office of the Custodian that is occasionally subject to some haziness, but even nature has sometimes to struggle through to clarity.

Your letter was received and was much appreciated by the staff. You will not guess the means by which it was presented to them. You speak of succumbing to morning coffee, but since you left we came to a radical decision in regard to this same matter.

At the end of the Filing Room, behind the cabinets water boils at stated times and tea and coffee is brewed and during a short period of relaxation the staff imbibe. It is really less disrupting and saves the disappearance of the staff from time to time. The Administration group for example have cups brought to them and stop and chat for a short while and similarly the other departments. Thus at 3 o'clock I sat in with them and read your letter and the record of your travelling experiences were greatly enjoyed.

By now you will have spent some actual time in the office and I will be interested to know how you think you will like it and the work which you will have to do.

Needless to say you are missed, but like the fabled Phoenix we hope to revive again, even after we have been laid low.

Things in general are I think progressing well. I have had several meetings with the men in regard to closing files. There did exist a little defeatist attitude in regard to this work, but everyone is now in fine accord and ready to proceed to do a good job.

Mr. Ian Macpherson and Mr. Cramer are coming into this picture in regard to the Valley files in the preparation of a Real Estate Summary and Bill Anderson will prepare the other summaries concerning the balance of the administration of those particular properties. It will be a slow

work but every file properly dealt with will gradually achieve a final goal.

I have been to Steveston again and am meeting our Auctioneer, Mr. Thompson, this afternoon. I want to have a final auction there within the next two weeks, only leaving the matter of personal stuff to be dealt with. I wrote to Glenn about this asking for authority to be somewhat drastic in sorting out and disposition of this so-called "personal effects".

I met Professor Curtis at a Board of Trade Luncheon for a few minutes and at that time at least he had not located a residence. We are on the look out for something for Mr. Read, but it will likely be most satisfactory for him to locate something when he arrives. I am sure it will be possible to find a nice room by personal contact and decision. Will you be taking over any particular work which he did?

I 'phoned your house about a week ago and spoke to Douglas and had a chat with Mrs. Wright this morning. She tells me that you have now found a room which you think will be fairly satisfactory and I am glad to know this.

I presume that after a month or so you will be in a better position to make a decision as to your plans in regard to the family here. It will not be very agreeable to be living alone for any length of time.

The MacLeans Magazine carried the story in regard to Lindy the Elephant and last night's Province also had a somewhat similar article by Torchy Anderson. Glenn told me the story quite a long time ago and it sounds as if these stories may have emanated from him. Our worry does not concern elephants and our problems may not be as gigantic as the general work at Ottawa, but you know we have some worries and we hope we will not die and be cut up before we are finally through.

The staff wish to be remembered to you, as you know we do wish you every success and shall be glad to have a line from you at any time it is convenient.

Kind regards to yourself and Glenn.

Yours sincerely,

FGS/PMH