



NEWS

FROM **WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier Papers Purchased

By University Named for Laurier

Waterloo Lutheran University, which officially becomes Wilfrid Laurier University November 1, has acquired 24 letters written by Sir Wilfrid Laurier between January of 1869 and September of 1890.

Erich Schultz, university librarian and archivist, purchased the letters for \$2,400 at an auction conducted this week in Montreal.

He said the letters, all but one in French, were written to a Quebec journalist and provide valuable insight into Laurier's political views and activities in the years before 1890. Laurier became prime minister in 1896.

The journalist to whom the letters were sent, Ulric Barthe, wrote a book about Laurier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the Platform, and corresponded with the great French Canadian prime minister to gather background material for his researches. Barthe died in 1923.

Wilfrid Laurier University hopes to acquire more documents and letters concerning Laurier in order to form a collection of research material about Canada's first French-speaking prime minister.

The letters will become a part of the archives of the university and will be available to students and others for research into the earlier days of Prime Minister Laurier.