080061

Ottuwa, Feb. 12, 1925.

J.H. Mendels, Ese... Perth, Ont.

Dear Sir:

The Prime Minister in addressing Parliament on the Speech from the Throne intimated that in his spinion the tariff reductions of last session had no detrimental effect upon Canadian industry.

As regards the fertilizer industry it is difficult for me to credit this statement, especially as trade returns show an importation of 128,962,028 pounds of fertilizer for the 8 month period ending November 30, 1924, an increase of over 50% as against the importations for the same period of the previous year.

I would be greatly obliged if you would favour me with your views as to the effect which last session's tariff reductions have had upon the fertilizer industry; this information would not only be valuable to me now but would likewise be of great assistance when the chances of political warfare place upon those now sitting on the left of the Speaker the responsibility for drafting the fiscal

