

32 Balsam Ave., Toronto, March 27, 1932.
Howard 8652.

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The Right Honorable Arthur Meighan,
Senate Chambers,
OTTAWA, Ont.

Dear Mr. Meighan:-

It is with feeling of very great hesitancy that I presume to seek your generous intervention in a matter of vital and urgent import to my family and myself at the present time. Coming to Western Canada in June 1906, I joined the Engineering Department, G.T.P. residing at Portage La Prairie, Manitoba and being a member of the late Cannon McMurrans' Anglican Congregation up to April 1909, and counting amongst my intimate friends the late Captain Shepherd - Mr. Tom Sissons - Mr. Toby Saxsmith - Mr. Fred Newman - Mr. E.A. Such, and many others of considerable note in and around Portage in those days. Born and raised of Imperial Irish Tory stock, I was transferred to Winnipeg 1909, and immediately identified myself with the Liberal Conservative party in Central Winnipeg, canvassing against the late J.H. Ashdown in the reciprocity contest of 1911, and joyfully participating in a political victory, which actually cost me the loss of the only real and worthwhile friend I ever had in this country.

The year 1912 found me in charge of Transcona Material Yard (C.G.R.) and at a time when party organization was at a very low ebb in Springfield constituency and up to April 1923 when I left the West I was always an active officer and organizer for Springfield Conservative executive, especially would I mention my efforts in 1922 to elect A.D. Sutherland in opposition to Tom Malloy in Springfield. The facts contained in the above, from a brief sketch of my political life in the West are well-known to the present sitting member for Winnipeg South, to whom all we younger members of the Liberal Conservative party looked on as our leader and chief?? Having been for the last 8½ years employed with the General Motors at Detroit, and as it were separated (pro tem) from party affiliation of any kind, it is not to be wondered at that newly found and influential party friends in Toronto should (while anxious and willing to help) be somewhat skeptical of me or anyone after an absence of this duration, and while no doubt has been cast upon any of my statements, I am given to understand that corroboration by someone of considerable political standing is desirable. Two requests along these lines to the present sitting member of Winnipeg South have not elicited even the courtesy of a reply, and to one who in all these years has never asked for, or received the smallest party favor, this conduct is doubly incomprehensible. May I venture to hope that I might be able without presumption to enlist your favorable intervention on my behalf by letter, to either - The Honorable Charles McCrea or His Grace the Right Reverend Neil McNeil, Archbishop of Toronto, the latter gentleman knowing me personally. Permit me in conclusion once more to offer my profound apologies for thus troubling you, which alone is warranted by the stress of very difficult times.

With kind personal regards to yourself, I am
Very sincerely yours,

E.R. Sampson

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 5 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 184)

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