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House of Commons Canada

PERSONAL

205 Birks Bldg., Saskatoon, Sask. Dec. 30th, 1941

M. A. MacPherson, K. C. c/o Messrs. MacPherson, Milliken, Leslie & Tyerman Barristers, Solicitors, Westman Chambers, Regina, Sask.

Dear Mr. MacPherson,

With reference to your letter of the 23rd instant it so happens that I inspected a company of the second battalion the other evening with a number of the local citizens. We were invited down to see the type of training they did and the equipment they had. The purpose of the invitation was to drive home to us the necessity for the erection of an armouries if the training was to be done properly. In Saskatoon the men who train in our armoury are certainly under a disadvantage as the place is entirely inadequate.

We were asked to give public statements in connection with the visit and the effect of what I said was that a proper armouries was required for the purpose of training not only Reserve but Active Army and I was of the opinion that the use of a type of building such as they have was not conducive

to arousing enthusiasm in recruiting for the army.

The local unit, of course had everything in good order for the inspection, and although I know very little about the army they really had more on hand in the way of equipment than I had thought was made available to them. For example they had four Vickers Machine Guns, a Lewis gun and a Bren gun, web equipment, three different types of rifle, a

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