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The Rt. Honourable Arthur Meighen. -3-

particular industry.

The news to-day of Mr. Boivin's death is to me a little disturbing. Sorry, as we all are to see so outstanding and brilliant a public man cut off in the prime of public life, I am also sorry because it will, I think dampen somewhat the effectiveness of the Customs Probe campaign, as the public usually deprecate critical references to men or the actions of men, who have passed from this life.

The fiasco, at Quebec in connection with the "Margaret" investigation, was very unfortunate. I was in Toronto when the news was given out to the public and comments were expressed by our friends because of Mr. Calder's insistence for the production of the evidence to justify the declaration. The bringing of the "Margaret" from some point in the Lower St. Lawrence or gulf to Quebec in order to have the 1923 log produced before the Court, the sending of the Government's own counsel to Quebec to conduct the case, and then to find that all the time the log book had been at Ottawa in the custody of that same counsel and not on the boat at all, provoked considerable criticism.

I had the opportunity of sitting in with Sir Henry Drayton, Mr. Sparks and Mr. O'Connor this morning when this very matter was discussed, when I took over your telegram to Miss Demison for Sir Henry's information. The details, as revealed, make it abundantly clear that Mr. Doucet's information was in order except as to the "Margaret" carrying questionable guests. As the investigation proceeds at a later date, it will, I think, be abundantly proven that substantial quantities of liquor were on board. The facts are correct as reported and recorded in the log, that the then Minister of Customs boarded the boat at Three Rivers with guests, who, however, happened to be members of his own family and personal friends; and that the Minister of Justice did board the boat at Quebec, but simply to pay a friendly call on the Minister of Customs and his party, and that the Minister of Customs did not sail from Quebec on the "Margaret" but that he sailed on the "Lady Grey" from Quebec to Pictou,

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