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J. M. Macdonnell, Esq.,
National Trust Company,
Toronto, Ontario.

My dear Jim,

Well, the big meeting has been held, with the Prime Minister as principal guest. I suppose some 60 or 65 men, with Mr. Purvis as host, assembled in the Mount Royal Club, enjoyed an excellent dinner, listened for more than an hour to the P.M. gave him three cheers and sang "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow", broke up at a reasonable hour, and have been wondering ever since what it was we heard. You will remember what John Daffoe said, that any government, call it what you will, with Bennett in it would be a Bennett Government. This was a Bennett dinner.

I am told that John W. Ross, President of the Chamber of Commerce, was prepared to make a vote of thanks and intended to say something about extravagance of government; but he was quietly eased out, and Mr. Beaudry Leman proposed the vote, in a very colorless way.

Mr. Bennett spoke to us in a very frank and friendly way, traversing those things which have been done and left undone since he found himself sworn in as Prime Minister in September, 1930. He laid great stress upon what he had done to protect industry, and offered no excuse for the extraordinarily high tariff - the highest in our experience. He dwelt on the increased number of industries, on the fact that Canada had regained her position as fifth trading nation in the world, told us of the bankrupt condition of the four Western provinces, and what it meant to keep Canada's credit good. There were other things which he said he had never yet disclosed, and of these of course I can make no mention. I am told on good authority he intended to say something far different, that he was anxious to come to Montreal and tell the men in Montreal just how they had failed to give him that support and help which was his due. By a prominent Montrealer and close friend of his, he was dissuaded from indulging in any scolding. I am sure he was wise in that.