

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

Mémorandum du secrétaire, Gouverneur général
Memorandum by Secretary, Governor General

Ottawa, January 18, 1926

The General Election took place on the 29th October and the result was as follows:

Conservatives	117
Liberals	100
Progressives	23
Labour	2
Independent	1
Doubtful	1
[Total]	245 [sic]

The Prime Minister had several interviews with the Governor General between the 30th October and the 4th November.

At these interviews the situation was thoroughly discussed in all its bearings. The result of the first interview was that the Prime Minister went away saying he would resign—though he had not come up to Government House to hand in his resignation—but had accepted the private and confidential view expressed by the Governor General that that was his proper course.

The next day he came up again to see His Excellency and announced that he had changed his mind and now thought it was his duty and his right to stay on as Prime Minister and meet the House of Commons.

His Excellency again tried to persuade him to take the dignified course of resigning—as, as His Excellency pointed out, the Prime Minister had *lost* 17 seats, while the Leader of the Opposition had *gained* 67, but told him that there was no constitutional reason against his continuing in Office.

Several more interviews took place but the Prime Minister did not again change his mind. The only course then open to the Governor General was:

- (1) To insist on the Prime Minister calling the House of Commons to meet at the earliest possible moment.
- (2) To make the Prime Minister understand that no political appointments (Senators, Judges, etc.) could be made in the interim—and that no contracts should be made for any new public works.

His Excellency also gave the Prime Minister to understand that he would not grant him another dissolution.

The point of view that His Excellency endeavoured to keep uppermost in his mind was to maintain a feeling of friendship and confidence between Prime Minister and Governor General, although they were absolutely