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Ottawa, June 21, 1920

Dr. D. P. McPhail,
Highgate, Ontario.

My dear Sir:

It is kind of you indeed, to renew so cordially the invitation extended to me to visit Highgate on August the 4th, and give an address on the occasion of the Old Boys and Girls Reunion.

It is true that the time of my visit to the West has been postponed until September. This postponement has been arranged, however, in order that I may be free to address a series of political meetings in other provinces during the summer months. With the limited time at my disposal, I doubt if it will be possible for me to make any speaking engagements other than those of a political nature during that time. I should like to be in a position to make an exception in the case of Highgate, but you will realize that were I to do so, I should be obliged to make similar exceptions in the case of many other invitations which I have received and which I have been obliged to decline.

Much, therefore, as I should like to accept the invitation you have so kindly extended, I feel I cannot very well do so without giving the same consideration in other directions. I regret that, on this account, I cannot send an acceptance; but I am sure you will appreciate the circumstances in which I am placed and which seem to admit of no alternative.

Yours sincerely,

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Volume 55

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