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Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario,
July 24th 1940
P.O. Box 273

The Right Honourable,
Arthur Meighan, K.C. P.C.
Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Meighan:

I am following with intense concern your, and the other members of government both in the House and Senate concerning the whole atmosphere of this King administration of the war effort. I am particularly concerned with the present matter of the registration of the coming matter preceding actual conscription.

Being of stock in Canada of which I am not ashamed, my esteemed late grandfather, long, in fact life long close friend and in counsel of the late Sir John a Macdonald, and of United Empire origin myself; on both sides of my family, I feel I have a stake in the issues, possibly of more concern than many others of a voting class to-day. My son is at the front in England, with his unit, to do his best to keep our flag aloft. I could say innumerable things, on this and other subjects but you know most of them yourself already. What I wish is that I be appointed to one or other of the staffs who will have a classification or checking over of the Registration papers. I have already at the Hon. N.J.M. Lockhart's suggestion written to Mr. Fox, here in Niagara, and have received his reply. I am willing to do my bit in even a voluntary capacity if that is the order of the day; but if there are to be paid, some for their services, then I feel that with my long continued action for British continuance of our nationality, and other things, I might possibly through your capacity, be placed in some more important office for this purpose. It is in such strain I write you now.

I am well known by the Hon. Member for Lincoln, and also to the Hon. Gordon Graydon Member for Beel, who will I know be only too glad to confirm my remarks in this brief note to you.

I am terribly worried at the situation at Ottawa. I fear Mr. King is deliberately evading the proper activities to get our men into shape and into an army; because he still hopes to force Canada into that orbit of Yankee influences which has been his life's work all through his political career. I know this is a fact, not a fancy. I have followed him over a long period, and frankly, if you and the small group we have now at command do not force something explicit from him in action pretty soon, the whole fabric of Canadian nationality will be lost. Speaking to several soldiers in camp here within the past few days, I am amazed at the resentment they hold to the government for lack of clothing, and all manner of necessary things at this time. Some men here in camp at Niagara are drilling in mid-winter uniforms and are nearly dead with the heat. Some in makeshift stuffs and with an assortment of arms, that a staff of a cabled army would laugh at.

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