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MacPHERSON, MILLIKEN, LESLIE & TYERMAN

Westman Chambers, Regina, Sask.

November 12, 1940.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Right Honourable Arthur Meighen,
320 Bay Street,
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Meighens

I had written you before in connection with the War Services Department and I think pointed out that no one had been appointed with any tradition of service during the last war. My information is that this has been corrected.

I understand they have appointed an Assistant to Dr. Stapleford and that Assistant is one, Emmett F. Collins. Collins served for a short time in the Princess Pats in the last War, returning to Saskatchewan was admitted to the Bar and practiced law here. He is a happy-go-lucky Irish-Canadian and was for years in trouble with the Benchers, was once struck off the rolls in connection with trust funds, managed to get back on again, but was ultimately struck off completely. In addition to this he was tried in the King's Bench Court here about two years ago for forgery and uttering in connection with a series of medical prescriptions for drugs - morphine as I recollect it. He had become a drug addict. At the preliminary he was represented by P. M. Anderson, now Judge Anderson and another lawyer, but the Sunday before the trial pleaded with me to appear for him. I told him he hadn't a chance and I did not want anything to do with it but finally, on the pleading particularly of his wife, who seemed very decent, I appeared on the definite understand that he would not go into the box. He was found guilty, with a strong recommendation for mercy and finally got off with six months in jail, which he served. He left here after getting out of jail and went to the States some place, wandered back to Montreal and I understand had a job with the Broffman's for a while. It is not generally known out here that he has been appointed. My informant is D. J. Thom, K. C., who although a very strong Liberal, was furious about the whole business. Apparently he had some letter from Stapleford's office and it was signed by Collins.

Gardiner is certainly taking care of Saskatchewan in his appointments, with Davis, Stapleford, Christie and now last, but by no means least, Collins.

It might be well to check and find out just what his position is on the War Services Board. It is another affront really to ex-service men of this Province.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) M. G. Macpherson

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