

Copy for - Mr. Meighen

077320

July 17, 1924.

Mr. R. P. Sparks,
President, Canadian Association of Garment Manufacturers,
209 Hope Bldg., 63 Sparks St.,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Sparks:-

Your letter of the 16th was read by me with a good deal of interest. It is very nice of you to think that I am the right man to speak for the manufacturers at the Grain Growers' Convention in November, which I presume will be held in Winnipeg, and also to be told that several manufacturers whom you spoke to in Montreal agree with you. I think, however, that there are manufacturers in Canada who would have a greater influence than I, if it were possible to exert any influence upon these men.

I cannot get away from the idea that they owe their position in Parliament to the fact that they rail against the manufacturers in the East and that it would be against their personal interests to see two sides to a question.

It would be a big job to reach the rank and file - almost an impossible one, unless quite a number of manufacturers agreed to do their share and take a week or two this year of their own time and cover the whole of the West. Let us take it for granted that a manufacturer of some ability presents the case of the East, did attend the Convention and speak logically and convincingly. Would those who were at the Convention, that is the leaders, repeat his story? I do not think they would.

I will discuss the matter with fellow manufacturers whenever I have the opportunity and will be glad to meet you sometime soon and learn from your own lips what Mr. Forke and Mr. Johnston had to say. In the meantime I will hold the matter under consideration and if someone else's name, better qualified, suggests itself to your mind do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours very truly,

President.

JRS/EC

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