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Ottawa, November 29th, 1924.

My dear Mr. Ballantyne:

I duly received your letter of the 18th. I was in hopes of seeing you yesterday, but I spent the day until four o'clock, when I left, with the French Canadian Conservatives altogether at the funeral and the Cartier-Macdonald Club ^{and} in Mr. Dupuis's store.

I hardly know what to say as to the decision you have come to regarding contesting the seat at the next contest. Personally I feel very keenly disappointed. There is nothing that I long for more than the triumph of the man who stood with the ^{late} Government, made great sacrifices and went down to defeat. At the same time I have some realization of what it would mean to you to contest the seat again and also ~~what~~ the very natural attitude of Mrs. Ballantyne and your family. One thing you can be sure of, your public record is creditable from beginning to end. It is creditable in the big difficult things which you got done and in the thoroughness, efficiency and scrupulous ^{honesty} interest with which all your work was conducted. This I have stated on many platforms in your absence, and this will be the judgment of the people of this country when time enough has

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