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YOUR FILE NO.

OUR NO.

Sept 16th, 1926.

The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen,
House of Commons,
Ottawa. Ont.

Dear Arthur:-

The election results were a great disappointment, particularly in Manitoba where I had every confidence we would hold our own, if not make a gain. I have been wondering during the last two days what we could have done differently, to have won out here. Questions of a more local type, such as the Crows Nest Rates and the Hudsons Bay Railway, bulked larger in the public mind in Western Canada than the steals in the Customs Department, which the public seemed to condone.

The whole situation amazes me. It seems inconceivable that the public do not appreciate the enormity of the Customs scandal.

There is one thing certain, and about it I wrote you immediately after the October election, that the only course open to the Conservative Party to gain a foothold in Western Canada is the establishment of a morning newspaper that will circulate throughout the entire three Provinces, or, in the alternative, an editorial board which will systematically supply the country newspapers with information along the lines of Conservative propaganda.

I am quite satisfied that one newspaper in Western Canada would have been more effective than three newspapers in Quebec, and I do not see any use, for the time being, in catering to the extent that we have catered, to the Quebec element. Evidently they are dominated by the Church and every gesture of the

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