

052483

135

Ottawa, June 30, 1925.

Dear Sir:

I duly received your telegram of the 25th June.

It would seem to me from your message that inaccurate reports of the stand I took have reached the West, consequently I am enclosing the Hansard giving the debate which took place on June 26th respecting the Senate's attitude on the Home Bank legislation. The Government asked the House to vote on these resolutions each involving a constitutional claim on behalf of the House of Commons. With three of them I could not agree and do not think anyone who understands the constitutional position could have agreed with them. As a matter of fact I do not think the Government put them up with any other idea than to make sure the Senate would disagree.

Personally, however, I have always favoured meeting favourably the claims of the depositors, but only on the basis of relief. I have never felt that there was either legal or moral responsibility justifying payment on the basis of compensation. Nor do I think that there were one half dozen in the House of Commons who did think that there were any circumstances giving rise to a claim either of law or of equity. It was entirely a matter of compassion.

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 3 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 91)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA