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December 31,
1928

The Right Honourable Arthur Meighan,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear *Mr. Meighan*

I was telling you when I met you here on your recent visit that it was my misfortune never to be able to see you in Toronto. As a matter of fact I do not go to Toronto more than two or three times each session. I am not a frequent visitor, although I pass beyond it to visit elsewhere. I think on every occasion when I have been in the City I have called at your office and found you either out or engaged. So much is preliminary.

I would not bother you now in a matter of ordinary politics, but I have been looking a little recently, and not for the first time, into the question of natural resources of the Prairie Provinces. During the time Mr. Haultain was in power I had occasion to know his views very thoroughly, and to go into the question to some extent. He was able, I think, to prove from declarations in Parliament that the Provinces established should have all the rights of the other Provinces, and that the natural resources should go to them. Apart from this aspect altogether there is a new line of thought.

Mr. Bram Thompson, of Regina, whom perhaps you have met, has given a great deal of consideration to this question at various times. He has written, I believe, two pamphlets, only one of which I have seen, namely the one published in January of this year. I believe that the local Government of Regina consulted, and he assisted it in collecting material for the Province, although I do not ~~know~~ ^{recall} that that is published. I had the chance a year ago of discussing the matter with him. You are a Constitutional authority and as a Westerner, the subject is of course always interesting to you. If you have read Mr. Thompson's pamphlets then of course there is nothing new to you in this letter.

Thompson goes back to the dealings between Federal and the English Government, and to Confederation, to the surrender of the Hudson Bay Charter and to the alleged purchase by the Dominion for a million and a half of the rights of the Hudson Bay Company, save

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