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January 3, 1924.

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, O N T.

Dear Mr. Meighen:-

I am much obliged for your letter from Victoria Hotel and also from Ottawa in regard to arrangements for the banquet.

It will be the biggest affair politically ever pulled off in this part of the country and one of the biggest held in Canada for a long time. We expect to have from a thousand to twelve hundred sit down to tables. Every county in Western Ontario will be well represented. Brantford and Windsor are even sending special cars. If the press for seats keeps on we may have to provide a second banquet to look after all our guests. We are making special arrangements to look after the French Canadian Conservatives and members of the Cartier-McDonald Club and sent the invitations in French. We are also putting Monty on the program.

I hope there are not too many speakers and yet it is hard to pass everyone up. The present plan is to have the first speech from Guthrie, one from Monty, a few words from Hon. Howard Ferguson and then your own speech. If you have any suggestions, let me know.

Frank White is planning to entertain you and I imagine will write you himself.

In regard to the Women's Canadian Club, it is too bad that there has been a mix-up over it. If it is not too much of a burden to yourself, I think now that you had better accept their invitation as they have sent out their notices. It will not hurt the banquet at night. The women say they are quite willing to accept just a twenty minutes' talk. In fact, that is all they are looking for. The executive of the Women's Canadian Club are planning a little luncheon at noon for Mrs. Meighen, but you can assure her that I told them she would not accept if she had to make a speech. It is to be just a little informal luncheon without any speech making.

The Kiwanis Club meets on Friday at noon and I have arranged to have Mr. Guthrie as our speaker. It might be wise

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