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Regina, September 8th, 1919.

Ummartin

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, House of Commons, Ottawa, Canada.

My Dear King: -

I have your letter of the 5th instant with respect to the by-election in Assiniboia and have carefully noted contents.

The whole situation in this Province with respect to the Grain Grower candidates is of such a serious character that we must proceed very slowly. If we proceed in such a way as to get the opposition of the Grain Growers Organization to my mind we will make a very serious mistake. It is true that a number of our strong Liberal friends in various portions of the Province insist upon this course being pursued but the majority of the men whom I consult feel that it would be far better ultimately to support the Grain Grower candidate in some of the constituencies rather than get the Liberals in active opposition to the Grain Growers. As a matter of fact, the main thing in Assiniboia is to see that someone is elected who is opposed to the present Government - whether he calls himself a Grain Grower or a Liberal makes very little difference.

There is, however, a little convention called in Assiniboia on the 16th of this month. Just what action will be taken I cannot say but I am not sure that it has been wise even to have the convention. However, Mr. Dunning, Provincial Treasurer, will be in Ottawa to attend the Industrial Conference and he has promised to see you so you might be on the look-out for him. He will be able to give you a much better account of the situation by personal conversation than I can do by writing.

Yours faithfully,

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

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