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Peking, March 11, 1909.

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Mackenzie King has handed me your letter to him of the 8th inst., with directions to reply to the same and explain the reason why no application was made to your office for the tickets which you reserved for Mr. King on the train leaving Hankow on the 8th inst. As private secretary to Mr. King I made the arrangements.

I sent a telegram from the Palace Hotel in Shanghai addressed Wagons-Lits, Hankow, as advised by the hotel management, requesting simply that two berths be reserved for Mr. King. I was not informed and did not know that the business of the Wagon-Lite Company was managed in Hankow by your agency, but supposed that the Wagon-Lits was connected with or would have their office at the railway company. On reaching Hankow I called at the railway office and asked if berths had been reserved, and was informed that they had been and was shown the plan with Mr. King's name down for two berths. I stated that I wished to pay for the tickets, and the clerk in charge made out two tickets and I

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