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Ottawa, August 17, 1925.

Dear Mr. Rothery:

Dr. J.T.M. Anderson has sent me a copy of your letter of July 3rd and asked me to answer you direct in so far as your enquiry regarding the responsibility of the Senate for killing the branch line into your district is concerned. The facts are as follows:

~~The Senate~~ The St. Paul De Metis Branch Line bill was not defeated in the Senate at all but was approved by both houses of Parliament in the session of 1924, that is, over a year ago. It received its third and last reading in the Senate without any amendment whatever on July 1, 1924. If construction ~~has not~~ been proceeded with it is the fault either of the Government or of the National Railway board which the Government appointed and it is certainly not the fault of Parliament. The Government brought down a blanket bill during the last week of the session asking for a blank cheque to build these lines as and when it pleased which the Senate very properly refused. In 1924 the Government brought down a bill with an estimate of the cost of each line proposed of which the St. Paul De Metis was one, and it was approved without delay by the Senate. Responsibility for this line not being authorized in 1923 rests solely with the

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