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Ottawa, Dec. 4, 1925.

Arthur R. Ford, Esq.,
London, Ont.

Dear Arthur:

I duly received your letter of Dec. 2nd. I am sorry but it would be utterly out of the question to be present on January 7th, or any date in that neighborhood. I will be exceedingly busy then and my presence here will be absolutely essential.

It will also be difficult for Mr. Stevens or other of our leading men to undertake to be present then. I would suggest though if you could hold your gathering about the 4th January and would write Mr. Stevens he would probably be willing to attend. He certainly would try to do so and would be there if possible. I have asked each of our oldest members to be present a day or so in advance of the opening of the House so that we may consult as to the handling of our affairs.

I could not go between Christmas and New Year's because I have to go West returning about Christmas, and will be simply swamped with work between my return and the opening. Mrs. Meighen and I are going West to do something in appreciation of the work of our

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