

C110098

Comment contained in correspondence received re
(East Edmonton) by-election, and political
situation in Alberta:

Letter from R. C. Marshall, March 24, 1938:

Influx from country to city of people seeking relief or dividends, and alignment of Communists and C. C.F. with Social Credit two serious factors in contributing to his defeat.

Tory unity propaganda sought to make Mr. Gardiner an issue in the campaign, but Mr. Marshall feels the total of his vote ruled out this contention. While he "holds no brief" for Mr. Gardiner, he feels it was his duty, as well as his right, to take an active part.

Mr. Marshall concludes: "Things may develop that so-called unity is the solution of our political troubles in this province, but nothing in this by-election can be interpreted as such".

Letter addressed to Mr. Gardiner by Mr. Gray, March 28, 1938:

Liberals as well as Conservatives divided into two camps - one more consolidated than ever, and the other leaning heavily towards unity. Mr. Gray thinks the Liberals will, in time, become more united among themselves.

Federal government "must display greater activity with respect to some of its pre-election promises, particularly those of affairs of the West, such as tariffs and the much discussed monetary reform".

Letters from Mr. Irving B. Howatt, Edmonton, March 23rd and April 4th:

Mr. Gardiner has greatly damaged party's interests in province - his presence in East

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 152, pages C109935-C110231)

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