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Private

December 17th, 1924

Dear Sir Arthur,

I was very glad indeed to receive your letter of the 12th. Mr Greenfield has left for the west. We are to exchange views in reference to colonization, or rather on the scheme that is to be put forward, and I hope before long to have it in shape.

Meanwhile I am taking the liberty to send you some material that I prepared last June and intended for the Young men of the country. It has never satisfied me and while I have circulated it to a limited extent, I have not made up my mind as to whether I should put it in pamphlet form and give it a greater circulation, more or less privately.

In it you will find some ideas that I put forward when we were together in Montreal a few days ago. My authority for the comparison of developed wealth in Canada and the United States I also enclose, and being statement I drew from Ottawa and Washington, in which you will observe that the wealth of our three prairie provinces is one-fortieth of the total wealth of the United States.

I also stated the other day that I went into the west in 1878, or forty-six years ago; that one million dollars I believed would have paid for everything from the Red River to the Rocky Mountains, so that the wonderful progress that has been made has all taken place in the comparatively short period of forty-six years. I would appreciate your returning these enclosures. The material for the Young Men is my last copy. It might be desirable to have it edited and distributed in pamphlet form.

I would like to have had more time when in Montreal to develop the subject of Canadian trade. The two great markets of the world are those of the United Kingdom and the United States, because the wealth of the world is largely centred in both countries. I am told that our neighbours produce everything that we produce, but that is not altogether correct because we have the hard wheat which they do not grow. Admitting that it is correct, if Canada is to be kept out of their markets on that account, it will keep every other country of the world out also.