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Ottawa, May 5, 1908.

My dear Dr. Hare:

Your letter of January 6 was received at the Department of Labour while I was in England, and held for my return. I have just reached Ottawa after an absence of a month or two, and am leaving before the end of the week for British Columbia, so will have little time, I fear, to take up the matter at present, to which attention is directed in your letters to Mr. Girard, M.P., which I am returning herewith, as requested.

Enc--

As to the question of cable connection, I say, without any desire to postpone an enquiry, that the present would be a most inopportune time to bring up the subject. You have probably noticed that the whole business of the Department of Marine and Fisheries is being investigated, and everyone concerned with that Department is now engrossed in the investigation which is likely to last for some months, that I doubt if the bringing in of a new matter to their attention just now might not raise a prejudice against it for the future. It looks, too, as though we were on the verge of a general election, and that is always a bad time to bring up a matter in which votes are not a material consideration. I have taken a copy of the letters which I am returning, and if I have a chance before

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

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