

March 16, 1933.

Lt. Colonel George Drew, D.S.O.,
Parliament Buildings,
~~Ottawa.~~ Toronto.

My dear Colonel,

Yesterday I received your telegram reading as follows,

"Would be deeply indebted if you could address Empire Club Thursday March twenty third on lines recent Montreal speech favorably commented on by our papers Club has grown greatly and you would teach whole province over radio your message is of vital importance and believe this would be great public service in stirring people to reality of crisis and necessity for action would of course pay expense please wire collect."

to which I replied as follows:-

"Impossible for me to address Empire Club on date you mention. Writing."

There are several reasons why I cannot accept the invitation. I have another engagement for the 23rd and in the second place I promised Hamilton that if I spoke again on the lines of my speech to the Ottawa graduates I would go there. Windsor has also asked me to speak on this matter, but I have refused both of these other invitations.

It so happens that my work at the University is particularly heavy at this time of the year and leaves me no time for outside engagements. I cannot under the circumstances assume any more obligations than I have already undertaken.

I hear that the Liberals are under the impression that Bennett urged me to make my National Government speech, and for that reason and for the additional reason that they think they have Mr. Bennett "on the run", the party decided