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PERSONAL

January 3rd, 1940.

M. E. Nichols, Esq.,
The Vancouver Daily Province,
Victory Square,
Vancouver, B. C.

My dear Eddie:

I read the editorial in last evening's Province entitled, "It is not right to have a general election". The reason given appears to be, "We need the utmost service and endeavor of our elected representativestoward the conduct of the war".

It may be bad tactics from a political point of view to have an election this year but I cannot agree that we will secure satisfactory service and endeavor from the present Parliament toward the conduct of the war. The Government has failed utterly in its every move and no demand has been forthcoming from the Liberal rank and file for a more active prosecution of the war. The opposition parties have diametrically opposed views regarding the conduct of the war and are therefore quite ineffective in the matter of constructive criticism.

Let me give you a few reasons from a military point of view why the perpetuation of the present Government and Parliament can result only in humiliation to every decent-thinking Canadian:

(1) When the threat of war first appeared on the horizon and England, as the senior partner in the Empire, opened negotiations with our present enemies in an endeavor to preserve peace, she made no decisions until she informed and consulted each Dominion. Mr. King as Canada's Prime Minister received the information but refused to be consulted. His conduct and that of his Government was not only discourteous but was a menace to Empire unity and no doubt led to Germany's belief that Canada would not support Great Britain in the event of war.

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