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January 9, 1946

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen
320 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dear Arthur:

We were deeply distressed to learn of your attack of the "flu", but are happy to know that you have recovered. There is a severe epidemic here in New York. So far I have managed to escape any serious attack, although I have had a few wheezy moments.

I want to thank you immensely for that extraordinary book, "ONE WHO SURVIVED," by Barmine. Mrs. Hunt and I have been more impressed by it than by any other book on Russia. It is so obviously honest and matter-of-fact that it should convince any fairminded man of the horrors of the Communist regime in Russia. It should be required reading for all of our college professors and also for those pseudo self-styled "liberals" who would be willing to deny the evidence of their five senses in order to assume a pose. We must do our best to live in peace with Russia, but we shall never enjoy an enduring peace if we deceive ourselves as to the nature and the consequences of Communist dictatorship, and if we fail to adopt a firm consistent policy in all our dealings with Russia. We have already paid a ghastly price for appeasement of one totalitarian state. If, despite all the tragedies of the past six years, we again pursue a policy of appeasement what is left of our civilization will be extinguished forever.

I shall keep the book for myself, not only because it came from you, but because it should be a permanent addition to my library; but I shall lend it and I shall buy other copies of it to give to some of my friends, especially those who are in need of it.

Mrs. Hunt and I do wish that you and Mrs. Meighen lived nearer to us, but since that is not possible we look forward to your visits here and to the possibility that we may visit Toronto in the not too distant future.

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 6 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 229)

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