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Sarnia, Ont., Jan. 26th, 1934.

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Parliament Buildings,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Meighen:

Business conditions have been such that during the last four years our reserves have been reduced to such an extent that we may have to mortgage our property here in order to secure working funds to carry on. If we can secure a reasonable amount of business, this will only be temporary, but it is necessary for the building trade to pick up in order to save many of the companies here in Canada.

The writer understands that the Provincial Hydro building is liable to go ahead. When this was put for tenders some time ago the plans were changed and it was turned into a reinforced concrete building, therefore shutting out practically all of the steel companies from participating in any way in this construction work. The steel industry has several times the amount of capital invested in Canada that the cement industry has and employs many more people. Paid propaganda leads the public to believe that concrete produces more work than steel buildings do. The public does not see the work that is carried on in our plant, in the steel mills, and one hundred and one other plants, and the employees of these plants are entitled to just as much consideration as the ordinary labour that is used on reinforced concrete buildings. I do not believe I am far wrong in saying that the steel industry uses ten to twenty times as much electric energy as the cement industry does and for that reason alone I believe that they should receive full consideration for any buildings built for the Hydro.

This question is vital with us inasmuch as I know that Massillon Floor Joist Construction will give equally as good a floor construction at a much less cost than is possible to build with any other floor construction. I believe it is unnecessary

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 5 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 205)

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