

Sir Arthur Currie.

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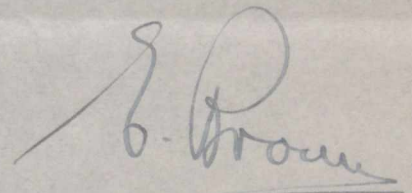
It is possible that Sir Alexander Gibb has been called in to report on work with which the above-mentioned engineers have been directly connected, and while I know nothing of the reasons which governed his selection, it is possible that the desire to obtain an impartial report may not have been entirely absent from the mind of Mr. Bennett.

Messrs. Coverdale and Colpitts of New York have been prominently identified with inquiries into the operation of large public utilities during recent years and have dealt with the rehabilitation of railroads and many other industrial schemes of great magnitude. I believe that this firm would be capable of analysing the data concerning the operation of our harbours. Mr. Colpitts, one of the members of this firm, is a graduate of our Faculty.

I need not mention more names, but I think you will gather that in my opinion we have engineers of great ability in connection with harbour work, both from the point of view of design, construction and general economics. Whether any of these engineers, either singly or in combination, might have been engaged instead of Sir Alexander Gibb remains an open question. I cannot express an opinion because I do not know the terms of reference. It is obvious that some of these men might be considered as interested parties.

I am returning Mr. McIntyre's letter
herewith.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Brown', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Dean.