

Ottawa, February 24, 1937

Arthur Beauchesne, Esq., C.M.G., K.C.,
Clerk of the House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Beauchesne:

Re - Representation Coronation Ceremonies,
Empire Parliamentary Association.

I have before me your communication of to-day in which, on behalf of the Canadian Branch of the British Parliamentary Association, you set forth a tentative list of names of Members of the House of Commons and the Senate, concerning whose suitability, as delegates from the Canadian Parliament to the Coronation Ceremonies at London, you ask my opinion as Honorary President of the Association.

The delegates from the Senate are, Honourable A. C. Hardy, and Honourable Louis Cote. I should think each of these gentlemen was eminently suitable as a delegate. With respect to the delegates from the Commons, I notice that the list embraces five members by name, and suggests the addition of a Minister. As the Ministers who will be attending the Imperial Conference will also be in London at the time of the Coronation, it would, I think, be inadvisable to add a Minister to the members of the parliamentary delegation.

I observe that the list you have tentatively put forward contains the name of only one member from the Opposition. It suggests four and a Minister from the Government side. My feeling is that there should be two persons chosen from among those who belong to the parties in Opposition. The Honourable H. A. Stewart, whom you suggest, would, I think, be an excellent choice as one person from the Opposition. I notice that you suggest from the Government side the Liberal Whip, Mr. Ross W. Gray. I think that choice would commend itself to members of the party generally, as it