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Ottawa, August 24, 1909.

Dear Mr. House:

The news of your appointment as Resident Commissioner of Taihoku, Korea, was indeed a surprise—much more so than the news of the marriage of your second daughter to Mr. S. Kodera. So far as your daughters are concerned, your difficulty, I can well understand, has been in choosing between suitors than in ought else concerning their future welfare.

As to the Resident Commissionership, I hope the appointment is to your liking. I did not have an opportunity of visiting Korea, but I judge from what I gathered while travelling in the East, that the lot of the people in that country, as well as much that concerns the future of Japan, will depend on the spirit in which Japanese in charge of Korean affairs will administer this great trust. I do not doubt, therefore, that your appointment is a most important one, as it is certainly one which affords very exceptional opportunities of service to your country and to large numbers of your fellow men. I wish you success in the work, as well as joy in the carrying of it on.

I am sorry that the papers I sent were not delivered to you. I have been able, fortunately,

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Volume 12