

077323
July 22, 1924.

Mr. R. P. Sparks,
President, Canadian Association of Garment Manufacturers,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Sparks:-

I have read carefully your letter of the 18th inst. which arrived yesterday.

Saturday last I was in Windsor and took occasion to chat over the matter under discussion with Mr. Campbell of the Ford Motor Co. Mr. Campbell doubted whether talking to these Western people would do any good or not and said if we decided to talk to them we should be very careful about what was said and who said it. He stated to me that on his invitation he had a number of the Progressive members at Ford City, entertained them and showed them thoroughly through their immense plant. Certainly here, if anywhere in Canada, they would have an opportunity of seeing the magnitude of industry, but his conclusion after he got through with them was they were more interested in their sessional indemnity than in acquiring knowledge of economics and that they would report to the West nothing which would endanger their seat.

You will remember that during the War representatives of Western farmers were conducted through the munition factories of Eastern Canada in order that they might see the value of maintaining an industrial system. On a number of occasions their representatives have been invited to annual meetings, dinners, etc. of the C.M.A. but it was always felt that the chief result was that these representatives received an opportunity to get publicity for their views on the tariff.

When the Tariff Commission toured Western Canada in the Fall of 1920 the Association went to a great deal of trouble and expense to place the views of the manufacturers fairly before the people of the Prairie Provinces. Thirty one manufacturers appeared before the Tariff Commission at various points. Of these, twenty eight represented plants in the Prairie Provinces and were thus able to make a local appeal for the maintenance of factories to build up the country. The arguments for

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 3 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 129)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA