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August 11, 1941.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Right Honourable Arthur Meighen,  
320 Bay Street,  
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Meighen:

I have your letter of the 7th. instant and note with interest what you have said about the Nova Scotia mines. Cape Breton was my home, so I know something of the Cape Breton miners. They are rough and ready fellows and while the personnel may have changed in the last twenty-five years, in those days there were few foreigners among them. Apart from native Cape Bretoners there were many Newfoundlanders, many Scotch, Welsh and English miners. I cannot believe that if the matter had been taken in hand in time, that there would be such disloyalty as is now being shown. The sooner Canada wakes up to the fact that it must deal with the Quebec situation, the better it is going to be and the sad part of it is that we may wake up entirely too late.

As to a Convention, I told Graydon when he was here that the Executive which purposed meeting early in the fall should set up machinery to call a Convention at the very earliest notice. I think the Parliamentary group have in mind a Convention in 1942. Meantime we are drifting hopelessly. I have hesitated advocating an early Convention personally, although I feel there should be one, as it might be suggested that I was interested in a Convention. Most frankly and honestly I shrink from the thought of a Convention. I am not blind to the fact that my ~~own~~ name is being used in connection with it and my every desire is to be left alone. It is not a case of wanting to be coaxed in the matter and yet I realize that the situation

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