

CARL RIORDON
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355 BEAVER HALL SQUARE

December 21, 1925.

Rt. Honorable Arthur Meighen,
Ottawa,
Ontario.

Dear Arthur,

I have your letter of December 13 and I have read it over carefully also the part of the Hamilton speech which you enclosed with it.

I ~~do~~ not find anything in it that I do not agree with. I think, however, that if in your speech you had pointed out the delay there would necessarily be between the initial steps of the Government would take and the departure of the troops from Canada, much of the uneasiness that seems to have resulted would not have occurred.

I doubt if anything of this sort will change the feeling in Quebec.

As far as I have heard it expressed privately by French Canadians it is not primarily against conscription but against the way in which recruiting was carried out in Quebec and the conditions under which the volunteers and conscripts had to serve.

I believe that if the policy had been adopted earlier of having French Canadian units, even if only companies, and of having recruiting offices for the French Canadians, who understood them, the bitterness against conscription and against the Conservative Party would be much less.

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