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November 2, 1923.

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Meighen:-

You will probably already have seen Sir Henry Drayton in regard to our meeting here yesterday. As he will tell you, it was a great success. There were delegates from every one of the 25 ridings in Western Ontario. Altogether there were between three and four hundred present. The meeting was very enthusiastic and they are going out with the idea of making a real clean up in the next federal election, and I believe we will. The situation on the surface at least, looks good. It was well worth while Sir Henry coming down as it gave a certain amount of personal touch which the delegates appreciated.

We passed a strong resolution endorsing yourself, which needless to say I drafted, and in which they pledged you their undivided support. There is no question of the loyalty of Western Ontario in regard to yourself.

We decided to go ahead with the Western Ontario banquet to be held in January. I will pay a visit to Ottawa about the middle of November when I will arrange details with you as to dates, etc. We are also planning to have a smaller banquet in Chatham with a view to reviving interest in that part of the country. Kent County is a county where we are in bad shape and we are going to do a lot of spade work. I am under the impression that a good banquet down there would help you, addressed by yourself, Guthrie or Drayton. Our chief difficulty with our January banquet will be to find a place here half big enough to handle the crowd.

I am mailing you, under separate cover, copy of yesterday's Free Press so you can get some idea of what we did at the meeting.

With kind regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Arthur R. Ford

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