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Portage la Prairie, Man.

August 5, 1922.

Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of writing you concerning a matter of vital importance to Portage la Prairie.

You will perhaps remember that in the spring of 1908 the Dominion Government had a ditch dug to take care of the surplus water of the Assiniboine during the spring freshet season. I am enclosing a map which will convey to you the position in which this City is placed to-day because of the work done at that time.

You will note that this ditch cuts off the horse shoe extending down to the O'Reilly property at Pratts Landing and that the City sewage disposal outlet enters the river at the extreme end of this horse shoe. What was merely a ditch in 1908 is now from two hundred and fifty to three hundred feet wide. It has gradually become deeper and wider through the action of the water and is now absolutely the permanent river bed. The old river bed around this horse shoe is perfectly dry, and as a result our sewerage is simply running out on the dry sand of the river bed. You can readily understand what this means from a sanitary standpoint and the Provincial Board of Health have notified us that immediate action must be taken. It is absolutely necessary that the disposal of our sewerage be arranged before the winter season, as it would simply freeze up at the outlet, block up our system and put it completely out of business. Our sewer disposal outlet was installed in 1904, 1905 and we claim the Dominion Government is entirely responsible for the position in which the City is now placed, and that it is reasonable to expect that they will at once consider ways and means to relieve the situation.

I understand we are to have the pleasure of a visit from you in about a weeks time and if you could get in touch with the De-

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