

**FILE 304**

**COM - CON**

RECEIVED FEB 20 1937

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

Hon. Chairman  
Col. Robert Starke

co-operating with

Hon. Treasurer  
G.P. Butters

The Montreal Council of Social Agencies  
Room 201, 1421 Atwater Ave.  
Hon. Justice Gregor Barclay Wilbank 1151, Local 30

Hon. Secretary  
H.L. Fetherstonhaugh

February 19th, 1937.

You are cordially invited to be present  
at the fifth annual meeting of the Community Garden  
League of Greater Montreal, which will be held on  
Friday, February 26th, 1937 at 5 p.m. in Salon "D"  
(Mezzanine Floor), Mount Royal Hotel.

MEMORANDUM

FROM VICE-PRINCIPAL AND DEAN

TO Principal L. W. Douglas

McGill University

MACDONALD COLLEGE

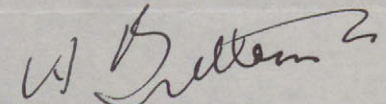
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

January 17, 1939

Dear Principal Douglas:

I am enclosing a letter from  
Prof. Arthur H. Compton which is obviously intended for you.

Yours faithfully,

  
W. H. Brittain  
Vice-Principal

Enclos

ARTHUR H. COMPTON  
RYERSON PHYSICAL LABORATORY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

January 12, 1939.

Dear Dr. Brittain:

Thoughtful observers of the American scene seem to agree that the greatest danger to our democracy is the possibility of its "breaking up into self-conscious mutually antagonistic minorities," to use a phrase of George N. Shuster, a Catholic writer. The most widespread misunderstandings and antagonisms have to do with religious differences. It was my recognition of the national importance of securing better understanding and cooperation among people of all faiths, which persuaded me recently to accept the Protestant Co-chairmanship of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, an office previously held by the late Honorable Newton D. Baker.

The National Conference wishes to persuade American college students of the necessity of understanding and cooperation among Catholics, Jews and Protestants and to assist them to a fuller appreciation of the distinctive contributions to American culture which the various racial and religious groups are making. In the development of this program, I earnestly hope to have your cooperation and suggestions.

It will greatly assist our office if you will write to me in answer to the following questions: First, what is the situation on your campus with regard to the relationship of Catholics, Jews and Protestants? Second, in what respects would the religious workers on your campus and the instructors of courses in religion cooperate in educating for better intergroup relationships in America? Third, would your institution be willing to experiment with a student and faculty "Round Table" in which a program of interfaith fellowship, discussions and public meetings might be developed?

May I urge that you designate some faculty member or committee to consider what can be done on your campus? It would be helpful if you would furnish the name of the faculty member who should receive the publicity and program materials which will be released from time to time by the National Conference office. Our staff stands ready to advise with your committee both with regard to organization and program.

I trust that you will indicate your willingness to cooperate.

Yours very truly,

*Arthur H. Compton*

Dr. W. H. Brittain,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Que., Canada

PHONE: MAIN 1084  
F. A. COVERT, PRESIDENT  
11 ST. SACRAMENT ST.

PHONE: MAIN 6628  
EDWIN C. RENOUF  
RECORDING SECRETARY

# THE CONFEDERATION CLUB

NATIONAL HARMONY · NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE · NATIONAL GROWTH

ROOM 6 · 394 ST. JAMES ST.

MONTREAL, Sept. 14th, 1925.

*Requeto*

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal, McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir:-

The Opening Meeting of The Confederation Club  
to inaugurate its fall and winter work will be held,  
Friday, 18th inst. at 8.15 P.M. in the Y.M.C.A., Drummond St.

This Meeting will be open to receive suggestions of  
work for the Club to undertake, and we trust therefore, that you  
will make a special effort to be present, and will have some good  
suggestion to place before the Meeting for its consideration.  
You are further requested to bring one or two friends, we remain

Yours very truly,

*Edwin C. Renouf*

Secretary

March 14th 1924.

H. S. Congdon, Esq.,  
Dartmouth,  
N. S.

Dear Mr. Congdon,

I have been very much interested in reading your letter of the 3rd inst., in which you pointed out the desirability from an economical and political point of view of increasing the trade of the Maritime Provinces.

There is very little doubt that the geography of Canada presents problems which are very hard to solve, but which far from being unimportant call for the earnest consideration of all our citizens. Among these problems certainly one of the most difficult is the question of the Maritime Provinces and their economic difficulties.

I must admit that the question of turning the channel of trade would be an immense undertaking yet I feel that there is a good deal of progress being made of which it is only just to take notice. In the study which they will be compelled to make, those who are endeavouring to find a solution of the problems will have to take count of the great possibilities arriving from the developments at Sydney, New Glasgow and elsewhere and the best methods of helping local conditions through these developments.

Yours faithfully,

Principal.

H. S. CONGDON

REAL ESTATE, INSURANCE, ETC.

DARTMOUTH, N. S., CANADA

March 3rd, 1924.

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Montreal, Que.,

Dear Sir:-

I note you say that there is no real national policy. It is quite true. It is also true there is need for a real live policy. I am not providing one, but think there is one plank that should be adopted. That is, that Canadian trade should be done through Canadian ports.

When the Confederation was entered this province was promised that the trans-Atlantic trade of Canada should be done through the Maritime ports of Canada. There is a little book written by a member of the Conference named Phelan, from Prince Edward Island. He gives the speeches made at all the various banquets by the delegates. You may not be aware that there were no minutes kept of the proceedings. The practice was the same as the meetings of the cabinets of all British countries. The statements made, at the time the Conference was sitting, were made at the banquets. They were the conclusions arrived at and must be taken as official. Another book, more easily obtainable ~~was~~ is a book published by Colonel J.H. Gray, another delegate from New Brunswick. This was published a few years later, and is much fuller. It contains about all the first book gives and more. In these you will find that the statement I have made is borne out by the facts therein contained. The reasons are given in full. They are very convincing.

Effect was never given to the bargain then made, and the bargain would never have been struck if that particular clause had not been agreed to. The result is that these provinces have been stranded, because of this betrayal of our interests. The Fathers believed this was necessary to the building up of a sound position. It was not only necessary for us but for all Canada. That, I think, as true today as it was in 1864, the date when the agreement was made. If that had been done at the time there is no doubt that today the Maritimes would be prosperous. They are not prospering ~~as~~ to the same degree as the rest of Canada. There is much unrest here now which threatens to increase as time passes.

When the agreement was made there was a feeling in Ontario that to balance the expenditure in building the Intercolonial railway none of the money would be expended in Ontario, and that as a consequence there was a possibility that opponents to the union might use this as an argument ~~the~~ union. Hence a promise was given that money would be voted by the new union to extend the canal system, then in its infancy. The extensions have been made. But the Maritimes have never got the promised trade. That seems to us to be utterly unfair.

We believe it is to the interests of Canada today that all the trade of Canada should be done through our own ports. At present we are dependent, almost entirely on the United States ports for our export trade and most of the imports come through the same ports. Population follows the trade. Millions of tons of Canadian goods pass through the ports of the U.S. and the business we should have goes to enrich our neighbours.

This is not all. Some millions have been spent on the canals, \$239,000,000 so far and when the Welland is completed the sum will be fully \$550,000,000, on which the carrying charges for interest, operation, and maintenance will be fully \$20,000,000 annually. These canals are free. They have made a great city of Montreal, and are building up all the cities along the route. The Intercolonial is supposed to pay its way. It was built to benefit the union and to bind the various parts of Canada into one contented whole. We do not consider this is a fair deal. We have to pay our share of the carrying charges of the canals from which we receive no direct benefit if any, while we have to carry the full charges on the railway business and our share of the deficits made by the rest of the system, running into many millions a year.

If this vast trade were turned through our own ports there should be a different story to tell. We believe that had this been done from the time the I.C.R. was built this city of Halifax would now be as large as Boston. It has barely doubled since Confederation while the city of Montreal is fully twelve times as large as it was then. St John would have benefitted largely as well. There can be no doubt the population of the Maritimes would be double what it is today if the agreement had been carried out. That would be a great thing for us. We feel we have been despoiled. What is your opinion?

Is it a good thing for Canada to be wholly in the hands of the United States? If they chose to close their ports against us where would we be? History shews that has been threatened several times. You know that as things now stand we have no possible chance to do the trade of Canada today if we were called upon to do it. Our terminals are wholly inadequate and the machinery could not be created for some time. Is this a proper position for a young and growing nation with great possibilities before us? Can we expect to be self sustaining under such circumstances?

Holding the position you do and with the ear of the public, I should be very glad for you to give this problem your careful attention with a view of benefitting all Canada, and incidentally doing justice to the provinces which did so much to create this Dominion.

Please do not think I am trying to do anything of an offensive character. I am nearly seventy years old, have no axe to grind, and am only anxious to benefit the people of my native province, who I believe have not received fair play. ~~Many~~ need help now. It is not in the interest of Canada to have a large section hostile to the rest of the country. That is the position today and the hostility is growing. These provinces are almost pure Anglo Saxon blood. We are losing large numbers every year, and the migration is growing. This loss, I feel, is not in the interest of Canada. It can be stopped. Do you feel the problem is worthy of serious attention or merely an incident?

Pray pardon this long letter, and believe me when I say, that this is written with the hope of doing good. It has no political bearing whatever as all the politicians we have ever elected have neglected their duty to their constituents in order to play the game

of politics.

Yours truly  
H. S. Congdon,



P.S. Sometime ago I asked your department to give me the figures of the cost of Maintenance and operation of all the canals, except the Trent which has already been given me. So far I have not received the desired information. This I must say is not in keeping with the very prompt and business like way my requests have been dealt with. As I said before it has been a pleasure to do business with this department. I presume the request has been mislaid in some way, and I shall be pleased to have the figures as soon as possible.

H.S.C.

WB I was told the past week that  
Steamers carrying coal through  
the canals paid dues. That  
surprised me. Is it so?

W.S.C.

PRINCIPAL AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

A. E. MORGAN

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL

19th March 1937.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 17th March in which you do me the honour of suggesting that I should become a member of the Honorary Committee which is being formed in connection with plans for the second Congrès de la Langue française au Canada. I shall be very pleased to become a member of this Committee.

Yours sincerely,

M. Joseph Dansereau,  
3700, avenue Calixa-Lavallée,  
MONTREAL.

RECEIVED MAR 18 1937

Monsieur Eustace Morgan, principal  
de l'Université McGill.

Monsieur le Principal,

Un comité, dont le président est M. Olivier Maurault, recteur de l'Université de Montréal, a été formé afin de préparer la participation de la métropole au deuxième Congrès de la Langue française au Canada.

Les membres de ce comité désirent constituer un comité d'honneur dont ils offrent la présidence à Son Excellence Monseigneur Georges Gauthier, archevêque coadjuteur de Montréal.

Les autres membres du comité d'honneur seraient: Son Honneur le maire de Montréal, le président du Comité exécutif de la ville de Montréal, Son Excellence Monseigneur Deschamps, le recteur de l'Université de Montréal et le principal de l'Université McGill, les consuls de France, de Belgique et de Suisse, pays où le français est langue officielle, le président de la société nationale, la société Saint-Jean-Baptiste.

Nous serions particulièrement honorés et heureux que vous vous rendiez à notre désir.

Il ne s'agit nullement d'imposer un travail quelconque aux membres de ce comité d'honneur, mais d'obtenir leur haute approbation. Je crois d'ailleurs que M. Maurault vous a mis au courant de notre demande.

Nous vous prions, monsieur le Principal, de bien vouloir accepter l'expression de nos sentiments distingués.

Pour le président et les membres du Comité,

le secrétaire,

*Joseph Dussureau*

Montréal,  
dix-sept mars,  
mil neuf cent trente-sept,  
3700, avenue Calixa-Lavallée.

**DOCKET STARTS:**

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

(SIR J. FLAVELLE)

C O P Y.

*A Definition of  
The Conservative Party*

*Sir Joseph Flavelle*

January 18th, 1927.

How shall I reply to your letter of the 9th. You will remember I have not been in public life. I have been in business since I was a boy twelve years old. The one break occurred in 1915 to 1921; three and a half years of that period at Ottawa, and the balance of the time here exclusively devoted to the work of the Imperial Munitions Board.

In business, we are in the habit of counselling together undisturbed by considerations other than those which may command our best judgment. If we fall into error, we account to one another, or if it is a serious matter, to our partners or shareholders. There is no eager opponent trying to misconstrue our acts or our words, or to magnify our natural mistakes; even our serious blunders are overlooked, and may be known to but a narrow circle. We conduct our affairs for the most part in the spirit of an autocracy. We say to this man "Go" and he goes, and to this man "Come" and he comes, and out of it we secure profit or loss, make our mark or miss it, and what we do or fail to do covers but a comparatively narrow circle of persons, unless we happen to be very prominent, when through our maladministration we may bring suffering to many people. For men in public life there is a different set of standards, a different set of influences. They can only succeed in having the opportunity to serve by commanding the support of a majority of the electors who

go to the polls in their constitutencies. Having secured the right to serve, they are subject to discipline of their party, and it in turn must seek by such means as it can command the support of the country, that the right to govern may be accorded to it. In doing this, they must run the gauntlet of all sorts of artifices of eager opponents who are seeking to displace them. The fate of Government may hang in the balance through an innocent but foolish blunder magnified by an alert opposition.

If I am approximately right in the foregoing, a man of affairs and not a public man, is asked to express an opinion concerning the action which should be taken to put a political party in power, to indicate in particular what I consider to have been our recent weaknesses as a Conservative party, and how we can improve our organization, and by it, our position.

In what I may say in reply, you will remember my limitations as indicated in the opening paragraphs of this letter and the great difference in the daily judgments which I reach affecting my daily actions, as compared with the daily judgments affecting their daily actions by men who are responsible for the administration of a political party.

In 1896, after the disastrous defeat of the Conservative party, I asked the late W. R. Brock, E.B. Osler, Charles Cockshutt, and Frederick Nicholls, to join with me at lunch at the Toronto Club. I indicated to them that I considered the Conservative party for years prior to the defeat had become ineffective and stale, resting upon traditions rather than constructive capacity, and that

I hoped we could help one another in the face of the defeat to ask what we ought to do which would prepare us for the responsibility of office when our opportunity came at the end of one, two or three parliaments, as the case might be. I said the party in its chagrin was proclaiming that the Liberal party were usurpers who had entered into a possession which was ours by right; that it was prophesied that at the next election they would be thrown out bag and baggage as a body of incompetents; that for my part I believed this was simply nonsense, and furnished additional evidence of our inherent weakness; that I would be surprised if the Liberal party did not remain in power for at least two parliaments, and that if we were wise we would mend our fences, enter into new constructive plans, win the big boys and young men who were sons of Conservatives, or who had no party affiliations, as well as the incoming immigrants, to the Conservative view of national politics; that this would not come through prayer, or for hope of office and party spoils. Therefore, I suggested that by the formation of clubs, or the addition to the existing Conservative organization of educational work, we would inaugurate the debate of public questions, the free movement of our leaders throughout the constituencies to awaken a new interest in public matters; that for this purpose, money would be required to meet the legitimate expenses. I asked them if they would join with me in creating the basis of a fund by subscribing Fifty Thousand Dollars, with a pledge that neither we nor others who would add to the fund would seek for recognition from the Conservative party because we had contributed these sums. These

gentlemen were too generous towards the novice to laugh at him; hence in a gracious way they turned down the proposal.

For fifteen years the Liberals continued to control the House of Commons, and only lost through their blunder in espousing the cause of reciprocity with the United States. The great victory for the Conservative party in 1911 was not because the party was ready, through preparation, but because of the blunder of their opponents. Reciprocity created what a first-class issue always creates, an eager debate, with resultant unexpected decision voiced in every Province (except Quebec) from the Atlantic to the Pacific. There was no less surprise in the Conservative Party than in the Liberal at the defeat of the Government and the overwhelming support of the Conservative Party.

After three years tenure of office by the Conservative party, the country was confronted with the war. All ordinary issues were set aside, and the War became the controlling factor. It led to the Coalition Government in 1917. The prejudices aroused by the War have since played a conspicuous part in your Province; we developed class consciousness and a group spirit in Ontario and in the Prairie Provinces, and since '21 have been the victims of weak Government, and only since last election have had the definite promise of authority in Government by a clear majority in support of the Liberal party.

During this period of unrest we have been without the steadying influence of party discipline. We have been unfortunately thinking less of Canada as a whole, and more of our local interests. The Maritime Provinces are not alone in this tendency. Quebec fed



the bitter fires of prejudice with racial statements that were not worthy of a chivalrous people. The Province of Ontario did not hesitate to express its distrust in its neighbouring French Province, or to appeal to racial and sectarian prejudice. The three Prairie Provinces declared for themselves, that they would only send men to Parliament who made it the first article in their creed to look after the West. So much feeling has been created that we have been temporarily at least lost the vision of our fathers. There has been no commanding view for a united country. We have emphasized our differences. We have been impatient with discomforts which inevitably followed the cataclysm of the Great War. We Conservatives talked blue ruin, which could only be remedied by higher and still higher tariffs. The broad, generous, big spirit, which should always characterize the Conservative party, gave way to fault-finding, scolding and irritable non-constructive criticism. Montreal produced the "Whisper of Death", and declared the country would be bankrupted by the National Railways. The West declared they were being bled by tariffs. The central Provinces that their industries were being ruined because they were denied further protection; the Maritime Provinces, that they had the worst of Confederation, and wanted to know what the rest of us were going to do about it. In all the groups there was an absence of size and measure. Each leader sought to discredit the other. There was a condition of squabble unworthy of either the private or public conduct of affairs. A period of deflation of values made men angry. It cost the banks millions. It resulted in an immense acreage of mortgaged property in the West coming into the hands of the mortgagee under foreclosure proceedings. We were in angry protest against

income taxation. Prior to the war, when we made money, we did with it as we liked. Because of war indebtedness, the Government claimed from ten to sixty per cent. of it, and we stormed about it.

Meantime, the thing happened that always occurs when men must struggle. We worked harder; we produced more; and all unconscious to the pessimists and fault-finders we steadily accumulated liquid resources. During and since the war we brought back from England millions in value of Canadian securities which had been sold to British investors prior to the War. We replaced with our own money the British and Continental monies which had been previously available for lending on mortgages in Canada. We increased our railway tonnage so that each year registered a marked betterment in net earnings, culminating in this year, when the lines of railway now in the National System, which in 1920 registered an operating deficit of thirty-two to thirty-four millions of dollars, will register, for 1926, net operating revenues of forty-five to forty-six millions of dollars; while the great private Railway Corporation tells the same story of increased earnings. The Minister of Finance announced two weeks ago that eighty per cent. of the National Debt of two billion four hundred million dollars is held in Canada, and this in contrast to not one dollar of Dominion loans being held by the people of Canada prior to 1915. While these evidences of liquid resources multiplied, savings bank deposits increased from 1915, six hundred millions of dollars in addition to an increase of tens of millions of deposits in other financial institutions. The savings of our people during the same period in

life insurance in force are reflected in a striking manner. Notwithstanding all these betterments in actual physical liquid assets, we had sufficient cash resources to invest since 1915, in a comparatively new utility and pleasure, six hundred million dollars in automobiles, as well as the great sum required annually for their upkeep. This automobile investment is as large as the entire savings bank deposits in all the banks in Canada at the opening of the war.

During these later years, when we have been fault-finding and declaring blue ruin, new forces were at work, large expenditures were being planned and made upon water power developments for the production of electric energy, great increases were being established in the production of paper and pulp; the remarkable development in Northern Quebec and Northern Ontario in the production of minerals was taking place, with heavy new expenditures of money from these districts in the purchase of needed supplies and materials. The Western Provinces, with actually fewer farmers, were producing more bushels of grain, more heads of livestock; there was a marked increase in dairy products, a material development in the production of small things over widely distributed areas, such as clover seed, poultry, honey, etc. Notwithstanding we have now come into consciousness that these things were taking place during these years, we have had, and now have no prophet of hope and courage in the Conservative party.

I can see no reason why the Conservative party would expect to return to power for two or three parliaments, unless through blunders of their opponents. We are largely smashed as a

party in the Prairie Provinces. We have made no inroad into a solid Quebec. The Maritimes are in a state of flux, ready to support a Government that will seriously consider and help them in their difficulties. I believe it will be a mistake to plan for the work of the party in the hope that it will speedily return to power. There is the same prosaic need of education that there was in 1896. Progress established through constructive planning will not come through the conventional machine. There will always be a machine, and the pity of it is that so few of us share in its work, or help to keep under control the elements which make it objectionable. You will not secure inspiration from the machine, or leadership which will accomplish what you seek, but it will give needed support to new and larger men if they possess personality and power.

I have been a Protectionist since 1878, but I do not believe in protection as a cure-all. I have had intimate association with manufacturers for fifty years. Many of the troubles from which they suffer can be remedied, as most of our troubles are remedied, through betterments which can be established by capably performed work, wholly under their own control. Further protection should be the last, not the first remedy. It was readjustment which we needed, not "brick-for brick", or anything resembling it. The alliance between the Conservative party and the manufacturers has arisen from two causes - the conviction of the party that protection as a policy was sound, and the dependence upon the manufacturers as a chief source for partyfunds. I believe the latter has unduly influenced the party, and the failure to establish some constructive

plan for securing party funds from a widened constituency is partly responsible for the mischief which has resulted through the money of the manufacturer playing too important a part in party decisions.

I believe, by tradition and best practice, the Conservative party should always be the party with vision, with faith in the country. It should seek to establish security, confidence, and good temper. In a popular book, there is the following:

"At the centre of Conservative thinking is the ideal of unity, and that the impulse of Conservative action is to promote unity in every sphere of the national life, extending it steadily and naturally until it includes the entire commonwealth of free people which we call the British Empire. This spirit of unity it is believed can strengthen and develop all those minor and sectional loyalties which play so useful a part in the social life of the nation. Conservatism declares its faith in an ideal which is comprehensible to the simplest intelligence. It is an ideal of a united people consciously, deliberately, and peacefully extending its power in the world, extending that power in the region of trade, in the region of science, in the region of art, and in the region of character; seeking to impress upon the civilization of mankind the stamp of its historic genius for good work, good humour, good sense and good nature. Conservatism pursues this ideal on the highroad of history. It refuses to take short cuts to millenium. It is of all the schools of political thought the most practical. It has no liking for pedants; it is contemptuous of cranks; and it will have no truck with political emotionalists. It believes that the road to the future is clearly marked, and that it is no smooth and pleasant road, but intentionally and usefully a road full of hardship and difficulty; not a track for sheep, but a road that calls out of a man all that is best and strongest in human nature."

This may be a bit idealistic, but in the broad sense it represents the truth, and in so far as the Conservative party has departed from the essence of the foregoing, or some other form of expressing it which may interpret the same truth, it went wrong. We must learn anew the lesson of co-operation, and the power of united effort in things that matter. This will take time.

Probably no single thing in Canada should call for graver consideration than the question of unity. We have been flippant in our disregard for it. We have been satisfied with phrases concerning it, and they are but empty things. At bottom, these two great central Provinces profoundly distrust one another. They are not seeking for points of agreement. They are nursing their differences, each one accepting what may be said which will add to their prejudices, while voicing content with meaningless phrases indicating a better spirit. The prejudices are both sectarian and racial. We do not know the West, and the West does not know the East. There are hundreds of thousands of children in Western Canada who have never seen the East. For years they have heard that the chief object of the East is to bleed the West. I am advised that there is not a single purely Conservative newspaper in the three Prairie Provinces, that the party is dependent for the presentation of Conservative doctrine upon those who are their opponents, except in so far as the Southam Press is of independent Conservative character. It is a rare thing for leaders in the Conservative party, or for that matter in the Liberal party, to go through the West, except during the period of an election. The educative process in the years between the elections is negligible. To those of us whose business takes them West, there is no more striking phenomena than the generous spirit in which they desire to hear what visitors may have to say by public address. Any important business or financial man who goes West has telegrams while en route and after he reaches his destination from citizen bodies, church

bodies, Canadian and other Clubs, educational associations, asking will he not visit their town or city and deliver an address. All this hunger has been neglected by the Conservative party. The leaders have had little time to spare and no money available to pay expenses. It would be of inestimable value if Conservative leaders and Conservative supporters were to visit the cities and towns on the Prairies for frank conversation and discussion concerning public matters. The West resents being lectured or patronized by the outsider, but they give a royal welcome to men who will put their legs under the table with them in discussion in which all are equals. They are extraordinarily responsive to the visitor who impresses them as being sincere, and desirous of understanding their situation, and of giving a true interpretation of his own home situation. IT is a tragedy that the Conservative party should have fallen so badly by the way in these Prairie Provinces. It will take years of patient effort to recover lost ground.

It is forgotten that nature did not intend the Northern half of this continent to be united under one economic system. There are four great natural divisions - the Maritime Provinces in the East, the two central Provinces, the three Prairie Provinces, and the Province of British Columbia. All these divisions are separated by physical barriers, impeding easy intercourse, and making expensive the exchange of products. With fine courage we determined to overcome these difficulties by long lines of railways running East and West. Our fathers did not undertake the task of the Dominion lightly, or minimise the difficulties. They were

possessed of a noble ideal, the establishment of communities of people wcross the whole of the Dominion who would claim the right of British connection, the adoption of the British parliamentary system, and the development of the British love of law and order and the British sense of fair-play and justice. We, who are their successors, absorbed in the selfish consideration of our own communities have been in danger of forgetting the faith of our fathers. We have been emphasizing our disagreements. We have been nursing our grievances. We have been the victims of parties who are not above stirring up prejudice for party gain, or seeking to secure solid support of prejudiced sections, whereby the right to rule would be given to the party, who in return offered special privileges and advantages.

Notwithstanding these physical separations and differing economic conditions, I believe the actual differences between us are much less than we have been led to believe. Under wise, sagacious, big-spirited, Conservative leadership, we can, over a period of years, both East and West command support for a policy which will not imperil our industries or disturb our continued family relationship. When I said "flippant in our disregard", I meant we were content for the immediate situation which confronted us, to sow seeds of bitterness from which a harvest will be reaped, without understanding we were following such a dangerous course.

We have forgotten the incredible riches which this thin sprinkling of people from East to West possess in the undeveloped resources of the country. Could it be better illustrated than that



during these five years, when we have been scolding and storming, and finding fault, that now through one accident and again another, or now through the pressure of disturbing conditions, this potential wealth was being developed, one year on the Saguenay, again on the Gatineau, again through the counties of Quebec, or in the stretch of lake and water, and scrub timber, in Northern Ontario and Quebec; or out on the Prairies, through improved methods; or in the Province by the sea, British Columbia, in mining, in lumber, in fisheries, and fruit, and agriculture. We now wake up and find the sun has risen, and has been long shining while we were still in the fog of our own foolish lack of faith in the country of our birth. It is only fifteen months since the Conservative party was preaching blue ruin, and while we preached, the pressure of new developments, new production of wealth, was upon us.

When I was a boy at work, at fourteen years of age, my Mother told me - "My boy, out of your wages, however small, set aside some portion for the Church, and some portion for the political party to which you will belong". The good sense of that advice has been ever present. The deliverance of the political parties in Canada from the thralldom imposed upon them by their call for money chiefly from interested persons, will be a first class political deliverance. There would be an immense gain if young men and women who by birth, by tradition, or by choice, are supporters of the Conservative party, were induced to recognize as one of their obligations the payment of a moderate sum annually for the support of the party. It would be of unmeasured advantage if there were

hundreds or thousands of men and women in each constituency who would as the result of a courageous presentation of the claims of the party, become annual subscribers to its need. Such monies should be set aside and become available for the necessitous political expenditures within the constituency, after which a percentage should be available for the central organization and placed in the hands of Treasurers who would command national respect.

I have grown to believe that the real prizes of life come as by-products, rather than as returns for direct effort. I believe the Conservative party has been consistently wrong for more than a quarter of a century in being primarily interested in securing power, in place of being primarily interested in being competent to govern. In the one case, you magnify the importance of the machine, greedily desirous of patronage and power; in the other case, you cultivate young men and women to take an interest in public affairs, to seek to understand the problems before the country, and to influence their party in support of measures which reflect faith in the good sense of the electors.

Our trouble lies in faulty vision, insufficient courage, and an inadequate sense of scale in our national problems. To talk of bankruptcy in this young country is the folly of unthinking, prejudiced people; if there is danger of bankruptcy it is that of men and women who will be unworthy of the heritage received from our fathers. We should know that we who are living are but Trustees to conserve during our occupancy this treasure of national character and spirit for the generations to follow.

These will multiply by natural increase and immigration, and will possess the land with a population of tens of millions of people. It is ours to learn during our day the way of unity, the way of belief in one another. This is the duty of the Conservative party, and one which in recent years has lain so lightly on our shoulders that we have departed from the traditions of the past.

It should not be necessary for a Conservative to say that by tradition, by instinct, by the will of the great majority of its adherents, the Conservative party should show no hesitancy in sustained British connection, and the assumption of manly obligations which represent our share in the great enterprise.

The party paid the price in defeat through unawaredness that the country looked for the best they could offer following the bitter and unseemly struggle between rival leaders in parliament and in the country. For some reason, those who were responsible thought the conventional ward politicians measure would do. Apparently it was not understood the country was exasperated with the exhibit of temper, prejudice and lack of imagination in all the groups and parties at Ottawa. The Conservative party did not possess inherent strength or wisdom to rise to the occasion when the ball was at their feet. God knows the Liberal party was little better. Conservatives have now to prove that they have the needed courage and resource to rebuild, and the patience to wait through the period which will elapse before they will be called to govern.

You can determine if in this indirect manner I have answered your queries one and two. The answer to the third will not be found in the first instance in organization, but in renewed character. A declaration of faith which expresses sincere conviction must precede organization. Without it,

organization is merely a mechanical activity. I do not profess political knowledge, or political sagacity, but in the views I have sought to express, I believe I represent a considerable body of opinion in every constituency in the country.

Faithfully yours,

**DOCKET ENDS:**

CONSERVATIVE PARTY  
(SIR J. FLAVELLE)



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA  
OTTAWA

October 24, 1933.

Dear Sir Arthur Currie:

I am taking this opportunity to advise you that Professor W. G. Constable, who is the Director of the Courtauld Institute, the branch of the University of London devoted to the teaching of the History of Art and the training of art museum workers, is coming to Canada this week to lecture under the auspices of the National Gallery. He will speak in Ottawa on Saturday, the 28th, and will be in Montreal to speak to the Junior Canadian Club on the 30th. He will probably be in Montreal again about November 25th. As I know he is anxious to visit the principal Canadian Universities with a view to establishing relations between them and his London University work, I thought you might perhaps care to meet him. Any communications to him here between the 27th and 30th will reach him.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Director.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D.,  
Principal, McGill University,  
MONTREAL, P.Q.

B/I.

October 25th,

1 9 3 3

Dear Professor Constable,

I have just learned that you are in  
Ottawa and that you intend to visit Montreal early  
next week. I shall be very happy if you will  
lunch with me at my house, No.3450 McTavish Street,  
at one-fifteen p.m. on Tuesday next, October 31st.

Yours faithfully,

Principal

Professor W.G.Constable,  
Care the National Gallery of Canada,  
O t t a w a .

October 25th,  
1933

Eric Brown, Esq.,  
Director,  
National Gallery of Canada,  
O t t a w a .

Dear Mr. Brown,

Thank you for your letter of the 24th  
October. I am writing to Professor Constable and asking  
him to lunch with me on Tuesday the 30th.

Ever yours faithfully,

Principal



# HOTELS OF DISTINCTION

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS



THE FORT GARRY, WINNIPEG



PRINCE EDWARD, BRANDON



CHATEAU LAURIER, OTTAWA



PRINCE ARTHUR, PORT ARTHUR



THE MACDONALD, EDMONTON

FROM  
CHATEAU LAURIER  
OTTAWA

OTTAWA, ONT.

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> 1933

Dear Sir Arthur Currie

Very many thanks indeed for your kind letter. It gives me very great pleasure indeed to accept your most kind invitation to lunch at 1.15 on Tuesday next Oct 31st.

Yours sincerely

W. G. Constable

Currie  
Constable  
Traquair.  
Hosob  
Johnson  
Borey