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POSTAL ADDRESS
R. R. 1, MILNER, B. C., July 30th 1945

Mr. R. L. Maitland, M. L. A.,
Attorney-General,
Parliament Buildings,
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mr. Maitland:-

I am sending this to Victoria, as I am not sure whether you are there or in Ottawa with Mr. Hart, but I understand that you are attending the Inter-Provincial Conference.

I am enclosing a copy of the brief which was prepared at the suggestion of Mr. Pattullo for presentation to the Rowell-Sirois Commission. I had an interview with Mr. Dafoe, and he told me to send it on, but later, after the arrival of Professor Angus, it was decided not to accept it, on the ground that it was not covered by their terms of reference.

I would particularly draw your attention to the paragraph which I have marked.

There are innumerable instances, of which the Oriental question is only one, where this province has suffered as a result of its distance from Ottawa. I might mention another, the freezing of our rentals at a depression level, while Montreal and Toronto were not frozen until they had come back approximately to normal about a year and a half later, although war activities must have been much more in evidence there than in this province in 1940.

There should be some way found of getting over this handicap of distance, and it would of course, apply also to the Maritimes, and to a slightly less extent to Alberta.

Wishing you every success

Yours faithfully,

Charles Hope

Enc.
CEH/M