

Department of Militia and H. A. Bruce to W.O.

Defence, Canada. 28 August 1916.

Cleveland House, St. James Sq., S.W.

COS 417/2.5

My dear Sir William,

Thanks very much, but unfortunately am going to Shorncliffe tomorrow and to France on Wednesday or Thursday.

From the tone of your communication you are evidently labouring under a misapprehension as to the work of the committee appointed in connection with the C.A.M.C. For your information I may state that I accepted a commission from The Honourable the Minister of Militia of Canada to make an inspection of all Hospitals and Institutions to which the Canadian Government are contributing, and to report upon conditions found, together with any recommendations for improvement of the Service. In order that I should be able to secure a certain amount of detailed information I asked the Minister to give me the help of the following to assist in this work— Colonel Wallace Scott, Lieut. Colonel Wilson, Lieut. Colonel McKeown, Captain Hunter and Colonel Reid. Colonel Reid is the Director of Recruiting and Organization and he has in his Office a vast amount of information which I desire to use. I have undertaken this work with the sole object of making an impartial enquiry into the Organization and Administration of the C.A.M.C. and without animus towards any one. After making a thorough investigation, assisted by this Committee, a report will be made upon our findings together with recommendations.

If I had received a communication from anybody else but yourself, of this kind, Sir William, I would have looked upon it as a threat and considered it improper under the circumstances, but having had for many years the greatest admiration and the kindest feeling and affection for you, I am quite sure you did not mean it at all in this way.

After my return from France, at the end of another ten days or so, I shall be delighted to run up some day and see you.

With kindest regards, (hand-written)

Yours faithfully,

H. A. Bruce.

P.T.O. →