

Personal & Confidential.

Ottawa, Dec. 14, 1931.

Dr. Seager Wheeler, Rosthern, Sask.

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

After a great deal of delay we have passed an Order-In-Council creating the position of Experimental Sub-Station Superintendent in the Experimental Farms Branch in Saskatchewan. I am enclosing an application form for you to fill in and return. This is just a matter of form. The remuneration attached to this position will start at \$2220.00 a year. The work will not make any difference in your operations, not the slightest. It is the only way, with our present Civil Service arrangements for positions, that I could work out so that we could extend to you in a tangible way, small as it is, something of our appreciation of what you have contributed to Agriculture in Western Canada.

I feel that this sum is much too small and yet no sum could quite pay you, not only for what you have contributed in grains, fruits and flowers, but more particularly for the inspiration that you have been to so many people for many years. Every person that one meets who has visited your farm makes similar statements, first, the great work that you have done and are

doing, second, the inspiration that you were to them in their visit, third, and perhaps most noticeable your absolute unselfishness in the time and advice that you give to your visitors. In this I speak not from hearsay because I remember full well the different occasions on which I experienced personally your unselfishness and inspiration during my visits with you. It has always been a marvel to me how you could carry on with such accuracy the great detail of your work with so little assistance.

This action of the Government was not in any way brought about by requests from people on your behalf. I thought you would be pleased to know this.

I shall never forget the chats that we had together. I know of no one who followed his work to the same extent that you did for the sake of the work alone. Nothing that I have done or will do in this Department could give me more pleasure than this small token of my personal appreciation and that of the farmers of Canada of the great contribution that you have made to Agriculture. It is not a gift or a donation in any sense of the term. It is a payment for services that we hope you will continue to render for many many years to come. There is no money that this Department spends that I feel will give us better returns than we have the pleasure of giving you under this plan.

Remember that this is not to entail any extra duties on you. It means simply that you carry on the way you have done in the past as a true experimental station with not only the free advice you have always given but again, if I may repeat, that inspiration that has meant so much to many.

In conclusion may I wish Mrs. Wheeler and yourself a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and may you both be spared to carry on the work together for many years to come.

Yours very sincerely,

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