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2475 Trout Lake Road, Apt. 613,
North Bay, Ontario, P1B 8W2,
November 20, 1980.

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Hud

Honourable Senator Harry Hays, P.C.

Mr. Serge Joyal, M.P.,

Joint Chairmen

Joint Clerks,

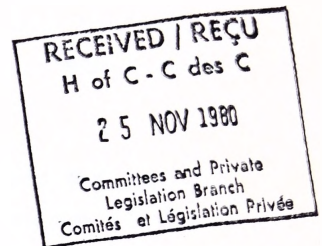
Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada.

Postal Box 1044,

South Block,

Parliament Buildings,

OTTAWA, Ontario. K1A 0A7.



Dear Sirs:

As a member of the Progressive Conservative Women's Association of North Bay and representing this organization, I wish to protest the hasty and dictatorial manner of our Prime Minister's dealing with the Constitution - regardless of opposition across Canada.

With our economy at an all time low and an ever increasing deficit our government has chosen to ignore and has no present plans of decreasing our liabilities. Thus our credibility as a nation is decreasing.

Our Constitution, which has rested securely for 113 years in the hands of Westminster should not be No. 1 priority.

The Honourable Margaret Thatcher has made it very clear that she and her cabinet will have no part with tampering with our Constitution.

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Decisions on this important document must be made in Canada in a democratic manner by our Prime Minister, Parliamentary Members and Provincial Premiers - never by the Prime Minister alone. Decision to be made before constitution is given into our hands.

I would like, also, to state the word "Dominion" was firmly entrenched in the B. N. A. Act at the time of Confederation 1867 after much consideration and thought. Precious time has already been wasted in discussing the changing of the word, "Dominion", when it would be a violation of our Constitution.

The following is a letter to the Editor in the North Bay SUN., November 5, 1980, by John L. Aimers, Dominion President of the Monarchy League of Canada.

To quote:

Recent development in the debate over Canada's future Constitutional's arrangements have placed in grave danger the most fundamental of our democratic institutions Monarchy and the supremacy of Parliament. Consider the following alarming trends:

The refusal in the House of Commons, October 10th, of the Prime Minister Trudeau to deny unequivocally future plans for the establishment of a Canadian republic, indicative of how the government appears to be playing a perilous game with the future of our nation; The entrenching of a referendum clause in Section 42 of the proposed Constitutional Act, whereby any demagogue could appeal to the country's ^{Worst} _{PASSION} on an issue, without reference to the provincial legislatures. Referenda

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are alien to our system, which depends upon the sober judgement of elected officials in Parliament for decision-making;--The placing of a Charter of Rights in the Constitution, removing the traditional protection of our freedoms now guaranteed by the Queen-in-Parliament, and placing it into the hands of political courts;---The 'presidentializing of the Governor-General's office deliberately downgrading the role of the Queen of Canada, and removing her from day-to-day involvement in Canada's affairs.

We are an alarmed people.

I thank you for the opportunity of stating the viewpoint of our organization.

Yours truly,

Constance Stamp

(Mrs. L. J. Stamp.)