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MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

Ottawa, December 27, 1946

Doctor Wilder Penfield,  
Director,  
Montreal Neurological Institute,  
3801 University Street,  
Montreal 2, P.Q.

My dear Wilder,

It was very good of you to write as you did in your letter of 18th of December. This new appointment brings with it a challenging opportunity. I shall need all the support and help of good friends like yourself who can be of the utmost assistance.

I appreciate very much the honour conveyed by your invitation to attend on the 4th of January to hand over the building to McGill. Unfortunately, I doubt very much that this will be possible. I have to be in Montreal on the 1st and I expect to return to Ottawa that night or the following morning and then to be away until Monday. The arrangements are already made for this with Helen and other members of the family and I really hate to cancel them at this last moment. You know how difficult it is to have any time with my family in these days and you will sympathize with my desire to make the most of this all too brief spell.

If Mr. Abbott has to be in Montreal anyway on the 4th I wonder if he would carry on as arranged. If this would be suitable I could ask him to do it on my behalf. Perhaps you might give me a telephone call about this and I will speak to him.

At this season of the year we look back to the parties we had at our house when on  
several



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several occasions we received an invasion by Fern, yourself and members of your family. In a quieter way we expect to have the same kind of Christmas Eve here this year and I only wish that we could see you all.

That not being possible Helen and I send our love and good wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,

*Helen*

*Brooke Claxton*