

Ans
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A2/994



Board of Trade,
Whitehall Gardens.
S.W.

15th March, 1912.

My dear Miss Strachey,

I have very carefully considered the question of the Conciliation Bill, and I have come to the conclusion that in the existing circumstances I cannot support it, and I shall vote against it. My reasons for doing so I shall probably give in the press.

In these circumstances, I do not know that any advantage would be gained by the proposed deputation. On the other hand, of course, as a matter of courtesy I should be willing to see them if I can possibly manage the time. Just now, unfortunately, every moment of my time is very fully occupied with the Coal Strike, and I am afraid I cannot, at the moment, fix up any time at which I should be certain to be able to attend.

Yours very truly,