

JUNE

1932

79 Colonist
May 28 1932

Slashing Attack Returns Fire of Opposition Chief

Utter Failure to Contribute to Solution of Present-Day Problems Laid at Door of T. D. Pattullo by City Members—B.C. Has Suit to Cloth Available and Shows Well Under Test

SLASHING attack was directed against T. D. Pattullo, Liberal leader, for failure to contribute anything of value to the solution of problems facing British Columbia in its greatest hour of need, in addresses before the Oak Bay Conservative Association last evening by the four Victoria members.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe and H. D. Twigg, M.P.P., delivered a galling fire, returning charges made by the Opposition leader with compound interest. They were followed by James H. Beatty, M.P.P., and Reginald Hayward, M.P.P., who described events of the last session.

Mr. Hinchliffe challenged Mr. Pattullo to state why the Government of which he had been a member had failed in four years to act on the recommendations of the Putman-Weir educational report, for which they had paid \$40,000 in 1925.

FAILED TO ACT

The Weir report had drawn attention to 650 school districts in which not one cent of the cost of teachers' salaries was paid by the people sending children to school in those districts. It had been left for the present Government to act on the report, by provision of a tax of one mill on the dollar in these areas, followed later by the abolition of the assisted school district at the last session, and a new basis for meeting costs in these areas.

The Weir report had recommended a superannuation plan for teachers to obviate payment of the whole cost of pensioning by the Province, with the result that in a few years teachers would carry all of the cost themselves on a self-supporting and wholly contributory pension basis.

The Weir report had recommended that all land be assessed for school purposes, and this recommendation, also, had been first put into effect by the present Government.

"OUR COUNTRY"

He had been accused of meddling, and the charge had been made that if Mr. Pattullo was returned he would have to undo everything that the Minister of Education had done, the speaker

continued. This would, in addition to the Weir report changes, eliminate soldiers' dependents' educational allowances run by an independent returned soldiers committee, without administration costs; the teachers' training courses, and would return to the roll of accepted school books many works speaking of the Stars and Stripes as "Our Flag," and of America as "Our Country," Mr. Hinchliffe continued.

Mr. Hinchliffe charged the late Liberal Government had sunk to use of school books to forward Liberal propaganda, and cited passages from a Canadian history "specially prepared for use in British Columbia," which described Sir John A. Macdonald as a dissolute man by choice, and "Liberalism as that force in humanity which made for progress and betterment," as opposed to "Conservatism, opposed to change and inclined to let sleeping dogs lie," with many other similar and uncomplimentary allusions.

PROVINCE WAS UPHELD

H. D. Twigg, chairman of the select standing committee on unemployment at the last session, discussed its results. As a result of the findings of the committee, he showed the Federal Government had settled all of its differences with the Provincial Government; had contracted to pay \$2,400,000 outstanding on Federal accounts, and had dispensed with the intermediacy of M. H. McGeough, whose evidence had been discredited at the hearings of the committee.

The carload of radios, the Blue River piano episode, the 104 carpenters at the Deroche camps, and the "mystery letter" in which Hon. J. W. Jones was alleged to have pleaded with Ottawa to cut British Columbia municipal relief, were all tested and exploded as false before the committee, Mr. Twigg said.

Reginald Hayward, M.P.P., dealt with legislation of the last Session, showing in the various acts passed, and the purpose of these. He said the Government and its supporters had sincerely faced perhaps the most difficult task ever laid before a provincial Legislature in this province, and had done their best under very trying conditions. It was the legitimate function of the Opposition to criticize, but not for political self-preference, he commented.

EXPENDITURES CUT

James H. Beatty, M.P.P., paid a tribute to Hon. J. W. Jones, and said treasury control now implemented, would insure a balanced budget at the end of the year. The best proof of the soundness of the Province's position was the last loan in London, with its success, he averred.

All members of the Government, backed by the Conservative members in caucus, had united to cut expenditures to the bone this year, as essential to the safe position of the province, in this over \$4,500,000 had been sliced from the estimates, for a reduction in cost of more than 22 per cent this year.

The Government had come into power on the wane of boom conditions and had had to adjust itself, and the public making demands

on it, to a vastly different set of conditions in the worst depression in modern history. Under all the circumstances, the Government had done well, and had the testimony of its position in the open financial market to back its policies.

Hugh Allan presided at a meeting attended by approximately 500 people.

*Province
June 8, 1932.*

BENNETT CRITICAL OF JONES MESSAGES

Copy of His Telegram to B. C. Minister Tabled at Reid's Request.

In response to a motion by Mr. Thomas Reid, M.P. for New Westminster, asking for a return of correspondence between the Dominion and Provincial governments on the financing of unemployment relief, a copy of the following telegram from Premier R. B. Bennett to Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance for British Columbia, was tabled in the House of Commons on the last day of the session:

Ottawa, Jan. 29, 1932.

Hon. J. W. Jones,
Minister of Finance,
Victoria, B. C.

Do you think it serves any useful purpose to send telegrams to us merely for the purpose of being able to show them to municipalities and others and thereby endeavor to establish that responsibility for existing conditions in your province is attributable to Federal and not provincial administration?

We have forwarded you \$2,800,000 of which \$500,000 was an open advance, the remaining \$1,800,000 being secured by treasury bills for provincial and municipal expenditures on authorized relief works.

Apparently you have used these funds in whole or in part for provincial purposes at the expense of amounts due municipalities.

We have no contract with municipalities and can only look to provinces to discharge their obligations and must obviously direct them to you for payment.

Total accounts received here, including those returned for revision, do not aggregate \$1,400,000. Assuming that one-half the total sums advanced are properly chargeable against the Dominion you have been paid for the province and municipalities the full amount to which you are entitled.

Ladner, who represented your government, must understand situation. Suggest you show him this message and take appropriate steps to deal with matter on a business basis, as other provinces do.

(Signed) R. B. BENNETT,
Prime Minister.

Cabinet
June 5/32

MR. PATTULLO'S OAK BAY SPEECH

Sir.—One wonders if Mr. Pattullo will ever grow up and recognize the responsibility of his position as Leader of the Opposition. He makes the wildest of statements, relying no doubt upon the shortness of memory and the lack of energy on the part of his audience to check him up. Almost every statement of his speech at Oak Bay, on May 12, can easily be proved to have been contrary to the facts.

As reported by The Times of the 13th, Mr. Pattullo stated, in part, "when we took office in 1916 the first thing we did was to balance the budget." Mr. Tolmie would have been more correct had he said that the first thing the Liberal Administration, of which he was a member, did was to get a big headline in the Liberal press saying "we are balancing our budget." Anyone familiar with the records of the twelve years of Liberal misrule knows perfectly well that what the party said it would do, and what it actually did, were entirely different things.

Here are the records of the way the Liberals "balanced" their budget:

First Four Years, 1917-18 to 1920-21	
1917-18 (deficit)	\$ 466,504
1918-19 (deficit)	1,181,006
1919-20 (surplus)	351,330
1920-21 (deficit)	\$4,407,416

Total (deficit) -----\$6,054,926
The net deficit during the first four years was \$5,703,596, and during this period there were more than twenty new taxes put on, while the public debt was increased by about \$40,000,000. A truly wonderful record, of which Mr. Pattullo can hardly be proud. Expenditures increased at the rate of \$2,500,000 a year, and debts at the rate of \$10,000,000 yearly, in spite of new taxation.

Perhaps four years may not have given them enough time to carry out their desire (?) to balance the budget, so we will see what happened during the next four years.

Second Four Years, 1921-22 to 1924-25	
1921-22 (deficit)	\$1,790,792
1922-23 (deficit)	1,180,561
1923-24 (deficit)	1,838,561
1924-25 (deficit)	1,946,405

Total deficit in second four years, \$6,656,319.

Public debts were increased by another \$16,000,000, more new taxes were put on and expenditures had, by this time, increased from \$9,349,350 to \$21,227,916. It will be interesting to see how Mr. Pattullo proposes to untwist himself out of the conflict between the actual facts and the fiction he gave his audience.

H. HASTINGS.

1510 Belcher Avenue, Victoria, B.C., June 2, 1932.

Seen
May 30 1932

BROWN CRITICAL OF LONDON LOAN

Warns of Danger in Increasing Canada's External Debt.

British Columbia's latest financial move in floating a loan in London, England was deplored by Major Harold Brown, president of Board of Trade, before the Laurier Club today.

"If I had been minister of finance," he said, "I would rather have floated a \$15,000,000 loan at home than half that amount abroad. If the people of Canada are not magnanimous enough to support such a loan, then we should go along living strictly within our income."

He warned that Canada's external debt is greater than that of any other country, and danger lies in increasing it.

Province
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1932.

Examining Heads

PREMIER Tolmie, home from his visit to Ottawa, says there is not going to be a provincial general election this year. The Premier is quite emphatic about it. He says it is out of the question, absurd; he says that people who suggest plunging the country into such a turmoil at a time like this should have their heads examined. Wherever that suggestion originated, whatever its motive, Dr. Tolmie equally repudiates it and waves it away. We should say, judging by the Premier's choice of language, that he means what he says; we should say, barring a major political accident, that British Columbia is not likely to add to its public distractions this year the excitement and the burden of an appeal to the country.

Also, we should say, with nearly as much emphasis as the Premier uses, that no responsible citizen wants an election in this province this year. We can not believe that any politician, unless he is utterly bemused with party politics, expects one. Least of all can we believe that Mr. Pattullo, that eminently practical party politician who leads the provincial opposition, expects there will be an election. But no doubt Dr. Tolmie, if he were not a sportsman and a gentleman, and if the thing could be done within a decent application of the rules of the game, would like to have Mr. Pattullo's head examined. At the very least, Dr. Tolmie, if he were not the soul of discretion, would probably confess a natural curiosity to know what Mr. Pattullo has got up his sleeve.

Perhaps a little, if only a little, of that curiosity is to be satisfied. For Mr. Pattullo is preparing a convention of the Grand Old Party. Mr. Pattullo may not expect an election this year—although he would be drawn and quartered before he would say so—but Mr. Pattullo isn't going to take any chances of being caught unprepared. There is no pretenser to Mr. Pattullo's office of leader; there is every evidence that the G. O. P. has been lately active in the various processes of party organization. If Mr. Pattullo is preparing for a party convention, there can be only one reasonable cause assigned for it: Mr. Pattullo and his party are going to construct and exhibit their party platform.

We shall all await that exhibition with a lively curiosity. If it is nothing but a gross canard and libel that there is no essential difference of purpose and policy between the nominal parties in this province—except the difference that one of them is in and the other out—then we can hope to learn it pretty soon. If Mr. Pattullo and his political friends have got the political salvation of British Columbia in their heads, if they have got a new hope and a new dispensation up their sleeves, then we are going to have the thing produced for our inspection. In this perfectly correct and courteous sense, therefore, we welcome the forthcoming public examination of Mr. Pattullo's head.

Seen
June 7/1932

EXAMINE THEIR HEADS!

Whose head should be examined, the Province newspaper's or Dr. Tolmie's?

Three and a half years ago the Province newspaper elected Dr. Tolmie to office. Now it is abusing the Doctor and his Conservative party and every other party with it.

The Province newspaper should be careful. The British system of government was built on the two-party system. It is the system which has been found to work best. But the party system of government only works best, or works at all, when the leaders and critics of the party itself are at least consistent.

The one reason why fat, good-natured but totally incapable Dr. Tolmie is Premier of British Columbia, is the Province newspaper.

At the Kamloops convention it was no party secret that the Province had "thumbs down" on young, energetic men like Leon Ladner, M.P., and Hon. R. L. Maitland. St. James Street orders were that they knew Dr. Tolmie, and Dr. Tolmie knew them and knew their ideas and their ideals, and that he would fit in with their plans.

Well, he has fitted in with their plans, and he has played their game, and he has wrecked the finances of British Columbia in the process, and now the Province newspaper wants to blame it on the party system, and on the Liberal party, and even on the poor old Doctor himself.

One man in the Oliver Government who was outstanding for his administrative and business ability was Hon. T. D. Pattullo.

One man who was not afraid to run contrary to public opinion when it affected good administration was Mr. Pattullo.

No one better than the Province newspaper, and The Vancouver Sun too, for that matter, knows how Mr. Pattullo stuck to his guns in the Capilano timber controversy. Popular clamor was wrong and Mr. Pattullo was right. But Mr. Pattullo had to take a lot of public and newspaper and party criticism to finally show that he was right.

It is men of the Pattullo type, with courage and business ability, who will do the courageous thing and pull British Columbia out of its present mess. Ask any one of fifty lumber heads or business men who have had contacts with Mr. Pattullo in the past 15 years.

Parties that will put and keep in office a weak man like Tolmie when there are numbers of young, vigorous men in their party available for the position; and newspapers like the Province, which openly demand their election and for years openly support them, are hardly capable critics of a party system.

Most systems, political, financial and social, in vogue today, are good systems; there certainly is room for improvement, but that can be done if those able are willing to do it. But if there are any revolts or revolutions to take place, those revolutions, like in the case of a family, should take place inside rather than outside the party.

Conservatives can thank the Province newspaper for the mess they have got into.

Province June 1 1932

Party in Politics

OLD parties and new parties are endeavoring to whip up interest in public affairs in British Columbia. Provincial associations hold meetings. There are rallies in the constituencies. New voters' lists are being compiled. Mr. Pattullo gives a dance at Sooke that hasn't even the suspicion of politics about it. Mr. Pooley tells an Alberni audience the Russians are to blame for the depression. Mr. W. A. McKenzie adds that a Doukhobor can not be made a good citizen by kindness. A vote of confidence in the Liberal leader is passed at New Westminster. From Victoria come despatches telling who is going to be who in the ridings at the next election.

It is an excellent thing that the people of the province should be stimulated to take an interest in the affairs of the province, and in creating this interest the parties are doing good work. This, perhaps, is the best feature of party rule in the province. The desire of those in power to remain in power and the ambition of those on the outside to taste the sweets of office develop an atmosphere of contest, and the people, or such of them as can be roused, are driven to range themselves on one side or the other. The rousing is good. The sad feature of the whole affair is that an artificial stimulant should be necessary. After all, the province's business is a people's business, and the people should, for their own sakes, take an interest in public affairs and seek information on every phase of it.

The stimulant is artificial, the motives behind its administration are not disinterested and the interest aroused is often a biased interest. These are the evil things about the party hip-hurrah which precedes elections. And yet, there is probably no way of avoiding these evils. So long as we have elections, there will be election contests, and contestants in their anxiety to win will always put their best foot forward. It is only human that they should do so. If the elector, in his capacity as political jurymen, will listen to the argument of one side only, or will take no pains to balance the opposing cases, that will be his fault, and the loss will be his in the end.

It is not on the hustings, however, that the party system as we have it

working in British Columbia, does most harm. On the whole, the system doesn't give us a bad set of representatives. Mr. Pattullo insisted, some time ago, that the members of the Legislature were quite as good as the run-of-mine business men. We would go further than the leader of the opposition and say that they are probably considerably better than run-of-mine. Their character is good. Their ability is above the average. Their intentions are usually of the best. But they are hampered by the system they follow. They carry the feature of contest and division which may be necessary in elections, into the Legislature, where it is not only unnecessary but is a nuisance. They make party advantage, rather than the public good, their aim, and—such is the blindness which party adherence produces—come in time to think the two synonymous. They discuss public questions not on their merits but with an eye to the making of party capital, and, instead of co-operating in the public interest, they waste their time and energies pulling in opposite directions and raise such a storm of dust and noise that issues are constantly mixed and beclouded. The result is a long succession of blunders and a sorry trail of inefficiency and waste. This is party at its best. At its worst, we have patronage, pork barrels, corruption and the sale of policy for campaign funds.

The dyed-in-the-wool party men say party is a necessary feature of government. A necessary feature of elections, perhaps—though that may be disputed—but there are plenty of governments that get along quite nicely without party division, and there are men thoroughly versed in party, who, especially in times of emergency, urge that party be subordinated to the general good. In Great Britain, today, is an example of a government in which party has been subordinated in all essential matters. In the House of Commons at Ottawa, a fortnight ago, party found no place in the discussion of the radio problem. In the United States, so good a party man as Al Smith has been urging Congress to forget party and balance the budget.

Party undoubtedly has its place when there is a real issue on which men can divide. It has no place when issues must be manufactured merely to keep it alive.

VICTORIA MEMBER URGES COALITION

B. C. Should Emulate Britain, Says Reginald Hayward.

VICTORIA, May 30.—Coalition of the Conservative and Liberal parties in British Columbia to meet the problems of the present depression was advocated here by Reginald Hayward, senior Conservative member of the Legislature for Victoria. "The time has come," Mr. Hayward declared, "to forget politics and partisan manoeuvres and unite to handle the present situation. That is what they have done in Britain and, while it is true the British political situation was different from ours, in that the existing government had no clear majority, still I believe and have believed for some time, that we could well follow their example. All the combined ability of both parties is needed to solve our existing problems."

"Meanwhile political manoeuvring and purely partisan criticism of governments is tending to bring the whole institution of party government into disrepute and is bad for both parties. I am not for a non-party system. I believe in party government, but for the time of this crisis I believe in a coalition of the two parties."

Mr. Hayward, it was learned, advanced this proposal some time ago to his colleagues in the House and has not changed his mind since then. At a meeting here last week he spoke on the subject briefly and added a further statement today. When he spoke along these lines in Oak Bay, perhaps the most Conservative district in British Columbia, his remarks were well received.

A DANGEROUS TAX

Vancouver devotees of amateur sport will have the sympathy of the entire province in their campaign to urge the repeal of the 10 per cent sports tax.

The promise was made by the Finance Department, it is alleged, that this tax would be reduced to 5 per cent. This promise has not been kept.

But the danger in the situation does not lie so much in broken promises, as in the downright folly and iniquity of trying to bleed amateur sport in times like these.

Amateur sport is about the only thing a good many people have left to them. It is their only source of amusement. It affords the only relief they have to the drabness and the bitterness that have followed in the wake of the depression.

In times of prosperity, when amusement is a luxury, amusement can logically and justifiably be taxed.

But in times of depression, when amusement is a psychological necessity and an absolutely essential safety valve to people's harrowed feelings, a tax on any amusement that goes to the point of jeopardizing the existence of that amusement is a dangerous and shortsighted piece of business.

Seen June 24, 1932

Seen May 30, 1932

Sun May 31 1932.

'Canada's Burden Of Debt Dangerous'

Major Harold Brown Tells Laurier Club
That Canada Should Borrow Within
Her Own Borders or Go Without

British Columbia's recent borrowing of seven million dollars on the London market was deplored in an address before the Laurier Club in the Hotel Vancouver yesterday by Major Harold Brown, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade.

Major Brown said that Canada's external debt is a dangerous thing. He declared he would rather see \$15,000,000 borrowed on the domestic market, than half that amount abroad.

Warning that Canada's external debt already is greater than any other country's, he said that if the people of the Dominion were not magnanimous enough to support such a domestic loan "then we should go along living strictly within our income."

"I hope for no further external loans. We should be able to support ourselves under all circumstances."

BOTTOM NOT REACHED

Speaking of the economic crisis, Major Brown expressed the belief that the bottom had not yet been reached. He believed there would still be a certain amount of tragedy, particularly in Central Europe, before safety could be reached. This would inevitably af-

fect all countries, including British Columbia.

He pointed out, however, that Canada's population is small and "the problem should not be insuperable to keep this people free of the worst consequences of collapse in Europe."

Referring to the political character of the Laurier Club, Major Brown explained that he was discussing the provincial situation only "as an interested and slightly apprehensive citizen."

He realized the strain public men were under at present and sometimes wondered at their moral courage in standing it, but, he added, their moral courage must go the length of receiving constructive criticism.

CONDEMNNS PARTY SYSTEM

Condemning the party system for subjugating free will and judgment and creating hatred, jealousy and distrust, he declared that Government now must be economic, not political.

Yet, generally speaking, he found the politician to be not a student but an opportunist without profound knowledge of the problems of the time.

Praise for the work of Hon. J. W. Jones, Minister of Finance, was expressed by Major Brown but he said Mr. Jones could have done much more if he were free of political influences.

Mr. Jones had still budgeted for \$24,000,000 expenditure this year, he pointed out, although revenue never exceeded \$22,000,000 in the seven best years in the history of the province.

EXTREME OF TAXATION

There was a saturation point in taxation, said Major Brown, and that was what was troubling the Victoria Government.

If that point were passed, he believed, enterprise and initiative would be easily destroyed in a young country like British Columbia and everyone would be made to suffer.

H. I. Bird, president of the club, introduced the speaker and presided at the luncheon. A vote of thanks was moved by P. P. Lewis.

Sun. June 10 1932.

B. C. Government 'In Bad' at Ottawa

Otherwise Plan to Complete P.G.E. Would
Be Aided Says A. E. Munn, M.P.

NORTH VANCOUVER, June 10.—"If Premier R. B. Bennett were satisfied with the government at Victoria I think he might get behind the proposal to complete the P.G.E. railway and give assistance toward construction," said A. E. Munn, M.P. for Vancouver North in an address to the North Vancouver Club here last night.

The speaker stated that the Provincial Government is discredited at Ottawa, and Mr. Bennett is far from satisfied regarding the manner in which affairs have been conducted in B. C.

Mr. Munn said it was apparent that funds for relief purposes sent from Ottawa "had been used for other purposes," and this was only one reason why the Provincial Government is in the bad books at Ottawa.

BENNETT KNOWS SITUATION

Referring to the Second Narrows Bridge, Mr. Munn said: "I believe that within a very short time arrangements will be completed whereby the new scheme for restoration of the bridge may be proceeded with."

He explained that he stayed over a few days after Parliament adjourned so that he might have private conversations with the Premier. He found that Mr. Bennett is fully conversant with the acute situation here and realizes that a terrific strain is placed on municipalities concerned.

"Mr. Bennett criticized certain things that have happened here," he said, adding that Senator A. D. McRae and Hon. H. H. Stevens have also placed the bridge situation before the Premier.

NO TIME FOR POLITICS

Mr. Munn assured the audience that he is convinced Mr. Bennett is deserving a certain amount of credit, as he is sincerely trying to prevent Canada from going bankrupt.

"At a time like this we cannot afford to play politics and must get

together, fighting with our backs to the wall. No miracle is going to happen to save the situation."

A resolution was passed requesting Mr. Munn and Jack Deuter, M.L.A., to communicate with the special unemployment relief committee, Victoria, seeking assistance for the North Shore.

Sun June 4 1932

McKenzie Backs B. C. Exhibits In Britain

Replies to Attack by E. G. Allen Before
Members of Vancouver Board of Trade

By Canadian Press

VICTORIA, June 4.—Hon. W. A. McKenzie announced yesterday that there was no just ground for criticism of B.C. exhibits at British fairs and trade exhibitions last year, and that on the contrary a very high standard had been set by the Canadian Exhibition Commission under which this province displayed goods in fairs at Olympia, Birmingham, and at the Imperial Fruit Show.

The inquiry was made through F. P. Burden, B.C. Agent General, Hon. T. G. Coventry, B.C. Markets Representative in London, and from independent sources in England, following an attack made on the British Columbia efforts, managing director of the Wrigley Printing Co., in an address before the Vancouver Board of Trade recently.

QUOTED IN VANCOUVER PAPERS

Mr. Allen's remarks were quoted in two Vancouver papers on April 28 to the effect that the B.C. exhibition at London was "disgraceful—and would not have been a credit to a little agricultural community."

Mr. Coventry also was the object of a personal attack by Mr. Allen who was quoted as saying "What B.C. needs

in London was a real salesman or an advertising man."

Mr. Allen who was in Britain recently, failed to call at British Columbia House, and met none of the province's direct representatives there, said Mr. McKenzie. It was apparent from his remarks that Mr. Allen utterly failed to take into account the fact that B.C. while making no individual displays had drawn many thousands of people to view her goods at the Canadian exhibition at Olympia.

QUESTION OF COST

Mr. Coventry had pressed personally for a separate B.C. exhibit at Olympia, but this had been rejected on account of the cost last year. Excellent exhibits were made however in the Canadian section at the British Industries Fair, the Imperial Fruit Show and at many other exhibitions during the year.

Mr. McKenzie, quoted correspondence from Mr. Coventry to indicate that Mr. Allen and himself had disagreed over a former printing contract and Mr. Coventry had removed his order. This asserted Mr. McKenzie may have inspired the unfounded attack made on the B.C. Markets Representative at the Vancouver Board of Trade meeting addressed by Mr. Allen.

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1932

LIBERAL THINKING IS THE WAY OUT

Next Thursday the people of Manitoba go to the polls with two major choices before them—a loose coalition of Farmer and Labor parties headed by Premier Bracken and a straight Conservative organization dominated by Federal Conservatism.

The people of British Columbia are not particularly concerned with the politics of Manitoba. We do not care much whether Manitoba folk elect Liberals, Labor or Progressives.

But we do think this, that the West will never get out of its present hole on Conservative thinking and Conservative dogmatism.

Conservatism stands squarely behind individual capitalism with its tooth and claw competition. Is this sort of a policy going to aid a wheat growing province where cooperation rather than competition is the only road to recovery?

Individualistic capitalism, with all its ramifications, can only reduce the western provinces to peonage.

These farmers have got to band together and together fight a way out. They are entirely dependent upon markets. And the only thing they can buy markets with is their own consuming power.

Premier Bennet's Conservative policy hands the Western Canada-British Columbia market over to the East, kills off all our trade with England and the Orient and leaves the West with nowhere to go.

What can such a policy offer to Manitoba?

We cannot be expected to know or understand the little intimacies and peculiarities of Manitoba's political situation.

But we do know, understand and firmly believe that liberal thinking, under whatever name it travels, is the only way out of the present morass.

Province June 11, 1932.

What a "Perspective"!

WHEN good Liberals disagree, then wicked Tories rejoice, and the grand old game of party goes right on. It chances, however, that the latest Liberals to disagree do so on this very business of political partisanship. One of them is Mr. John W. Dafoe, editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, who has just been telling a meeting of social workers that the party system of government is not suited to discharge the new functions of the modern state. The other is our own exuberant leader of the provincial opposition, Mr. T. D. Pattullo, who is still so enamored of the party system that he says we should all be wise—meaning all us citizens of British Columbia—if we forced the hand of Premier Tolmie, and demanded a general election some day soon.

Of course, when we tell Mr. Pattullo, as we have been telling him for some time now, that the party system in British Columbia has wound up in bad government at the hands of both the parties, he remembers that we have never been enthusiastic supporters of his, and he puts it down to our wicked prejudice. We suppose he will likewise remember that Mr. Dafoe has never been exactly a timid party rabbit. But when Mr. Pattullo, learning nothing and forgetting a great deal, assumes that the remedy for the present political discontents in British Columbia is just to change parties again, we can only repeat that he is forgetting some things that we happen to remember very well indeed.

For instance, we remember very well indeed the only good reason there was, four years ago, for putting Mr. Pattullo's lot out of office and putting Dr. Tolmie's lot in. The reason was that it was all that could be done with the political system we had to work with, which was the system of alternating political parties in power at Victoria. We had had twelve years of Liberal

party government at Victoria, and it had been twelve years of going from bad to worse in the miserable business of government by the party, for the party. Mr. Pattullo's lot were thrown out on the general principle that Mr. Pattullo's lot had come to be just as bad as any lot could be, that perhaps Dr. Tolmie's lot would be a little better, that certainly Dr. Tolmie's lot couldn't be any worse.

It wasn't a great hope to begin with—it was the only hope permitted by the party system in a political field where there is no sound reason for the party system at all. The only difference that any reasonable man—a man, that is to say, who isn't an irreclaimable party politician—can see between Mr. Pattullo's lot and Dr. Tolmie's lot is that one of them is out and would like to get in, and the other is in and does not intend to get out until it is put there. That is precisely what Mr. Pattullo means when he says that Dr. Tolmie's government "has no background or perspective." Mr. Pattullo has background and perspective—he has, Lord help us. His background is the recollection of the sweets of office, when he was in before; his perspective is the vision of the sweets of office, when he can get in again.

The answer is, unless we can get something better than this scrimmage of the "ins" and "outs," that there is no remedy for the present political discontents of this misgoverned province in bringing in Mr. Pattullo and his unregenerate lot. On the most reasonable assumption, by the old reasoning on the normal working of the party system, Mr. Pattullo's lot hasn't been long enough out of office to learn repentance for its misdeeds when it was in before.

No, no, Mr. Pattullo, with the very highest esteem for all your excellent qualities in every other capacity than that of party politician, the prospect of bringing in you and your lot again is not good enough as a reason for an election some day soon.

Colonist June 1932

SQUARE DEAL GIVEN B.C.

Distortion of Unemployment Relief Facts Challenged by H. D. Twigg

"British Columbia has got a square deal from the Tolmie Government. In spite of the troubled times, serious conditions of finance and business throughout the land, that Government is giving the people of British Columbia decent, clean administration; against which not one scandal or even suspicion of wrongdoing can successfully be brought," declared H. D. Twigg, Conservative member for Victoria, in a forceful address before the Women's Conservative Association last evening.

Mr. Twigg gave, in concise detail, the administration of unemployment relief in British Columbia in 1930 and 1931, told of the campaign of innuendo and obstruction which had been raised by the Liberal Opposition and the Liberal press in unsuccessful endeavors to obstruct the Government in the

handling of the most serious problem facing the country. He predicted that a weekly discharge of campaign ballyhoo would be fired regularly from now on, starting this week, with the half-truths about an Ottawa wire on relief.

FIRST OF MANY

"I am satisfied that this is merely the first of a series of letters and correspondence which you will see put forward as part of a deliberate campaign of half truths and misrepresentation, fostered by the Liberal Opposition for political purposes," said Mr. Twigg.

"It is quite true Mr. Bennett sent a critical message, but it is also true that he had been misinformed as to the facts. The wire was dated January 29 last. At that date, it has since been clearly shown, the Dominion owed \$700,000 to this Province on Dominion account for municipal undertakings, and that not one dollar of the sum was transmitted until April 5, following.

"The barrage of misrepresentation which was seeking to set the two Governments at loggerheads was very nearly successful, but it overreached itself. The Federal relief report, and the report of the select committee of the British Columbia Legislature are in agreement as to the facts of the matter, and the Dominion Government has agreed in full with the contention of the British Columbia Government as to all matters outstanding in connection with relief.

B.C. NOW IN CHARGE

"Further, the Dominion Government has dispensed with the services of the former Dominion assistant director of relief in this province in that capacity, and has placed British Columbia relief affairs solely in the hands of the Provincial Government. In the final settlement more than \$2,000,000 will be paid by the Dominion to this Province on 1931 relief accounts, as a result of the inquiry," Mr. Twigg stated.

"Any agency that seeks to make political capital out of the distress of the unemployed, and to obstruct deliberately the honest attempt of governments to alleviate this suffering, is not working in the best interests of the people," commented Mr. Twigg. "The campaign sponsored by the Opposition on the public platform, in the Legislature, at the unemployment inquiry, and since will prove a fruitless appeal by any party seeking the seat of government," he concluded to applause.

PRAISE FROM MANION

"Stand pat behind the Tolmie Government," was the message sent to the meeting by Hon. R. J. Manion, and read by Mrs. F. Kilsby, presiding at a well-attended gathering.

A social hour, with refreshments and an excellent musical programme, followed Mr. Twigg's address. Mrs. K. Marris and W. Parks contributed vocal solos, receiving merited encores.

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Province June 9 1932.

PARTY SYSTEM A FAILURE, SAYS JOHN W. DAFOE

*Effective for Purely Political Purposes, But
Deficient as Medium of Economic Con-
trol—Choice Will Have to Be Made
On Expenditure for National
Prestige Or to Meet
Human Need.*

WINNIPEG, June 9.—“The party system of government is not suited to discharge the new economic functions of the modern state and if these powers are to be extended something more efficient must be devised,” J. W. Dafoe, managing editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, declared Wednesday, when speaking to the third Canadian conference on social work at the Royal Alexandra Hotel.

The greatest problem, he said, was how the state was to be fitted for such enlargements of function as would bring about this efficiency. The present system of government, effective for purely political purposes, was deficient as a medium of economic control and new methods would have to be planned.

The subject of his address was “Social Applications of State Powers.”

MUST LOOK AFTER PEOPLE.

Even in the United States, he said, where individualism had been developed to a greater degree than in any other nation, there was obviously an advance in the recognition of the obligation of the state to look after the people, who suffered through the deficiencies and inequalities of the social system.

The existing attitude in the public mind was well summed up in a report issued by the International Labor Office this year stating it was now generally recognized “that those who are involuntarily unemployed have a right to a livelihood and that the community can not leave them to their fate.”

The acceptance of this view of the functions of the state could not but powerfully affect political thinking and public policies. It created a whole series of problems. Obviously it extended state control to fields where hitherto, individual will and desire have been supreme.

PRESTIGE OR HUMAN NEED.

The cost of these services must powerfully affect national finance. It was becoming evident that in the older countries a choice would have to be made between expenditures for power and prestige—like armaments—and expenditures for social reconstruction. The continuance of the national income at its present level, on the face of limitation of individual enterprise, was too lightly assumed by social workers like Shaw.

If the economic system that had produced the wealth that made possible the World War was dispensed with, was there a workable substitute, and would the enlargement of the state's economic functions encourage the present tendency toward national self-sufficiency which threatened the economic stability of the world?

These were some of the questions that were tied in with the development which the modern state was undergoing. And they would have to be given attention.



JOHN W. DAFOE

Province June 9. 1932.

Government Lacking in Perspective, Says Pattullo

**Liberal Leader Complains
of Administration's
Outlook.**

**Hon. J. W. Jones Refuses
Comment—Claims Relief Issue Settled.**

VICTORIA, June 9.—Hon. J. W. Jones declined today to comment upon a lengthy wire from Premier Bennett to himself, published Wednesday, regarding payments from Ottawa on unemployment relief. He intimated he was not going to be enticed into making any comment that might be sought from him with the object of setting the Ottawa and Victoria governments at variance on matters that have already been satisfactorily adjusted.

“Hon. Mr. Jones can not dismiss the subject so lightly, however,” declared Hon. T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader. He added: “Matters have yet to be adjusted between the people and the government.”

“The Premier says that anyone who suggests an election this year ought to have his head examined. It seems clear that this reflection of the Premier's was superinduced by the fact that he came back from the East empty-handed. In any event, there is no need to go to the expense of examining the governmental cranium—everybody knows except the government.”

“In my judgment, the public would be wise to force this government to an election rather than to sit quietly and wait for the effraction of time, which will compel the government to submit itself to the electorate. The longer the delay, the worse the situation will be.”

“Today the Premier is talking upon the Alaska-Yukon Highway, notwithstanding the innumerable immediately practical matters requiring attention. The government has clearly demonstrated that it lacks both background and perspective.”

Sunday, June 26, 1932

GOVERNMENTAL ECONOMIES

Mr. J. W. Jones, the Provincial Minister of Finance, is pursuing a course of drastic economy and impressing on every department of Government that expenditures on public services must be cut to the bone. Tax returns are not producing what were estimated, which means that still further economies, in addition to those contemplated in the last budget, must be put into effect. In other words, the Government, if it is to balance its budget of 1932-1933, has to spend less than it contemplated it would be able to spend a brief few months ago.

In these days, and particularly in British Columbia, politicians have to undertake unpleasant and invidious tasks and impose measures of economy and retrenchment in the course of which they are jeopardizing their own popularity. They have, in effect, to sacrifice their own political safety for the good of the people. That requires courage, and Mr. Jones is exhibiting it to a high degree. The goal towards which the Finance Minister has set his steps is to insure that British Columbia will not be subjected to any more taxation than it already has to bear. That is a goal which ought to commend itself to the taxpayers. In proportion to their belief in it, they should be thankful to Mr. Jones for the efforts he is putting forth. Those efforts are so emphatic that he has even run the risk of proving unpopular among the members of the Cabinet to which he belongs; and, of course, too, he has not won any encomiums from that section of the population that has always both hands outstretched for political largesse.

An outstanding solution of present difficulties lies in the reduction of political expenditure. The nature of the emergency in this respect is familiar to private business on a large scale. The public services have to follow the example of households and other concerns throughout the province. Mr. Jones, over and above budgetary specifications, is rationing the departments of Government. He is, in doing this, providing a fruitful remedy, even if the course pursued may seem relentless. He is insisting that Government as a whole cut its coat according to the cloth. Pursuance of a plan to which he is devoting his whole attention cannot fail in the long run to win popular favor. Mr. Jones has shown that he is not afraid of drastic retrenchment. He is determined that British Columbia shall spend within her means; that, under his administration of the portfolio of Finance, this Province will be spared further tax burdens. That is the way to provide an assurance to industry generally that it can embark on ventures without the nightmare that in the days immediately ahead it will be subjected to new taxation. That is the way to promote recovery in economic conditions.

Because the Provincial Government, under the spur of the Finance Minister's policies, is promoting the economies alluded to there is reason for optimism. That Government, in fact, is pursuing the course of common sense, because, when taxation reaches a point at which the law of diminishing returns is beginning to operate, it stands to reason that the public demand is for economy in expenditures. That demand is being met in large measure by the Provincial Government. The public, when they come to a full realization of what is happening, will be proportionately grateful. Economy paves the highroad to recovery from economic depression. It requires, in Government, the exercise of reason and self control, and it is a challenge to unpopularity. That is a challenge which Mr. Jones has accepted, if not cheerfully, at least with a determination which shows that the object he has in view is to promote the welfare and prosperity of the people of British Columbia.

Our Poor Mr. Jones

WORD comes from Victoria that perhaps the Liquor Control Board will be able to buy its liquor a little cheaper than it has been getting it. It seems that some distillers have already agreed to price reductions suggested by the board; apparently there is reason to believe that others will prove amenable. The board, it seems, "has set out its desire to buy more cheaply, in view of all contingent circumstances," and the distillers have seen, or are expected to see, that those circumstances are imperative.

Let us spare a moment from all our own troubles for those of a hard-pressed Liquor Control Board. The board, of course, is none other than our old friend the government at Victoria in one of its diverse capacities. The board, in fact, in this connection, is none other than our poor friend Hon. Finance Minister Jones. When we are told that the board, "in view of all the contingent circumstances,"—and what an eloquent phrase that is!—desires to buy its liquor more cheaply, it means just one thing, and nothing more. It means that Mr. Jones, viewing the public finances with a very proper concern, is rather afraid that the "contingent circumstances" of the government liquor trade are going to be adverse to his project of a balanced budget.

We ought to spare this moment for the hard-pressed finance minister. His case is indeed hard. He needs, ever so badly, the \$4,000,000 of revenue which, if the times were better, he could hope for from the profits of the Liquor Board. But if the wicked and friendless liquor consumer is too hard up to buy enough liquor to provide enough revenue, what is Mr. Jones to do? Shall he put an extra tax on the wicked consumer—by getting the Liquor Board to charge the friendless consumer more—and then perhaps discover that this extra tax is more than the traffic will bear?

Or shall Mr. Jones appeal to the better feelings of the wicked distiller? And if the wicked distiller, confounding the libels of his enemies, shall be found to have these unsuspected better feelings, and shall reduce the price of liquor to the government, what then? Will the wicked consumer refuse to consume unless Mr. Jones, also giving way to his better feelings, shall reduce the retail price? And if he reduces the retail price, will that offset all the advantage of the reduced wholesale price? Alas, alas, for our poor friend Mr. Jones!

CASE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

The four Western Provinces, at a meeting at Regina, have been outlining a programme for presentation to the Federal Government in the hope it will be discussed by the Imperial Conference. There are doubtless some matters in which common understanding will strengthen any case it is sought to have discussed at Ottawa next month. Apart from this consideration, there is the question of matters which peculiarly affect British Columbia. In this particular a memorandum would be of value so that the Federal Government can deal with subjects of particular relation to the Pacific province and to problems affecting the outlet on the Pacific Coast to Canadian trade generally.

British Columbia is concerned about what the Imperial Conference can do to implement the prosperity of her basic industries. She wants to know what advantageous terms can be secured for the marketing of her lumber, her dairy products and her fruit, and also what means, if any, can be devised to nurture her mineral industry. This province is a reservoir of great natural resources, particularly as affecting the industries noted. At present a case has been prepared for the lumber industry, and is now being submitted to Ottawa. As well, there should be the fullest information on hand relating to all the province's natural resources, to the conditions of her industries as at present developed, to the handicaps which now operate against a growing overseas trade and to any lack there may be in this regard of shipping facilities.

It is a big question, which should have been under consideration for many months past, if a complete case is to be prepared. Failing a memorandum of a sufficiently exhaustive character, the hope is that British Columbia will be represented in an advisory capacity when the Imperial Conference is in session so that all available information can be given to the Federal Government for presentation of the case for trade development on this coast.

Sun June 18/32

Province June 15/32

Federal Cabinet Shuffle in Offing

Signs at Victoria, Despite Denials of Tolmie, Point to Plans for Snap Election This Year

By C. NORMAN SENIOR

Recent events have turned political eyes away from Victoria towards Ottawa. Simultaneously with Premier Tolmie's statement that there would be no provincial election this year came reports from the East of a Dominion Cabinet shuffle after the Empire Conference, to be followed by a general election.

It will not do to overlook developments at Victoria, however. Premier Tolmie's denial of election plans is somewhat contradicted by the activities of his Government and his party.

The haste with which the voters' list revision is being conducted in the Vancouver and Victoria areas savors of a pending contest. The extensive ministerial tours of the constituencies is an old sign of an election in the air.

The appointment of the hard-boiled H. D. Twigg as party organizer at an enhanced salary is a circumstance not to be overlooked.

PUBLICITY SPEEDED UP

More suggestive still is the activity of a publicity bureau in Victoria which has been circulating throughout the province a mass of mimeographed material dilating upon the achievements of the Tolmie Government. This flood began early in May and is still flowing.

Some of the material is most ingeniously arranged. The budget figures are juggled to show that the 23 million-dollar Jones' budget of 1931 was not really an increase over the 20 million-dollar MacLean budget of 1928.

When the Tolmie Government after eight months in office had got through

with the MacLean 20 million-dollar budget they had managed to spend nearly 25 millions. This year Mr. Jones cut his 1931 budget down to 26 millions.

"So the Tolmie Government has not increased the budget by \$7,500,000 but only by \$1,000,000," says the propagandist. There is more of the same.

Another amusing government claim was advanced by Hon. R. W. Bruhn at Princeton the other day. He told the good people up there that the Tolmie Government had built 1400 miles of new roads and reconstructed 3,000 miles.

WHAT 1400 MILES MEAN

British Columbia has grown so used to big numbers that this claim seems to have gone right over most people's heads. But somebody sat down to figure out what 1400 miles of new road really meant. The distance from Vancouver to Field on the C.P.R. is 506 miles. Roads go straighter than railways as a rule, because they don't have to detour as far for grades.

If Mr. Bruhn and his predecessor, Hon. N. S. Lougheed, had really built 1400 miles of new road British Columbia ought to have three new transprovincial highways. Yet it is only by stretching things a bit that the province can be stated to have one.

Somebody is going to ask Mr. Bruhn some day to show where these 1400 miles of new road are located.

It is somewhat unusual for governments to start peddling tall stories like this a year before election time. There is too much opportunity for checking up.

The truth probably is that the Government was all set for an election,

just as it was at this time last year, but that once more something has gone wrong at Ottawa.

Last year it will be remembered the contest was to be staged right in the thick of all that well distributed expenditure of so-called relief money. But Ottawa refused to have its funds used for any such purpose and the opportunity was lost.

P. G. E. DIDN'T HELP

This time Premier Bennett was expected to come through with cooperation in a P. G. E. deal. Again unfortunately for Dr. Tolmie, Mr. Bennett refused to discuss the matter until after the Empire Conference. Hence Dr. Tolmie's scorn for the very idea of an election this year.

But if the somewhat limited ingenuity of the Tolmie Government and its advisers can evolve a situation which appears to give them any chance of making a showing at the polls the scornful denials will be conveniently forgotten.

The big hope of the Conservatives now is that Premier Bennett will be able to pull off a coalition deal in the East, split the Liberals and win a snap election. Whatever Bennett does Dr. Tolmie will probably try to imitate in the provincial sphere.

If the Bennett scheme fails, of course, the Tolmie Government will be at least no worse off than it is today. And meanwhile the ministers will have had another six months in office at full pay less 10 per cent.

AIM BLOW AT PARTY SYSTEM

Independent Candidates On Island Pledged to New Dafoe Ideal.

PLAN MEETINGS

VICTORIA, June 15.—With the object of "ending the era of party futility and waste in British Columbia and the inability of politicians of the old-time parties to grasp the fact that as John W. Dafoe said, 'the party system of government is not suited to discharge the new economic functions of the modern state and something more efficient must be found.'" Independent candidates, pledged to the new political ideal, will contest the coming provincial election with the Conservative and Liberal nominees in the ridings of Victoria, Esquimalt and Saanich.

The candidates will be placed in the field by the National Councils of Canada. Announcement of the decision was made at the National Councils meeting at its headquarters here last night.

For the Victoria riding, it was announced four candidates will be put in the field under the full endorsement of the National Councils.

PLAN MEETINGS.

It was decided to conduct a series of mass-meetings, starting in July at the principal points between Valdes Island, Campbell River and Duncan, to provide focal points for public opinion that seeks to bring about a change. Speakers delegated to conduct these Island meetings included ex-Mayor A. J. Morley, P. J. Sinnott, J. Macfarlane and George R. Lovatt. Similar meetings will be held on the mainland, it was announced. Ex-Mayor Morley and Mr. Sinnott were appointed trustees to receive contributions and membership fees to defray the elections expenses. It was announced that campaign funds would not be sought from any improper sources.

With Mr. Lovatt presiding as chairman, Capt. E. P. Matheson spoke during the evening. He predicted a provincial election would be held between September 8 and 20, the dissolution of the present Legislature being forced by inability of the government to carry on any further because of the crisis in its financial affairs.

POLITICIANS LIVING IN PAST.

Mr. Sinnott spoke of the determination of the National Councils to keep aloof from the system of campaign funds from interests dealing with the government, which system, he declared, had brought about the utter moral ruin of the present major parties. He declared the present parties were interested above all in maintaining and perpetuating their own organization and failed to grasp the new needs of the country. He said the present-day politicians were living in the past and were incapable of dealing with the new world.

The names of the political parties that have broken away from the old political parties to bring about a permanent betterment in B. C. governmental affairs were given by Mr. Sinnott as follows:

National Councils of Canada, Government Reform party, MacInnes Fascist National party, People's party, Bowser Independent Conservatives, Dr. Clem Davis City Temple party—now in course of formation; United Front party, comprising elements of radical organizations; the Labor party and the Anti-Thousand Dollar Cheque party.

Sun.

JUNE 18, 1932

MANITOBA POINTS THE WAY

Coalition has prevailed in Manitoba. But it is worth while noting that the coalition which has won overwhelming support of the people of that province is a coalition of the Liberal and Progressive elements, not a coalition of the Tories and St. James Street.

People are not deeply concerned about party names and political machines these days. This is as true in British Columbia as in Manitoba.

But it does not follow that the revolt against partyism takes the form of endorsement of Toryism and reaction. Quite the contrary.

When it comes to choosing governments, the people will vote for the party or element that offers a constructive, aggressive and forward-looking policy for the benefit of all the people, not for special privilege.

That is the object lesson that Manitoba affords.

The unfortunate break of the Conservatives in bringing federal issues into the campaign proved fatal to their prospects. It was no small achievement for a government in office 10 years to win an election in hard times. But when the Conservatives of Manitoba reminded the electors of their alliance with the reactionary Bennett administration they sealed their own doom.

Whatever may be its faults, and presumably the Bracken administration has many, the public preferred an alliance of liberal and progressive thinkers to a government by a group who boasted of their close association with the stagnant, repressive policies that prevail at Ottawa.

When discussion arises of coalitions in Ottawa and coalitions in Victoria, this lesson is worth remembering.

Colonist June 22/1932

A PARTY TRIUMPH

There is an element of amusement in any estimate of the election result in Manitoba as a triumph of non-party politics. It was anything but that. On the contrary, it was a definite triumph for sectional partyism; for the cohorts of political partisanship who are catering in their legislation to one economic section of the people of the province—in short, for agrarian radicalism. The slender basis on which the result is acclaimed as a non-party victory is because the Liberals officially united with the Progressives and formed a coalition ministry. That coalition actually received a rebuff at the polls since two out of three of the Liberals who were taken into the Cabinet were defeated.

Manitoba's result was a clean-cut Progressive victory, and the Progressives have shown themselves a political party. They have definitely aligned themselves on the side of sectional interests. They have assumed an attitude of antagonism to the National Policy of protection. They introduced Federal issues into their election campaign. They are a spendthrift party as the finances of Manitoba show. The Bracken Government spent \$400,000 on motor vehicles used by Ministers and employees during 1931, and for the same year only voted \$327,000 for agriculture in a province where agriculture is the leading industry. There is no stretch of the imagination by which the Progressives of Manitoba can be regarded as a non-party government. The fact is that the people of that province have endorsed sectional politics in an emphatic way, and have endorsed as well financial outlays that they will live to regret.

