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Mr. K.

Boiling down the spate of criticism, the King Government apparently suffers from the lack of any well defined policy, or if such policy exists they are fearful of coming out openly and saying "We must do thus and so," lest a vote be alienated or a future tenure of office be jeopardized.

We look to Ottawa for leadership of a forthright nature instead of the Gallup Poll "after-the-event" variety. Procrastination and evasion may be expedient or even justifiable in times of peace, but with the problems brought on by the war the nation expects and deserves firm, effective control and guidance, which we have only in part.

Honest mistakes in policy are inescapable, but a willingness to admit mistakes and a sincere effort to correct them would count for more than the backstage shuffling that now seems to be going on.

I believe that the criticisms are being levelled at the government more rightly than wrongly and that any remedies which may be devised are going to come too late to restore the confidence of the general public in the present Liberal set-up. For my own part, while realizing that much wartime business must be expedited that way, I would like to see Parliament assuming greater importance and less enactments pushed through by Orders-in-Council.

As far as party platforms are concerned, they usually fall into two classes - Utopian dreams or opportune sniping at Opposition weak spots. In spite of the ridicule directed at it by Liberal stalwarts I still think George Drew's recent Twenty-Two Points, falling into the first class, is greatly to be preferred to the average knocked-together-in-a-hurry programme. At least it gave the voters something concrete to work on and contained much material that might have been applied equally by any party.

Suggestions for a proposed platform might better come from someone less superficially interested in politics. However, one point might be considered. The average citizen is being exhorted on all sides to cut expenses and save in every way. It would be a nice gesture on the part of the Government to cut down needless expenditures in their turn - and they could go a lot farther than installing a watchdog over paper clips and stationery. Economy, at the cost of ruffling a small army of office holders, could be an important plank in whatever platform is finally constructed.