

job, as we conceive it, is to distribute abundance rather than ration scarcity. The economic organization of yesterday was unable to achieve or to sustain that expanding production without which full employment could not be accomplished. State socialism can never achieve it; for socialism is rigid, centralized and coercive. The only hope of a steadily expanding national income lies in the cooperation of the state with all organized enterprise, whether it be private, cooperative or government-owned. As our party sees it, the government must join with those engaged in industry, commerce, agriculture and finance to plan for full, steady and growing production, and complete employment with as little loss of individual freedom as possible. Our party is out to free Canada from the bonds of bureaucracy, while socialism, in our opinion, can only plunge Canada further into the underbrush of red tape and administrative controls.

The policy of the C.C.F. is, to say the least, an elastic one. It stretches all the way from the Pacific coast, where its leader there calls loudly for the militant, revolutionary kind of socialism, with a few policemen and gaols thrown in for good measure, to the easy-going but relatively harmless pie-in-the-sky theories of the hon. member for York South (Mr. Noseworthy). The variation of opinions in the C.C.F. party constitutes a danger signal for the people of Canada, who are anxious to know which way the party is going. Not much wonder the vast majority of farmers in Canada are looking with suspicious eyes upon this movement which never seems to be able to make up its mind how long it would let the farmer mind his own business were it ever to achieve power.

It is a favourite political pastime of some C.C.F. leaders to refer to the "old-line parties". I have no objection if they want to make it singular, because one of the boasts of the present Prime Minister is that Liberalism dates back so far. But Progressive Conservatism cannot truthfully be tied up with any old-fashioned policies or doctrines. From the Winnipeg convention emerged a new policy, and a new leader. Actually, many are of the opinion that old-fashioned parties now in Canada are the Liberals and the C.C.F.'s. Apart altogether from age, however, the C.C.F. party has developed certain characteristics which brand it as a typical old-line party to-day.

I thought that the old days of presenting political promises to the electors of Canada in bushel baskets had gone forever. There was a time not many years ago when people looked down upon the public man who made a speech full of promises. They almost ostracized from society the man who would issue a pamphlet

full of promises. That branded the politician as an old-fashioned old-timer in the field. But those days are back again and, strangely enough, ushered in by the party that likes to call itself the herald of the new order. Not only are the promises made in speeches and in pamphlets; but so great has been the volume of promises to the Canadian people that the C.C.F. have had to call in the bookbinders to assist. With all this plethora of promises to swallow, the citizens of Canada will be fortunate if they escape several attacks of acute political indigestion before the next general election. Canada has witnessed nothing like it since confederation. Let Canadians be certain that the cures now being prescribed for our national ills are not worse than the ills they are designed to cure.

The Progressive Conservative party has taken the initiative from one end of the country to the other in the battle against socialism. We are recognized as the main spearhead of Canada's fight against it. When this time comes, we shall call upon all those who oppose socialism, with all its regimentation and bureaucracy, to follow the leadership of John Bracken and the Progressive Conservative party. By that means, and that means only, can Canada stay on the safe road towards rational reform.

It is pretty generally acknowledged throughout the dominion that the present tired, weary administration has lost the confidence of the people of Canada. To look over the present House of Commons and contrast it with the present state of public opinion makes this Commons appear little short of a dream chamber. The government right now controls this parliament by what the Prime Minister in 1935 under parallel circumstances called a "mechanical majority." The weakness of the present administration throughout the country is admitted by its own friends. In its own good time it will be compelled to throw the torch of leadership and responsibility. That torch I predict will be caught by a vigorous Progressive Conservative party led by its able and experienced leader John Bracken, who will be called to save this nation from the chaos of socialism and disaster.

The speech from the throne may properly be said to be a combination of the Winnipeg platform, John Bracken's reform speeches, a death-bed repentance, and several dying declarations. It lacks the real crusading reform spirit to be found in either the Winnipeg manifesto or Mr. Bracken's subsequent addresses, but the effect of both of these factors can be seen in many parts of the throne address. The character of the speech indicates that the