

with no loss of momentum this country has been going steadily forward under the driving and confident leadership of Liberal administrations?

3. THE SPIRIT OF LIBERALISM

What is this political belief called Liberalism? It is not only a political movement; it is also a philosophy of life that has inspired great civilizations and that for countless centuries has won the support of free men and free women everywhere.

Liberalism is a way of life that centres on the common man. In a Liberal state the individual citizen, endowed with his inalienable right to follow freely the dictates of his own conscience, is master of his own destiny. The state is always his servant. The highest duty of the Liberal Party is to preserve the proper balance of our rights and our responsibilities within a free society.

The Liberal Party believes in giving the greatest possible scope to human enterprise and individual initiative. We do not -- like the Tories -- make a fetish out of free enterprise. We do not -- like the Socialists -- believe in making the state master over us. We recognize that enterprise must be free but that it must be free with limits of responsibility, so that "free enterprise" for one will not mean "slave enterprise" for anyone else.

When a Canadian stands up among his fellow-citizens and says: "I am a Liberal", he makes a personal declaration of economic and political independence. Regimentation belongs to the Socialists. If you want to put your political conscience in someone else's keeping, C.C.F. Headquarters in Ottawa will give you a book of rules on what you can think. If you are too tired to keep up with the world, your place is with the Conservatives -- the Progressive - Conservatives -- the Conservative-Progressives -- whatever they now call themselves, the Tories became fearful of new ideas many years ago. In a changing world their unchanging political philosophy has become a museum piece.

But if you want to stand on your own feet and come to your own conclusions, then choose the Liberal Party. In this Party there is no dull conformity. We agree on our principles and after that we are free to disagree.

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