

THE LIBERAL PLATFORM

A VOTE FOR McCONNELL IS A VOTE FOR THIS PLATFORM

FREE LANDS FOR SETTLERS—NONE FOR SPECULATORS.

We emphatically condemn the McBride government for its connivance at the evasion of the land laws by persons, syndicates and corporations who have been allowed to obtain millions of acres of the choicest accessible public land, which are held without use and to the detriment of the province as a whole.

We hold that agricultural land should be disposed of only under such conditions as will ensure its continuous use and occupation.

Free homesteads to actual settlers. Holders of pre-emptions to be given benefit of this provision.

Advances to settlers on easy terms to assist in land clearing, dyking, irrigation, and other permanent improvements.

Surveys of all accessible agricultural lands to be rapidly completed and survey sheets and all necessary information to be made easily available to the public.

Settlement in block to be encouraged by the removal of reserves, which scatter population and greatly increase the cost of roads, schools and other necessary facilities.

No public land for the speculator.

TRANSPORTATION.

The immediate construction of a railway to Peace River.

We will co-operate with the Dominion Government in securing all-rail connection between the railway systems of Vancouver Island and the railway systems of the mainland.

The construction of a line owned and controlled by the government to give direct communication, by the best route as to grades and distances, between the Similkameen and other Interior points and the Coast.

We favor the husbanding of the provincial credit to assist lines that will open up new territory.

Provincial credit and resources not to be wasted in paralleling existing lines.

No land subvention to railways beyond what is necessary for railway purposes.

Abolition of the system of giving away Crown lands for townsites free of taxation and under railway control.

Aid to railways not to exceed what is reasonably necessary to secure construction.

The prevention of over-capitalization of railways.

The province to co-operate with the Dominion in aiding railway and highway construction.

All franchises for the construction, operation and ownership or leasing of government-aided roads to be open for public competition.

Freight, passenger, and express rates and telegraph tolls of all government-aided roads to be under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Railway Commission.