

Well, that is a fairly comprehensive list and if hon. members care to look at it they will find, as I have found, that there is no mention of economy throughout the whole document. Bracken House did pretty well on that charter, but they overlooked the feature of economy.

Now I come to a more recent date. Last March, just about the time the house opened, the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada, at its annual meeting in the city Ottawa at the Chateau Laurier, passed a number of resolutions, publicity as to which was given in the newspapers. I asked my office the other day to get for me a copy of these resolutions, and I have it here. It is entitled:

Appendix B to the minutes of the annual meeting of the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada, 1946.

That was the meeting at which my hon. friend the financial critic of the opposition, the hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario, was elected dominion president of the association—and may I observe, in passing, that a very excellent choice was made by the party in that regard. There are twenty-seven resolutions. The first deals with leadership, the second with appreciation of Progressive Conservative members—well deserved, I am sure. The third deals with press and radio, the fourth with farm prices, the fifth with bureaucratic controls, the sixth with taxation, the seventh—

Mr. GRAYDON: Are you passing over bureaucratic controls?

Mr. ABBOTT: I will read that, gladly.

Mr. GRAYDON: Yes, read it.

Mr. ABBOTT: I will read it with pleasure:

We are opposed in principle to the continuation of other wartime wage and price ceilings and to restrictive controls. With very few exceptions we demand their immediate removal.

Mr. ILSLEY: Would you like to have it read again?

Mr. ABBOTT: That was resolution No. 5. Under the heading of taxation they say that every citizen of Canada should bear his fair share of the burden, and so on; and they state:

(3) That income taxation be such as to provide that tax exemption for single persons should be raised to \$1,200, and for married persons to \$2,000.

That, no doubt, is commendable, but I am informed that it would involve an additional loss of revenue of some \$325,000,000, and this added to the \$300,000,000 that would be involved in the increased expenditure for old age pensions, making some \$600,000,000 in all, shows how close to balancing the budget my

[Mr. Abbott.]

hon. friends opposite would have been had the electorate of the country showed such poor judgment as to return them to office.

There is a resolution concerning "women". I will not read what is there set out. Among other things, they want more women appointed to the senate. Resolution 10 is an elaborate one, it has to do with veterans' affairs. But, as I say, most of the recommendations in that resolution, and perhaps more, have been implemented. There is a resolution about old age pensions which repeats what was in the charter. Then follows a resolution on social security, which reads as follows:

Be it resolved that we reaffirm the position stated by the party in the Winnipeg platform, that Canada should include a comprehensive body of social security measures in a unified system.

Resolution 14 has to do with national soil conservation. It reads as follows:

Whereas the operations of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act have proved of great benefit to the prairie region of western Canada; and whereas every province has its own peculiar problems of soil conservation and farm rehabilitation; therefore be it resolved that this association urge the government to expand the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act into a national soil conservation and farm rehabilitation act and extend its activities to all the settled farm areas of Canada.

Resolution 20 deals with scientific research. Other resolutions deal with cattle embargo, floor prices, and so on, which I do not think involve any added expenditure. Resolution 20 reads as follows:

Be it resolved that in view of the fact that science played such an important part in the winning of the war, and in view of the fact that our survival in the days which lie ahead will depend primarily on our progress in scientific research and invention: We therefore urge the government to expand the research facilities of the national research council and provide further grants to the provinces for scientific research.

Resolution 21 deals with the tourist industry, educational services to point out to private enterprise the opportunities of the tourist trade, and the latest methods of conducting such business, being advocated.

Resolution 26 is a special one; it deals with Prince Edward Island transportation. It reads as follows:

Be it resolved that continuous all-the-year round transportation for passengers, freight, trucks, buses and vehicles to and from Prince Edward Island be provided immediately at the expense of the dominion government; and that the increase of cost of moving motor vehicles, as well as farm products and other freight, by truck or rail, occasioned by this water route, over the normal cost of moving freight for the equivalent mileage on land, be borne by the government of Canada as a matter of national policy.