

SUBJECT

NAME AND DATE OF NEWSPAPER

The Sun, April 10/32

AN AMAZING STATEMENT

PERSONAL and political friends of Premier King were more than amazed and astounded at a statement he made during a debate in the house of commons on Thursday. The opposition was giving the government an unpleasant time and evidently got the premier's "goat." In the course of a debate on the question of the dominion government giving aid to the provincial governments to relieve the unemployment situation Premier King, with great heat, made the following amazing statement:

"So far as giving money from this federal treasury to provincial governments is concerned, I would be prepared to go a certain length, possibly, in meeting one or two western provinces that have Progressive premiers as the heads of their governments, but I would not give a single cent to any Tory government on earth."

This is so unlike the good-natured and affable characteristics of Premier King that one who is acquainted with him can hardly believe that the prime minister expressed his real sentiments in the foregoing quotation. Rt. Hon. Mr. King is not of an impetuous disposition and he has always thought twice before he has spoken once. The present session of parliament has been a most trying one to the premier and the day on which he made the statement was specially hectic. A human being can stand just so much and we can understand that when physical force and mental faculties are taxed to the limit a man in a high and responsible position may say something on the spur of the moment that he would not say on another occasion.

Those who know Rt. Hon. Mr. King cannot believe that he was giving vent to his real sentiments when he made the unfortunate statement. THE SUN is an independent Conservative journal, and perhaps one of the few Tory papers in the dominion to condemn the premier too harshly for his rash statement in the house on Thursday. We have had the honor of meeting Mr. King a number of times when he was premier and when he was the leader of the opposition and we have reason to know that the premier's words came from his head and not from his heart on Thursday. Mackenzie King, who, by sheer ability, has surmounted difficulties and overcome tremendous obstacles, is too big a man to be judged by words spoken in the turmoil of heated debate and a house surcharged with partisan political electricity.

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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