

national resources, our agricultural and industrial life, and our consumers from exploitation.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I would remind hon. gentlemen opposite when they say "hear, hear" that these are pledges which the country will expect to see redeemed. The list of pledges continues:

2. We pledge ourselves to foster and develop agriculture and the live stock and dairy industries now so sadly neglected.

3. We pledge ourselves to the stabilization of economic conditions, and to continuity of trade and freedom from the manipulation of home and foreign tariffs.

4. We pledge ourselves to the development of interprovincial trade and of a Canadian fuel policy, and development of a foreign market.

5. We pledge ourselves to the improvement of the whole scheme of Canadian transportation northward by the completion of the Hudson Bay route, and the construction of such branches as may be necessary to render it most readily available to every part of Canada; to the Pacific slope by a Peace river outlet, and east and west by the development of the St. Lawrence waterways, and we pledge ourselves to aid existing traffic channels and to increase port facilities on the Great Lakes, Hudson Bay and the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and to the establishment of a national highway system.

6. We pledge ourselves to foster and support a plan for greater empire trade to be based on mutual advantage.

7. We pledge ourselves to a national old age pension scheme.

8. We pledge ourselves to such compensation adjustment as will ensure the benefit of the above policies to every part of Canada.

Speaking at Renfrew on July 16th the present Prime Minister said, as reported in the Ottawa Journal the following day:

These pledges I have made, and by them I stand or fall. They are each one of them for the good of Canada as a whole. I have said that in my every action, that must be my guide. It is not my way to whisper in the east so that the west may not hear me, nor to promise in the west something of which I would keep the east in ignorance. I preach one policy and I will practise one and one alone, the upbuilding of Canada and the ever closer cooperation of its parts, so that through their mutual help and mutual advantage the whole will grow into a power which laughs at adversity and triumphs over all the evils that prey upon disunion.

Then I find the statement—quoting from the Ottawa Journal of July 17th:

When I made these pledges, I made them definite and plain, so that all might understand...

To appreciate the significance of the supplementary list it is necessary to have a view of the sort of picture of conditions which was painted by my hon. friend, in other words to see the background of conditions with respect to which these particular promises were made.

I have noticed that Mr. Tom Moore, the president of the Dominion Trades and Labour Congress, which body is now holding its annual meeting in one of these western cities, made the statement yesterday or the day before that the unemployment problem in Canada is largely psychological. When we get through reading what my hon. friend had to say in connection with unemployment, we will readily understand how that particular psychology came into being. I venture to say that my hon. friend has done more to cause unemployment by the speeches with respect to the industrial situation that he has made throughout Canada than he will ever be able to remedy. He has created a fear in the minds of the people not only in this but in other lands, and that fear will undoubtedly have its effect in discouraging the investment of capital. That discouragement will in turn have its effect in causing persons to hesitate to enter upon many lines of development in industry. Such would certainly be the result if the conditions were as they have been described by my hon. friend. As we read these various statements which form the background of my hon. friend's pledges, they will be found in no way lacking either in vividness or vituperation.

First of all I might give the picture presented to the country by my hon. friend of the government which was then in office. After all on the part of the leader of one party there is something owing in the use of words with respect to those who are his political adversaries. It seems however that my hon. friend did not attach much importance to that particular obligation. Speaking of the personnel of the late government my hon. friend was reported in his first speech as follows:

This group of mercenaries, holding office by sham and subterfuge, look upon them as treacherous to you, self-confessed, deserving of your passionate condemnation.

I am told moreover that my hon. friend read the speech which he made at Winnipeg, and that these words were apparently in his own handwriting or the outcome of his dictation. Further he is reported to have said:

Look at its leaders—leaders of what? Certainly not leaders in the Liberal faith; as certainly no leaders at all, for they are followers who are truly all self-interest, forgetful in their love of office of all else but their own personal advantages. Look at them and you will say with me and all Canadians who put their country first, these men cannot be trusted, for as they broke faith with Liberalism, so will they break faith with Canada.

Then my hon. friend said when speaking at Guelph on May 11: