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PREMIER URGES ALL WHO CHAMPION INTERESTS OF PEOPLE AS A WHOLE UNITE TO ASSURE LIBERAL POLICIES

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King Invites Those Who Stand Opposed To Rule For Benefit of Few To Align Themselves in One Political Group.

TO STRENGTHEN HAND OF GOVERNMENT

Five Thousand Electors From Several Counties and Cities Gives Premier Tremendous Ovation at Woodstock Park
—Graham and Murdock Also Speak.

TIME ONLY NEEDED TO BRING PROSPERITY

Special to The Advertiser
By a Staff Reporter.

Woodstock, Aug. 20.—Amid a scene of wild enthusiasm and the ringing cheers of 5,000 electors of Oxford, Middlesex, Brant, Perth and South Waterloo who attended the Liberal picnic in Southside Park yesterday afternoon, Premier King sounded a clarion call to all the members of the House of Commons who stand for the interests of the people to align themselves in one political group and give battle to those who stand for the privileges of the few. This was interpreted as an invitation to the Progressives to join the Liberal party with the object of strengthening the hands of the government and enable it the more readily to carry out its program of sound Liberal policies.

"Yes, we want the Liberals and Progressives to unite," said the premier, when asked the direct question after the meeting.

Hon. Mr. King was in excellent speaking form, and received a tremendous ovation from the immense crowd which had turned out in spite of the threatening weather. The call for a showdown between the forces of progress and privilege came as a climax of one of the most brilliant speeches he has ever delivered. Optimism was the keynote of his address.

Other Speakers.

Addresses were also delivered by Hon. G. P. Graham, Hon. James Murdock, W. G. Raymond, M.P., Brantford, Dr. Rankin, M.P., South Perth and Dr. D. J. Sinclair, M.P., North Oxford.

Mayor E. A. Rea and Warden L. E. Peterson extended a civic welcome to the premier. Malcolm Schell presided.

"I said the other day that we will have no election this fall," said the premier.

"Why?" he continued. "Because the people are well satisfied with the present government. They don't want a change."

"No announcement was ever more welcome to the people of Canada than the announcement that there would be no election. Was it the same prior to 1921? Everyone then was begging for an election. Everyone wanted a change of government and it could not come too soon. But today they are saying to us 'Don't bring on an election now, don't disturb industrial conditions.' It means that the people have acquired confidence in this government and believe it will continue to administer the affairs of the country in an honest, progressive, and straightforward way. We cannot do all we want at once or in one, two, or three sessions. Time will be required. The main thing is to be sure we are proceeding on the right lines."

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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