

Donald is doing to-day and what other politicians are doing elsewhere—carry on government by negotiation between groups rather than by the opposition of one party to another.” That is the change: The revolution consists in the carrying on of government by negotiation between groups rather than by fighting between two parties. I know that many of my hon. friends around me will say: “Oh, we are going to get back to the old two-party system.” Not quite in our time. So the criticism I make of the Minister of Justice and of the Prime Minister is that they should frankly confess the existence of this condition and the fact that their action was based upon it.

I want to get back to the question of how it all happened—this romance. All that happened was a gesture; one kiss and one whisper in the ear, and apparently the deed was done. That is the way politics are going to be carried on now for some time, rather than by discussion. These things cannot be called “deals,” because if there was a real deal between two parties an agreement would be drawn up and the result of that agreement would be a coalition; there would be Lochinvars in the government to-day if that were the meaning of it. But that is not the meaning of it, because Lochinvar says:

He took her soft hand, ere her mother could bar,—
“Now tread we a measure!” said Lochinvar.

Lochinvar is going to tread measures with her half a dozen times before he is through, because as the member for Sherbrooke (Mr. McCrea) said this afternoon, God knows where it is going to end. There is going to be another treading of measures. They talk about just “one cup of wine,” but I watched the King’s treasurer, the minister who has charge of revenue in this government—I watched him across the floor of the House the other day, and I did not think there was very much on. But somebody had evidently called out for a drink, and he jumped up in the House and he offered a goblet of the real old stuff. All kinds of further reductions are promised; there is to be another measure trod between our friends down the line and the Minister of Finance. There will be a great many more; we do not know where these things are going to end. But the point of the story—and I know all my friends here may not accept it, and hon. gentlemen across the way may not accept it—the real thing in politics to-day is the fact that, the world over, the two-party system is more or less at an end. The group system has come, and instead of the fighting between two parties there is the carrying on of negotiations. You will have the greatest example of it in

history in the United States when they come to the issue as they will late this fall.

I asked you, Mr. Speaker, to pardon me for telling a romance on the floor of this House, but it is good to get back to romances occasionally. I would not have been able to tell that story to-night had I not been brought up on Lochinvar at my mother’s knee. She used to tell me that story of old, and when I thought of it the other night the whole thing visualized itself to me as I have attempted to depict it here to-night. It is just an elopement of two parties; it is up-to-date, and we do not quite know what will come of it.

Now, I promised the House that after I had told the romance I would give my outline of what a fiscal policy for Canada at this time should be.

An hon. MEMBER: It is a tragedy, not a romance.

Mr. MACLEAN (York): Well, it may be a tragedy. I told the House I would give my policy, and it is only my own, for 1924 for the people of Canada, and especially for the Parliament of Canada. I am going to read it, and then I will make some brief comments on it.

A New National Policy For Canada, 1924.

1. A fiscal policy that will keep and build up our industries, gain for us new ones, and give employment at good wages to our home workers.

That is my idea of a tariff policy for to-day, and that would probably be the only plank that can be disputed in this platform. The next is a rather important one, and quite up-to-date.

2. Public support of public services owned in whole or in part by the people; transportation, communications, power. Also co-operation and joint user with competing services where same may be in the public interest; all these services at cost.

3. A national system of banking with re-discounts, including credits for farming as well as for business and industry, based on national notes and national currency; to include postal savings banks and marked cheques thereon.

This is a subject we had up for discussion in the Banking and Commerce committee to-day, and it will be up again to-morrow. I have given a real plank on banking for this country, I think.

4. Development of the St. Lawrence waterway for navigation and power.

Now here is one I have especially for the Maritime provinces and the western provinces, and you will see where it leads to.