

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

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MACKENZIE KING'S CRUEL THREAT

"Whom the Gods would destroy, they first made mad," declared the Greek poet.

Certainly Rt. Hon. William Mackenzie King was good and mad when he stood up in the House of Commons last Thursday and declared:

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

Not even the cries of "Shame" which rose from the House cooled off his choler. "What is there to be ashamed of?" he retorted, as he reiterated his announcement that he would not give a five-cent piece to any Tory government on earth.

The former employee of the Rockefeller foundation has let his position as Premier of Canada go to his head. He talks of the treasury of Canada like the pre-war Kaiser Wilhelm used to talk of his troops. He thinks that every five cent piece in the treasury is his own, to be used for expenditure in those provinces which accept so-called Liberalism and its policy of putting Canada under the heel of Quebec.

Mr. King's announcement is all the more unconscionable because he proposed to wreak his mean revenge for his political defeats on those who are suffering the stings and arrows of unemployment.

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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