

thing was going to be improved. Policies might not work and governments might not do everything, but there was one source that was infallible. From policies he goes to governments; he goes from governments to individuals—to himself. We shall come to that in a minute. Meanwhile what did my right hon. friend say the other day in speaking to a delegation of the Trades and Labour Congress that waited upon him? Did he say that policies or the government of the country could do everything? He said:

Ten millions of people could have but slight effect upon the movement of world forces.

That is a very different note from what he sounded before he came into office. In seeking office, he told the country that policies and governments could do anything, and as I shall show later, that he himself could do anything. But what is he saying now: At Calgary on August 26, of this year the Montreal Gazette of August 28 refers to what was said of my right hon. friend as follows:

Mr. Bennett blamed the present depression on speculation and an attempt to live higher than incomes warranted. It was the duty of every Canadian to do his share in effecting the return of normal conditions.

That was not what he said during the campaign. Speaking only the other day, this very year, in the city to a group of young people who carry his name, the Bennett Young Canada Club, my right hon. friend did not say that governments and policies could cure everything. He said:

The basis of the present trouble is that people have been borrowing too much, living too extravagantly and speculating too much.

That is a very different note from that which he sounded throughout the campaign. Speaking at Toronto on December 18, 1931, before the Commercial Travellers Association, my right hon. friend said:

In this country, as in other countries, the government cannot do everything. Your problems as a people were not brought upon you by governments, but by yourselves.

That must have given great consolation to the commercial travellers as they were going about the country seeking in vain for orders from an impoverished people.

Your problems as a people were not brought upon you by governments, but by yourselves. People demanded things, and for these things the country is now paying.

It is true the country is paying, and paying at a pretty heavy rate. Then he added—I do not know whether as a touch of humour or not; it may be that he had in mind the imperial conference and desired to make the people of the old land feel happy:

I know that people complain when additional or higher taxes are imposed; it is popular to grumble about taxes. But in England men earning as low as \$500 a year are glad to pay their taxes so as to do their bit for Britain.

Those are fine sentiments. But are they true? Is there anybody who thinks that the people of Britain are any more delighted to pay taxes than are the people here? If so, human nature is very different in Britain from what it is in Canada.

Let us come now to what my right hon. friend said he himself would do. He got away from policies, away from governments and began telling the electorate what he himself would do. People are asking what my right hon. friend meant when he set forth his Magna Charta of promises, in which he promised something for everybody everywhere, and then said: These pledges I have made, and by them I stand or fall. That is what is troubling him to-day; instead of standing by them he and his government are falling by them and falling rapidly.

Speaking at Regina on June 10, 1930, my right hon. friend said:

If the party I belong to on the 28th day of July is given authority to conduct the affairs of this country, at the first session of our parliament the government of which I am the head will pass laws that will give Canadians an equal opportunity with their competitors outside of Canada, or will go out of power.

Mr. BENNETT: Hear, hear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: "Or will go out of power." At Yarmouth on July 2, 1930, as reported in the Halifax Herald of July 3, my right hon. friend said:

At the first session of parliament the Conservative chieftain stated he would see to it that Canadians would be afforded fair competition or perish in the attempt.

At North Vancouver, on June 18, 1930 he said:

After I am Prime Minister on July 28th, I will see that my promises are carried out, or the government will go out of power trying to do so.

People are wondering how the government remains in power, because they do not see that the promises are being fulfilled. Here are familiar words. This is what irritates the farmers.

Listen, you agriculturists from the west and all the other parts of Canada, you have been taught to mock at tariffs and applaud free trade. Tell me, when did free trade fight for you? You say tariffs are only for the manufacturers. I will make them fight for you as well. I will use them to blast a way into the markets that have been closed to you.