

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

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According to Premier King's recent dictum the Saunders Government in this province should have no difficulty in having its claims adjusted for subsidies. "I would not give them a five-cent piece," he declared to governments which were not either Liberal or progressive. Commenting on the prospects opened up by this declaration the Halifax Herald says, "If," say, the old machine were still in power in this Province, the Prime Minister would "give" them public money. Naturally because they were "progressive." But a new and truly progressive Government like the present Nova Scotia Government, "nothing doing," so far as Mr. King is concerned.

Which gives the measure of Mr. King's idea of what is "progressive." The term, in his political dictionary, is applied to provincial governments that can be used to perpetuate the reign of the King Ministry. And since the people of Nova Scotia, Ontario New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and British Columbia have had the "temerity" to elect governments, Mr. King does not like—ergo, he cuts them off without a penny!"

"As for the unemployment problem, by which all Canada is now being vexed," says a Toronto Exchange, "who is more responsible for it than the King Government? That Government wrought for the advantage of United States producers at the cost of Canadian producers. The King Government has made Canada the star customer of the United States and has sent to the United States hundreds of thousands of Canadians who sadly left this country because they were, by the King Government's policy done out of the means of making a livelihood. Now when the United States is experiencing some decline in industrial activity, our unemployed at home have to depend upon the generosity of their own country. The King Government, which has brought them to this pass, hardens its heart against them and professes that its reason for not aiding them as it ought to do is that so many of them belong to provinces administered by Conservative Government."

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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