

No action of individuals

The report quotes at length from the evidence with respect to certain transactions of the corporation and of individuals, but the individuals^{mentioned} were not members of the government, and in the case of those who were members of parliament there is nothing in the report or the evidence which would justify even the inference that, as regards the company itself or those concerned with its affairs directly or indirectly, the Liberal government at the time of its approval of the plans or at any time subsequently was influenced by any consideration other than such as it was obliged to have regard for in the discharge of its public duties.

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"Toronto Globe", July 23, 1931

So far as the public is concerned, the situation is this: The King Government put its imprimatur on the Beauharnois power concessions, estimated as worth scores of millions of dollars; the political organization supporting the King Government accepted from the favored company a vast sum of money for campaign purposes.

No amount of argument will dispel the belief that the contribution was made in return for the concession. Mr. Sweezy testified as much. This is the plain fact that has to be faced.

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The Liberal party, through the reprehensible conduct of its organization, has forfeited public confidence. This is the situation it has on hand, to be dealt with vigorously and promptly. Apologies and explanations are useless. It cannot make amends for what has been done. Can it clean house sufficiently to win back the respect to which it is entitled through years of public service and honest tradition?

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