

You have my promise that if the Conservative party is returned to power that as soon after July 28 as possible parliament will be called together to deal with the problem of unemployment by providing, not doles, but work (applause), and that legislative action will be taken to bring about the future security of our country and the well-being of its people. . . . We cannot tolerate the dole. Men and women of this country want work, not charity. . . . Is there any excuse for Canada to have hard times if the government is discharging its duties as it should?

Then at North Vancouver, according to the Vancouver Province of June 18, my hon. friend said:

Governments can regulate policies of the country so that facilities may be provided to give employment and not make it necessary for thousands to leave home and go elsewhere to get jobs to make a living. That is one count alone on which this Liberal government should be condemned.

At Vancouver on June 18, as reported in the Vancouver Sun of June 18, 1930, my hon. friend said:

"We must look forward to the building of highways, of waterways and railways to provide work", Mr. Bennett said. He would undertake, for instance, completion of a highway across Canada, from Cape Breton to Vancouver. . . . "Canadians do not ask for charity or doles. They want work and wages. That is why it will be my duty, if elected, to call a special session of parliament to anticipate those great undertakings to which we are pledged to enable Canadians to keep themselves and their families in comfort."

At Moose Jaw on June 20, the hon. gentleman said, as reported in the Regina Leader-Post of June 21, 1930:

The party to which I belong is pledged, by legislation to give fair competition, to the end that we may give employment to Canadian men and women, that they in turn may buy the products of our farms and help to build up our country.

At Woodstock on June 24, as reported in the Toronto Mail and Empire of June 26, 1930, my hon. friend said:

After the 28th of July the first duty of a government representing my party is to pass such legislation as will give to Canadians fair competition and equal opportunity with any country in the world.

Again at Woodstock, according to the Toronto Mail and Empire of June 26, he said:

We must pass laws at the special session that will anticipate work for our people on national highways, on great canals, that we must make for our waterways to the sea in great undertakings such as branch lines and matters of that kind, in order that we may give employment to our people.

All this, hon. members will notice, is part of the work cut out for this special session, which my hon. friend says must be concluded

within two weeks, otherwise he will not attend the imperial conference. At Yarmouth on July 2, he said, as reported in the Halifax Herald of July 3, 1930:

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. Canadians must have their home markets first and after markets abroad. . . . The Conservative party would take the necessary action, even if we have only a majority of two.

Now that they have a majority of thirty we shall expect to see it done rapidly.

Mr. BENNETT: We will do it that much quicker.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I am glad to hear my hon. friend say he will do it that much quicker. The unemployed in this country will be counting the days. At Halifax on July 3, he said, according to the Halifax Herald of July 4:

If the Conservative party comes into power on July 28th, I propose at the earliest moment to call parliament together so that we may find a speedy remedy for this situation and decide on means to provide work for Canadians. Work, I said, not doles. The Canadian workmen want work, not charity. Construction of our great national highway to which this party is definitely committed would materially assist in providing a practical solution to this problem.

Then at Chatham, New Brunswick, according to a Canadian Press report of July 11, he said:

I propose if elected to power, to call a session of parliament immediately after July 28 to deal with the unemployment problem, to authorize national undertakings which will give work to our workmen. Side by side, I propose to have enacted such measures as will give Canadians fair competition and equal opportunity with the nations of the world. Then the bogey of unemployment will be destroyed.

Speaking at Moncton, New Brunswick—and I ask hon. members to pay particular attention to this, which is his definite pledge—my hon. friend said, according to the Canadian Press report of July 10:

The Conservative party is going to find work for all who are willing to work, or perish in the attempt. It is going to call parliament at the earliest possible date after July 28 and take such steps as will end this tragic condition of unemployment and bring prosperity to the country as a whole. . . . Mr. King promises consideration of the problem of unemployment. I promise to end unemployment. Which plan do you like best?

When I read these words, "I promise to end unemployment", I could hardly believe that my hon. friend would have gone that length. I looked at some of the Conservative papers