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E.W. BEATTY OPTIMISTIC ON CANADA'S FUTURE (CONTINUED)

"He said that that day he had luncheon with a very eminent Presbyterian Divine. He always liked lunching with Presbyterian Clergymen because next to the Anglicans he thought they set the best table and they were much better judges of the concomitants of a luncheon. He informed us that the clergyment and himself had concluded that no man can hold in complete reverence one with whom he went to college. Unfortunately for him, he had gone to college with both the Right Honourable Mackenzie King and the Right Honourable Arthur Meighen and that while the tendency in this country was to decry the lack of leadership and wish for the guidance of the great men of former times or their equals in modern times, that our contribution to the Country's stability would be at least partially discharged if we supplied a spirit of followership which permitted these men whom we had put in public places to obtain the support to which they are entitled if their very important duties are to be fulfilled with success and satisfaction to the Country at large. His humorous reference contains the germ of a very pregnant thought that help and constructive suggestion is perhaps more valuable to Canada in the present state of its affairs than any amount of pessimistic criticism. There is no place in this Country either for the unthinking if genial and attractive optimist or the apostle of despondency and despair who has never been known to contribute anything to a nation's progress and will certainly not contribute anything to ours.

"I have mentioned very briefly some of our essentials and I have not mentioned them in any optimistic spirit because I think I already see a distinct improvement in the psychology of the people of this country and a greater appreciation than ever of the need of .. grappling courageously with some of our more immediate problems. They are doing so without any lack of confidence in the Country of its future. They appreciate, as you and I do, that the spirit of the pioneers which made this Country -- and particularly this great Province -- what it is is the spirit which, translated to our more intricate conditions of modern business, will enable Canada to march steadily, if it does not run, to an era of great prosperity."

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