

2. THE LIBERAL PARTY AND SOCIAL PROGRESS IN CANADA

In the time at my disposal, I shall have to confine my remarks to the reasons why I believe that the Liberal Party should be maintained in power as the Government of Canada. I am convinced that it can best set a true course for prosperity while making every reasonable provision for individual security.

Any Government in which human welfare plays so important a part as that led by Prime Minister St. Laurent is a good Government as far as I am concerned. Any Government that makes such considerable provision for the security of every Canadian citizen is making a significant contribution to the economic stability and prosperity of all Canadians in all our ten provinces.

Social advance in this country is sometimes imperceptible, while at other times we make tremendous strides towards our Liberal objective of social justice for all. But this is a good occasion on which to review objectively the way in which your Government is discharging its responsibility to encourage a more equitable distribution of this nation's wealth, and the way in which it is mobilizing the nation's united strength for the benefit of each of its provinces and of all of their citizens.

Canada has come far in recent decades along the paths of social progress. The proof lies in the very substantial proportion of this nation's federal expenditures that is devoted to health and welfare measures. In the coming fiscal year no less than \$722,000,000 has been allocated for social security measures.

The outstanding historical fact of our time is not war or revolution or despair -- it is the emergence of a new social order. In our new concept of government we have found the answer to man's age-long search for justice, security and freedom. Our sort of state -- in which social justice is supreme -- is setting the pattern for world development. This is not an uneasy compromise between the extremes of privilege and property on the one hand and the people on the other. It is a state in which social theory is not exalted above social justice. It is a state in which government is not manacled to

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