

enough revenue from any single branch of farm enterprise to keep the farmer and his family throughout the twelve months and to do it consistently year after year.

Is it not strange that an outstanding victim of capitalism is the little man, be he farmer or small businessman? These are the people who would practise private enterprise in its true sense, were it not for the stranglehold that monopoly capitalism exercises on our national economy. Economically, farmers are still little men. They are, therefore, one of the most consistent victims of our present capitalist order. That fact is the underlying reason for the recurring agriculture crisis in our generation. Very often, when spokesmen for big business are talking to the farmers, they try to lead them to believe that we in the C.C.F. would take their farms from them. This is not true. It has been denied officially on many occasions, but still that malicious campaign is going on in some parts of the country. Therefore I wish to deal briefly with the C.C.F. agriculture policy, which is the fourth plank in the Regina manifesto, and I quote:

4. Agriculture.

Security of tenure for the farmer upon his farm—

Let me repeat that, "upon his farm."

—on conditions to be laid down by individual provinces; insurance against unavoidable crop failure; removal of the tariff burden from the operations of agriculture; encouragement of producers' and consumers' cooperatives; the restoration and maintenance of an equitable relationship between prices of agricultural products and those of other commodities and services; and improving the efficiency of export trade in farm products.

The security of tenure for the farmer upon his farm which is imperilled by the present disastrous situation of the whole industry, together with adequate social insurance, ought to be guaranteed under equitable conditions.

The prosperity of agriculture, the greatest Canadian industry, depends upon a rising volume of purchasing power of the masses in Canada for all farm goods consumed at home, and upon the maintenance of large-scale exports of the stable commodities at satisfactory prices or equitable commodity exchange.

Mr. MACKENZIE: May I ask the date of that manifesto?

Mr. BURTON: That was July, 1933, the original manifesto of the C.C.F. It has been the basis of the C.C.F. policy during all these years.

Mr. MACKENZIE: Was there not a second Regina manifesto?

Mr. BENTLEY: It has not changed once since then.

Mr. BURTON: It has not changed once in so far as that policy is concerned.

Mr. GARDINER: Read from the question and answer handbook.

Mr. COLDWELL: Yours?

Mr. GARDINER: The one you wrote.

Mr. COLDWELL: I didn't write it.

Mr. MACKENZIE: I am glad you didn't.

Mr. BURTON: If only one of these ministers would talk at a time, Mr. Speaker, maybe I could deal with them. I do not hesitate to deal with them, and I want to say this much as far as the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) is concerned. He may bring his handbook here and my leader, the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggan, will deal with it at any time and in any way that he wants him to.

Mr. GARDINER: I know it by heart.

Mr. BURTON: And the minister cannot get away with some of the twists that he and some of his colleagues in Saskatchewan tried to pull off at that time. So far as the Minister of Veterans Affairs is concerned, I want to say that we in the C.C.F. have our annual provincial conventions, and we have our national conventions every two years. Our organization is run from the bottom up and not from the top down, as are some other people's political organizations. I also want to say that so long as the fundamental principles which were laid down in the first manifesto issued at Regina in July, 1933, are retained and built upon, we are always prepared to make changes in detail to meet the conditions and the times.

Mr. GARDINER: Why did Agnes MacPhail quit at that meeting?

Mr. COLDWELL: You had better ask Miss Agnes MacPhail, and she will tell you herself. Ask her at the same time why she joined the C.C.F. afterward.

Mr. GARDINER: Why did she leave?

Mr. MACKENZIE: If I may ask a question, did the C.C.F. ever come out definitely for a policy of the socialization and nationalization of land in Canada?

Mr. BURTON: No.

Mr. COLDWELL: The minister knows better. Why repeat these canards?

Mr. MACKENZIE: They are not canards.

Mr. BURTON: Apparently those people who are spreading this malicious campaign about the C.C.F. do not all do it in behind the bush. At least I am glad to see some of them have enough courage to come out in the open. Some of those people do not like