

PRESS CLIPPINGS

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The Leader of the Opposition

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Public Desire Clear

Mr. King said the country had spoken its mind in by-elections and in provincial elections. It was clearly indicated, he said, that a Liberal government in Ottawa was what was popularly desired.

"I protest against this government carrying on in this way after parliament has ceased to sit because the aim of it is to build up a strong Tory bureaucracy in this country," said Mr. King, who protested against Premier Bennett appointing deputy ministers at this stage. The result would be that an incoming Liberal government would be faced by the "strongest Tory bureaucracy in the history of this Dominion."

"Mr. Bennett has been holding a club over the heads of his own members to silence them," continued Mr. King, "because if they had not remained silent their chances to preferment would have vanished."

Constituencies Without Members

"Do you believe in taxation without representation? Mr. Bennett evidently does because there were constituencies which were without representation. Why? Because Mr. Bennett was afraid of by-elections?"

"Parliament has two branches, the House of Commons and the Senate. When this parliament was over Mr. Bennett had 17 Senate vacancies on his hands. If the Senate is a legislative body, it has a right to be filled," Mr. King charged that Mr. Bennett delayed Senate appointments so as to avoid possible criticism of his choice in the House of Commons, and to keep a supply of Senate favors until the last minute to keep his followers in silent obedience to him.

"Methods of a Dictator"

"Those are the methods of a dictator, those are not the methods of a constitutional government as we have come to know it," he declared.

Commenting on the appointment of Hon. Hugh Guthrie to the chairmanship of the railway commission, Mr. King declared: "Either that body requires a chairman or it does not. If it does, the vacancy should have been filled a year and a half ago after Mr. Fullerton was appointed to the board of the C.N.R. But the position remained vacant until the last minute of his administration."

"These policies have prolonged the depression," charged Mr. King, pointing to the unrest and business uncertainty resulting "from Mr. Bennett's dictatorial methods."

"You know as well as I that no business man will embark upon a new venture until there is an election. For two years now our businessmen have been waiting to see what would happen. If you have hundreds of thousands of unemployed, it is because of Mr. Bennett's attitude in this respect. He is more to blame for the present unemployment situation than any other single cause."

"But that is not all. Let me point out something more serious still. By delaying the election until October or the end of September it means that the government that goes into office, and I believe it will be a Liberal government, is handicapped from the very start in carrying out its policies."

"If a Liberal government went in we would seek to make reciprocal arrangements with other countries. What can we do in the months of October, November and December to do that? If we had gone into office in April or May we would have had an opportunity to put our policies into effect so that we would have been able to feel the effect this coming winter."

"Losing Trade Opportunities"

"While we are being kept this way, out of office, other countries are going into other parts of the world and taking opportunities to trade which should be ours but which we will lose forever."

"Why has Canada not had a reciprocal agreement with the United States? Argentine has been able to make an agreement for her cattle. If we were able to get in now we would find that other countries have had two years start."

"Mr. Bennett went over to London. He put forward impossible claims there. The whole thing became a farce and we lost a chance to get a place in the British market. Other countries went ahead and gained that place—a place that Canada should have had."

Mr. King accused Mr. Bennett and his cabinet of "wresting power from parliament and carrying on with as little control as possible from parliament."

"I see a lot of young people here to-day," continued Mr. King. "They are the ones who will feel the effect more and more of sound or unsound policies. I hope these young friends will look into these questions themselves and decide what will best improve conditions," said Mr. King, warning against "panaceas" offered by some politicians.