

SUBJECT

NAME AND DATE OF NEWSPAPER

Calgary Albertan April 4/30

WHEN MEMBERS CRIED "SHAME"

THE Prime Minister appears to have electrified Parliament last Thursday when he made the admittedly surprising statement, a propos federal assistance in dealing with unemployment, "I would be prepared, possibly, to go a certain length in meeting one or two of the Western provinces that have Progressive premiers at the head of their governments but I would not give a single cent to any Tory government on earth."

The fair play loving people of Canada will have some difficulty in crediting Mr. King with the expression of such a sentiment yet his words, reported in the Press Gallery, leave no doubt as to his meaning—even in the absence of a copy of Hansard which has not yet reached the West.

It is apparent, of course that Mr. King was speaking with regard only to one of the many problems with which the Government is confronted. His strictures were confined absolutely to the unemployment question under discussion and were called forth no doubt because Mr. King possesses the belief that Tory policies in general would tend to aggravate rather than to ameliorate the problems now arising therefrom.

Generally speaking, provincial politics and federal have little in common in the sense that their problems are different and it is even conceivable that a Conservative premier of any province in the Dominion might agree on many federal matters with a Liberal premier at Ottawa while a Liberal or a Progressive provincial premier might disagree entirely. It is not the part of the Prime Minister of Canada to discriminate between the provinces because of the party labels adopted by the heads of their governments.

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

Speeches-1922 - 1932

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