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PRESS CLIPPINGS

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The Leader of the Opposition

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Subject.....

End Is Here.

A quiet groan came from the crowd, but a moment later they were on their feet, cheering the Liberal Leader, as he declared Mr. Bennett's Government was done.

He had a new kind of reform in contrast to Mr. Bennett's plans, Mr. King said. The Conservative Leader had used reform as an end, had used intervention and regulation as an end, and had stopped there.

He would use reform as a means to an end, and that end would mean greater freedom, greater security and greater prosperity, Mr. King said.

Comparing the struggle of the Liberal Party for office now with the struggle for responsible government in Canada a century ago, Mr. King said Mr. Bennett had shorn Parliament of its power and destroyed responsibility of government to Parliament, and through Parliament to the electors.

Go on Spending.

The long delay in holding the election showed Mr. Bennett's disregard for responsible government. Parliament was now dissolved, but the Bennett Government, with extraordinary powers wrested from Parliament, could go on until election day spending millions of dollars from the "blank cheque," raising tariffs by Executive action, and making appointments to further build up a "Tory bureaucracy."

A century ago, said Mr. King, Canada had a Parliament, but the executive was chosen by the Governor and was not responsible to Parliament. It took a long bitter struggle to establish responsible government and the Liberal Party was born in that struggle. Now in the last five years the power of Parliament had been again turned over to the executive, power of taxation, power to regulate marketing, power to maintain peace, order and good government.

Reform, said Mr. King, meant a larger freedom. Mr. Bennett had said reform meant Government intervention, regulation and control. This showed he did not know the meaning of reform. Regulation was a means to an end and not an end in itself.

Under the "blank cheque" the Bennett Government had expended or made guarantees for \$308,000,000 apart from the wheat guarantees, said Mr. King. This was more than the total expenditure of the Dominion in any year up to the middle of the Great War.

Power of Dictator.

"What more could a dictator want," asked Mr. King, "than power to take as much money as he wanted out of the treasury and power to make less for peace, order and good government?"

"Has Hitler any more power?" he asked. "Has Mussolini any more power? Mussolini is about to send his troops off to Africa to fight. He will need funds for that. I have no doubt he will do it all in the name of the peace, order and good government of Italy."

But in Italy and Germany dictatorships had gone further. No one could vote unless he belonged to the party in power. In Germany religious freedom was being destroyed. In both countries a man could not think aloud without running the risk of being sent to jail.

After the way the people's liberties in Canada had been tempered with in the past five years it was time for them to wake up and see where they were being led, he said.

"Little by little our whole country is being changed from one of self-government to one of a dictatorship such as they have in Europe," said the Liberal leader.

Restoration of titles was another instance of Bennett's disregard for the will of Parliament, he claimed Bennett restored them in defiance of a resolution of the House of Commons passed under a previous Conservative Government.

Titles for Followers.

"Mr. Bennett wants titles," said Mr. King, "not for the good of the people, but just in order to be able to pick out his favorites here and there and to honor his followers in order to keep them silent. But we don't want titles in Canada."

The Natural Products Marketing Act was another instance of autocracy. The act gave power to local boards to fix offenses which must be punished by fines and imprisonment. The boards were responsible to no one, but were selfish, interested groups. It gave the Government power to restrict imports and exports, in effect control of the whole external trade of Canada.

Farmers who thought the act was for them should "beware of a wolf in sheep's clothing." It also gave manufacturers of natural products the right to regulate marketing. It was an act to extend combines and monopolies.

"I am in favor of a marketing act," said Mr. King. "I am in favor of compulsory regulation of marketing, but I want the supremacy of Parliament maintained and I want the regulations to be approved by Parliament."