

ferred to the City of Halifax. The Liberal party had done much for the improvement of the conditions of the laboring people by its useful legislation; but where does the Conservative party stand, so far as labor and kindred matters of social reform are concerned? Where do they stand with regard to the agricultural policy that had done so much for the development of agriculture in the Province? It was only now that they were being gradually won over to approve of that splendid institution, the Agricultural College, at Truro. Then, take the subject of railway construction. One member of the Conservative party takes the position that the Government should never have built the Halifax and South Western Railway. Another said they should have built it long before they did. Another said that it was no good. He (Hon. Mr. A.) challenged hon. members opposite on all these questions to say where they stood. Their whole attitude was that of mere negative criticism—suggest nothing—assisting nothing. **NEVER CONSTRUCTIVE, ALWAYS DESTRUCTIVE.** These matters had been discussed time and again, and public opinion was formulated through the debates in this House, and through the reading of the newspapers. Was he (Hon. Mr. A.) to be told that during the long period of forty-five years the people of this Province had voted regardless of a desire for sound, honest, progressive administration; or that they had not discriminated between the Liberal party and the Liberal Conservative party? He would not, and could not believe it. He had more faith in the integrity of our people. We had had great political leaders in this Province—such men as Howe, Tupper, Johnston, Fielding and Murray. They were leaders of public opinion, and the people had confidence in them. They were wise men; they were great men; they were men who had vision—men of faith in our Province and its possibilities.

Three of them, who had served the people of this Province longest, and, let me say, best, were Liberals—Howe, Fielding and Murray. They were leaders in whom the people had confidence, who trusted the people because they trusted the people. Howe was a man beloved by the people—a man without an equal and a great leader. His nearest successor was the Hon. W. S. Fielding, as broad minded, as honest and as progressive a public servant as ever graced the Legislative halls of any country. He in turn was succeeded by the Leader of the present Government, Hon. Mr. Murray, who had a record for progressive and useful legislation of common knowledge to all of us.

Hon. gentlemen opposite spoke of this Government as a “do nothing Government,” of being an “arm chair Government,” of having “no initiative.” Go to the statute books of any country and he (Hon. Mr. A.) would defy them to show more beneficial legislation, or legislation that was more in the public interest, or legislation more calculated to develop the industrial interests of the country, than that of the Murray Government. Let hon. gentlemen opposite make no mistake. Public opinion was not to be misled by concealment of facts by the Halifax Herald, or by reckless misstatements from the other side of the House. There was an old saying that you may fool some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all the people, all the time. So far as the Liberal party were concerned, no matter when an appeal was made to the people, he