

Business Man Gives Reasons For Faith In Stewart Policy

Importance Of Subsidy Claims Settlement And Other Vital Campaign Issues Emphasized By Mr. George D. DeBlois In Radio Address Last Evening.

The following radio address, summarized up convincingly the campaign message, was delivered last evening by Mr. George D. DeBlois, President of the Queen's County Conservative Association:

Ladies and gentlemen: May I say that I consider it a privilege to be given the opportunity of saying a few words to you tonight, especially on this occasion when the result of the campaign when we are engaged in is of such importance to this Province. While recognizing the fact that the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett, is a great statesman to act like his predecessor by insulting the intelligent people of this country in telling them that he would not give "a cent piece to any Liberal Government," nevertheless any sane or responsible person will readily understand that the Honorable Mr. Bennett naturally prefers to do his business in this Province with a Conservative Government, a Government whose leader and followers are in sympathy with the work he is doing at Ottawa, rather than hand out favors to Mr. Lea and his henchmen who are continually spending their time in an endeavor to poison the minds of the people of Prince Edward Island through false suggestion and gross misrepresentation of the Bennett administration.

OPPORTUNITIES PRESENT

UNITY

I claim, and rightly so, that this Province has at this time a wonderful opportunity of receiving a satisfactory settlement of her long overdue claim for increased subsidy by electing to power the Conservative Party under the able leadership of the Honorable J. D. Stewart. There are many other reasons why Mr. Stewart and his party should receive your support on August 6th, but a satisfactory adjustment of our subsidy claim stands out in my opinion as of paramount importance. Many of you are familiar with the history of this claim and to those who may have forgotten the particulars I will remind you that this matter was first brought up in 1925 at the first meeting of the three Premiers of the Maritime Provinces, and by the way it was at this meeting that the then Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Mackenzie King asked the question to be forgotten question, "What are Maritime rights?" From this meeting started the campaign which resulted in the election of almost every Conservative candidate in the Maritime Provinces to the House of Commons, and it was their determined efforts that brought about the appointment of the Duncan Commission.

I did not go into detail with regard to the work of the Commission, as you undoubtedly are familiar with it. The claims of this Province were presented by Mr. J. D. Stewart, and he succeeded in obtaining an increased subsidy of \$250,000, and this was accepted by the Government, but as a condition the Commission agreed to, and a promise was made that a further payment would be made when the matter had been dealt with more fully. That was the situation, ladies and gentlemen, when the Saunders Government came into power in 1927. A Commission was held in the month of October that same year, thus giving the door of opportunity of settling a settlement of our rights. What happened? The Liberal Government of this Province, though had management and busied themselves on their part threw away this opportunity, and from that time up to December 1929 nothing was done, then in December Mr. Saunders came back from Ottawa, and immediately broadcasted the news that an Audit Board had been appointed to look into our affairs. You know the history of the Audit Board. Just a joke, that is all that it amounted to. In the first place the members of that Board were Government officials which would kill the thing at the start. What was an instance of the unbusinesslike manner in which our claim was

presented I would remind you Mr. Saunders asked for \$438,000 additional subsidy. Later on Mr. Lea published in the Patriot newspaper that he was making a claim for \$3,372,000, then at a later date Mr. Lea went to Ottawa and presented his claim to the Audit Board asking for only \$438,000. Now my object in dealing with this matter is for the purpose of showing you what we may expect in the matter of receiving settlement of our subsidy claim if Mr. Lea is returned to power. In the first place they have manifested extreme negligence whether through lack of knowledge, or through lack of faith I am not prepared to say, but there is one thing certain and that is that their action proves beyond the shadow of a doubt, that they are wholly incapable of dealing with the matter, whereas on the other hand, by electing to power tomorrow Mr. J. D. Stewart and his Party, this Province will then be in a position to send to Ottawa a man who has the faith, the knowledge and the ability to present our claim in such a manner as to accomplish the desired result.

STATUTE LABOR

I want to say a word or two in regard to statute labor. You know that the Liberals condemned statute labor, finally abolished it, and they prided themselves for doing so. Even the Provincial Engineer in his report for last year referred to it as "the obsolete Statute Labor System." Now when this system is again made a law just before an election, you know how much reliance can be placed on such turn-about-face policy. In other words, it seems to me that Mr. Lea is just using this as a vote catcher, and if he is again returned to power (which I think is very unlikely) there is nothing to prevent him from again abolishing statute labor which his Government describes as being obsolete. You know he is not bound to anything because he is appealing to the country without any platform. In other words, he has not committed himself or his Government upon any issue whatsoever. It strikes me as being most extraordinary, and I am rather inclined to believe he has some reason in coming before the people in this manner.

Mr. Stewart has placed before you a definite platform that his party will carry out if elected, and in this platform he has promised to see that every farmer, Liberal and Conservative will have the privilege of paying his taxes by statute labor. It is not my intention to take up any great length of time in reviewing or criticizing the work of the Liberal Government for the past four years. Their record is before you. Many of you are familiar with that record. To those of you who are not familiar with it I respectfully ask you to study the situation carefully without delay. Your citizenship calls upon you to do this as a matter of duty. You owe it to your country. After you have made the examination, I am sure you will come to the same conclusion as I have, and you will say to yourself, "What a sad and shameful record it is! A record full of broken promises, and an absolute breaking of faith with those who placed their implicit confidence in them." Yes, and it is also a record of carelessness and reckless expenditure of money with nothing worth while accomplished. Since they came into power four years ago they have gone behind, according to their own figures, \$758,000, and I believe that when all the outstanding unpaid bills have been presented that the total deficit for the four years will exceed the million dollar mark.

HUGE DEBT INCREASE

Let me stop here for a few minutes as I wish to draw your attention to this very serious state of affairs, and if anyone within the sound of my voice tonight should have a paper and pencil at hand, I would ask them to mark this down so it will not be forgotten. The total debt accumulated by all the different Governments of this Province from the date of Responsible Government in 1851 to 1927, that is covering a period of seventy-six

years, was two millions of dollars, and from 1927 to 1931 this debt has been increased by one million dollars, so that the Present Liberal Government have increased the debt of this Province fifty per cent in four years. In other words, the Saunders-Lea Government in four years put this country behind fifty percent of what it took all the other Governments of the country to do in seventy-six years. Taking into consideration the increased revenue of \$1,500,000 paid into the Provincial Treasury during these four years the Government have actually gone behind, not one million dollars, but two and a half million dollars.

CRITICAL SITUATION

Ladies and Gentlemen, with all the emphasis at my command I call upon the intelligent thinking people of this Province to weigh carefully the statement I have just made because as a business man, it strikes me that if, by any chance, the Lea Government is given the opportunity of running this country for another four years we undoubtedly will be brought face to face with a financial wreck and ruin. Bad as the situation is I frankly confess that I am not surprised because it does not take a very clear brain or keen intellect to grasp the fact that the business of the country is not being carried on in a business-like manner. I put the question straight to any business man. How long would you retain in your employ a man who would buy over the telephone machinery to the value of \$100,000, and have practically nothing in writing to cover the transaction? Why you know very well you would not have such a man around your place for five minutes, then I say to you why keep in office a body of men who would countenance the handling of the people's money in such an unbusinesslike manner. You will remember that the Minister of Public Works was challenged on the floor of the House in the spring of 1928 to table all papers dealing with the purchase of this machinery, and the reply received from him was to the effect that there was no correspondence to be tabled as the purchase had been made over the telephone. This is just an example of what is going on under the present administration.

FARICAL PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT

Then take the question of Prohibition. I ask you, have they kept faith with the electors in this matter? You will remember the nature of the campaign they put on in 1927 in order to get into power. Why, they even used the services of the clergy, and the well meaning temperance people of this Province in order to gain their own end. And as soon as they gained the victory they turned around and gave these good people the cold shoulder. Yes, they turned a deaf ear to the requests of the very people that went out and worked, many of them to the point of sacrifice, in order that these men might be elected. I say to you, Ladies and Gentlemen, that never in the history of this Province has there been a greater exhibition of utter ingratitude and insincerity of purpose. If there had been one single spark of sincerity in their makeup, I ask you, why did they have the Mounted Police recalled within a few hours after they had gained the victory? You know and I know that there are men and women walking the streets of Charlottetown today who have been sentenced by the court to spend a certain time in jail, but after being there for a day or two they were allowed to go free. Yes, because in many cases the violators of the law threatened to squeal if not released. Squeal on whom? Why, on the people who were elected to enforce the law. Squeal on the people holding positions of authority drawing salaries from the Government for the purpose of enforcing the law. Men and women, I ask you, did you as someone ever hear of anything so ridiculous or foolish, yes, and I will say degrading, for surely it is degrading to see our honored courts of justice humiliated and trampled upon in this fashion for political gain, and yet these people after such a betrayal of confidence are again asking your support. I will leave the question for you to decide as to whether they are worthy of receiving a renewal vote of confidence from you.

MR. STEWART'S WORD HIS BOND

Let me tell you that I know from practical experience that the Honorable J. D. Stewart would not say what he says, and in making this

BENNETT FULFILLING HIS PLEDGES

You hear a good deal about the "glittering promises" made by Mr. Bennett in his platform of 1930, and this year he was elected in Canada.

SITUATION AT OTTAWA

However, in connection with Federal issues, for the few minutes left at my disposal, I am going to ask you to glance your eyes over the field of action in Ottawa, and see what the Conservative Government under the able leadership of the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett is doing for Prince Edward Island and for Canada as a whole. First let me say that the Prime Minister succeeded in having a committee appointed to investigate the Beauharnois project, and the result of this investigation has been the means of exposing one of the greatest pieces of scandal and highway robbery that this country has ever experienced. No fear or favor has been shown in the handling of the investigation. The result, therefore, has been that the responsibility for the scandal has been laid at the door where it belongs.

WHAT WOULD KING DO?

I fancy I hear someone say "What about the milk cheques that we see so much about in the Liberal Organ?" Let me repeat to the farmers of this Province the statement I made the other night, that is that you cannot expect even a great and mighty statesman like the Honorable R. B. Bennett to remedy in nine or ten months the evil and harm done to this country in nine or ten years of the McKenzie King administration. I know that your milk cheques are not as large as you would like them, but I say to you that if McKenzie King had been returned to power in 1930 your milk cheques today would not be half of what they are. I know what I am talking about. There is no question but that the present low price of butter is to a large extent due to the fact that no less than thirty five million pounds of New Zealand butter was imported into Canada and placed in storage before the treaty could be abrogated, and this butter is still being handed out to the dealers.

BENEFITS OF AUSTRALIAN TREATY

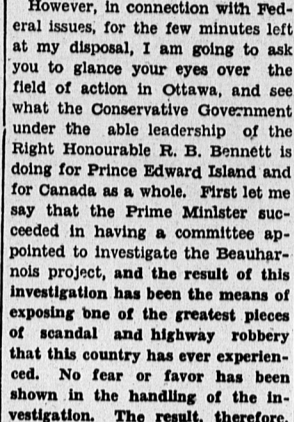
Now let us see what benefit Canada is going to receive from the Australian Treaty. In the first place it is estimated that in the matter of textiles the exports from Canada to Australia of this one article, will jump from five hundred thousand dollars to five million dollars. Then one million dollars worth of canned salmon which was formerly imported by Australia from the United States will this year be purchased in Canada.

treat you in this manner. Even his political opponents have to admit that his word can be depended upon. All that I want you to do is to give him a trial and if he does not make a better job of enforcing all the laws on the statute books of this Province than the present administration has done, then I say to you vote him out at your first opportunity.

Now as I said in the Capitol Theatre the other night, when this campaign started, our Liberal friends thought they would fool the people by covering up the serious mistakes they had made during the past four years, by trying to shift the minds of the people from Local to Federal, issues, but they have found out to their sorrow that this little game does not work. The people insisted that they be called upon to give an account of their own stewardship, and they certainly have been kept busy making an attempt to defend themselves.

statement I know I am expressing the opinion of many of the leading business men of Canada, when I say that never in the history of this country has Canada had a Prime Minister that has succeeded in fulfilling so many promises in such a short time, and under such extremely difficult conditions as has the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett accomplished, and you mark my words that you will find before very long every promise made by him in his platform of 1930 will be implemented in full, including the planks referring to the Permanent Highway and the Old Age Pensions. And may I say to the dear old people of this Province who are looking forward to receiving the benefit of the Old Age Pensions, that you will surely get the promised pension. The Conservative Party at the great Convention held in Winnipeg in 1927, placed themselves on record in favor of the national system of Old Age Pensions, and it was at the same Convention that the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett was appointed Leader of the Conservative Party, and he has pledged you his word to pay the pension one hundred percent from the Federal Treasury, but my friends, you know the terrible depression that the whole world is passing through, and any citizen who has the interest of his country at heart would not want Mr. Bennett to jeopardize Federal interests at this time, but Mr. Bennett comes to you like a man, and he offers you as evidence of his determination to keep faith with you, a payment this year of seventy-five percent, and in the meantime while the Dominion is getting into shape to pay the remaining twenty-five percent, the Leader of the Conservative Government in this Province, the Honorable J. D. Stewart, has come forward and he has undertaken to pay the required twenty-five per cent out of the Provincial Treasury, so that electing the Stewart Government the good old deserving people of this Province are assured of receiving their pension.

FOR LOWER TAXATION AND GREATER SUBSIDIES SUPPORT J. D. STEWART

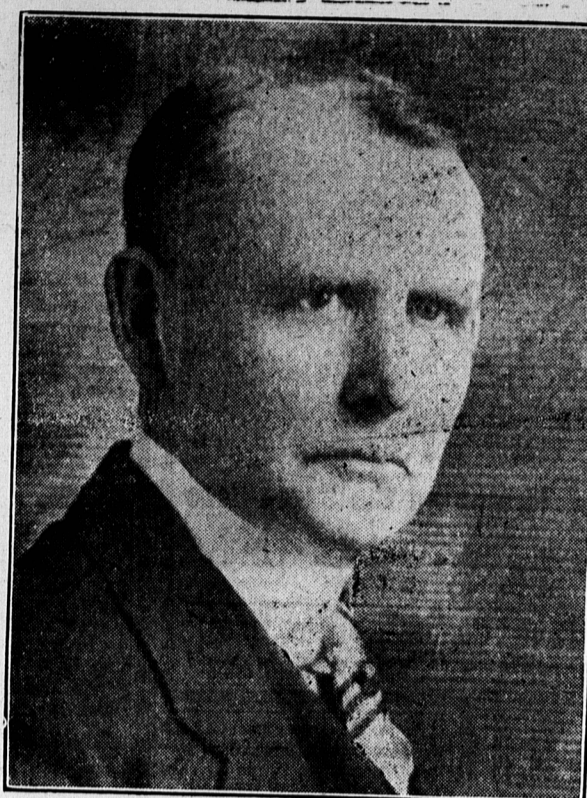


"To my mind the question of paramount importance in this election is the question of our revenue. The time has come when the Government of this Province should not be permitted any longer to play hide-and-seek and blind bluff with this matter. We should get our claims implemented without any further delay, because for want of that money our public services are suffering, our people, in many cases, who have to perform public services are not paid as they should be paid. For these reasons I submit that you should elect whichever party you consider is most likely to succeed in implementing these claims."—Hon. J. D. Stewart, Leader of the Conservative Party in keynote speech in the Capitol Theatre, July 14, 1931.

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I, for one, have absolute confidence in Mr. Stewart's promises and I know that you can depend upon him to see that the agreement which he has entered into with you will be carried out promptly and in full.

FOR LOWER TAXATION AND GREATER SUBSIDIES SUPPORT J. D. STEWART



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THE RECORD

STEWART 1923-1927	SAUNDERS—LEA 1927-1931
\$40,000 per annum for railway taxation from the King Government. \$125,000 interim subsidy per annum pending final implementation of the Duncan Report.	Sleeping on the Job. Drifting Along. Crass Stupidity. Audit Board Bluff. Lea Bungles Badly. No increase in Subsidy, but increased Debt and Taxation.

VOTE FOR THE STEWART CANDIDATES

1st Prince Wilfred Tanton Jos. J. Chaisson.	1st Queens Walter MacKenzie. Thos. Wigmore.	1st Kings H. D. MacLean Dr. A. A. MacDonald.
2nd Prince Austin Ramsay. G. Shelton Sharp.	2nd Queens L. L. Jenkins. David F. Bethune.	2nd Kings James B. MacDonald. Harvey D. MacEwen.
3rd Prince Thos. MacNutt. Adrian Arsenault.	3rd Queens J. Augustine McDonald. M. W. Wood.	3rd Kings H. Frank MacPhee. Leslie Hunter.
4th Prince Hugh Morrison. Heath Strong.	4th Queens Shaw MacMillan. George MacLean.	4th Kings Maynard MacDonald. John D. MacLeod.
5th Prince W. J. Lidstone. Leonard McNeill.	5th Queens Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan. W. Allan Stewart.	5th Kings J. D. Stewart. J. Howard MacDonald.

AND ENSURE

The Proper Presentation of Our Claims At Ottawa By a Government in Line With the Federal Government

Inserted by Conservative Association

and it is claimed that over ten million dollars worth of timber will go from Canada this year which was formerly shipped from the United States. In other words the editor of a reliable New York paper stated that as a conservative estimate at least twenty five million dollars worth of Canadian products will be imported into Australia this year that formerly came from the United States.

Surely a treaty of this nature is convincing evidence that the Prime Minister of Canada knows what he is doing. New industries are opening up in Canada every week. As I stated on a previous occasion over one hundred new industries have come into Canada since July 1930, and if there is a man and woman listening to me tonight who doubts this statement I ask you turn up the Hansard of June first, 1931 Canada is going to show the world

the full particulars as to how the new tariff is making the wheels of industry hum in this country. No matter whether you are in doubt or not I strongly advise you to get this issue of the Hansard. It will open your eyes as to what is going on, and it will give you some idea as to what development you may expect to see in this country when conditions become normal again. Only the other night I was informed that the latest manufacturing concern to open up in Toronto was the big British firm of Baldwin & Palon, Wool Producers. They are building a plant in the city of Toronto at a cost of \$753,000 with a payroll to date of around five hundred people. I tell you, Ladies and Gentlemen, Canada is just beginning to come into her own. Yes, under the Bennett rule in the Hansard of June first, 1931 Canada is going to show the world

Canada has a Conservative Government in power you can rest assured that our tariffs will be made in Ottawa and not in Washington. Yes, but the farmers in this Province may say, "that is all perfectly true, DeBlois, about Ontario and other manufacturing centres, but what about this Province?" My answer is this, we as an agricultural Province will gain tremendously through the building up of these industries because all the employees of these different industries have to be fed, and what are they going to be fed on? What better food could they possibly want than Prince Edward Island potatoes, Prince Edward Island butter and eggs and lobsters, and by creating a market along these lines we will then be developing a home market

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