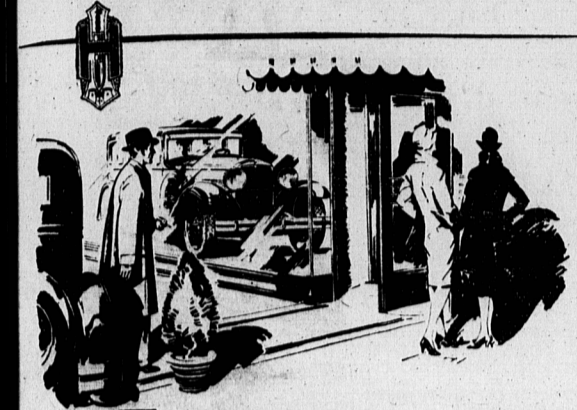


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LAST CONSERVATIVE GUN FIRED IN BUDGET DEBATE

In Words That Raised Blisters Dr. W. J. McMillan Revealed the Incompetency and Hypocrisy of the So-Called Prohibition Government. He Reviewed Every Phase of the Situation, Scoring His Points Amid Repeated Interruptions From Government Benches.

(Continued.)
HON. MR. LEA: There is no difference between us.

DR. McMILLAN: Isn't there? The Premier says: "I would look around before I would reduce taxes." His platform says: "On obtaining increased subsidy a downward revision of taxes." That is the platform to which the Minister of Agriculture agreed, and to which every member of the House agreed. That is their platform, and they must of necessity have agreed to it. "On obtaining increased subsidy a downward revision of taxes."

HON. MR. LEA: We haven't gained it.
DR. McMILLAN: It is quite true you haven't gained it. But that is not the worst of it. The point the Minister of Agriculture made against the Conservative Government was this: "They reduced the taxes first, and then promised to do it. Knowing that they were short of revenue, knowing well the country needed every dollar we were then receiving, they promised that they would reduce the land tax, and they did it even before they promised to do it. Those were his words, and when I rose in my place and took objection to it, what did we find? I told him that we put it in our 1923 platform, and I was held up to ridicule in this House by the Minister of Agriculture, who accused me of wilful and deliberate misrepresentation in making a statement which could not be borne out by facts. A platform was handed to him by the Premier and he asked permission of the Speaker, because he was not familiar with it, to take time to read that platform. He went through that platform and turned around and, addressing this House, said: "It is just as I said. The member from Charlottetown, who gets up and castigates this House and the members of this Government is himself guilty of wilful and deliberate misrepresentation, because there is not a single thing in this platform regarding a reduction of taxation."

HON. MR. LEA: I rise to a point of order. I think the member from Charlottetown is misrepresenting me again. I didn't accuse him of wilful misrepresentation. The platform was handed to me, but unfortunately my hon. friends had issued two or three platforms.
HON. J. D. STEWART: That is not correct.

HON. MR. LEA: And the one that was handed to me was not the last edition. It was handed to me as the 1923 platform, and I told the members that it was handed to me as the correct one for the time being in 1923. I made that reservation, because I was not absolutely sure that it was—
DR. McMILLAN: The Minister of Agriculture made no reservation.
HON. MR. LEA: I did.
DR. McMILLAN: And the explanation he makes now is not correct.
HON. MR. LEA: It is correct.
DR. McMILLAN: He says that he issued several platforms. Will he produce more than one platform of 1923?
HON. MR. LEA: I think there were two different platforms.
DR. McMILLAN: There were not two different platforms; and I had this much faith in the sincerity of my hon. friend the Minister of Agriculture that I thought that he had got a garbled platform, because I knew he was using it a few days before, and that he might have been committing the clause on tax reduction in the platform issued by the Conservative party. That is the reason I asked the Minister to table the platform, which he did; and here is the tabled platform from which he was reading. This is the platform which he asked permission from the Speaker to peruse; and when he had finished reading it he said: "There is nothing in it regarding reduction of taxes and my hon. friend the member from Charlottetown was misrepresenting the facts." I do not allow the Minister of Agriculture or any other man to get off with anything like that, Mr. Speaker. Here is the clause in the platform: "A real effort to present our claims against the Dominion Government, mainly for increased compensation for want of public land, and upon success in this to further reduce taxation." (Applause.)

HON. MR. LEA: I rise to a point of order. I was not dealing with general taxation, I was dealing specifically with the land tax. You reduced the land tax before you produced me to do so. I was dealing with one item of taxation.
DR. McMILLAN: Is there anything in this that precludes the land tax? Reducing taxes on land— isn't that reducing taxation?
HON. MR. LEA: Yes.
DR. McMILLAN: The Minister of Agriculture needn't rise to any more points of order on this question, because he has gotten himself into a trap.

HON. MR. LEA: Not a bit.
DR. McMILLAN: He has got to accept the fact that he accused me of making a misrepresentation, and I had him read the document which would clear me and he refused to do it. Talk about sincerity! Honorable gentlemen—should be fair. My hon. friend, who he had the proof in his hand, asked permission from the Speaker to read it, and he didn't read it.

HON. MR. LEA: It was not dealing with land tax.
DR. McMILLAN: There is an exhibition of fair play on the part of the Minister of Agriculture! Honorable members on the other side applauded him because he had caught me misrepresenting. But he didn't catch me, and there is the proof of it. (Applause.)

New Strength For All Weak Girls

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with families, living in towns and in the city, whom we knew had considerable difficulty in making ends meet; and they kept asking that the income tax be reduced or that the exemptions be raised. Our answer to them was that if we were ever in a position to do this, if we realized on this claim against the Dominion Government which we were then pressing, we would do it; and when the opportunity came, when we realized our claims and when the first payment was made, then we were in a position to carry out that promise and we did carry it out. For the same reason we decreased the land tax, and the auto license fees. My hon. friends say we should never have touched any of those taxes. We say we should; it was our bounded duty after we had issued our platform to carry out our promise, otherwise we would be in the position that our friends on the opposite side of the House often find themselves in, and could rightly be charged with having issued a platform for the sole purpose of getting into power.

Prohibition Revenue.

They charge us with another loss of revenue; they say that next year they are going to be worse off to the extent of \$57,000 than we were. And mind you, Mr. Speaker, they attempt to fix the responsibility for that \$57,000 loss of revenue upon us. I refer to the amount obtained from the Prohibition Commission. This Government, as I understand it, does not purpose to get any money from the Prohibition Commission; and they blame us for it. Before we went out of power we received \$15,000 from the Prohibition Commission, and that was credited up in our revenue. And would you believe it, Mr. Speaker, the ingenious argument is now advanced that part of that \$15,000 accruing from the business that was done before we went out of office should be handed over and credited to you, Mr. Speaker, and that you should think of that for financing the Government! What an argument? Not only are they satisfied to get no money from this source during the term that they are in office, but they want part of what we get while we were in, credited up to them!

Another strange feature of the situation is this, that their own Public Accounts, their own external audit made by Mr. Scarth and the chief representative of the Liberal party in King's County, shows that at the end of the year there was over \$16,000 in the Prohibition Commission. Now I would like to know why some of their money was not taken from the Prohibition Commission and credited up to reduce that debt of \$159,000 which they leave. I wonder what is the explanation of that \$16,000 being left with the Prohibition Commission. What is it left there for? We might just look at the inventory for a minute and we shall see.

We find from the inventory that they had as much stock or more on hand under the Prohibition Commission at the end of the year than in any other year. Why, then, did they want to retain this amount of money there? It was not for the purpose of buying more stock, because if they were not going to sell any they would not require to replace the stock on hand. They had a sufficiency of stock. I wonder if they would explain why there is a \$16,000 balance in the Royal Bank of Canada from the Prohibition Commission account at the end of the year? Why couldn't they take some of it when they were so anxious that something should be credited up to them, some part of our \$15,000 from the Prohibition Commission? Was it that they wanted to make this amount of \$16,000 as big as possible? Or was it to carry out the intention which we see rather evident now that henceforth and hereafter there is going to be no more money come into the revenue of the Government from the Prohibition Commission—no more "blood money" to be taken by this Government? Is that the intention now?

Are they even going further, as my hon. friend the Progressive member from the Fourth District of Prince Edward Island suggested when he said that the temperance people of this Province would be quite satisfied to see the general revenues of the Province used for the administration of the Prohibition Act? He is just a little bit in variance there with the Leader of the Government, who has said that the Prohibition Act should be self-sustaining.

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LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

Dear Sister:—The members of Kingston United Church Auxiliary wish to convey to you and your husband our sincere sympathy in the loss of your dear baby Florence May. We are conscious that our words of comfort cannot descend into the depth of grief and sense of loss that you must feel when such a little bud, at such an early age, should be taken, but we trust that you may be reconciled to our Heavenly Father's doings, for we are told that all things work together for good to those that love God. Our prayer is for you that in this hour of trial and grief the God of all grace may sustain and comfort you, to Him we direct your thoughts as the only true comforter.

Signed in behalf of W. M. S. Mrs. Charles Paul, Vice Pres. Mrs. Owen Younker, Corrs. Secy.

THE GABBS

ELMER, HOW DO YOU LIKE IT, THAT? PLEASE BE PERFECTLY FRANK NOW—I WANT YOUR HONEST OPINION.

IF YOU WANT MY HONEST OPINION I THINK IT LOOKS TERRIBLE!

THERE YOU GO!—I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU'D SAY SOMETHING MEAN—YOU'RE GETTING TO BE THE WORST OLD Grouch IN THIS TOWN!—ALWAYS KICKING AND CRABBING!

GREAT GUNS! SHE ASKED MY HONEST OPINION AND WHEN I GAVE IT SHE GOT SORE—THE BIRD THAT SAID "HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY" MUST HAVE BEEN A BACHELOR!

GABBYGRAMS
LITTLE MISS HUFFET
SAT ON A TUFFET
EATING HER CURDS AND WHEY
ALONG CAME A SPIDER
WITH A JUG OF HARD OPIOR,
AND LURED MISS HUFFET AWAY
—Chapman Brothers.

SEND HIM IN, REARERS!
RHYMES, JOKES, EPICRAMS,
TONGUE-TWISTERS OR
WHAT HAVE YOU.



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