

A BIG MAN

FOR A

BIG JOB

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Already Premier Matheson of Prince Edward Island has drawn to the attention of the other representatives at the Dominion Provincial Conference the peculiar position occupied by his native Province, and has expressed the hope that some tangible recognition will be accorded that Island entity.

It is, indeed, a peculiar position which the Island has maintained all down the years. Here is a Province, the smallest of all in size, isolated from its neighbors, with a population equal approximately only to that of the city of Halifax, with all the political and administrative functions of the larger units, and with very limited resources with which to finance its undertakings.

It was this "isolated and exceptional condition of Prince Edward Island" which was recognized at the time of the Island's entry into Confederation, which found expression in the promise of "efficient steam service" to place the Island "in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway and the Railway system of the Dominion."

But as the years have gone on, the "exceptional condition" recognized by the new Dominion in 1873 has remained to complicate the efforts of the Province. The economy has remained primarily an agricultural one; industry has passed this region by.

An example of the difficulties under which the Island labors was explained by Premier Matheson in relation to education. While other provinces sought to keep within their individual borders the graduates of their own institutions, Prince Edward Island, able to absorb only a small proportion of its graduates, was forced to send them to other provinces. These latter reaped the advantages which the Island had given its young people at such great expense and effort, and made no commensurate return.

"Surely we can work out something," Premier Matheson urged, "whereby the other provinces would repay the debt they owed in this respect." Prince Edward Island, he added, because of its limited economy, had a reasonable case for Federal assistance to education.

Certainly the Dominion never will be fulfilling its contractual obligations to Prince Edward Island, as they are embedded in the Confederation Pact, until it recognizes more tangibly the "isolated and exceptional condition" of that Province, a factor which is now so often forgotten or misunderstood."



Hon. A. W. MATHESON, Q. C.
PREMIER
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

OF WHOM THE MONCTON DAILY TIMES SAYS

Premier Matheson who enjoys a wide popularity throughout his native Province, and has demonstrated marked ability in leadership of government as well as his administration of Prince Edward Island's affairs, comes to the people with a

RECORD OF MEASURABLE ACHIEVEMENT

A LEADER WHO MEANS WHAT HE SAYS THE CHARLOTTETOWN PATRIOT HAS THIS TO SAY:

While the political campaign in this Province has unofficially been underway by both parties for the past two weeks or more, it was, from the standpoint of the Liberal Party, officially launched at Murray River last night with Premier Matheson's acceptance speech of his renomination.

The Premier gave a good recapitulation of the achievements of his Government since he took over the Premiership on May 25, 1953, and if there was little new information brought to the people as a result of his speech, it was because they are well acquainted with what that Government has done in the past two years and have already received more than one intimation of what it proposes to do in the future.

He made, however, one most significant statement, a statement which might not be "taken in" by the careless or indifferent, but a statement which would weigh heavily in his favor with all thoughtful persons. That statement was that while he and his Government had not done as much, perhaps, as they should like to have done, they had done more than they promised.

We know of no other political leader in this Province, or in any other for that matter, who could, at any time past or present, truthfully make such a statement. We have had national and provincial political leaders, both Liberal and Conservative, who have made certain promises to the people and who have kept those promises, but Premier Matheson is the first, to our knowledge, who has ever promised to complete a certain program within a certain time, and who has then gone out and cut that time almost in half. He did this when he told the rural people that he would give them rural electrification in five years and then went out and pushed it with so much vigor that it will be completed in three.

It is going to be hard to defeat a man who has the habit of keeping every political promise he makes, and who, in many instances, does even more than he promises. It is not only going to be hard, it is going to be impossible. For this is a different electorate to that of previous generations. Educational facilities have made this the most enlightened electorate this Province has ever had—an electorate who have the necessary intelligence to know when they have a leader who means exactly what he says.

THE MATHESON GOV'T

IS PROUD TO PRESENT ITS

RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE TWO YEARS AGO

- RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
- ENCOURAGED FREEZING AND PROCESSING PLANTS
- EXTENDED VETERINARY SERVICES
- STARTED AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DIVISION
- REINSTATED ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION POLICY
- ENGAGED SERVICES OF DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
- INCREASED SUBSIDIES TO LOWER COST OF SCHOOL BOOKS
- ESTABLISHED GRADES XI AND XII IN MANY RURAL CENTRES
- INCREASED TEACHER TRAINING LOANS AND GRANTS
- BROADENED THE BASE OF PAYMENTS OF ASSISTANCE TO RURAL SCHOOLS
- LOWERED FEES AT PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE FOR THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR RURAL STUDENTS
- CONTINUED EXPANSION OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING
- INSTITUTED POLICY OF CHECK TESTING OF MILK AND CREAM
- ENGAGED SERVICES OF TWO TRAINED HORTICULTURISTS
- INCREASED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PUPILS OF GRADES XI AND XII TO INCLUDE RURAL AREAS AS WELL AS PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE.
- ASSUMED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM
- PROVIDED POLIO VACCINE FOR GRADES I AND II PUPILS
- EXTENDED POLIO UNIT AT SANATORIUM
- COMMENCED BUILDING OF ACTIVE TREATMENT CENTRE AT FALCONWOOD
- PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO CEREBRAL PALSY SOCIETY
- INAUGURATED CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH PROGRAM
- ESTABLISHED MENTAL HEALTH CLINICS
- ACCEPTED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFER OF DISABLED PERSONS' PENSION PROGRAM
- PROVIDED LEGISLATION FOR A DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
- PROVIDED ADDITIONAL COLD STORAGE FACILITIES
- ENCOURAGED ESTABLISHMENT OF FROZEN FILLETING PLANTS
- ASSISTED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF FISH MEAL PLANTS
- PROVIDED FORESTRY SERVICE FOR ASSISTANCE OF WOOD LOT OWNERS
- PROVIDED GRANTS FOR VILLAGES UNDER VILLAGE SERVICE ACT.
- BUILT SEVERAL LARGE BRIDGES, A FEW OF WHICH ARE LOCATED AT MONTAGUE, GRAND RIVER, CLIFTON, HALDIMAND, SOURIS, GILLIAN'S
- BUILT CAUSEWAY AT NORTH RIVER
- INCREASED SNOW REMOVAL UNITS

KEEP GOING AHEAD - VOTE MATHESON

Submitted by Provincial Liberal Association