

# Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan

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chinese in their Civil Service, and the expense of that Civil Service will grow year by year. Expenditures in the Department of Health and Welfare are very great and will increase with each succeeding year. The so-called Federal Health grants, many of which had to be matched by the local Government are doing a great deal of good in this Province. As I am a member of the Advisory Committee to the Minister of Health and Welfare, representing the Medical Profession with Dr. Howatt of Summerside, I think the Government acted wisely in accepting, in full, our recommendations. I can bear personal testimony of our advance in Public Health in every phase, particularly in the field of cancer control.

"I realize that the expense of training and keeping properly qualified personnel in the many divisions of the Public Health and Welfare Department is great and will be greater, but I feel that no money is wasted. I am not so sure about the building programme. The Leader of the Opposition made the charge in the Legislature that the new Public Health centre was built on a cost plus 15 per cent basis and that statement was never denied.

"If the statement is correct there was a waste of money there, on a building which cost about \$175,000. I hope a better contract will be made on the building of the new treatment centre at Falconwood, which the Minister said would cost about \$500,000. I was severely criticized in 1932, for my plans for Falconwood Mental Hospital. Those plans were prepared after an examination of the patients in the institution by Dr. Clark, who was lent to me free by the Government of Ontario, and Dr. Grant Fleming, Professor

of Mental Hygiene at McGill University and Dr. F.B. Mitchell of McGill, an expert in Mental Hygiene.

"Had it not been for the second great fire, because the Prince of Wales College was burned a very short time after Falconwood, I would have completed Falconwood on a modern scientific plan at a cost of one million. As it was we could only complete it in part. But now the treatment centre alone will cost half a million. In our time the expense of Falconwood and the farm was always a matter of discussion and criticism. We ran Falconwood in 1931 for \$80,774.00, 1932 for \$79,772.00 and 1934 for \$94,771.00.

### Liberal Critics Cited

"In the dark ages of political history, 1935-1939, when there was not a Conservative in the House, mismanagement at Falconwood was so glaring that in 1938 four private members of the House condemned it and their statements are a matter of record. First, Mr. George Barbour said a saving of \$20,000 a year could be saved by proper management, this was contained in J. Walter Jones, Wm. Hughes and Hon. J.A. Campbell but a few years later those four gentlemen were the leading members of the Jones Government. How did they justify their own criticism? Let the record under the Jones Government speak for itself. In 1943 Falconwood expenditure was \$143,486; 1944, \$169,076; 1945, \$186,159; 1947, \$253,387; 1948, \$280,798; and the most striking example of all was the building of the famous tin barn, the Premier's own idea and which was severely condemned by Hon. Allan Stewart, but only after he had been dropped as Minister of Agriculture.

"Incidentally the best paying asset of the Jones Government is the building of the Queen Charlotte which the Stewart-MacMillan Government bought in 1932 for some of the inmates of Falconwood. We paid \$10,000 for it and the present Government receives \$3,600 a year rent on this building, it pays for itself every three years. This was a pretty good bargain, no money wasted there.

"I think any elector would be amused at Premier Jones address on Provincial issues, published in the Guardian April 6th, 1951. I refer for instance to his reference to the "indirect turn-over tax," which he says the Federal Government will empower the Province to levy. He said, "it would facilitate the collection of taxes more even over the Province, it will also prevent the raising of the Federal sales." Evidently Mr. Abbott did not consult Premier Jones when he raised the sales tax from 8 per cent to 10 per cent.

"The turn-over tax would compel every farmer and small dealer to keep a set of books recording every sale and adding on 3 per cent. What an enormous burden of trouble and confusion, the Premier would put on farmers and others! Imagine selling for instance, 10 dozen eggs, a few pounds of butter, a few vegetables and keep an account of the tax. It is a hateful, monstrous idea.

"He says this party can't be trusted with the responsibility of Government but some Government will impose this tax in the future. So let voters be warned. Return the Jones Government and you will get the most troublesome tax of all. He said, "the present Government has had annual surpluses, but put in a Conservative Government which is their past record and a turn over tax may be what would be needed to get them out of the red hole". Just listen to that, voters, and I am sure you will laugh. The conclusion will be none but a Liberal Government fit to carry on in P. E. I.

### Surpluses and Debt

"The Premier's surpluses on ordinary account are worth nothing when the main items of expenditure are in capital account. Look at the record and you will find that the Stewart-MacMillan Government of 1923-1927 was the only Government that reduced our debt in the past 25 years, and with very limited revenues. For instance we received an average of \$27,000 a year from the Prohibition Act and last year the Jones Government received a million for the Health tax on liquor and tobacco, and from

the so-called temperance, which is really the rum act.

"In those four years 1923-1927, we increased our debt about \$100,000, a year or in all \$428,000. You can see we were economical and did not waste money like the Jones Government does. Now let us look at the record of the Stewart-MacMillan Government of 1931-1935, and at this point I make a direct charge against the Provincial Treasurer and Attorney General, Hon. W.E. Darby, and Hon. J.W. Jones, Premier, of falsehood and prevarication in regard to their figures on debt. Both of them have stated in their campaign speech that when the MacMillan Government went out of power in 1935 the debt was approximately 8 million dollars. Those statements are false and misleading, and evidently made for the purpose of misleading the public.

"In my opinion the worst vice in a public man, and a Minister is prevarication with intention to deceive. Hon. J.W. Jones and Hon. W.E. Darby are no ignorant men; sometimes a mistake in figures can be excused, but there is no excuse for theirs. Mr. Darby is Provincial Treasurer and the figures are at their fingertips. I also have been Provincial Treasurer and know the situation. Let me give you the correct figures: The MacMillan Government went out of power on August 15th, 1935. The Lea Campbell Government were in power for 4 1/2 months of that year. They were responsible for 4 1/2 of the increase of debt in that year, which was \$952,292, or about \$558,000, subtract \$358,000 from the total debt at the end of 1935 which was \$5,221,746, and you have \$4,863,738, that was our debt when we left office on August 15th, 1935, not eight million as falsely stated by Premier Jones and Attorney General and Provincial Treasurer W.E. Darby, a mistake of 3 1/2 million dollars, by those two gentlemen can't be excused or explained. It was deliberately made to fool our electors.

"Now what about the debt today of this Government with all its surpluses on ordinary account. In answer to question number 50 in the last meeting of the Legislature the Provincial Treasurer said "the total debt of the Province on February 28, 1951, was \$16,885,513.63, an increase in debt under the Campbell Jones Government of \$12,021,777.00 and in another year our debt will be nearly 20 millions, which is a mortgage on every farm of \$1,700.

### Turnover Tax

"I now refer back to Premier Jones statement that a turnover tax would be necessary to take a Conservative Government out of the red hole. What do you voters think of that wonderful statement? Does he speak with voice of authority or out of his long experience? He certainly knows more about the red hole than any man in this Province, he plunged into the red hole as soon as he became head of the Government. He is so deep in the "Red Hole" that it would take a cord of tractors to pull him. And he above all others speaks of a red hole. How sublimely ridiculous he must appear to the voters.

"During the days of my Premiership I was Premier, Provincial Treasurer, Provincial Secretary, Minister of Education, Minister of Health, Administrator of Old Age Pensions which our Government gave our people, and Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Act for the modest salary of \$4,000. What do we find today? The work which I did is now being done by five men, Hon. J.W. Jones, Hon. W.E. Darby, Hon. F.A. Large, Hon. J.A. Matheson, and Hon. A.W. Matheson, and it is costing the Province over four times as much. No wonder our debt goes up yearly by leaps and bounds.

"Let us glance again at the record. The Stewart-MacMillan Government reduced the debt in 1928, increased it only \$428,000, but against that we got a judgment on our claims against Canada in 1928 for 2 1/2 millions of dollars paying at the rate of 5% interest our subsidy of \$125,000 yearly. The Stewart-MacMillan Government in 1931-1935, increased the debt from 1931-1935 one and a half million dollars against Canada of 3 million dollars paying an annual subsidy of \$150,000 yearly. This judgment of 3 millions was just twice our debt increase. This was not bad for the Conservative Government which now in Premier Jones opinion is not fit to be trusted with reins of power. In my humble opinion any Government would be an improvement on his.

### Wartime Agreement

"The war agreement made by the Campbell Government with the Federal Government was another great loss to this Province. The Federal Government wanted control of four major taxation fields, which they got but no explanation has ever been offered for throwing the Duman Commission subsidy of \$125,000 and the White Commission subsidy of \$150,000, or \$275,000, sub-

sides obtained as damages by two Conservative Government into the pot also, but the sad fact remains that we lost \$275,000 yearly for five years or a total loss to this Province of \$1,375,000, to which must be added the further loss of \$400,000 a year of C.N.R. taxes obtained by our Government in 1926. This was a loss in five years of \$2,000,000, so our total loss was \$1,775,000, on account of that war agreement.

"Now what about the Jones Government bargain with the Federal Government? The present Premier Jones, blushed at the conference when he heard the terms — not much wonder. If I had made this bargain I would never have returned to P.E.I., but he came home boasting of the great bargain, saying, "we had a million dollars to play with". Well, he played with it.

"It has been stated, they asked for 4 million, would have been reluctant to settle for 3 million and had to take \$2,100,000 increased yearly according to the increase in national revenue. Premier Jones in presenting our claims last year said, "the formal bargain was not just or equitable which is true, but it was a different picture to the times he was boasting about the wonderful bargain. The first was the Government says now they will get over 2 million, but that in 1952 there is little chance of making a better bargain. If the Premier and Provincial Treasurer prepare their brief after the fashion they have exemplified by making false statements of the amount of debt left by the MacMillan Government, they won't get far.

"In connection with Federal Provincial relations, Premier Jones action was remarkable. The main basis of his argument was fiscal need which is perfectly sound argument, but in the next session, he completely changed his stand and repudiated the argument of fiscal need entirely saying, "it was our own fault, worn out and useless, and was to be replaced by a new formula of the late Prime Minister King", evidently that formula if ever used did not help us any. There has always been great secrecy about the Jones Government briefs and arguments on claims, of course it would not be wise to let the Opposition get any knowledge about them, being as we are, not fit to entrust with Governmental administration.

### Amazing Spectacle

"But the last session brought a wonderful and amazing event. The curtain was lifted by Mr. William Hughes, who was Provincial Treasurer and who was Premier Jones as a superman until he resigned from the Government and has stated in the Legislature that he would not return to the Jones Government until the Premier "stopped his improper and unconstitutional acts", which he did secretly. Mr. Hughes stated that he was only able to offer a crude imperfect fiscal statement to the conference. He claimed credit for the \$100,000 over the minimum of 2 millions by means of an escalator clause which if not inserted would leave our minimum at \$2,000,000 instead of \$2,900,000 for the next term beginning 1952.

"Mr. Hughes admits his fiscal statement was crude and imperfect, which I think is true, because the important item of Federal Income Tax taken from P.E.I., now amounting to over \$4 million was not taken into account. Mr. Hughes tried to get the Government to start early on a new brief, which would take months, but his services were not secured.

"If the Liberals wanted a solid, logical, well prepared brief on our claims they should have taken H.F. MacPhee's brief before the White Commission, which produced results of \$3,000,000 as a judgment and kept the door open to deal further with our just and unsatisfied claims and that electors is our only hope. Canada owes this money. The terms of Confederation were not fair and they have not been fulfilled. The Conservative party on three different occasions have proved their value to the amount of 7 1/2 millions. Elect a Conservative Government and they will go on with the job of getting our claims further recognized.

### Labour's Grievances

"This large constituency of Charlottetown and Royalty does not owe much to the Jones Government. The labouring men of Charlottetown do not owe the present Government much especially when they recall that this Government outlawed labour a few years ago, — one of the most unheard of things that ever occurred in the Empire or on this continent — and only rescinded the outlaw order when it looked as if the Federal Minister of Justice would intervene.

"The wage rate of the labourer is too low. Whether they are city employees or not, the economic condition of many in this city is wretched, many families can't get enough to feed themselves and I feel sorry for the children who are not getting proper nourishment as too many are existing on bread and milk, and the result will be undernourishment and a tendency to many diseases as a result of insufficient diet and weakness.

"In our platform we promise and will give more consideration to the labouring man and will protect him by a minimum wage law, excepting farmers and domestics. In my opinion the great field of agriculture has not been looked after under the present Government, and year after year we see the several thousands of dollars voted by the Legislature for agriculture not spent. Too many farmers are in financial difficulties and will be unless they find some relief, and some form of farm rehabilitation is necessary, otherwise the exodus of young people many of them farmers, will continue to the Island's great loss.

"Keeping Federal and Provincial Governments in line has not helped this Province. The discrimination against the Maritimes is still going on. The wheat magnate of

the west could get 65 million given to them as well as two hundred and fourteen millions, on the eve of the last Federal election, but what do we get — a few miserable coppers on one greatest crop of potatoes. Evidently the Federal Government does not think much of the Maritimes.

"A change in both Governments would help us. Our platform offers a splendid chance for farmers soon to get properly started as good farmers. Our Agriculturists don't owe much to either Federal or Provincial Governments except added disabilities in getting excess to markets. How much has increased freight rates cost farmers? Now hanging as a threat is the proposal to cut out the subsidies on western grain coming into the Province.

"Another sad episode was the "Eskimo" experiment. It cost the Province many thousands of dollars and its worst effect has been breaking down those friendly feelings between Newfoundland and the Island which are absolutely essential to success in our mutual trade.

### Teachers' Salaries

"In the field of education some progress has been made, but teachers should receive higher salaries and the example of Charlottetown is a good one to follow. The increase should be based largely on experience and qualifications. I can't approve of the method of consolidation which has been used in this large constituency. It may be said, there was a voluntary vote, but I am afraid rate payers were not fully aware of what they were doing, and perhaps trustees did not realize the great financial burden they had to assume, but in any case a great hardship has been inflicted on many rate payers. A jump in yearly school taxes of over 50% is too much of a burden on anyone in this day of taxes.

"The only things were are sure of under the Jones Government is taxes, debt, and death. During my regime as First Minister of Education, I built the Prince of Wales College secured \$88,000 from the Carnegie Corporation to endow the Chair of Sociology and Economics, thus raising P.W.C. to the standard of a full Junior College, added an additional year for Teacher Training in order to turn out teachers better qualified. As Minister I established grades 11 and 12 in the Summerside High School and established our magnificent library system with headquarters in P.W.C. and 26 branches throughout the province. The endowed chair and the library system cost this Province nothing. It was a gift I received from the great Carnegie Corporation, and it was the greatest boon given to education in our history.

"The great spendthrift Department of Public Works, reached its pinnacle of notoriety in 1947 when the Minister, Hon. Mr. Barbour boasted in the following session of spending half a million dollars to win the election. While Mr. Barbour was Minister, he cut the Public Works report to a useless, valueless report, because no one can find out who worked on roads or bridges and to get any information. A question must be asked, for instance as to who worked on the roads in a certain district, their names and what they were paid, and this information is most interesting to all road workers, who would like to know how many minors, even school children, have been paid for road work. Several times in answer to such questions, no answer was ever given to the Opposition. As the Minister said, "it would take several stenographers several days to prepare the answer." This is a glaring example of how information is denied and suppressed and the orgy of reckless expenditure goes on.

### Trans-Canada Highway

"Again we have the uncertainty and lack of information about the \$10,000,000 Trans Canada Highway. Very little information re its location, no information re two or three bridges. The plan evidently is to tell the opposition and voters little or nothing. One thing we do know is that already \$500,000 has been spent as a great amount of it wasted as the Federal Government has condemned the North River Stratgartney Bonshaw route on account of grades.

"Our Party is determined that this super highway will not dominate the picture entirely but that our ordinary main highways will get first consideration and secondary roads as well.

"This party will promote and ex-



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pedite rural electrification even to grants in aid where there is need for such to help people who alone are unable to meet the financial requirements. We will co-operate fully with the Maritime Electric Company.

In 1948 the External Auditors emphasized a state of affairs under the Provincial Government that the Opposition had long suspected and often tried to expose. I refer to the wonderful career of the Fishermen's Loan Board — Matters were so bad in this regard that the external auditors refused to have anything to do with it. They said that 243,000 was outstanding and due this wonderful career of the Fishermen's Loan Board.

"Evidence in Court showed how bad matters were, so that finally a Commissioner, Judge DesRoches, was appointed. Then the Government was represented by the Deputy Attorney General. Then a new mode of Court procedure was inaugurated; no subpoenas were issued, but invitations through the press were given the people to attend the Commissioner's Court. It is not wonderful — an invitation to attend Court, I suppose the reason so few attended was the invitations were not gilt edged. Judge DesRoches's findings were in the hands of the Government on March 1st.

"We have heard so often about the wonderful Government printing bureau, often used for propaganda purposes. Either by design or intention, it took nearly four weeks before the Members of the Legislature received them, and then too late to deal with them. The Opposition knew there were irregularities, evidence in Court proved it. The Judge found there were no proper regulations or orders-in-council re the matter. The very fact that every four years reveals vastly increased throwing away of money by this Board, shows beyond the shadow of a doubt it was being used for purely political purposes. The evidence showed that the applicant did not need to be a fisherman to get the loan.

It is just another item which helps to make our present debt nearly 17 millions, the external auditors found \$243,000, the Premier

said we could kiss \$200,000 of it goodbye. Now another Commission is promised by the Attorney General to investigate the charges of mismanagement and worse according to a sworn affidavit into the management of the "Eskimo". Time will tell how much whitewash will be used in this case."

### Mayor McDonald's Appeal

"I did not intend to make any reference to the Liberal candidates in Charlottetown and Royalty which I have had the great honor to represent for 24 years, but Mayor MacDonald's speech, as it appears in this morning's Guardian, is, to say the least, amusing and childish.

"His argument is that Charlottetown is forgotten by the Government, because it is not represented by some like himself. In 1935-1939, the dark ages, Charlottetown had a Liberal representative. Can the Mayor point out any wonderful thing that was done by them for the City. From 1937-47, Charlottetown was represented by the present Governor, Hon. T. W. L. Prowse, a splendid representative, and he and I worked together for the best interests of this City. I am quite sure the present Government will pay as much attention to the present representatives of the City as they pay to anyone else. So Mayor MacDonald draws the long bow when he says there is no one in a position, at the present time, to talk for the City.

"He stresses his long record of 12 years in the City Council and three times Mayor, but many voters are asking just what the Mayor has done for labor in that time, and think of his 5-cent gesture the evening he was nominated!

"He claims a good record. I will match my record with his and let the electors decide. Mine is 15 years as City Health Officer, — sitting at every meeting of the City Council; 28 years on the School Board; 40 years in the Dispensary and Anti-T.B. Society; 40 years in the Children's Aid Society; 37 years on the executive of the Red Cross—President for 10 years; 24 years in the Legislature, Representative on the Grand Council of the

Canadian Society for control of Cancer and President of the P. E. I. Society ever since its inception. 37 years on the executive of the P. E. Island Medical Association and 41 years on the staff of the Charlottetown Hospital.

"Let my opponents match that record before they attempt to minimize what I have done for this City and Province generally. They cannot establish any dereliction of duty or loyalty to this City against either my colleague, David I. Mathleson or myself.

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