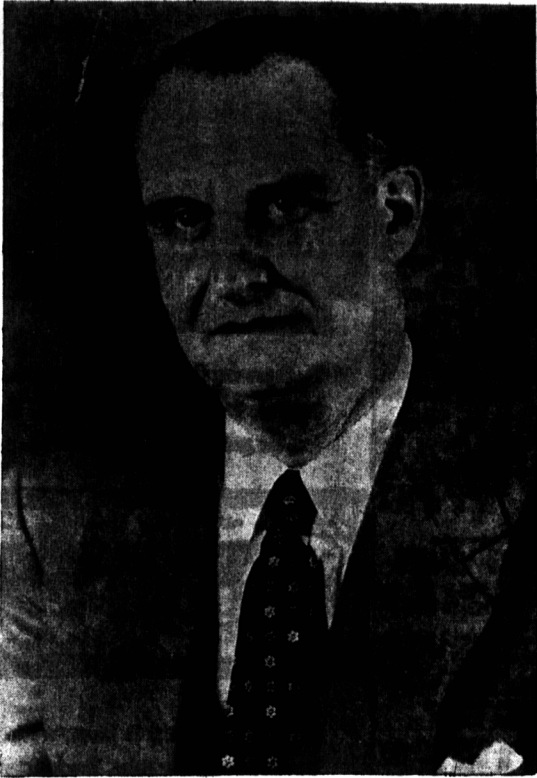


15 POINT PROGRAM FOR BETTER GOVERNMENT AND A BETTER PROVINCE



"The Conservative Party's 15-point platform has been under study and in preparation for some considerable time. Much of it has been formulated by our candidates who, in turn, represent the people of their districts. This is not only our program, but yours. It carries with it our solemn assurance that when elected this program shall speedily be put into effect.

"We feel this progressive program goes a long way toward correcting the many injustices and inequities under which our people live at this time. We bring it forward for your serious consideration. We sincerely believe it will merit your support."

R. R. BELL, LEADER

The Progressive Conservative Party of Prince Edward Island

1. GOOD GOVERNMENT

We believe that the greatest need of our people is a government devoted entirely and unselfishly to their welfare. We will eliminate the undemocratic control and influence of political party friends on public projects. We will ensure proper leadership of every government department by appointing Ministers of the Crown who will give their full time to their departmental responsibilities.

2. AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE

In view of the continuing exodus from our farms and the conditions of financial distress evident among many of our farmers, the Conservative Party will initiate a farm credit and farm settlement policy, similar to the Province of Quebec, providing loans at low interest rates with long periods allowed for repayment.

We believe it is vital that your Government set up a progressive policy which will improve transportation services and develop new markets, especially in Newfoundland and other Maritime centres.

3. RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

We will introduce a vigorous and realistic policy of rural electrification which will:

- speed up the running of lines to rural areas, with special consideration given to isolated areas and,
- we will bring power lines to the yard of the year-round rural consumer free of cost.

4. FISHERIES

The Fisheries Loan Board will be administered by a non-political body and a new policy will be established which will provide low interest, long term loans according to individual need and merit for buildings and all fishing equipment. Special consideration under this policy will be given to inshore fishermen.

We will bring pressure to bear upon the proper authorities to make a proper survey of harbors in localities where our fishermen are desirous of procuring druggers.

Your Conservative Government will assist and encourage the establishment of refrigerator and storage facilities in our fishing centres.

5. EDUCATION

All thinking people are concerned by unsettled situation in the educational field of this Province. We will appoint a strong independent commission to inquire into and make recommendations on the following:

- the lack of sufficient enrollments for teacher training,
- the need to provide free school books up to central grades,
- the present inadequacy of teacher salaries,
- the elimination of the confused system of school financing.

This Commission has been strongly recommended by the Teachers' Federation and similar Commissions have already been established in the Province of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

6. OLD AGE PENSIONS INCREASE

Your Conservative Government will pay to those now receiving Old Age Pensions from the Federal Government an additional provincial grant in all cases of need. Because of the continued increase in the cost of living we feel strongly that this action is essential to the welfare and security of our older citizens.

7. HOSPITAL BENEFITS

Until such time as the Federal authority and the Province can institute a contributory hospital and sickness program, a Conservative Government will make every effort to assist those in obvious and dire need.

We propose immediately to make hospital and medical care free of charge for all mothers who are presently receiving Mothers' Allowance from the Provincial Government.

DISABILITY PENSIONS WITHOUT MEANS TEST

A Conservative Government will speed up the Provincial Government's sadly lagging administration of the Federally assisted disability pension program.

We will abolish the means test provisions now a part of the Provincial Government's program.

COMPETENT DIRECTION

Health services shall be maintained and increased in conjunction with the Federal Government and under the direction of an active, competent Minister.

8. HIGHWAYS

We will hasten the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway. We will introduce a more vigorous program for the maintenance and re-surfacing of present hard surface highways and for the paving of connecting roads to villages. Secondary roads will be graded and gravelled to carry Fall and Spring traffic. Consideration will be given to providing assistance for paving roads in villages.

We will also undertake an immediate and complete re-organization of the Department of Public Works to obtain greater efficiency.

9. VEHICLE LICENSING

We will make a complete examination of the vehicle licensing system, with a view to introducing more fair and equitable license fees to motor vehicle owners.

10. TOURIST DEVELOPMENT

Tourist improvement loans will be granted to all operators in the industry on a fair and equitable basis, having regard for the overall development of the industry throughout our Province.

11. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Industrial Development will be promoted in keeping with our markets and sound business practice. Government loans under an independent Board will be available for the production of quality products and to aid unemployment so evident on Prince Edward Island in 1954 and 1955. A progressive policy will be inaugurated to develop markets for our products in the Maritimes and points adjacent thereto and to regain our Newfoundland market, so badly neglected of late years by Liberal Governments.

12. HELP TO MUNICIPALITIES

Town and villages will receive increased assistance for public works and special attention will be directed to those centres requiring water works, sewerage and fire equipment.

13. RAILWAY SERVICES

Your Conservative Government will fight for improved railway services so that there will be no curtailment of the present service or laying off of railway employees.

14. LABOUR

Your Conservative Party deplors the lack of government concern for organized labor in this Province. On election, we will forthwith appoint a Minister of Labour, with an assistant from organized labour and will modernize the Trade Union Act in keeping with the Acts of other Provinces.

15. FEDERAL CLAIMS

In order to provide additional revenue for the Province for the many needed services, we will energetically press our claims to the Federal Government for increased subsidies and payments and in particular for those sums justly due to Prince Edward Island in lieu of western and northern Crown lands.

GO AHEAD!

VOTE FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT

VOTE CONSERVATIVE

MAY 25th