

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY SEEN AS COMING TO CANADA IN 1936

By WILFRED EGGLESTON
Central Press Canadian Staff Writer

Ottawa.—Parliament Hill welcomes the New Year in the hope that it marks the last long hard pull out of the depression and a year of constructive events and developments which will spell work and wages and happier times for a vast army of Canadians.

The political menu already contains a series of promising and fascinating events.

The first reciprocal trade treaty with the United States since before Confederation begins to operate January 1. A series of enactments in Parliament will supplement the provisions of the treaty and greatly widen its scope.

The first session of Canada's eighteenth Parliament will open with the usual fanfares and ceremonial glitter about the end of January, with Baron Buchan of Tweedsmuir as the representative of His Majesty at the event.

A Strange House

The galleries will look down on one of the strangest allotments of members in Canadian political history—a horde of Liberals, too numerous to be seated on the one side, overflowing down the other, and a small but able Opposition consisting of scattered groups to the left of the Chair. Mackenzie King will have 180 supporters, R. B. Bennett will have 40. The other 25 embrace followers of Social Credit, the C.C.F., Labor and the lone but trenchant leader of the Reconstruction party—Hon. H. H. Stevens.

Parliament's first duty, even before it goes to hear the speech from the throne, will be the election of a new Commons' Speaker, Pierre Casgrain. Liberal whip in 1930-35, is expected to be given the call. A deputy-Speaker will be selected at the same time. "Commodore" William Duff of Lunenburg and Captain F. G. Sanderson of Perth are the men most often mentioned for this post.

Supreme Court Meets

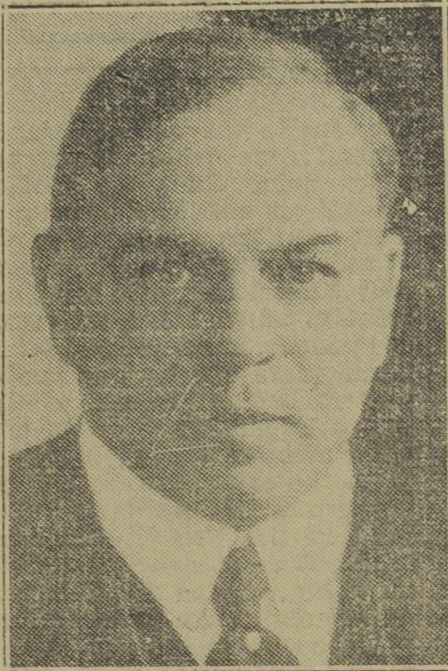
In the middle of January, before Parliament sits, the supreme court begins momentous hearings. Was the "Bennett reform program" valid? Did the Federal Government have power to pass the Unemployment Insurance Act, the Trade and Industry Commission Act, the Eight-hour Day and other legislation? Sir Lyman Duff and his colleagues will have to rule on that after hearing argument from both sides.

The year 1936 has no elections scheduled, unless Manitoba chooses to hold its general election this year. More likely Premier John Bracken will wait until 1937.

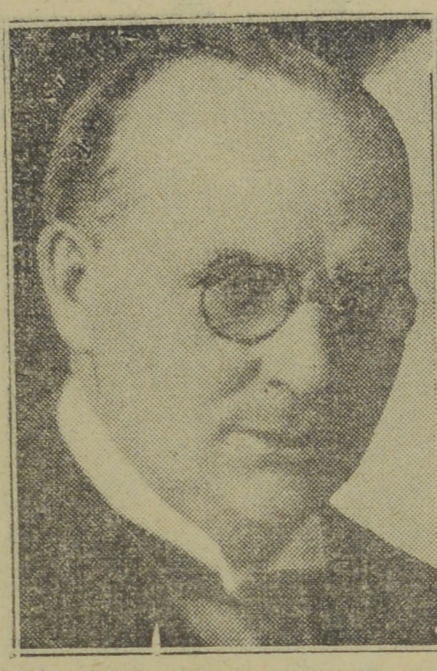
Opposition to Reorganize

Political parties will have to readjust themselves after the earthquake of October 14, 1935. The Liberals come riding into the new year on the greatest wave of popularity in their history. The Conservatives under Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett face the need of re-

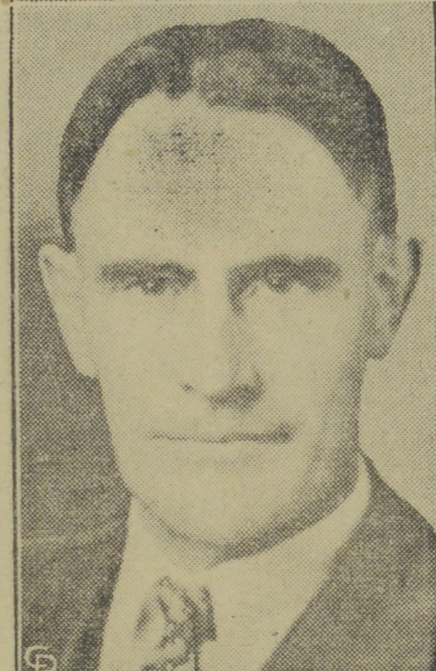
Lawmakers at Ottawa Have Busy Year of Legislation to Look Forward To—Many Changes Forecast.



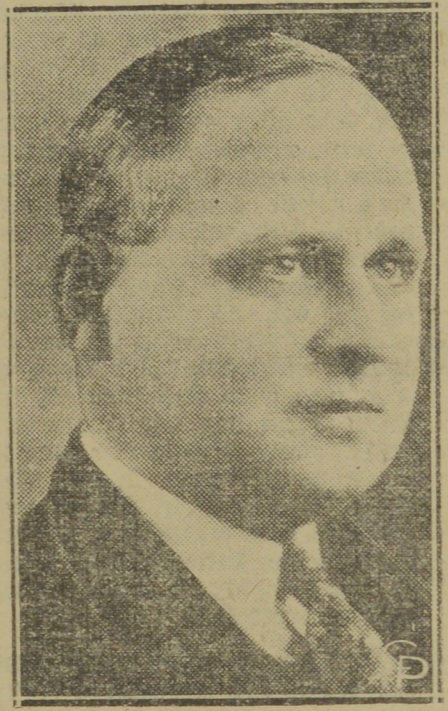
RT. HON. W. L. M. KING
A Trade Treaty Year To Come



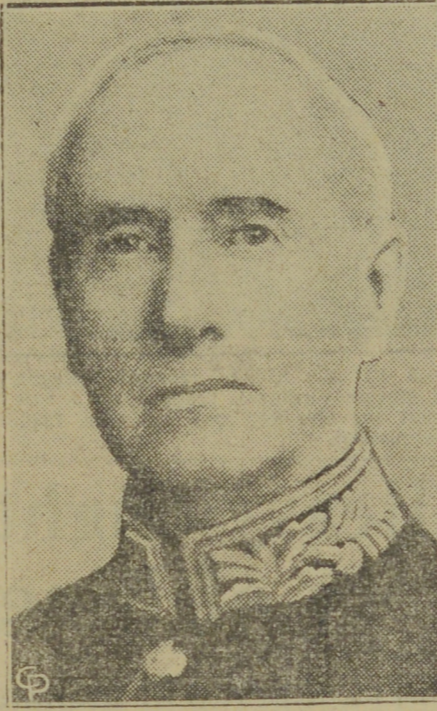
RT. HON. R. B. BENNETT
Will His Heart Stand-Up?



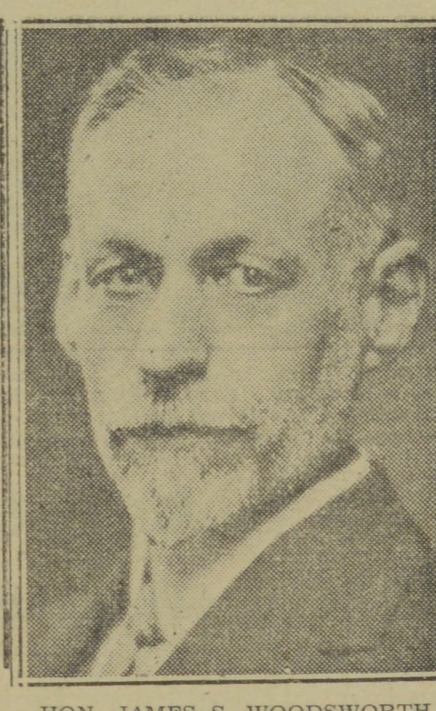
HON. JOHN BLACKMORE
Leads Parliament's "Baby" Party



HON. PIERRE CASGRAIN
He May Do the Speaking



CHIEF JUSTICE LYMAN P. DUFF
Will Hear Bennett's Reforms



HON. JAMES S. WOODSWORTH
Small But Powerful

organizing their broken forces building up their party machine, preparing for new contests. Mr. Bennett will remain as their leader for a few months at least, but if his health falters again, the Conservatives will have to find someone, if they can, to take his place. In Parliament the Conservatives, in spite of their small numbers, will have great debating power, having elected such men as Hon. C. H. Cahan, Hon. Earl Rowe, Hon. J. E. Lawson, Sir George Perley and Mr. Bennett himself.

The C.C.F. came through the election with a disappointing quantity of members, but the quality is high. The election of M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. leader in Saskatchewan, is regarded as Mr. Woodsworth's most useful accomplishment in the western sphere, while the re-election of Messrs. Heaps and MacInnis and Miss Macphail ensures adequate repre-

sentation of their views. Mr. Woodsworth, however, will miss E. J. Garland, Gardiner, Coote, Spencer, Speakman and others of the United Farmer movement.

Social Credit Makes Debut

Seventeen followers of the "social credit" philosophy of Premier William Aberhart make their debut in the House and form the element of novelty about the next session. John H. Blackmore will head the new party. The possibility that the next federal election will see a bid for power at Ottawa by this youthful party will give additional zest to the activities of these monetary pioneers.

Hon. H. H. Stevens, supported by nearly 400,000 Canadian votes, but the solitary survivor of nearly 200 candidates of the Reconstruction Party will continue from the Opposition benches his crusade for a better deal for the wage-

earner, the retail merchants and the small manufacturer.

The parliamentary session is expected to be relatively short and concerned mainly with the passing of a number of amendments to existing legislation rather than a glittering array of brand new bills. An act to permit Canadian tourists entering the United States to bring back \$100 in merchandise free will interest many Canadians. The tariff laws will be purged of many vexatious clauses, and the power to raise tariffs will be restored to the Commons. The fate of the Bennett reform measures will rest with the supreme court.

The year 1936 will probably go down into history as marking a constitutional landmark, for machinery will be launched to enable Canada to amend her own constitution at Ottawa rather than continuing to go to Westminster for the process. All other self-

governing Dominions have had this right for years.

A new drive on unemployment will be launched—not so much a direct frontal attack as an effort to foster trade and industry by all promising means, in the hope that the unemployed will be rapidly absorbed.

The feature of the 1936 session will almost certainly be the Dunning budget. The Liberals believe that fiscal and tax changes are all-important, and a series of sensational changes in tariffs and in the method of collecting the country's revenue can be confidently anticipated.

"Senate Reform" Cry

In the Senate the Government of the day faces a formidable majority of Conservatives. The present standing is: Liberals 32, Conservatives 64. There will be a Conservative majority in the Senate for the next four or five years, judging from past experience. It is quite possible that a constitutional storm may blow up as a result. "Senate Reform" promises to become a live cry once more.

The year 1936 calls for another imperial conference. If held, it will grapple with the fate of the Ottawa agreements, which expire in 1937. Will they be renewed on their old basis? Will Canada continue to enjoy her important free markets in the greatest importing country in the world? Or will she be confronted with adverse duties? A gathering at Westminster will deal with these vital matters.

The year 1936 may prove to be the critical year for the great Canadian wheat problem, which began in 1929, became a government liability in 1930, and threatened to cost the taxpayers of the country fifty million dollars or more during the dark days of wheat surpluses since. Canada goes into the new year with a more promising outlook for wheat than any year since the glut began.

"Trade Treaty" Year

The Bank of Canada goes into 1936 a privately-owned institution. If the Liberals fulfil their pledge this year it will go into 1937 owned by the Canadian public at large.

This year will probably be "Trade Treaty" year. The Minister of Trade and Commerce and his colleagues are seeking to make deals with all countries anxious to do business on both a selling and a buying basis. A new treaty with France appears likely. And treaties with Holland, Poland and other European countries may be negotiated. Better trade relations with Japan are on the cards.

The year 1936 will see valiant efforts on the arts of federal and provincial governments to "balance their budgets." This accomplishment has almost become one of the "forgotten arts" in the depression, but the orthodox financiers say it must be done, and led by Hon. Charles Dunning there will be a concerted effort to accomplish it. When that is done, and not before, Mr. Taxpayer can begin to look for lighter taxes.

BRICK BRADFORD—On the Isles Beyond the Ice

by WILLIAM RITT and CLARENCE GRAY

ON THE ADVICE OF HIS FATHER, SIEGFRIED QUITS HIS HOME IN THE EARLY DAWN TO SEEK FAME WITH HIS SWORD AND PERHAPS, FORGET HIS LOVE OF THE PRINCESS THORA



AFTER MANY WEARY MILES THROUGH THE GRIM AND FORBIDDING FORESTS—



SIEGFRIED SUDDENLY COMES UPON A MYRIAD OF CAMP FIRES!

AND WHAT PART DO YOU THINK YOU, GRIMMOLD, WILL PLAY IN THIS WAR ON THORILL?



LOOK AT THIS BLADE, COMRADES! I, GRIMMOLD, WILL RING IT WITH THE MOST PRICELESS OF THORA'S BRACELETS!