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HON. PREMIER DYSART SPEAKS ON POLICIES OF PROV. GOVERNMENT

Deals With Direct Relief Policy of Helping the Farmers, the Unemployed Recovery and Federal Relations

People all over New Brunswick listened over the radio last evening to Hon. A. A. Dysart, Premier and Minister of Public Works, discussing the policies of the Provincial Government.

Since taking office Premier Dysart has made it a practice to take the people into his confidence and to discuss the work done by himself and his government. The previous broadcast was six months ago. Last night's broadcast was as follows:

Good Evening, Everybody.

Six months ago I had the pleasure of speaking over the radio of the business of your Government, to explain to you policies and works undertaken from the time we assumed office in July, 1935. The occasion of my last chat with you was Remembrance or Armistice Day. It is fitting that I should return to the radio to make a progress report on this, the 18th day of May—the Anniversary of the landing of the United Empire Loyalists in our Province.

Who is there who will not admire the courage and convictions of that stalwart band who foresook the comforts and refinements of a hospitable southern clime to carve out homes for themselves in a wilderness? Would we be worthy of such lusty pioneers were we to be daunted by problems which may now confront us? No, Ladies and Gentlemen, that is not the spirit of old New Brunswick. Rather do we carry on our banner that vigorous and determined challenge by the anonymous author of "Invictus":

"In the fell clutch of circumstance, I have not winced or cried aloud; Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody, but unbowed."

We, in this loyal old British Province, have the instinct, the will, the determination to conquer adversity, and from that fine moral fibre of our people your Government gets the inspiration, the urge, and the encouragement to step courageously towards the achievement of destiny.

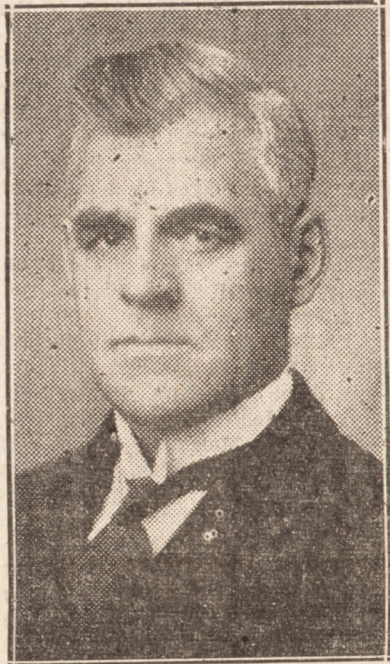
Since I last enjoyed the privilege of speaking to you over the radio, much has been accomplished. Commitments have been made and policies have been adopted which are well calculated to perpetuate the principle of Government of the people, by the people, for the people.

The Unemployed

Our key objective is to establish our people on a sound basis of pros-

perity—not prosperity for a privileged few but prosperity for all. An economic plan that will make a few millionaires while the great majority struggle against want and misery, is not the type of prosperity we seek. It is not the type of prosperity that the true democratic principles and ideals fused into our blood, will accept. In shaping our course, we must regard the needs of the masses.

As a primary requirement to this



PREMIER DYSART

end, it is our fixed ambition to eliminate payment of direct relief—or, rather, should I say, to eliminate the necessity of direct relief. To those of you who in the past have been compelled through no fault of your own to seek direct relief payments, let me assure you that there is absolutely no reflection upon your honour and integrity as red-blooded British subjects. In seeking to do away with the dole, we recognize the justice and sincerity of your claim that you are entitled to the opportunity to earn your bread and not be subjected to the humiliation of relying upon the meagre patronage of governments.

You are naturally prompted to ask: What are we proposing as a means to bring about this ideal condition of self-reliance and self-support? In the

first place, we are launching upon a programme of essential public works. When I say "essential public works", I mean work of a type that is demanded by the needs of these modern times and not futile undertakings simply to make men work for their existence.

Permanent Paving

During the current year and the year to follow, permanent paving will be laid on stretches of road throughout this province, totalling 420 miles or more, and in this programme we have provided that every municipality will have a share. No one who has studied the situation will deny the necessity for roads of modern construction to serve the needs of modern traffic, nor can he fail to perceive that roads of this type will attract business to the province and improve the general situation of our people to an extent far beyond the financial obligation involved.

It is neither suggested nor intended that it is possible to absorb all our unemployed in this particular undertaking but the programme will serve as a means to force money into circulation so that others, too, will find employment in subsidiary and related enterprises. On the same principle that a stone dropped into a pond spreads its circles in all directions, so will money expended in useful and necessary public enterprise extend its influence far and wide.

Negotiations are now pending with the Federal Government at Ottawa, which we hope will lead to other extensive undertakings with the co-operation of Federal and Provincial authority, that will absorb more of our unemployed; and to those with a knowledge of farming the Department of Lands and Mines has under consideration a comprehensive and extensive programme which would enable them not only to support themselves and their families but to enjoy once again the comfort and satisfaction of being constructive units in our social order. The entire undertaking, however, is dependent upon Federal co-operation.

Consistent with, and furthering the policy of helping people to help themselves, the Government has instituted a plan to provide seed to farmers in need of such assistance. Seed will also be made available to people in small communities who have the opportunity to plant small plots to provide vegetables for their own table. No one, mind you, is obliged to plant these vacant plots but we feel that most of our people are sufficiently provident to make preparations during the summer for the non-productive months that will follow.

Recovery Policy

Up to this point, I have been dealing exclusively with the assistance we have planned to enable those presently unemployed to provide for themselves. There are other features of our general recovery policy which operate less directly but, at the same time, have a vital bearing upon the

economic situation within the Province. In the past, banking, insurance, and other financial institutions have been using deposits and other funds to finance trade and industry largely outside the Province. This we propose to check. How? At the recent Session of the Legislature, measures were adopted that will enable the Government to make a special levy on the difference that may exist between the amount of money our people deposit in banks and the amount which the banks lend within the Province for commercial, industrial and other purposes; and in the case of insurance companies the difference between the gross premium paid and the amount of such premiums placed on investment within the province. It is not our intention, primarily, to use this instrument of taxation to enrich the Provincial Treasury, but it is designed, fundamentally, as a measure of assurance that money belonging to our people will be utilized for development within the Province rather than to promote the interests of the outside world.

Financial institutions with money to invest need not pay the special tax at all. To avoid the levy all they must do is invest within the Province an amount equivalent to that which you people have placed in their care. To the extent that they fall short they will be subject to the special tax. In other words, our people's money must be used for investment within the Province to assist trade and industry, to make credits easier, or a special levy will be applied.

And further, to make sure that the policy functions as intended, authority has also been given by the Legislature to establish Provincial Savings Banks. I might say that it is not the intention to set up local savings banks at the present time. That weapon will be held in reserve and used only if circumstances demand it to give effect to the general purpose of our policy.

Public Utilities

We have also put teeth into the Public Utilities Act. By virtue of amendments to the act, the Government has the authority, when and as occasion demands, to undertake investigation and apply correctives in any line of business, trade or industry so as to insure that domestic enterprise is given a fair opportunity. In addition, a special corporation tax will be levied on the gross business of all organizations operating within the Province whose stock is owned elsewhere. We have also appointed a Fair Wage Officer, who has been clothed with wide authority to investigate the scale of wages in general and in specific instances so as to insure to every worker a fair living wage for his or her labour, without over-burdening trade and industry.

Agriculture

To assist the development of Agriculture, a measure has been adopt-

ed to establish co-operative Credit Unions that will enable agricultural communities to employ their united strength and resources for mutual advancement and welfare; and we further propose to give all necessary encouragement to promote mutual farm insurance so that the cost of protection may be materially lightened.

For months past, the Government has directed considerable attention to the general utilization of our natural resources and one of the first reactions to that policy has been a distinct and material increase in our output of pulpwood in recent months and a general stimulation in our lumbering industry. It is our firm and studied conviction that the natural wealth of this province must not and will not remain dormant. These areas must be developed to the maximum of our physical and financial capacity for the benefit of our people, and we shall take whatever steps may be deemed prudent to accomplish this purpose.

To further secure and promote our economic advancement, we have established an entirely new department of government—a Ministry of Education, Federal Relations.

Federal Relations

In the matter of Federal Relations, it will be the function of this department to follow carefully our association with Ottawa and with the other provinces to insure that our agreements of Confederation shall be carried out and that in the scheme of union the people of New Brunswick will enjoy the same measure of benefit as those of our sister Provinces.

In certain phases of our Federal-Provincial relations, your Government has taken a quite definite stand, as most of you are, no doubt, aware. That stand, broadly speaking, is based upon the general fundamental principle that it is our bounden duty, as your Government, to secure for this and succeeding generations that measure of justice and equality which we have not been privileged to enjoy in the past.

In the Municipal field, this Department will maintain more direct supervision over municipal matters, not intrusively or arbitrarily, but rather in a co-operative way, to encourage a plan of mutual assistance, as it were that will react to the benefit of the individual municipalities and promote the strength and solidarity of the Province and the interests of the people as a whole.

Education

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about in the field of education. The various educational services have been centralized in this new department and a programme is in process of development which gives promise of serving in a more practical way the modern needs of the community. (Continued on Page Three)

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