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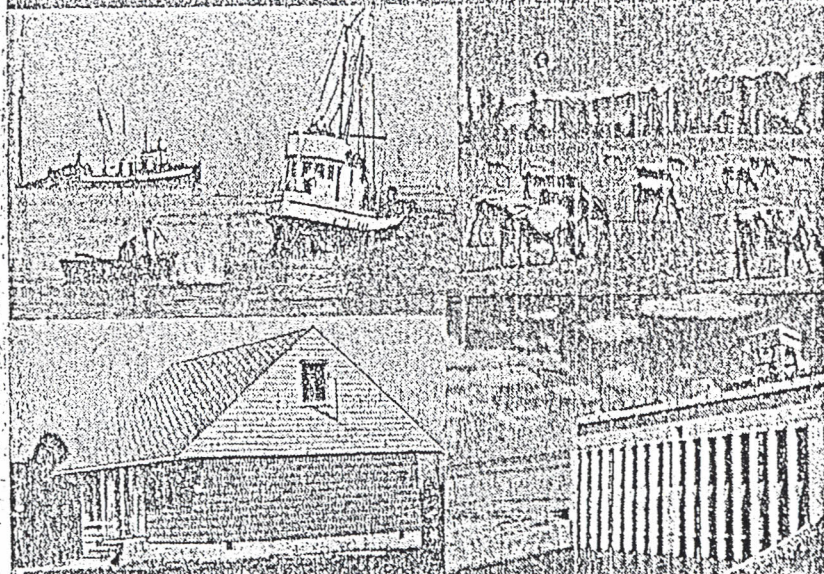
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CCF Program



for

British Columbia

1945

232

THE election of the CCF will mean the dawning of a new and better day for the people of British Columbia. The CCF has confidence that with the ability of our people and vastness of our resources we can successfully meet all problems, provided the province is administered by a government of vision and courage and dedicated to the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number.

In the following pages you will find outlined the CCF program for British Columbia. The electors' support and endorsement of the CCF will make it a living reality.

Harold C. Winch

September, 1945.



CCF PROGRAM for BRITISH COLUMBIA

Out of the achievement of military victory arise the most impelling reasons and inspiring opportunities for all men and women to join now in the building of a new democratic world order by their own creative efforts. CCF organization and policy are shaped to afford a full, democratic, and practical realization of this aim.

THE CCF in B.C. is a provincial section of a national movement with a national purpose already declared and now reaffirmed as hereunder:

"We aim to replace the present capitalist system with its inherent injustice and inhumanity by a social order from which the domination and exploitation of one class by another will be eliminated; in which economic planning will supersede unregulated private enterprise and competition; and in which genuine democratic self-government based on economic equality will be possible."

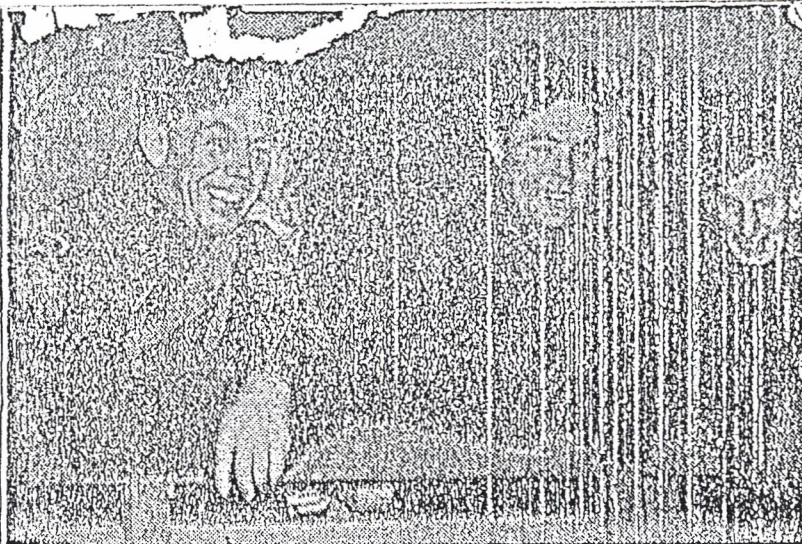
Within the province of B.C. the CCF will seek political power to apply the principles of socialist planning to provincial affairs.

A CCF government with a mandate from the people will, within the constitutional limitations of the province, proceed with the orderly and planned utilization of the resources of the province to ensure to all the people a life as abundant as these resources make possible.

That these resources may be made available for social needs, an integrated program of social ownership and social control will be planned. Each step in such program will be taken to improve standards of food, clothing, shelter, education, health services, cultural and recreational advantages, and with the view of ultimate inclusion in a Dominion-wide socialist economy.

The CCF program presents a clear-cut alternative to the bankrupt policies upheld by the Liberal-Conservative Coalition in B.C. Liberals and Conservatives alike continue to defend private monopoly interests, which dominate the economic life of the people without democratic responsibility or planning for social needs.

The lessons of the depression and of the war have demonstrated that private enterprise cannot be entrusted with the right to dictate how people shall live. Economic policies which have produced depression, and curbed a total war effort, cannot now be expected to liberate the productive energies of the people for the building of a democracy free from poverty, insecurity and human exploitation. The foundation of such a democracy must be laid now.



Demobilization and Re-establishment.

The civil re-establishment of demobilized members of the Forces and auxiliary services and the transfer of war workers to peacetime pursuits is primarily the responsibility of the federal government. Nevertheless a CCF provincial government will, in co-operation with the municipalities, actively co-operate in and supplement this undertaking to ensure the adaptation of Dominion re-establishment measures to conditions in B.C.

Re-establishment is not complete until all those affected adversely by war have gained a secure foothold in our economic life. Post-war benefits are a necessary aid to peacetime adjustment, but must lead to employment opportunities. Satisfactory employment opportunities will be assured ex-servicemen and women, and war workers, only when conditions of full employment are established.

In addition to those measure included in this program for industrial expansion necessary to promote full employment, a CCF government in B.C. will:

1. Make recommendations to the Dominion government, as may be necessary to secure the satisfactory application of the Dominion re-establishment program to conditions in B.C.

2. Promote and co-ordinate the activities of local committees to facilitate the reabsorption of ex-service men and women in civilian life.

3. Survey employment opportunities in B.C. industry as an aid to employment placement and the special placement of the disabled.

4. Extend vocational training and vocational placement facilities.

5. Undertake public works projects, as may be necessary to supplement in the primary and secondary industries.

6. Extend, in co-operation with the Dominion authorities, special aid to ensure the success of farmers and fishermen to be re-established under the provisions of the Veterans' Land Act.

Dominion Provincial Relations.

The war and resulting problems of reconstruction and social security have emphasized the need for a new and permanent constitutional definition of Dominion and provincial jurisdictions to achieve national advancement of the



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA

economic and social welfare of all the people of Canada.

The CCF is the only political party in Canada which is completely organized nationally, in the sense that it has always logically co-ordinated its national and provincial programs. The fulfilment of our socialist purpose is predicated on national planning with allowance for the provinces to retain jurisdiction in all matters which are provincial in scope.

A CCF government will press for prompt action through Dominion-provincial conferences, representative not merely of governments but also of all political parties and farmer and labor organizations. At such conferences a CCF government will advocate:

1. A satisfactory agreement as to the allocation of revenue from income and corporation taxes. As a prior condition to the transfer of the right to levy such taxes the agreement shall include the following two principles. First, the provinces shall receive a fixed proportion of revenues collected within the respective provinces; second, the Dominion shall undertake to contribute financially

toward adequate social welfare, educational and development needs.

2. Dominion jurisdiction in social security and health measures with administration and concurrent jurisdiction vested in the province to permit provincial standards above the national minima.

3. Dominion jurisdiction over labor legislation to establish a Dominion minimum standard with concurrent provincial power to raise provincial standards above such minimum.

4. The right of the Canadian people to enact their own constitution and to vest in Canadian courts final judicial appeals.

5. The consolidation and refunding with Dominion assistance of provincial and municipal debts.

6. Participation by the provinces in plans for the development of the heavy industries.

Social Ownership.

A well-balanced and planned economy for the province ultimately must be based on social ownership of the means of wealth production and distribution. Complete socialization is not possible within the present constitutional limitations of provincial jurisdiction. A CCF government in B.C. will undertake the extensions of public ownership to those natural resources, public utilities, and industries, deemed essential for the maintenance of employment, the protection of living standards, and the provision of social services.

The transfer from private to public ownership will be determined by the circumstances and with due regard for the welfare of employees and those whose livelihood is dependent on investment in the industries concerned.

The administration of public enterprises will be vested in representative boards appointed for technical competence in the particular industry so as to ensure sound economic management. A CCF government will proceed with a program of public ownership in such a manner as to maintain stability in the economic life of the province, but will assist on the broad principle that the welfare of the community must take supremacy over private gain.

A CCF provincial government will widen the scope of the B.C. Research Council so as to assist in opening up a wide range of new industrial opportunities in such fields as iron and steel, plastics and chemicals and forestry by-



products. It will be the purpose of a CCF government to make their findings available to 'B.C.' industries and as far as possible, to develop public enterprises based upon those findings and on low-cost electrical energy.

A CCF government will actively promote external trade through provincial trade representatives at strategic points.

Initial Measures.

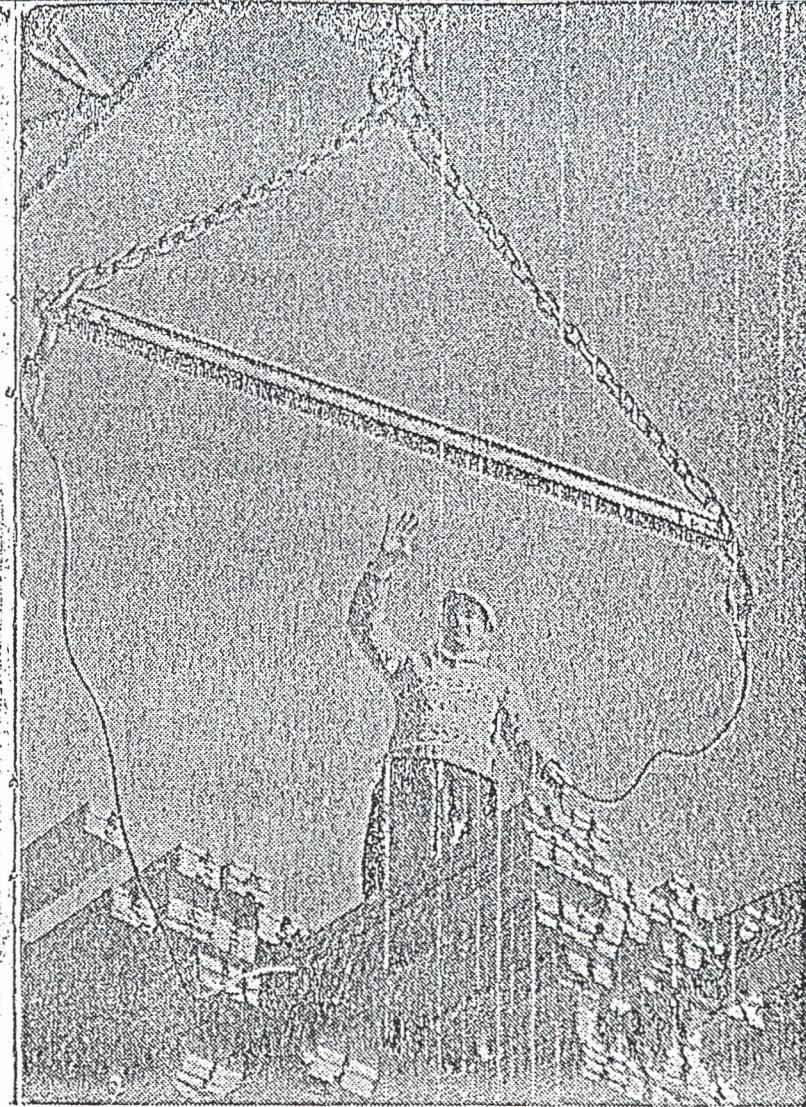
1. Provincial ownership and development of the sources and distributive systems of electrical energy to achieve the overall planning necessary to provide a low mass consumption rate and widen uses of electricity for industrial and residential purposes in both urban and rural districts. Provincial planning for the production and distribution of cheap power and the expansion of rural electrification will be such that where feasible and efficient, municipal participation in distribution will be encouraged and assisted.

2. Public ownership of transportation and communication utilities within provincial jurisdiction.

3. Public ownership under provincial auspices of the brewing and distilling industry.

4. Public ownership under provincial auspices of the development, processing and distribution of petroleum and petroleum products with the provision that where desirable, in the public interest, retailing be left in private hands.

5. Provision for the promotion of primary and secondary industries on a provincial, municipal or co-operative basis of ownership.

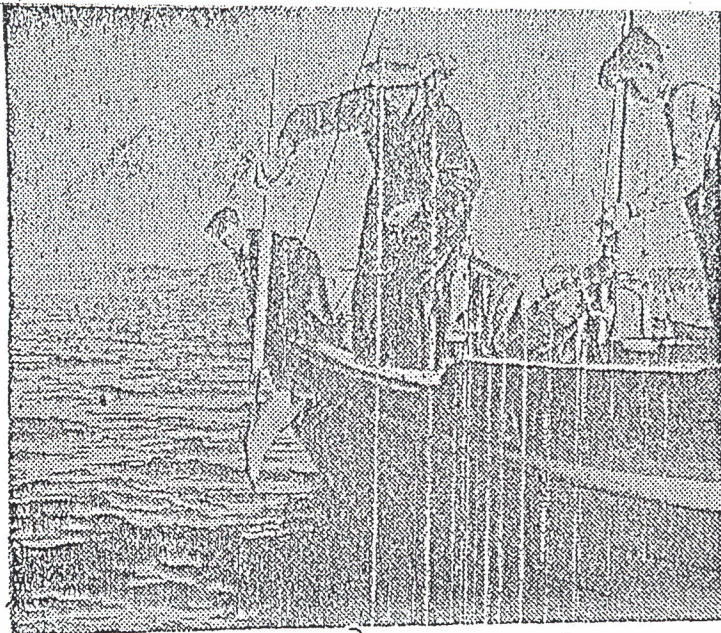


Primary Industries.

1. Forestry. This is the greatest single source of wealth in British Columbia. The utilization of our forests should be visualized as both a source of raw material and as a means of providing a monetary return to the public through the medium of government to assist in the supplying of social services and amenities. The forests of British Columbia are in a dangerous state of depletion requiring conservation and planned development and reforestation to an extent only possible under public ownership. As steps toward such ultimate goal a CCF government will:

- (a) Permit no further alienation of crown timber.
- (b) Impose charges on the industry necessary to extend forestry services and provide a greater return to the government from the exploitation of this resource.
- (c) Extend forest service and the strictest application of the provisions of the Forest Act with regard to methods of logging.
- (d) Develop the forest branch into an operating as well as a policing organization.
- (e) Utilize this enlarged and developed forest branch in the establishment of the first units of a public logging and milling enterprise.
- (f) Develop, under public auspices, uses for by-products now wasted.

2. Fisheries. Jurisdiction over fisheries is mainly vested in federal authority. Remoteness of control and an apparent lack of interest in British Columbia fishery problems on the part of the federal government has brought this entire industry to a position where immediate action



must be taken in the realm of conservation and propagation. A CCF provincial government will immediately urge upon federal authorities the need for a positive policy as regards this industry. In the event of failure in arriving at a satisfactory settlement the CCF would endeavor to initiate the following program:

- (a) Approach the federal government with a view to having jurisdiction over all fishery matters not involved in the International Salmon Commission jurisdiction transferred to the provincial government.
- (b) Endeavor to have direct British Columbia representation on all Pacific international fisheries commissions.

- (c) Initiate policies to maintain and extend the salmon fisheries by scientific and practical methods.
- (d) Seek the co-operation of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada in the establishment of courses through which interested persons may be taught scientific and practical fish husbandry.
- (e) Establish and assist the establishment of fishing and processing co-operatives.
- (f) Establish marketing policies to eliminate all unnecessary handling charges between producer and consumer.
- (g) Assure fair returns to fishermen and give them the protection of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

3. Mining. Vigorous measures are necessary to maintain production levels in the B.C. mining industry in face of a changing domestic and world demand. If the mining industry is to play the part it can play in the economic life of the province and in rehabilitating returned men and workers discharged from war industries, there must be new methods of development and fabrication and new uses. A CCF provincial government will undertake the following program:

- (a) Extend scientific and economic research into the mineral resources in order to develop new mines and facilitate the establishment of industries based on new uses for B.C. metals.
- (b) Provide aid for scientific and economic prospecting and development.
- (c) Complete geological and topographical surveys of the province.



- (d) Plan for the acquisition and development of mineral resources under public auspices.
- (e) Restore to public ownership mineral resources now alienated and held for speculative purposes.
- (f) Active participation in expanding utilization of B.C. coal resources.
- (g) Encourage, and if necessary initiate, the development of steel and light alloy industries.

- (b) Provide the people an equitable share of the exploited mineral wealth through the practical application of suitable forms of taxation.

Agriculture.

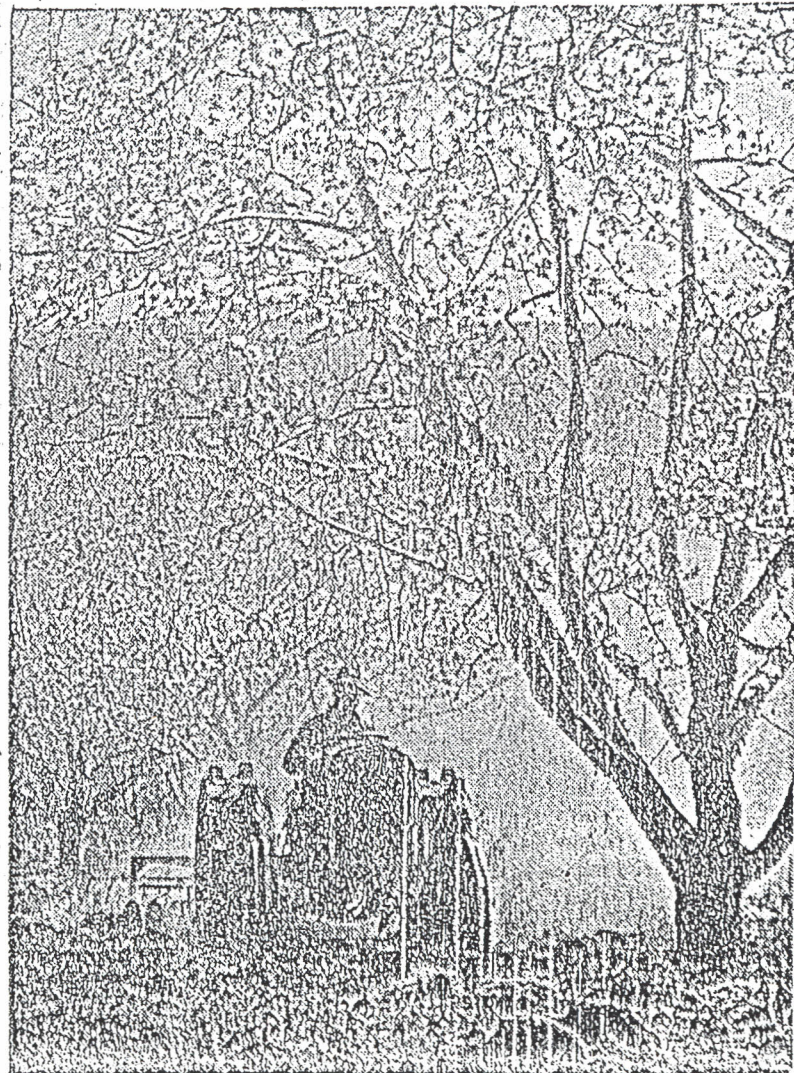
Farmers of B.C. produce grains, hay, vegetables, fruits, livestock, dairy products, poultry products, field crops, tobacco, flax, seeds, bulbs, honey, wool, fur, hops; the problems of production and distribution in B.C. are therefore particularly complex.

A CCF provincial government as far as lies within provincial power will:

1. Establish a system of close consultation and co-operation with organized farmers and growers; it will find what farmers want and assist them in every way compatible with providing a better life for all Canadians.

2. Assist farmers to set up administration for practical, detailed planning of production from the local community upwards; it will work with other provinces towards a comprehensive scheme for the whole Dominion; it will co-ordinate the possibilities of production with the welfare and needs of consumers; it will, as far as lies within provincial power, arrange for the disposal without waste of temporary surpluses, and it will, in co-operation with the Dominion government, seek to raise nutritional standards.

3. Take practical steps to see that the farmer receives a larger share of the consumer's food dollar by eliminating



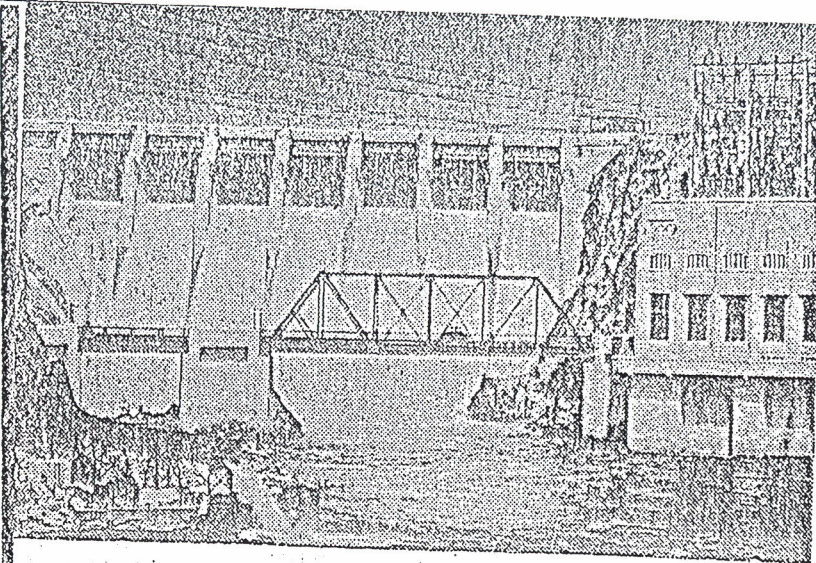
many handling charges through co-operative or other public ownership of handling and processing agencies; it will assist in the setting up of marketing boards, either to handle the entire crop co-operatively as with B.C. Tree Fruits, or to purchase the entire crop on behalf of the government, as with the wheat board, or both; the method to be arrived at after full consultation with producers, and with due regard to the interests of consumers.

4. Co-ordinate provincial and federal work in soil surveys and greatly extend this work, so that settlement is not made on unproductive land; it will assist voluntary resettlement of those now on unsuitable land.

5. Encourage farm ownership either on the individual farm or co-operatively on the large scale farm through legislation designed to protect farmers from foreclosures and other financial contingencies due to crop failure or marketing conditions over which neither the farmers nor the provincial government has any control.

6. Extend further assistance to the co-operative use of heavy machinery; it will encourage co-operative or other public ownership of the manufacture and distribution of farm machinery; it will assist with drainage, reclamation, and irrigation schemes; it will take steps to provide cheaper fertilizers, lime and pest-control chemicals at present in the hands of monopolistic private interests; it will end further alienation from the people's ownership of lime and other mineral deposits from which fertilizers are derived.

7. Extend the public ownership and distribution of power as rapidly as possible in rural areas and will give attention to the manufacture and distribution of electrical equipment.



8. Encourage the development of secondary industries built on cheap power within rural communities; it will explore and assist in setting up seasonal industries suited to the non-peak periods of work in agriculture.

9. Promote community refrigeration plants and other storage facilities.

10. Encourage and co-ordinate agricultural research and will make the greatest effort to have practical, scientific information available to the farmer in order to maintain quality production; it will extend research and advisory services, and will give special attention to livestock areas for the control of diseases, particularly those transmissible to human beings.

11. Provide a far greater number of district agriculturists and veterinarians by giving financial assistance for the training of suitable persons.

12. Promote the improvement of government regulation of seed standards as to purity and labelling.

13. Promote public or co-operatively owned abattoirs, meat packing plants, tanning and leather industries and allied industries for the agricultural and industrial development of central B.C.

14. Press for an equitable adjustment of freight rates.

15. Assist with machinery, chemicals and funds in the control of noxious weeds.

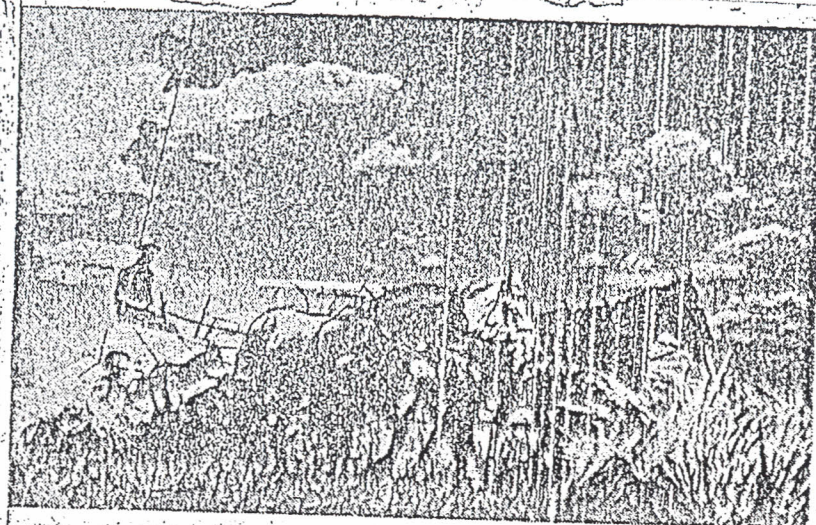
16. Progressively remove school taxes from the land, and press for federal grants in aid of education.

17. Revise the Co-operative Act to encourage and facilitate the development of all types of co-operatives.

18. Establish a public agency to buy used war material from the federal government and sell it at cost to farmers.

19. Develop regional farm schools and farm courses by the Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Agriculture.

20. Undertake the improvement of rural schools, the establishment of higher educational facilities for rural students and the extension of libraries, recreational programs and adult education; it will institute better health services in rural areas; it will encourage the building and improvement of farm homes through a provincial housing authority; it will endeavor by all means within provincial jurisdiction to raise farm income, and thus enable hours of work to be reduced, so that rural and urban people may be on more of an equality as regards leisure time.



Labor Policy.

The purpose of the CCF provincial policy is to ensure to the worker the best possible working conditions, his democratic rights in industry and his equitable share of the value of his product. To these ends a CCF government will take the following steps:

1. Give active aid and encouragement to the organization of trade unions.

2. Give to workers protection of their right to collective bargaining.

3. Enact legislation providing for annual holidays with pay for all workers.

4. Within provincial jurisdiction, provide for the inclusion on all labor boards of duly elected representatives of labor organizations.



5. Endeavor to achieve greater consultation and co-operation by the provincial Department of Labor in the administration of national labor boards and government employment services.

6. Raise the benefits and extend the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act to cover all workers and all occupational disabilities; and place the full cost of compensation, including medical care, on industry.

7. Establish a program of re-training and rehabilitation of injured workmen and those displaced from war-time industry; such program to be integrated with any federal plan which may be established after the war.

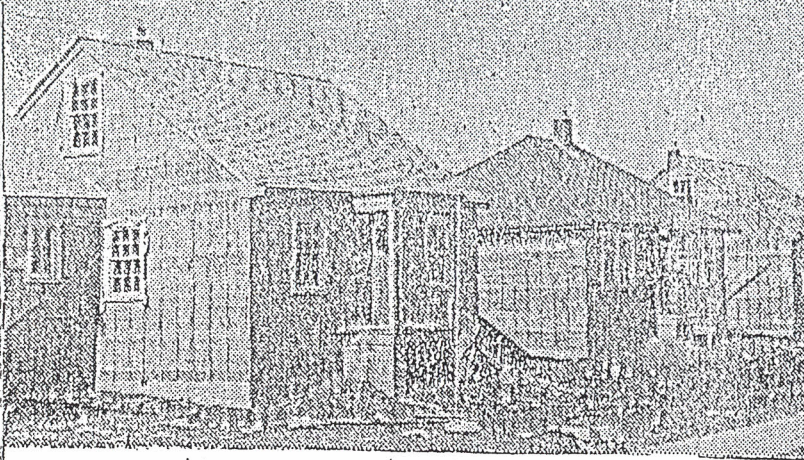
8. Establish a Board of Industrial Hygiene to carry on and extend the present work of the Workmen's Compensation Board with regard to safety precautions, and also to conduct research into hygienic conditions in industry, and with power to make regulations covering all working conditions.

9. Instruct the Board of Industrial Relations to establish minimum wage scales in accordance with the requirements of modern standards of living; and to adopt and carry out the principle of equal pay for equal work regardless of race, color or sex of the worker.

10. Reduce the hours of work as increased productive capacity and other economic factors render it feasible.

Regional Resource Planning and Housing.

Regional planning ensures the most effective use of the land and its resources within the natural geographical divisions of the province to provide the maximum of wealth production and enjoyment.



The established advantages of town planning in such matters as zoning, arterial highways, utilities, etc., must now be properly related to the planned development of the region of which the town forms a part. Regional planning designates suitable areas for industrial development and those suitable for residential purposes with transit, electrical, educational, medical and recreational facilities. It provides for agricultural and forest areas, parks and recreational centres. It enables conservation measures applied to such problems as soil erosion, flood control, soil fertility, reforestation and water power. The provision of homes of modern design in spacious and pleasant environment is an integral part of regional planning. A CCF government will:

1. Establish a regional planning and housing authority in co-operation with the municipalities and enact the necessary legislation to authorize and empower regional and town planning boards to initiate regional development.

2. Negotiate with the Dominion government to secure administration in B.C. through public agencies of home ownership loans, at rates of interest available to the Dominion government.

3. Undertake, as may be negotiated with the Dominion government and municipalities, the promotion of public low-rental housing projects.

4. Utilize forestry research and production facilities under public control to reduce the initial cost of home construction and the cost of the pre-fabrication of component parts.

5. Undertake such measures of construction as may be necessary to secure more modern and durable construction, that the period of amortization may be extended and monthly payments or rentals reduced.

6. Encourage and aid co-operative building societies.

Social Welfare and Health.

Social security is based on the principle that every citizen is entitled to a modern standard of food, clothing, shelter, health, education and other necessities, regardless of whether he is able to make a productive contribution to society or not. The social welfare schemes of the past, which have taken the form of state charity and have been linked up to the means test and other indignities, must be abandoned. We maintain that any plan of social insurance, if it is to fulfil its purpose, must be established on the following principles:

1. It must cover all citizens, regardless of whether they are able to contribute or not.

2. Contribution must be on a graduated scale, according to ability to pay.

3. The state must insure those whose incomes are too low to allow for insurance deductions.

4. The benefits must be high enough to provide for modern standards of living.

Pending the establishment of a satisfactory Dominion social security and health insurance system, the CCF provincial government, to the extent of its ability, will augment, initiate and maintain the following social security measures:

1. Improved old-age pensions.

2. Handicapped persons' and widows' pensions.

3. Increased mothers' allowances.

4. Socialized health plan.

5. Adequate housing and hospitalization facilities for aged and handicapped persons.

No plan of social security can or will endure, unless we progress from the system of private enterprise to that of public ownership, which alone can ensure the full employment and abundant production on which all social welfare is based.

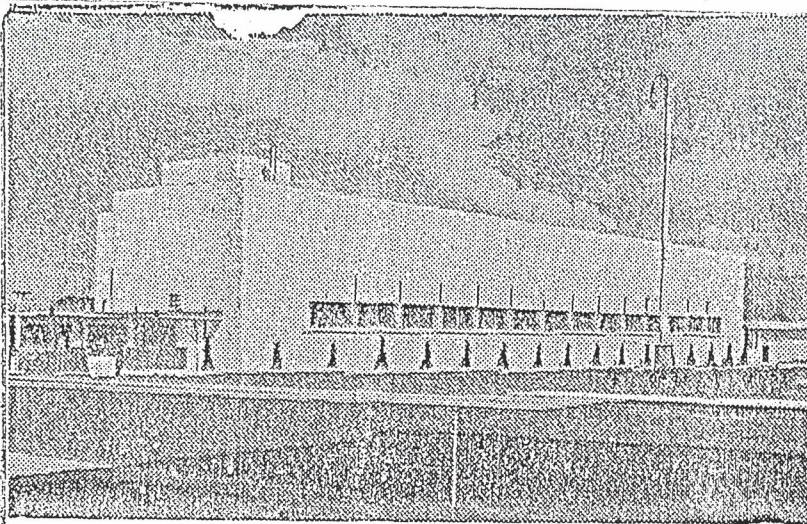
Education.

Modern education, if it is to fulfil its social purpose, must be based on the principle of equality of opportunity or the right of every child and adult to receive free education according to desire and ability. The CCF believes in equality of educational opportunity for all, regardless of race or nationality. In the past, education has failed in two respects. The less privileged citizen, particularly in rural districts, has been deprived of his right to a full education. Secondly, our educational system has not kept pace with the requirements of a new scientific age.

In order to establish this principle of equality, differences in financing and quality between rural and city schooling will be removed and the rural teacher of the future must be as well trained and remunerated as the city teacher.

Elementary and high schools must be consolidated wherever possible, but the school board system would be maintained in order to provide for local democratic representation. The costs of education must be progressively removed from municipal to provincial responsibility.

The educational system will be co-related to the industrial and agricultural development of the province by the inclusion in the curriculum of all phases of technical, agricultural, commercial and cultural education. In addition to the elementary and high school facilities Junior Colleges will be established at various centres, to give more advanced vocational training and to co-ordinate with higher tuition at the University. Resident schools will be established to provide education opportunities for those requiring residential facilities. A system of part-time education will be introduced for pupils over sixteen who



desire to go into practical work and for those who curtailed their education in order to enter war production.

Adult education must be centrally organized under the Department of Education. Citizens of every age must be enabled to take the educational courses which they desire. Travelling lecturers and films, radio, free summer schooling and recreational facilities at suitable centres, and an adequate library system must be utilized for this purpose. The government must also organize suitable remedial education in hospitals, prisons and other institutions.

A pre-school system must become an integral part of our educational service in order that the foundations for good citizenship may be laid by early formation of social habits, proper health and nutritional care.

Such an educational plan will require an immediate construction program of modern, functional schools. It will also require an intensive process of teacher training.

Finance.

The fiscal policy of a CCF government in the province must be determined in the light of the following facts:

The Dominion has the exclusive right to exercise those monetary controls which determine the amount of money and credit in circulation and which influence economic levels.

The province, which is in control of natural resources, civil and property rights, can influence the expansion of wage and farm income. It can also provide opportunities for the investment of accumulated savings in the utilization of resources for social use. The province also has defined constitutional rights of direct taxation, licensing and expropriation.

The objectives of the CCF financial policy will be the maintenance and expansion of production and employment, and the maintenance and expansion of social services and education.

The maintenance and expansion of social services depends on government revenue derived from taxation and returns on public investment. Increased revenue in turn depends on rising production and employment levels. Public investment in the development and utilization of resources constitutes the only means available to the province to promote expansion of economic activity and to realize the social and economic aims of the CCF.

Investment will be undertaken to implement the CCF program of social ownership outlined in a preceding section. This involves the acquisition of existing plant and equipment, and alienated natural resources. Public cor-

porations will be established with power to acquire such property, and to issue securities, guaranteed by the province, in compensation to the present owners.

The public corporations will undertake further public investments in new enterprises for which the capital will be secured through bond issues, as a contingent liability of the province. Each public corporation will be placed on a self-sustaining financial basis. Operating surplus over a period of years will be applied to the servicing and retiring of bonded indebtedness, to furthering provincial development, and contributing to the cost of social service requirements. This transfers to the province the ownership of wealth-producing assets, and with it the power to plan, to an important extent, the distribution of income and the expansion of wealth production and employment.

Taxation policies will be designed to achieve redistribution of income on a more equitable basis through provision of necessary social services. Higher living standards will create wider markets and stimulate demand for increased productive capacity.

Provision will be made enabling the provincial government to institute a provincial system of insurance to reduce costs of insurance and provide additional revenue.

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CCF News

Official Weekly Newspaper of the
CCF B.C.-Yukon Section

What Others Say About CCF NEWS . . .

"Many of the air force and army boys I meet are interested in doing something to make Canada into an economic, as well as a political, democracy. CCF NEWS gives them something to think about and build upon."—Bruce Woodsworth, Ottawa, 29/1/43.

"Yours is the best CCF paper in the country." — Dudley Britow, Toronto, 18/8/44.

"Accept my thanks for the high calibre that your paper has maintained."—Donald Ewing, Lemon Creek, B.C., 2/11/44.

"Although I subscribe to a number of newspapers, CCF NEWS is the only paper that appeals to my reason, the only paper that satisfies my intelligence. That is why it is the paper I can least do without."—D. Bacon, Duncan, B.C., 18/6/45.

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LET'S BUILD PROSPER



A Pledge:

The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation pledges that upon election to office on October 25th, the CCF Government will immediately take the necessary steps to implement the program outlined in this booklet.

Harold G. Winch

The People
of B.C.

On October 25th...

...Together.

VOTE C.C.F.



WITH CCF GOVERNMENT

Will

● Open up 100,000 New Jobs

BY . . . Starting new industries — Building new homes . . . Bringing new services to home and industry.
THROUGH . . . Public planning and government assistance.

● Pay B.C.'s Debt to the Veterans

WITH . . . Homes to live in — Jobs to work at — A good life in the country they fought for.
BY . . . Planned expansion in industry.

● Have More Food for the Dollar: More Dollar for the Farmer

WITH . . . Reduced cost of distribution.
THROUGH . . . Public and co-operative wholesaling.

● Harness Their Own Water Power

TO . . . Turn new wheels of industry — Lighten the farmer's labor — Bring comfort and leisure to homes.
BY . . . A publicly-owned power system across the Province.

● Guarantee Workers Full Trade Union Rights

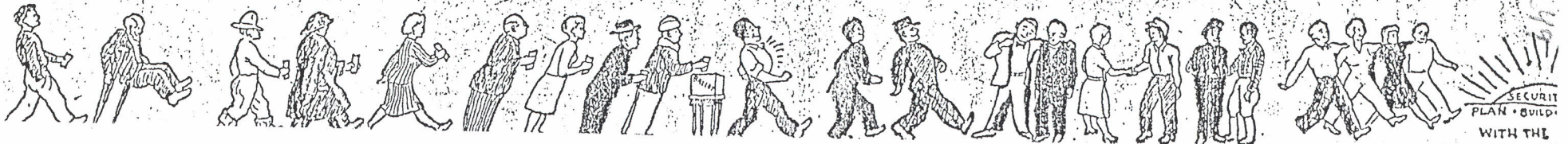
The union shop and check-off — Two weeks' holiday with pay — Increased Workmen's Compensation — Reduced working hours.
BY . . . Immediate CCF legislation.

● Build Transportation -- the Modern Way

TO . . . Get full value for the highway dollar — Remove the tolls on highways and bridges — Link every part of the province.
BY . . . A scientifically planned transportation system — road, rail, boat, and plane.

● Join With Other Provinces, for Canadian Progress

To raise health and educational standards — To give security to every Canadian citizen — To press B.C.'s claim to a fair share of national income.
Keep B.C.'s right to improve social services. A square deal for the municipalities.



HIGH up in the Rocky Mountains, on the backbone of the continent, there is a line which marks the beginning of British Columbia. From that line down to the sea and to the myriad islands of the sea, stretch the forests and the plains, the lakes and the rivers which are British Columbia. An immense territory — a storehouse of natural wealth in which white men have lived for just over one hundred years.

In the course of that hundred years the white man has torn through this storehouse of wealth like the Goths and Vandals when they overran Rome. Forests have gone down in front of him and been replaced with desolation. Fishing grounds which were once the wonder of the world have been reduced to a fraction of their original capacity. Minerals have been dug from the ground and shipped to the four corners of the earth.

Free enterprise and personal initiative have had a glorious drunken spree for 100 years and now we have arrived at the morning after. It is useless to blame any person or persons for this. It is past and gone. The actors in this drama of destruction were merely following the course laid down for them by the age in which they lived. But that age is gone. It received its deathblow thirty years ago and since the end of the First World War the age of "free enterprise and personal initiative" has been dying a lingering and painful death. The conditions under which enterprising and acquisitive men were able to build fortunes from the exploitation of British Columbia's wealth and in the process provide employment for the workers of the province no longer exist. The hope that somewhere in the world will be found people able and willing to purchase the surplus goods which British Columbians produce and cannot consume is an illusion today. It was an illusion for ten years before the war and the men and women of B.C. suffered from that illusion in unemployment and poverty. Today they have to decide whether they are going to pin their hopes again to illusion or whether they are going to search for reality on which they can build security for the present and hopes for the future.

THAT reality is not far to seek. It is to be found in methods of production and distribution which will permit the men and women of B.C. to use for their own purposes the wealth they can produce. In order to do that they must themselves own the products of industry. At the present time those products are the property of those who own the resources and the plants from which wealth is produced. These people were proved incapable of keeping the wheels of production going, before the war. Their position is worse today with most of Europe and large sections of Asia in ruins and the inhabitants starving and homeless, dependent on charity for survival.

Timber Products

British Columbia was, not so many years ago, the fortunate possessor of enormous tracts of valuable forest land. Much of it is gone today, destroyed by reckless and extravagant methods of logging. Fire has destroyed large areas which escaped destruction directly by the loggers. Government revenues have been so small a proportion of the returns from the forests that it has been impossible to afford proper protection from fire. Government weakness in the face of pressure from the powerful and wealthy lumber corporations has resulted in the wanton

destruction of young and immature timber and the creation of over a million acres of desolate and barren land in the Coast forests alone.

The returns from this major industry have been going into private pockets to perhaps a greater extent than any other industry. In 1943 \$124,000,000 worth of forest products came out of B.C.'s forests in the form of logs, lumber, shingles, pulp and paper. In the process \$52,000,000 was distributed in wages and salaries. British Columbia as a whole received not quite \$4,000,000 as the province's share of that year's production. The figures speak for themselves. \$4,000,000 won't repair the damages caused by the production of \$124,000,000 worth of wealth. Nor is \$52,000,000 a very large share of the wealth produced, particularly when it is realized that the raw materials for this industry have been provided by the people of B.C. The remaining stands of timber in B.C. must provide in future products for domestic consumption — a share of the cost of social services and the cost of restoring our forest lands to productive state. To do this the net returns of the industry must come to the people of British Columbia.

THE CCF government of B.C. will begin at once to develop a government-controlled lumber industry. A crown corporation to take over the forest stands which still exist, will be set up and will be given the task of organizing the production of timber. Working in close co-operation with an expanded forest department this crown corporation will conduct its operations in conformity with the best silvicultural principles to ensure adequate reproduction. A large part of the net returns from the industry will be devoted to restoring barren forest lands or, where the soil is suitable, in clearing them for agricultural or grazing use. In this work of forest restoration there will be employment opportunities for large numbers of returned veterans and discharged war workers.

Parks

An important part of the functions of the expanded forest department will be the proper development of present parks and the creation of new ones. Hot springs, some of which are of medicinal value, will be developed as health and recreation centres. For many years the opportunity to develop an extremely profitable industry based on these resources has lain unused. The CCF government will proceed with the development of this industry by the building of hotels and the development of transportation facilities.

New Jobs from New Materials

British Columbia's coal and timber are capable of supplying more than fuel and paper. These two natural resources are the basis for nearly all the new plastic materials from which almost every conceivable article can now be made. Year by year the use of plastics has been increasing and expanding. Plates and cups, door-knobs and car fixtures, textiles and building materials—the list is endless and practically all come from these two sources, coal and wood.

The other essential is power, cheap electric power. B.C. is rich in potential electric power—it runs away every minute of the day and night down the great river systems of the province. Cheap power can only be produced by a public authority. The CCF government will expropriate at once the entire power industry of the province and proceed with a real development of the province's power resources.



B.C. Waters Produce 50 Percent of Canada's Fish

On the foundation of this cheap power the government will proceed with the development of industrial enterprises to use the power in the manufacture of new materials from resources now going to waste in the woods and up the chimneys of the province.

Really cheap electric power, such as the famous TVA provides at a fraction of a cent per kilowatt, will enable the CCF government to spread throughout the province the benefits of power. A market for electrical appliances will follow in the wake of this electrification, which in turn provides the opportunity for industries producing such appliances from B.C. metals and plastics. The production of high-grade special quality steel is dependent on a supply of cheap electric power and is an essential to any well-balanced industrial development. B.C. has the ore, when the CCF government develops its power plan, it will have the cheap power.

Agriculture and Industry

Agriculture and industry are interdependent — there can be no decent standard of living in one without the help of the other. Wide-spread distribution of power and the development of modern transportation means will make it possible to decentralize industry. Small towns grouped around local industries will provide employment opportunities in rural areas, social amenities for the surrounding population and bring the farmer's market to his door. Such small or moderate-sized communities will provide a more satisfactory environment for British Columbian families than the congested areas of great cities.

Fishing and Canning

The depletion of the Pacific Coast fishing-grounds has reached such serious proportions that this year the salmon canner operators asked the Dominion government to save them from themselves. They pointed to the drop in the salmon pack which in some areas has dropped 50 and 60 percent in the last ten years.

Two factors are responsible for this state of affairs. Too many fish are allowed to be caught in proportion to the number left to move up the streams to the spawning grounds. Secondly, a great many,



Private Enterprise Doesn't Care About What Is Left for Future Generations

if not the majority of streams on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland have been almost destroyed as spawning grounds by the operations of the logging industry. Watersheds have been stripped of all cover, with the result that flood waters rush down the streams, scouring out the gravel beds on which the fish spawn. Log jams block the passage of the mature fish to the spawning grounds and if all these obstacles are overcome then the young fish are exposed to high temperatures in the unshaded streams and many fail to survive.

IN THE fishing industry, as in the lumber industry, the proportion of the net returns which go into the hands of the operators is extremely high. In order to enable the fishermen to help in a real conservation and restocking program, they will have to receive a larger share of the returns from the fish they do catch. This will entail taking over the really profitable part of the fishing industry — the canning and processing end. Fortunately this phase of the industry is under provincial control. The CCF government will aid and encourage fishermen to organize co-operatives to take over the canneries and will itself progressively withdraw cannery licenses and expropriate the canneries, setting the compensation to be paid to the present owners at the actual physical value of the properties.

One Vast Co-operative Enterprise

These are some of the things the men and women of B.C. can and will do when the CCF government takes office in Victoria. By seizing ownership and control of their resources and plants they will be able to direct the wealth of the province into socially useful channels. Not so many mink coats for the wives and daughters of lumber barons and financial wizards, but coats, and boots and underclothes for every wife and daughter. Not so many mansions for biscuit kings but a decent home for every British Columbian family. Not so many overstuffed dinners at the expensive clubs but three good meals a day for every man, woman and child in the province.

Health services, educational opportunities, highways, hospitals and libraries, all these depend on having control of the everyday material things of life. Doctors, nurses, teachers, highway construction workers, librarians, all need the things that British Columbians can produce from the resources of this province, if they will repossess themselves of those resources and proceed to build a vast co-operative enterprise to supply their needs.

Day by day the trains slip down the valleys from the high peaks of the Rockies, past

forests and farms and logging camps and mining towns, past lakes and mountains and rivers and rich valleys, roaring through B.C. on their way to the Pacific coast. On every train men watch the trees and mountains, the meadows and the streams slip by the window — their own British Columbia — the goal of weary years of exile. These men have earned the right to use the wealth of B.C. without the restrictions of "the bounds of free enterprise and personal initiative." They have earned the right to use the resources of British Columbia no matter what happens in the rest of the world.

With power plants, mills, factories, forests, fishing grounds, all pouring their stream of wealth into the lives of the people of B.C., we can meet the troop trains coming home with an easy mind and conscience, for there will be a place for every man in this task of building a co-operative British Columbia.

Special privileges, "sacred" contracts, vested interests must all go by the board today. B.C. must escape from the past and march boldly into the future — the future of co-operative, collective action to provide houses and boots and shoes and beefsteaks and kitchen tables for themselves from their own resources. The first step into that future must be taken on October 25. On that day the people of B.C. have the chance to take power over their own lives. If they miss the chance, then arm in arm with Mr. Hart and Mr. Maitland, they will march steadily back into the past — the past of no profits, no jobs — no jobs, no life.

The CCF Legislative Group In Action

The CCF election program for labor is a good one. But talk means little if it is not backed up by militant action. In the fight which it has carried on for labor during the past twelve years in the provincial Legislature, the CCF has proved that it means what it says and is prepared to underwrite every bit of its election platform by solid legislation. But the Coalition, while it speaks glibly of co-operation with labor, has shown by its refusals to sponsor the laws which labor wants that it has no real intention of carrying out its promises in the future and is not deserving of labor's support.

While the Liberals and Tories talked and shed crocodile tears, the CCF members acted! Here are some of the measures which they proposed in the House as an opposition group, either by introducing bills or by resolution:

As early as 1935 the CCF moved for a Trade Union Act to provide for collective bargaining and trade union security. Year after year they fought for this legislation. Finally the government did pass the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, but it fell far short of what labor wanted. Since then, the CCF members tried to get through amendment after amendment to provide for the outlawing of company unions, to eliminate strangling regulations which made it difficult for trade unions to establish collective bargaining rights and to put teeth into the Act to deal with law-breaking employers by enforcing signed agreements. In its first session the Saskatchewan CCF government passed the best trade union legislation on the North American continent.

The CCF persistently sought to have company towns abolished, but regularly at every session their bills and resolutions dealing with this matter were declared out of order and negatived.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

It was the CCF which brought the glaring deficiencies of Workmen's Compensation before the Government and finally got it to appoint the Sloan commission to inquire into this matter. When the new Compensation bill was brought down in 1943, the CCF group moved a sheaf of amendments to have all classes of workers brought under the measure, to have payments to injured workmen and dependents raised, to make all diseases arising from employment compensable, calling for the establishment of an Industrial Hygiene Council, and providing for naturopathic and chiropractic care.

In 1942, the CCF was successful in having an official Standing Committee of the House on Labor

appointed. However, the Government was determined that this committee should be no more than an empty phrase and it practically never functioned. Over and over again CCF motions that briefs from organized labor and delegations from the trade unions be heard by the committee were turned down. The committee on Municipal Affairs regularly hears the representatives of the Union of B.C. Municipalities and other citizens' bodies interested in municipal matters. Big business lobbies are admitted without question to all the standing committees of the House. The Coalition's action in regard to the labor committee was therefore a direct slap in the face for organized labor.

THIRTY-HOUR WEEK

The CCF for many years moved legislation for annual holidays with pay. In 1937 and at subsequent sessions they called for the five-day week and the six-hour day. The domestic servants and fruit-pickers, the most exploited section of workers, received attention, as the CCF, year after year, sought to have them brought under the minimum wage regulations. The CCF also moved to have the wages of retail clerks increased and their working conditions improved and to have the Hours of Work Act applied to the fruit and vegetable canning industry. Regular rest periods were advocated, particularly for women workers, and better regulation of child employment was sought. At all times the CCF upheld the principle of equal pay for equal work, which will be of such paramount importance in the postwar period. On several occasions legislation was introduced to have minimum wages and maximum government's own reports a disgraceful condition exists in that line of work.

CCF proposals to amend the Coal Mines Regulations Act to make the provision of wash houses at the pit-heads mandatory upon employers, were turned down with monotonous regularity. An amendment to the Coroners' Act, which would have provided for a representation of workers on coroners' juries inquiring into industrial ac-

cidents, met with the same fate.

The CCF was the first group in the House to recognize the value of Credit Unions and introduced the first Credit Union Act. Finally, the government, under pressure, passed a Credit Union Act. Since then CCF members have been active in urging improvements in the Act and in the supervision of Credit Unions, as well as new co-operative legislation to replace the present obsolete Co-operative Societies Act.

Health insurance became a hardy perennial in the Legislature, because the CCF group kept this matter alive when the Government desired to see it conveniently buried. Even since the passage of the Health Insurance Act in 1938 and the subsequent sabotage of that measure, a resolution was introduced by the CCF every year to have it implemented and improved. The Government just as regularly killed these progressive resolutions.

Minimum hours set for nurses and hospital employees; according to the

OLD-AGE PENSIONS

The women members of the CCF moved for free medical assistance for old-age pensioners and recipients of mothers' allowances with such persistence that the Coalition was finally shamed into adopting this measure. The CCF group fought consistently for better old-age pensions and the abolition of the galling means tests and parents' maintenance clauses. Such meagre alleviation as has been obtained for the old people was done by the determination of the CCF to keep this matter alive.

These are a few of the more outstanding contributions made by the CCF in the Legislature, in the face of continuous opposition from Liberals and Tories. Only a system of planned production and employment can make these measures, which are common social needs, into a living reality. The CCF group has done well in opposition. It is ready to take over government responsibility and to administer this province as the representative of the working men and women, who produce the wealth through their useful labor.