

Prairie Manifesto Project

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Province: Alberta Saskatchewan Manitoba

Party: CCF Election Year: 1948

AA = Alberta Alliance
CON = Conservative Party
LP = Liberal-Progressive Party
PC = Progressive Conservative Party
SKP = Saskatchewan Party
UFM = United Farmers of Manitoba

CCF = Cooperative Commonwealth Federation
LIB = Liberal Party
NDP = New Democratic Party
SC = Social Credit
UFA = United Farmers of Alberta
WCC = Western Canadian Concept

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AB = Alberta
SK = Saskatchewan
MB = Manitoba

UofA = University of Alberta
UofC = University of Calgary
UofR = University of Regina
UofS = University of Saskatchewan
UofM = University of Manitoba
BU = Brandon University

PARC = Provincial Archives
LEG = Legislative Library
SPC = Special Collections
ULIB = University Library

The CCF Election Program

PLAN FOR PLENTY!

The Saskatchewan opposition, which has charged the C.C.F. with being "a bunch of idealistic blueprint planners," received a blow when the Saskatchewan C.C.F. issued its 3,200-word election program. It contained no blueprint for the next four years. Indeed, most of it could be summed up in the phrase, "the same as the past four years, only more of it."

It did, however, make the forecast that, "Saskatchewan stands at the threshold of a great period of industrial expansion."

Highlights of the statement follow:

Intense exploration and development of oil resources. The piping of natural gas, where feasible, into the larger cities. The formation of co-operatives to serve communities with electricity. The development of new fields for the processing of natural products by co-operatives. Extensive research into house construction methods. Extension of the government bus system.

"Extension of the activities of the Government Insurance Office to enable people to make provision on a voluntary basis against destitution during sickness and old age."

Development of a comprehensive health service as fast as personnel and facilities make it possible.

cent increase in freight rates, involving a cost of \$70,000,000, a major part of which will be paid by the people of Western Canada. In every struggle between the people and those who

would exploit them, the Liberal party has shown where it stands.

Actions speak louder than words!

Saskatchewan Demands a Square Deal

Dominion Promises Not Fulfilled—At the 1945 dominion-provincial conference the federal government promised to co-operate in establishing a complete system of health insurance, to broaden the old age pension to include people at 65, and to join with the provinces and municipalities in undertaking a widespread program of public works, irrigation, reforestation and other socially useful projects. So far the federal government has done

very little to implement those promises.

Demand a Social Security Program—The re-election of a C.C.F. government in Saskatchewan will indicate that the people of this province support our demand that these promises be fulfilled. An overwhelming victory for the C.C.F. in Saskatchewan will serve notice on Ottawa that the people are one with the government in demanding immediate action in establishing an over-all system of social security.

Saskatchewan Strengthens Municipalities

The settlement of the seed grain and relief debts has strengthened the financial position of the municipalities with the result that Saskatchewan has reduced its municipal debt more than any other province.

The C.C.F. government is preparing a series of proposals to

place before the municipalities at a conference to be held this fall with a view to defining their fields of responsibility and their sources of revenue.

The C.C.F. believes that strong local government is the basis of all democracy.

Agricultural Progress

Agriculture is Saskatchewan's primary industry.

Upon the welfare of the farmer depends the prosperity of the whole province.

feed and fodder conservation program to ensure against loss of stock.

Power, Telephones—Continue to bring power and telephones to

industrial expansion."

Highlights of the statement follow:

Intense exploration and development of oil resources. The piping of natural gas, where feasible, into the larger cities. The formation of co-operatives to serve communities with electricity. The development of new fields for the processing of natural products by co-operatives. Extensive research into house construction methods. Extension of the government bus system.

"Extension of the activities of the Government Insurance Office to enable people to make provision on a voluntary basis against destitution during sickness and old age."

Development of a comprehensive health service as fast as personnel and facilities make it possible. "To complete the necessary plans to institute a comprehensive health insurance program."

To make equitable adjustments in the hours of work (now 44 hours a week) and the minimum wage (now \$18.50 a week).

The full program follows:

Four years ago the C.C.F. pledged itself to fight unceasingly against those economic forces which exploit you and against those vested interests which undermine your security.

In carrying out its promise, the C.C.F. has incurred the wrath of the financial clique that has been allowed too long to prey upon our people.

The only real opposition to the C.C.F. has come from the mort-

gage interests, the lending institutions, and the spokesmen of big business.

Throughout this prolonged struggle, in every contest of the Saskatchewan government against the few with special privilege, the Liberal government at Ottawa has championed the cause of those who seek to keep the farmers, the workers and the small business men in a permanent state of economic servitude.

The West Betrayed

Seed Grain Debts—In the fight to wipe out seed grain and relief debts the position of the Liberal government at Ottawa was clear. It supported the groups who sought to perpetuate the heavy interest burdens on the backs of the debt-ridden farmers and municipalities.

Disallowance of Security Laws—Only the aroused indignation of the Saskatchewan people prevented the Liberal government at Ottawa from disallowing vital C.C.F. legislation directed at curbing the greed of financial corporations. Even now, the Liberal government at Ottawa is joining with the Dominion Mortgage and Investments Association in urging that the Farm Security Act be declared unconstitutional.

Co-operatives Taxed—The Liberal government at Ottawa yielded to the pressure of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and other reactionary groups who sponsored the

Income Taxpayers' Association, by passing legislation taxing co-operatives.

Labor Betrayed—The Liberal government at Ottawa has allied itself with those seeking to nullify the benefits of Saskatchewan's labor legislation.

Coarse Grains Sell-out—The Liberal government at Ottawa betrayed the farmers of the west when it removed the ceiling on coarse grains after 85 percent of the crop was out of the farmers' hands.

Prices Rise—Under pressure from profit-hungry monopolies the Liberal government at Ottawa removed price ceilings over things which people must buy. An unprecedented increase in costs has lowered the standard of living for thousands of our people.

Freight Rate Holdup—Despite the protests of seven of the nine provinces, the Liberal government at Ottawa has imposed a 21 per-

cent increase in freight rates to broaden the old age pension to include people at 65, and to join with the provinces and municipalities in undertaking a wide-spread program of public works, irrigation, reforestation and other socially useful projects. So far the federal government has done

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Agricultural Progress

Agriculture is Saskatchewan's primary industry.

Upon the welfare of the farmer depends the prosperity of the whole province.

Your C.C.F. government will devote itself to increasing the productivity of the soil and to fuller utilization of our land resources.

The C.C.F. believes that stability of farm income can best be brought about by long-term guaranteed prices on a national basis accompanied by a system of crop insurance on the basis of the individual farm unit.

To further the welfare of agriculture, the C.C.F. will:

Security—Bring security to every farmer.

Land Use—Assist rural municipalities to obtain better land use.

Irrigation—Conserve and develop water resources in co-operation with the federal government.

Clearing—Continue assistance to clear land for settlement.

Feed and Fodder—Further the

feed and fodder conservation program to ensure against loss of stock.

Power, Telephones—Continue to bring power and telephones to rural communities.

Coarse Grains—At the proposed conference to be called by the federal government, carry on the struggle to bring the marketing of coarse grains under the wheat board. Saskatchewan is the only province which has passed enabling legislation for this purpose.

Grain Exchange—Press for the closing of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

Livestock Marketing—Urge the establishment of a national livestock marketing board.

Freight Rates—Fight for a reduction in freight rates.

Crop Insurance—Urge the federal government to enlarge the provisions of the P.F.A.A. and work towards establishment of a complete crop insurance plan on an individual farm basis.

Industrial Development

The C.C.F. believes that a Co-operative Commonwealth envisages the development of our economy by the close and harmonious activities of private enterprise, the co-operatives, and public utilities.

The C.C.F. government has encouraged and will continue to encourage development by private enterprise wherever it is not monopolistic in character.

The C.C.F. believes that there are certain undertakings which people can do for themselves on a co-operative basis rather than in any other way.

The C.C.F. believes that provincially and municipally-owned enterprises can and do render a service to the people at a minimum cost, and without exploitation.

The last four years have demonstrated something in the vast possibilities for industrial

activity in Saskatchewan.

Prior to that time, Saskatchewan had been the industrial Cinderella of the provinces of Canada. Two percent of our income was derived from industrial activity; three percent of our people were engaged in industrial development.

Since the C.C.F. came to power—The most up-to-date sodium sulphate plant in Canada has been established;

A salt industry has been made a part of the provincial economy;

More than a million barrels of oil a year are being produced;

A new seed-crushing industry has been created;

Uranium deposits have been discovered;

A ceramics industry has been developed;

A woollen mill has been set up;

A new plywood industry has been established.

These and many other varied industries have been created in the past four years—some by private enterprise, some by co-operatives, some by public enterprise.

These facts prove that private, co-operative and public enterprise can work together for the economic development of our province.

In the past four years we have made vast strides in social services. The task in the second term will be to increase the wealth production of the province in order that there may be more money available to provide a higher standard of living for those who toil and a greater measure of social security for those who are unable to work.

Saskatchewan stands at the threshold of a great period of industrial expansion.

In such a period, the C.C.F. government will keep in mind two main principles:

1. The government has a responsibility to give leadership in securing the greatest possible development of our natural resources to increase the wealth production of our province.

2. The government will see that these resources are developed in order that the benefit shall come back to the people to whom the resources rightfully belong.

Industrial expansion will be especially marked in the following fields:

Oil—The government will assist in exploration and development.

Natural Gas—Should the present investigations indicate sufficient supplies, the government will endeavor to have gas piped into the larger centres of the province for industrial and domestic use.

Electrical Expansion—The government will extend electric power over a province-wide network, to provide cheaper electricity to more consumers.

Chemical Industry—The development of potash, salt and allied industries will be energetically pursued.

Mineral Development—Discovery of new mineral deposits, particularly radio-active minerals such as uranium, promises great expansion in northern Saskatchewan. The C.C.F. government will encourage development, and at the same time will protect the interests of the people of the province.

Processing of Natural Products—Should present research warrant, the government will seek to secure industries that will utilize our forest and agricultural products.

Research—The government will extend the work of the research council to:

Make better use of Saskatchewan scientists;

Make scientific knowledge available in development;

Assist government and private agencies to develop our natural resources.

with the federal authorities under the National Housing Act to:

(a) Promote and develop low rental housing;

(b) Promote home ownership under terms and conditions feasible for individuals with moderate incomes;

(c) Continue and extend housing research program.

Research—In co-operation with the three prairie provinces and the federal government, research programs are presently being undertaken on types of building materials, wall construction, heat transfer experiments, fuel types, water supplies and sewage disposal, and surveys and plans for rural houses. Plans and working drawings as well as the results of research will be provided to prospective builders.

Water Supply and Sanitation—Assist in developing plans and systems for water supplies to smaller urban centres and rural homes. A preliminary bulletin entitled "Modernizing Farm Homes," on water supplies and sewage disposal, has already been prepared.

Community Planning—Continue assistance in community planning with special attention to types of community centre buildings with plans for same, also data on costs of construction and types of material.

Highways

To advance our economy and to improve the conditions of life of our people, the C.C.F. is pledged to maintain, improve and extend Saskatchewan's roads and highway system.

In the next four years, your C.C.F. government will:

Better Highways—Provide improved highways.

Municipal Grants—Make generous grants to municipalities for the construction and maintenance of roads.

Buses—Extend the bus transportation system.

Trans-Canada Highway—Press Ottawa for construction of a trans-Canada highway and international highways.

Mining Areas—Construct roads into new mining areas for development purposes.

Social Welfare

The C.C.F. believes that society has a direct responsibility for those who are unable to provide for themselves. Far-reaching provisions have already been made to give greater security to the aged, the sick, the widowed and the orphaned.

A social welfare program based on the principle of "Humanity First" will be extended as rapidly as the increased wealth production of the province makes possible.

In the next four years your

vide additional hospital accommodation.

Health Regions—Establish additional health regions and develop better health services.

Cancer Clinics—Enlarge facilities of free cancer clinics and cancer research.

Mental Health—Expand mental health program and training of mental defectives.

Care for Children—Extend

Veterans

The C.C.F. government of Saskatchewan has done more to rehabilitate veterans of World War II than has the government of any other province in the dominion. To date, more than 1,600 veterans have been settled on farms, and more than 700 suitable housing units provided for veterans' families, besides dormitory and dining room facilities for hundreds of veterans attending C.V.T. schools and the university. The C.C.F. will:

Land Settlement—Continue to settle veterans on crown lands on a debt-free basis leading to ownership, if desired, at prices uninfluenced by war inflation.

Continue and expand its land clearance and breaking program in the northern bush areas.

Waive rentals (1/10 to 1/6 of

nursing services, maternal care, immunization of children against contagious diseases, and give dental care, particularly in outlying areas; also make provision for care of crippled children.

Doctors, Nurses—Assist in placing medical and nursing personnel where most needed.

Air Ambulance—Continue air ambulance service.

crop share) over a period of years until such time as rentals pay for cost of clearance and breaking.

Provide opportunities to veterans who voluntarily select co-operative farming as a means of rehabilitation.

Housing—Continue program of emergency housing.

Education—Continue to place our educational facilities at the disposal of veterans who wish to learn trades or continue their academic training.

Services—Continue business opportunities and job surveys; and placement in training-on-the-job and apprenticeship training; extend our civilian handicapped industries program to include disabled veterans; continue the policy of veteran preference in employment in the civil service.

Security for Labor

minority of employers who attempt to exploit labor.

In the next four years, your C.C.F. government will:

Union Security—Continue to guarantee to working men and women the right to organize in trade unions, security for those trade unions, and the right to collective bargaining.

Better Wages and Hours—Maintain the present high minimum rates of pay and make equitable adjustments in hours of work and minimum wages.

Fair Standards—Enforce fair labor standards in all government contracts.

Holidays—Continue the present policies on annual and statutory holidays, which are recognized to be the best in Canada.

Workmen's Compensation—Maintain and where possible improve the present very favorable compensation benefits for those who are injured in industry.

The C.C.F. will continue to protect and advance the rights of labor, confident in the belief that this will not only benefit the workers but will continue to keep Saskatchewan free from the industrial strife that has prevailed in other parts of Canada.

The C.C.F. believes that every worker has the right to join with his fellows for the purpose of bargaining collectively with his employer, and is entitled to a fair day's pay in return for a fair day's work.

The C.C.F. maintains that there are certain minimum standards that should be guaranteed to every worker, and the labor legislation already passed by the C.C.F. government has established equitable and reasonable minimum standards.

Far from working a hardship upon the employers of the province, this legislation has protected the fair employers against the unfair competition of that small

Educational Opportunity

A functioning democracy depends upon a well informed and educated public opinion.

The C.C.F. believes that every child has a right to equal educational opportunity and that so far as it is possible, financial cost should not be allowed to stand in the way of any child's acquiring education and technical training.

Larger Units—Promote larger school units to improve efficiency and extend services.

Votes—Proceed to take votes in the 15 larger units not yet established.

Equalization Grants—Pay generous equalization grants.

Scholarships—Continue to provide scholarships to assist needy

tricity to more consumers.

Chemical Industry—The development of potash, salt and allied industries will be energetically pursued.

Mineral Development—Discovery of new mineral deposits, particularly radio-active minerals such as uranium, promises great expansion in northern Saskatchewan. The C.C.F. government will encourage development, and at the same time will protect the interests of the people of the province.

Processing of Natural Products—Should present research warrant, the government will seek to secure industries that will utilize our forest and agricultural products.

Research—The government will extend the work of the research council to:

Make better use of Saskatchewan scientists;

Make scientific knowledge available in development;

Assist government and private agencies to develop our natural resources.

Co-operative Development

The C.C.F. has encouraged and promoted co-operative activity because it believes that co-operation is the most democratic means by which people can improve their economic status. Although Saskatchewan is the banner co-operative province in Canada, there are still many fields in which various groups in the province can co-operate for their mutual advantage.

Your C.C.F. government will continue to assist co-operatives, and to that end will:

Co-op Electricity—Develop electric power installations by encouraging the formation of co-operative power organizations.

Processing—Provide new fields for co-operative activity in processing natural products and distributing goods.

Consumer and Marketing Co-ops—Encourage consumer and marketing co-ops, thereby passing on savings to the people and making a better distribution of income.

Credit Unions—Facilitate establishment of co-op credit unions to help people maintain their financial independence.

Housing

Although housing is a federal government responsibility, the C.C.F. government of Saskatchewan has already provided over 700 units for the people of the province, and this program is being continued. Recognizing the importance of good housing in the development of family life and the raising of children, your C.C.F. government will:

Housing—Continue co-operation

erous grants to municipalities for the construction and maintenance of roads.

Buses—Extend the bus transportation system.

Trans-Canada Highway—Press Ottawa for construction of a trans-Canada highway and international highways.

Mining Areas—Construct roads into new mining areas for development purposes.

Social Welfare

The C.C.F. believes that society has a direct responsibility for those who are unable to provide for themselves. Far-reaching provisions have already been made to give greater security to the aged, the sick, the widowed and the orphaned.

A social welfare program based on the principle of "Humanity First" will be extended as rapidly as the increased wealth production of the province makes possible.

In the next four years your C.C.F. government will:

Social Security—Extend activities of the Government Insurance Office to enable people to make provision on a voluntary basis against destitution during sickness and old age.

Care for Children—Expand services for neglected, dependent and delinquent children and expand the field of preventive work.

Old Age Pensions—Urge Ottawa to do what Saskatchewan has done: assume its share of a \$50 a month old age pension.

Mothers' Allowances—Grant mothers' allowances to protect mothers and children in need.

Penal Reform—Continue rehabilitation work in prisons and reformatories.

Free Medical Care—Provide free medical, dental, optical and hospital care for old age pensioners, mothers receiving allowances, and others.

Civilian Handicapped—Provide a training and rehabilitation program for handicapped civilians.

Health Security

The Saskatchewan government has laid the basis for providing complete health services to every person in the province irrespective of their individual ability to pay. This program will be maintained and expanded as quickly as health personnel and facilities make it possible to do so.

In the next four years, your C.C.F. government will:

Hospitalization—Continue to pay hospital bills of all Saskatchewan residents through the hospital services plan.

Health Insurance—Complete the necessary plans to institute a comprehensive health insurance program.

Hospital Construction—Continue to make grants and loans to pro-

cessing collectively with his employer, and is entitled to a fair day's pay in return for a fair day's work.

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The C.C.F. believes that every child has a right to equal educational opportunity and that so far as it is possible, financial cost should not be allowed to stand in the way of any child's acquiring education and technical training.

Substantial progress has been made to this end.

In the next four years your C.C.F. government will further seek to provide educational opportunities for those children who are capable of availing themselves of them. It will:

Equal Opportunity—Seek to ensure equal educational opportunity for every child and young person in Saskatchewan.

Recreation for All

Recreation has an important part to play in building healthy bodies and sound minds.

No longer do we look upon athletics, music and drama as luxuries for a privileged few, but as activities necessary to a full and abundant life.

Your C.C.F. government has already done much to stimulate recreation and cultural activities in the province and to provide suitable parks and resorts where families can find the relaxation and recreation that are necessary for a happy and contented people.

In the next four years, your

tain the present high minimum rates of pay and make equitable adjustments in hours of work and minimum wages.

Fair Standards—Enforce fair labor standards in all government contracts.

Holidays—Continue the present policies on annual and statutory holidays, which are recognized to be the best in Canada.

Workmen's Compensation—Maintain and where possible improve the present very favorable compensation benefits for those who are injured in industry.

Larger Units—Promote larger school units to improve efficiency and extend services.

Votes—Proceed to take votes in the 15 larger units not yet established.

Equalization Grants—Pay generous equalization grants.

Scholarships—Continue to provide scholarships to assist needy and deserving students.

Vocational Training—Extend vocational training and guidance to meet the needs of students on graduation.

Co-operation—Continue co-operation with trustee and teacher representatives to improve salary schedules, working relations and conditions.

Federal Aid—Press for federal assistance to education.

C.C.F. government will:

Annual Holidays—Maintain its Annual Holidays Act giving two weeks' holidays with pay.

Children's Camps—Assist and encourage the development of camps to provide summer vacations for children.

Parks—Further develop parks and resorts.

Culture—Stimulate interest in the songs, literature and culture of the countries of origin of Saskatchewan people.

Libraries—Bring library services to outlying points and provide public information facilities.

Advancement of Democracy

The C.C.F. believes that in a democracy every individual has certain inalienable rights and that it is the responsibility of the government to safeguard these rights. These include:

The right to freedom of worship;

The right to free assembly;

The right to free expression of opinion;

The right to a fair and impartial trial by unbiased judges;

The right to freedom from arrest and imprisonment except by due process of law;

The right to vote and elect representatives to all public

bodies;

The right of civil servants to enjoy all the privileges of citizenship;

The right to be free from discrimination in any form by reason of one's race, religion, creed or color.

The right to join trade unions and bargain collectively with one's employer concerning wages, hours and conditions of work.

The right to hold property and to possess a home without loss because of the greed of creditors;

The right of every child to all of the health and education which society can provide.