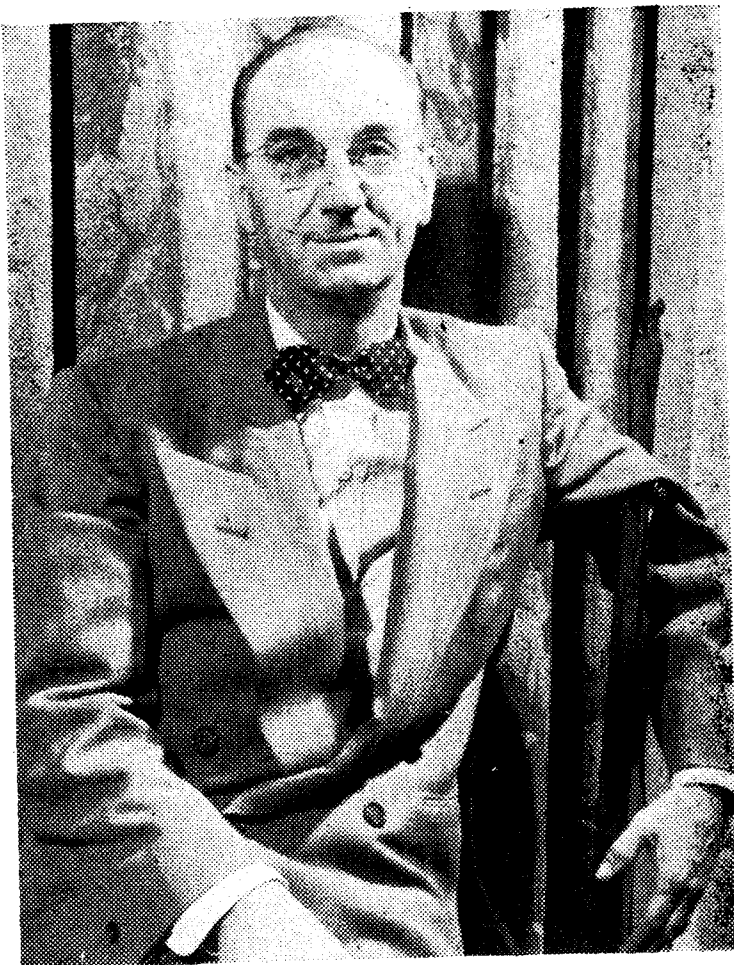


May 1949

**This is the Policy
of the**

**LIBERAL
PARTY**

**The Party of DEEDS
(Not Promises)**



"Newfoundland's Little Giant"

JOSEPH R. SMALLWOOD
LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY

(1)

THE BRITISH CONNECTION

The Liberal Party expresses its deep loyalty to His Majesty the King, and its unshakable devotion to the Crown and the Commonwealth.

(2)

THE CANADIAN CONNECTION

The Liberal Party expresses its strong loyalty to the Canadian Union of Provinces, and will work loyally with the rest of Canada to make Newfoundland a happy and prosperous 10th Province.

As the Government of the Province, we will work in close and intimate harmony with the Government of Canada, and this close friendship between the two Governments will result in better conditions for all the families of Newfoundland.

(3)

A GREATER NEWFOUNDLAND

The Liberal Party is firmly convinced that the greatest contribution that we Newfoundlanders can make to the Canadian Union is to make a greater Newfoundland. A greater Newfoundland will mean a greater Canada, and a greater Canada will mean a greater Newfoundland. There must be continuous close friendship between the two Capitals.

(4)

AHEAD—OR ASTERN

As a Province of Canada, Newfoundland will be either a glorified "poor house" with most of her people depending too largely on Family Allowances, Old Age Pensions and other cash payments from the Government of Canada; or else a growing, prosperous Province of independent families.

We will either be a drag on the rest of Canada, or we will stand on our own feet as a prosperous, progressive Province.

The policy of the Liberal Party is to make Newfoundland one of the prosperous, progressive Provinces of Canada; a Province able to hold its head up, and proud to look the rest of Canada square in the eyes; a Province willing and able to help its people to a higher standard of living than they ever enjoyed before.

(5)

CLEAN, HONEST GOVERNMENT

As a Province of Canada, Newfoundland is now given the best chance in all her history to have good, clean, honest government.

It would be a crime against the people to let the country slip back into the bad old politics of the past.

The people demand that their Government shall be clean and decent, honest and honourable, able and efficient.

They do not expect miracles from their Government. They do not expect the impossible. But they do expect that their Government shall not be lazy, or slothful or narrow-minded. They do not want a Government made up of men who are selfish or greedy, or men who think only of themselves.

Above all, they expect and demand a Government that will pass wise laws and carry out wise policy that will make Newfoundland that kind of Government. Our sincere, determined policy is to give Newfoundland the best Government she ever had.

(6)

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

It will be necessary to reorganize the governmental structure. Departments, boards, bureaus, divisions and other branches of the Government will have to be regrouped. Some of them will pass over to the Federal Government. A number, with some of their functions passing to the Federal Government, will have to be amalgamated with others similarly reorganized.

The aim of the Party will be to bring about this reorganization as smoothly as possible, and in such a way as to produce the greatest possible efficiency and economy.

Steps will be taken at once to bring about this necessary and desirable end.

(7)

WE MUST DEVELOP NEWFOUNDLAND

Our first great undertaking as a Government will be the development of our country, both Newfoundland and Labrador. We will push vigorously ahead with a policy of searching for natural

resources, measuring them, developing them. Day and night we will work for this great purpose. We will strain every effort and use all our ability to open up our country and to increase our country's wealth and prosperity.

Newfoundland cannot stand still—we must go ahead or go astern. We can go ahead only when we develop our country's natural resources. The fish in the sea, the minerals in the earth, the water-power running to waste, the good earth itself—these are useless to the people if they are not developed.

We must find out what natural resources we have in our country; we must advertise these resources throughout the world; we must bring new capital in to open up our country and give jobs for our people. Our country will stand or fall according to how far we go to develop our natural resources.

Every bit of our strength and energy as a Government will be used in this great work of development.

We will put into this work of developing Newfoundland the greatest drive that Newfoundland has ever seen.

(8)

ECONOMIC SURVEY

Term 45 of the Terms of Confederation says that if the Province will start an economic survey of Newfoundland within two years, then the Government of Canada will get in behind it. This survey is to find what natural resources we have, what new industries can be developed, what present industries can be made bigger.

Our Government will not wait two years to start this economic survey, or even two months. We will start it one week after we are sworn in.

(9)

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

An arrangement has been made with Dr. Robert William Boyle, the great and famous scientist, to come to Newfoundland to start a Research Council. The work of this Council will be to give practical study to our natural resources, to work out ways to put up those that are not used now and to find better ways to use those that are. Dr. Boyle, who is a Newfoundlander, is one of the greatest scientists in North America. He resigned a few months ago as Director of the National Research Council of Canada, and is eager

to give his great talent to his native Newfoundland. He will be given authority to gather about him a small group of first-class scientists whose work, under his direction, will be to find new and better ways of putting up different kinds of fish, oil, berries and other products, and of using all natural resources discovered by the Economic Survey. Local talent will be employed wherever possible.

Newfoundland is woefully behind the times in scientific research, but the Liberal Party will quickly change that situation.

(10)

DEVELOP OUR POWER

Cheap power is the foundation of industry.

Grand Falls and Corner Brook would never have amounted to anything without lots of cheap power.

Newfoundland has been blessed with great water-power. Most of it is running to waste. The Liberal Party will develop it.

Negotiations have already commenced to bring Dr. Thomas Hogg to Newfoundland to do it. Dr. Hogg is one of the three greatest water-power experts in all North America. He was Chairman of the famous Ontario Hydro Electric Commission. He has recently organized a Hydro Electric Commission for the Province of Manitoba. The Liberal Government will give him the job of organizing a Hydro Electric Commission to develop lots of cheap power for Newfoundland's present and new industries to-be, and to light houses and provide power throughout the country. This plentiful supply of cheap electric power is a basic condition in the development of our country. We can never grow industrially without it.

(11)

ADVERTISING OUR RESOURCES

Arrangements have been made to bring to Newfoundland one of the most famous and most able of all the public relations men in Canada, the very man who put a certain Province of Canada on the financial map within the past few years. This man was employed by that Province to advertise its natural resources amongst the financiers and businessmen of Canada and the U.S. He did such a great job that hundreds of millions of dollars are now pouring into that Province to develop its natural resources and give good-paying jobs to its people.

The Liberal Party will see to it that Canadian and American capitalists and investors are made to know exactly what Newfoundland has to offer as a field for their investment mil-

(12)

BUSINESS PROMOTION

It is quite common for Provinces of Canada or States of America to employ business and industrial promoters. Many cities also employ them. These promoters are employed to bring new industries and business to the Province, State or City that employs them. They take the information on the natural resources, carry it to banks, investment companies, industrial and commercial concerns, and induce them to invest their capital in them.

Arrangements have been discussed to bring such a man to Newfoundland at the right time. He is one of the greatest industrial promoters in the world. He will not be engaged until the Economic Survey has produced the exact information needed to interest investors or until those resources have been properly advertised.

(13)

STEP BY STEP

This great drive to develop Newfoundland will be carefully planned. It will be carried out by certain carefully-timed steps:

- (1) The Economic Survey will be started at once.
- (2) Scientific research will be started at once, and will be tied in closely with the Economic Survey, and work in close contact with it.
- (3) Sometime after the first two steps have been started—two or three years afterwards, more or less—the third step will be taken—to employ the public relations man to advertise our resources to the world.
- (4) At about the same time the business and industrial promoter will be engaged to follow up the advertising by personal interviews with capitalists and investors.

CENTRAL DIRECTION

This great drive to develop Newfoundland will require strong central direction and we propose to organize the Premier's Department for just that purpose. We will bring all those great efforts under the direction of the Premier's Office, and in that office we will have two or perhaps three real industrial and economic specialists continually available to advise the Government in all business, industrial or financial matters that may come before us from time to time. They will be first-class professional men of practical experience. In addition we will invite the country's leading industrialists and businessmen to associate themselves, in an advisory capacity, with us.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

What will such a program cost Newfoundland?

In the first four years that the Government will be in power the costs should not be more than the following:

- (1) Economic Survey. About \$100,000 per year, the Government of Canada paying the rest, which would be many times more.
- (2) Scientific Research. An average of about \$200,000 a year.
- (3) Hydro-Electric Commission. This will be a self-supporting project, exactly as it is in the other Provinces of Canada, with the Commission financing itself through its own bonds secured and serviced by its wholesale sales of hydro-power.
- (4) Advertising Our Resources. This expense would probably arise in the third and fourth years of the Government's term, and would cost about \$250,000 a year.
- (5) Business Promotion. This, too, would probably arise in the third and fourth years and would cost about \$75,000 a year.
- (6) Central Control. This special side of the Premier's Office would cost about \$20,000 a year.

The whole Development Program would thus cost Newfoundland about \$1,830,000—or say \$2,000,000—in the four years.

One new industry of any size would bring that much money back many times over.

We ask the people of Newfoundland to show their faith in their country by voting for this great Development Program.

We have, or will have soon, more than 10 times that much money for capital expenditure. We know no better way to spend public money for the good of all the people. We must go ahead. We cannot stand still.

(16)

THE FISHERIES

The welfare of the fisheries and fishermen will always be close to the heart of every real Newfoundlander.

The Liberal Party will never be satisfied to see the fisheries struggling along. We will take bold, progressive steps to put them on a prosperous foundation and to make the fishermen independent.

The fisheries are NOT finished. Anyone who says they are, is wrong. To say that the fisheries are finished is the same as saying that Newfoundland is finished.

The Government of Canada will have charge of the Newfoundland fisheries Board, Bait Depots, and certain other fishing matters.

The Provincial Government of Newfoundland can and must do its part to make the fisheries prosperous, and with our Party it will be a patriotic pleasure, and a labour of love, to join with the Government of Canada to help our fishermen and their families to become more prosperous than ever before in their lives.

The Liberal Party will take energetic steps to bring the fishing interests of Nova Scotia, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island into close and friendly cooperation with Newfoundland's fishing interests. We know that this inter-Provincial cooperation will make the fisheries, and the fishermen, stronger than ever before.

Our policy is to make Confederation give our Newfoundland fisheries a new lease of life. It is time for our fishermen to get their share of the good things of life, and it is our policy to bring this about without delay.

FISH DRAGGERS

It will be our Party's policy to encourage the continuing development and improvement of modern fish-processing plants which must be encouraged if our fisheries are to keep up with the times.

But the production of fish for these plants—and other plants that will come—must not be allowed to stay entirely in the hands of the owners of the plants.

Our fishermen must be encouraged to get their own draggers. These may not be the large-type draggers at present used by the plants. They may, in some cases, be the present fishing schooners, or other schooners, properly fitted out for dragging.

Some experimentation will be needed to work it out, and if no fish merchants or fishermen are prepared to do this on their own, our Party will work out a plan for sharing the expense of experimenting along these lines.

The hydrographic survey which the Government of Canada is to carry out along our shores will surely find and chart bountiful banks not too far off our inshore waters for smaller draggers to fish, not far and alone, but other fish even more profitable.

The time has come for our hardy fishermen to be just as well fitted out with fishing craft and gear as their brothers in other countries of North America and Great Britain, and it is our Party's plan to help in every way to do it.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture in Newfoundland has never yet had a fair chance to show what it can do. We all know that Newfoundland agriculture can never come up to such Provinces as Manitoba, Ontario and certain other parts of Canada. But that does not mean that we must forget agriculture altogether.

1. **Land Clearing.** This has been done on a small scale. We will double and treble the present and past program.

2. **Live Stock.** We will actively encourage farmers to go in much more heavily for live stock, cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry.

3. Feed Mill. We will take steps to establish a feed-mill in Newfoundland, to keep the cost of feeds down to the price charged in the rest of Canada.

4. Fertilizer Mill. We will take steps to establish a fertilizer mill for the same purpose.

5. Packing House. We will take steps to establish a modern packing house where live-stock products can be sold and processed.

In general, we will go in strongly for a policy of encouraging the keeping of live-stock, which we believe can have a good future in Newfoundland.

(19)

TOURIST TRADE

Our Party are strong believers in the possibilities of the Tourist Trade. A great deal has been said and written, in the past, about this question, but very little has been done by any Government.

We will push energetically ahead with a program to develop the Tourist Trade to its full possibilities. We are determined that Newfoundland shall get her share of the thousands of millions of tourist dollars spent every year.

(20)

NATIONAL PARK

The Government of Canada undertakes to provide each Province with a National Park. The Government of the Province is required to furnish the land, but the Government of Canada itself provides the money to lay out the park and to build roads in it and to pay the annual cost of maintaining the Park. The only cost on the Province is the site for the Park.

Our Party will furnish a large block of Crown land very soon after we take office, and in this way will lose no time whatever in getting a National Park established in Newfoundland.

(21)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Disgraceful scenes were often witnessed in the old House of Assembly, especially in the last ten or fifteen years of its life. Sometimes those scenes resembled the worst aspects of a badly-

run beer garden. The Rules of the House were commonly flouted. The authority of the Speaker was often disregarded. It is no wonder that the general public came at last, in many cases, to despise the House.

We will make a strong effort to restore dignity to the proceedings of the House of Assembly. We will see that the Speaker's authority is upheld. We will introduce new Rules designed to do these things; and disorder, indecorum and disrespect we will stamp out with determination. We will see that the People's House is run in a manner that will be a credit, not a disgrace, to the people.

(22)

CIVIL SERVICE

Our Party is strongly opposed to any policy of allowing party politics to interfere with the Civil Service. In the referendum last year some Civil Servants supported the Commission system, some supported Responsible Government, some supported Confederation. That was their own business. No civil servant will be touched by us for any stand he took in the Referendum. We will expect Civil Servants to keep out of active politics on any side in future. It is through the Civil Service that the Government must work, so there must be an efficient Civil Service. It will be our Party's policy to make it so and to keep it so.

(23)

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Nothing is so discouraging to the people as failure of the Government to keep them thoroughly well informed on its policy and decisions. And nothing so quickly and surely destroys public confidence in a Government.

Our Party is not likely to make that mistake. We will take efficient steps to see that the people are promptly and thoroughly informed of our actions.

We will treat the people of Newfoundland as the real owners of Newfoundland, and we will regard ourselves as their servants. We will set entirely new standards of public information in Newfoundland, for we are convinced that good government is impossible when the people are kept in the dark.

(24)

THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

We look upon the Cooperative Movement as one of the great historic social movements, and as a practical expression of the spirit of the age.

Our Party places great faith in the Cooperative Movement in Newfoundland, and it will be one of our basic purposes to encourage and help it to grow strong and vigorous in this Province.

(25)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Our Party will establish a Public Utilities Commission to exercise supervisory control over the various public utilities existing from time to time. All political parties in the past promised to establish such a Commission. We will have the pleasure of doing what others promised but failed to do.

(26)

FISHERMEN'S INSURANCE

We will establish a sound system of fishermen's insurance against death or accident while engaged in the fisheries.

(27)

PUBLIC HEALTH

All fair-minded Newfoundlanders will admit freely that splendid progress has been made, in the past ten years, in the field of public health, and they are willing to praise the Government of these years for it.

This progress must be kept up, and speeded up.

The Liberal Party places Public Health in the very forefront of its program, and will devote a great part of its strength and will to the patriotic task of stamping out disease in this Province.

(28)

EDUCATION

Splendid progress has been made in Education in the past 28 to 30 years, and it would be a crime against Newfoundland to slow

down this program. Only an enemy of the people would attempt to allow any slowing down in this great work.

Our Party pledges itself faithfully to the promotion of encouraging progress in Education. We will do our best to see that the performance of this duty is not neglected.

One of the Liberal Government's first aims will be to make the Memorial College a degree-conferring institution. The former Liberal Government established the College. The Government will make it a University.

(29)

WIDOW'S PENSIONS

There are several thousand widows in Newfoundland who do not now receive any public assistance beyond the insignificant so-called "widow's allowance." The Liberal Party will pass a despatch widow's pension, as in the other Provinces of Canada; and will also pass a law providing for a pension to cripples.

(30)

LABOUR LAWS

We will introduce into the House of Assembly, and press for enactment, a number of modern labour laws. The Department of Labour will be enlarged and strengthened.

(31)

ROADS

We will push vigorously ahead with a strong road policy. We will complete the cross-country road, as part of the Trans-Canada Highway, with all possible speed.

(32)

FREE ENTERPRISE

We support the principle of free enterprise, with proper safeguards to protect the public interest.

Joseph R. Smallwood,

Leader of the Liberal Party.