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W. A. (BERT) SHANE

Almost everyone agrees that the CCF has a splendid program but then comes the question: would a CCF government be any different from a Liberal or Conservative government in failing to carry out its program? There is little doubt that if the old parties had been true to their election promises there would have been little need for the CCF. Disregard of election promises is a notorious and shameful feature of our political life. A company can be prosecuted for issuing a false prospectus or sued for a breach of contract, but due to political apathy, a government knows it can get away with non-fulfillment of election promises. It is a mark of disrespect for the people. It is no idle boast of the CCF when it says it will introduce a new fashion into our political life by living up to its election promises. We have proof of this.

The CCF government in Saskatchewan put every single one of its election promises into effect. The Labour and democratic socialist governments of Britain, New Zealand, Australia, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, which are really and truly people's governments have all got a similar record of being true to their word. The explanation is simple. The parties behind these governments are all financed and run by the people and not by the big business interests. It is an undeniable fact that whoever pays the piper calls the tune. In the second place these parties are different from the old ones in that they are continuously on the job, seeing that their affairs are being properly attended to. In the regularly held club and branch meetings there is completely free discussion and criticism throughout the year and at the annual conferences. They are really and truly democratic parties. The Liberal party did not hold a party conference for over 18 years. A live rank and file is essential to a healthy democracy: eternal vigilance still holds good as the price of

liberty. It is the only safeguard against Communism or any other form of totalitarianism. With a party constituted as the CCF there is little trouble from the elected representatives in not carrying out their duties. They are men and women who have gained the respect and approval of the members and earned the nomination for office by outstanding ability and character. The members of the Press Gallery at Ottawa are almost unanimous in stating that the CCF under Mr. Coldwell was in reality the opposition party. They provided the most effective and constructive criticism. A record of attendance and voting in the last parliament shows the CCF members with much the best score. They were the only one of all the parties with 30 or less absences out of 100 votes taken.

The next best thing to a CCF government is a CCF opposition. It serves to keep the government doing a better job. An old party government is made up of, and responsible to, people who are too much out of touch, if not actually out of sympathy, with the great mass of the people. Only this can really account for so little having been done in housing and in health insurance when the need has been so great. Economic and business men fear that a trade depression is on the way. In such a case a party of men in close touch with the people's condition will be all the more essential in the next House of Commons. We must never forget how money was found when the war came and so ended the "hungry thirties". During the war, by the way, the national income averaged out at \$3,000 per family. It is a national disgrace that there should be such great resources. A strong force of CCF members to form a strong opposition, if not the government, is a primary need for a well-governed Canada. Agreement in this is not enough. You will be making it effective only by getting out on the 27th and marking your ballot for W. A. Shane, CCF candidate for Halton. —Adv.

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 For Halton . . . . June 27th

**FREE**

**OAKVILLE**  
 John Ross, popular local athlete, was badly hurt last Thursday afternoon when thrown from his electrically-powered bicycle on Reynolds Street. John sustained a broken collar-bone, and a "charley-horse" to his right leg. He is recovering satisfactorily, his physician reports.  
 Harry Giddings, life-long resident of the Oakville district and one of the best-known race-horse trainers on the continent, died in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, early yesterday morning as the result of a heart attack suffered several days ago.

Although the current record spring drought is bound to have a serious effect on crop quality and quantity, there have been no slackening in demands for farm help in this district. Keith Laver, supervisor for the farm service camps at Clarkson, reported this week. More than 20 girls are already in residence and many more are expected when school examinations conclude, he stated.  
 The foundation stone of the new Academic Building of Appleby College, a memorial to the twenty Appleby students who gave their lives in the second world war, was officially laid on Wednesday afternoon of last week. *Trafalgar Journal*

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