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No. 8

## Mackenzie King at Markham

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Premier King opened his Ontario tour on Saturday by addressing more than 7,000 of his constituents in the Fair Grounds at Markham. It was a day which will long be remembered in North York. Followed by a procession of cars over 3 miles long, the arrival of the Prime Minister took on something of the nature of a triumphal entry. From as far away as St. Catharines and Peterboro' came motorloads of Liberal enthusiasts, while busses, trucks and innumerable private automobiles brought delegations from Sutton, Jackson's Point, Newmarket, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Woodbridge, and other places within the riding. Toronto alone sent more than a hundred cars, massed in flowers and flags, many of them bearing banners suitable to the great event.

Besides the 8th Highlanders, Bands were present from Sharon, Aurora, Richmond Hill and Markham.

As a meeting it was notable that not one heckler was heard during the whole proceedings; indeed, the whole affair seemed more of a happy family reunion than a political gathering. And, though it rained and rained and then rained again, there was no sign of weakening of the Liberal spirit. Men turned up their collars and women opened umbrellas, and no one departed.

Accompanied by Sir Allen Aylesworth, Hal McGiverin, M. P.; W. E. N. Sinclair, M. P., and officers of the Men's and Women's Liberal Associations of Toronto, Premier King mounted the dais in front of the grand stand. Bouquets were showered from all directions, and, on behalf of the Toronto Liberal women, Miss Ethel Kirkpatrick, Miss Gorion and Miss Victoria Nunnemaker presented him with a huge loving-cup made of red roses. The Premier was also presented with flowers by two little girls—Shirley Hill, of Richmond Hill and Florence Morden, of Markham township.

Mr. Howard Cane, of Newmarket, President of North York Reform Association, was chairman, and introduced the speakers with happy remarks.

Reeve Wilson of the Village of Markham extended greetings to the Premier, and reminded him and the audience that it was a historic occasion, in view of the recent addition of the two Townships of Markham and Vaughan to the old North York constituency, once represented by William Lyon Mackenzie.

Hal McGiverin, M. P., told the crowd that Mackenzie King had more than made good. He had given a sincere and economical administration; there had been improvement in the railroad administration, and the country was now in sight of an era of prosperity, he believed.

W. E. N. Sinclair, M. P., Leader of the Ontario Liberals, spoke of his long association with Premier King, in college and afterward, and, referring to Provincial matters, declared that the Public Accounts Committee had not done its full duty in the matter of exposing the bond scandals.

At the opening of his address Premier King reminded his audience of the recent tendencies among Governments toward brief careers, mentioning in particular the Governments of Mr. Baldwin in Great Britain, Mr. Warren in Newfoundland and General Smuts in South Africa. In view of this worldwide situation, it was with pride that the Government in the Federal House, though virtually without an official majority, recalled their remarkable victories during their three sessions. It was because of men like R. H. Halbert (on the platform with the Premier) and others of the opposition who knew that the Government's policy had been especially formulated to deal with the needs of all the people as represented in the elected Chamber rather than by any political label the members might wear.

National finances, tariff, immigration and international relations—the four important walls in the structure of a prosperous Canada—were each in turn presented by the Premier in their varying features to an attentive crowd. But, though the public debt and immigrants have their place among the national problems, it was apparent that to the farmers of North York the subject supreme in Canada to-day is: Tariff. With patience and interest they listened to the Premier as he handled billions of dollars, but it was with enthusiastic acclaim that they greeted his references to reductions in cost of farm implements as a result of lowered tariff and to the

ultimate improvement which, he said, would be felt in all departments of life through lowering of duty.

Dealing with what he termed the "most important of all the constructive efforts of the Liberal Administration," Premier King declared that during the last general election, when he and his associates had made their appeal to the people of Canada, they had particularly emphasized the need of reduction of duties on implements of production in the basic industries and on the necessities of life, with the twofold object of increasing production and reducing the cost of living. They had realized that cheapened production meant increased production, and in lessened cost of living lay the solution in part of all other national problems.

"We are helping the manufacturers in Toronto and the various branches of business in Toronto just as much as we are helping the rural population," Premier King affirmed. "What factory in Toronto is not dependent upon some basic industry for its raw material? If it is able to get its material at less cost, it is able to produce at less cost, and, therefore, get a bigger sale.

"There may be need of protection—in certain cases and for certain periods of time. But never forget this: Protection is taxation, and when you talk about the need for protection you are talking about the need for taxation. When you say there must be increased protection you are saying you must pay increased taxes.

"One would think, to hear some people talk, that the most sacred word in the vocabulary was protection." It is vacated in those cases where it means the caring and protecting of those needing comfort and protection from the human standpoint, but if it means special favors for a part of the people, then I say that with it you cannot build up a great national life.

Challenging the statement that a lowered tariff would affect adversely the implement manufacturers in Canada, Mr. King declared that Thomas Bradshaw of the Massey-Harris Company had said that the implement industry to-day was finding that the changes imposed by the Government were acting as a benefit rather than as an injury.

Before concluding an excellent address, the Premier again thanked the electors for the honor they had done him, and hoped to address them and visit them on future occasions.

After the speaking a reception was held in the large skating rink, where thousands of people shook hands with Premier King.

Among the sports during the afternoon and evening, the girls baseball proved an attractive feature.

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