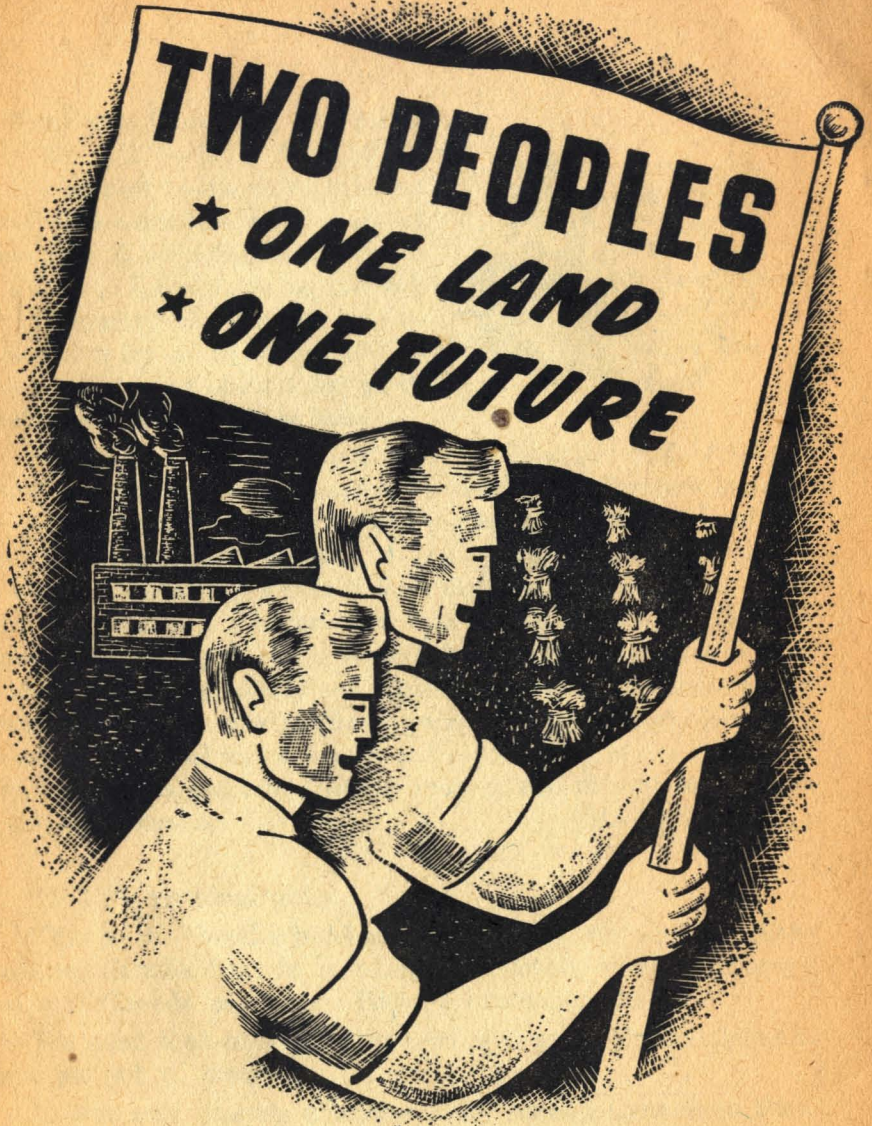


FEDERAL ELECTION TALKS SERIES: Number Two



By **STANLEY B. RYERSON**

Published by Labor-Progressive Party — 73 Adelaide Street West, Toronto

TWO PEOPLES
* ONE LAND
* ONE FUTURE



BY STANLEY B. RYERSON

Published by Labor Progressives Party — 12 Madison Street, New York

WITH THE CANADIANS IN FRANCE,
July 29.—(CP)—In a neat bit of
team play that began six days before
the British-Canadian drive south of
Caen July 25, French-speaking troops
of a Quebec battalion paved the way
for the capture of Verrières by On-
tario troops by attacking and holding
two hillside farms about 1,000 yards
north and northwest of the town.



A company commanded by Maj. J. P. C. Gauthier of Montreal was consolidating south of the Beauvoir farm when the Germans loosed a terrific concentration of mortar and gunfire along the whole of this front. Other men under Major J. A. Dextrase of Montreal had pushed on ahead but enemy fire pinned them down on the south side of the crest of the ridge. . . The farm was held despite attacks by five tanks which remained dug in on the south side of the farm for 48 hours and in the face of heavy mortar and artillery fire. The tanks were finally forced to withdraw due to the aggressiveness of White's (Ontario) company. Troteval was attacked and captured by Major Dextrase's company July 24 and later Ontario troops passed through the position to go on and capture Verrières. (Montreal Gazette.)

THAT'S national unity.

That's the brotherhood-in-arms of French and English-speaking Canada that is speeding the victory—making Europe free and Canada safe from Hitler's murder-gangs.

We need that unity at home, as well as at the battlefront.
Have we got it, here?

In one way, there's a bigger unity among Canadians than we've ever known. Our tremendous military and industrial

effort would have been a sheer impossibility without it. The comradeship of our fighting men has been mirrored on the production-line, in the munitions plants, the shipyards, and on the farms. There's thinking and feeling in common in the minds and hearts of French and English-speaking Canadians, on the need to finish off Hitler and all his works, and build a better life in security and peace.

And yet . . .

Despite this unity, there are divisions, confusion and uncertainty, which unscrupulous men have seized upon for their own ends, to wreck our future and rob us of the fruits of victory.

Before it's too late, let's learn that if we're to build a happy post-war Canada we must work together, shoulder to shoulder, just as loyally and resolutely as our lads are fighting over there. Nothing less will do. Anything less will mean disaster.

* * *

Is there ground for agreement between our peoples of French and English-speaking Canada?

Of course there is. We all want—

Jobs. Security. Full production for peacetime needs. Continuous social progress, betterment of living-standards. Democratic liberties. Enduring peace.

There's no monopoly on the desire for those things.

There's no reason why, once Hitler and Hirohito have been smashed, we shouldn't make those things come true for Canada, by working unitedly to win them; hand in hand with our great neighbor-allies, Britain, the U.S.A., the Soviet Union, China, and all the liberated peoples. That, after all, is what we've been working and fighting for.

So where's the catch? What's the big difficulty?

Two peoples, two national communities live side by side in Canada. Whenever they've worked together, they've been able to do great things; but whenever a self-seeking, profiteering clique has been able to stir up mutual distrust and friction and

antagonism, French against English-speaking, English against French, both peoples have suffered, and only the sowers of hate have profited.

Today, a powerful and richly financed minority of reactionary Tories are conspiring against Canada's future.

They want to stop us from adopting nationwide social security measures—health insurance, family allowances, democratic labor laws. So they stir up French against English and Ontario against Quebec. . . They hope that by keeping Canadians divided they'll also keep them poor . . . and themselves, profitably rich.

They want to revive a discredited policy of imperialism, and stir up a British Empire trade war against our allies. They are opposed to the policies of world co-operation for world security and prosperity, agreed on by Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt at Teheran, and upheld by Premier King at the London Conference last May. So they try to whip up imperialist Jingo sentiment as against democratic Canadianism.

They want to undermine and destroy the friendship that has grown up between ourselves and the great ally and neighbor to the North, the U.S.S.R. So they foment campaigns of anti-Soviet lies and hatred, through the corporatist cliques in Quebec and the Watson Kirkconnells in English Canada. Hitler's 11th-hour helpers. . . .

Drew in Ontario, Duplessis in Quebec, have both declared war on federal social security legislation—and in the name of "provincial rights" use national prejudice to sabotage the national interest. But their attempts to torpedo social progress are just a preview of the federal Tories' schemes should they get to power at Ottawa.

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"Useful employment for all who are willing to work, standards of nutrition and housing adequate to ensure the health of the whole population; and social insurance against privation resulting from unemployment, from accident, from the death

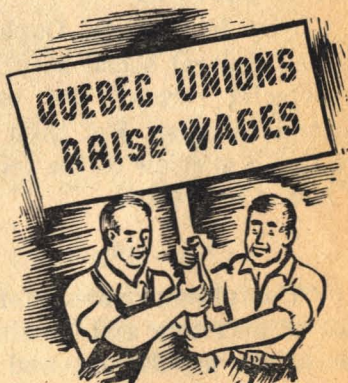
of the breadwinner, from ill-health and from old age" . . . the achievement of these aims as a **national minimum** was advanced by the King government in its statement of policy on January 27, 1944.

Such an objective has the hearty agreement and support of the French-Canadian workers, farmers, middle-class folk, who have known the dark days of unemployment, starvation wages and insecurity—just as have their brothers and sisters of English-speaking Canada. As a matter of fact, the winning of a better post-war world is deeply felt as a specially urgent need, by the people of Quebec, because of the special disadvantages and handicaps they've had to face, in drastically lower living standards, health and educational provisions.

In this peoples' worldwide war against fascism, there have come into being forces that have worked to overcome these handicaps. Most important of these has been the growth of the labor movement, of the trade unions. While trade union organization has grown in all parts of Canada, its growth in Quebec has been particularly outstanding. In aircraft, munitions, ship-yards, textile, international trade unions have acted as a mighty lever in raising wage standards and securing betterment of conditions. Through trade union action, tens of thousands of Quebec workers have come to understand what national unity can mean to them, in terms of joint action with fellow Canadians for the securing of the common good.

The labor movement is demonstrating that **national inequalities can be overcome**. It is thereby helping to weld Canadian unity in the fight for a better post-war world.

What is needed now is a **nation-wide effort** to achieve that Canadian standard of social and economic security which will once



and for all overcome the inequalities that have beset French Canada. Quebec's vast productive resources—increased by half a billion dollars of capital since the war began—must be kept at work and further developed in serving the needs of peace, together with the rest of our productive plant. Quebec's people must secure, together with all other Canadians, the benefits of a modern system of social services.

But this will take a **united** effort. And for such an effort, we have to have:

On the part of English-speaking Canadians, full recognition of the right of the French-Canadian people to maintain and develop their national community, their language, schools and institutions.

On the part of the French-Canadians, a readiness to join hands with their fellow-citizens in the pursuit of social betterment and the defence of our common heritage of democratic liberties.

The majority of Canadians, among both our peoples, can surely agree on this.

We can have agreement among the majority, too, in regard to our **foreign policy**.

Both in French and English-speaking Canada, the majority support the stand taken by Premier King last May at the London Commonwealth Conference—in favor of Canada's working for world-democratic unity and the strengthening of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition as the key to enduring peace after the war.

Only a minority can be found to support the opposite policy—that of Empire exclusiveness, a trade-war against the rest of the world, and hostility towards the Soviet Union. This policy of insanity and suicide is seriously advocated by Canadian Tories. And it is as disruptive of Canadian unity as it is of world security.

It isn't an accident that Drew links his jibes at Quebec with imperial jingoism; nor that his opposition to federal social legis-

lation goes hand in hand with a fight against democratic Canadianism in the field of foreign policy. The affirmation of our country's sovereignty in world affairs strengthens Canadian unity. The imperialism of the Drews feeds nationalist agitation in Quebec, to the effect that "Canadians are being forced to fight in one of Britain's wars". Imperialist jingoism and "Anglo-Saxon superiority" claims disrupt Canadian unity. Only democratic Canadianism can unite our peoples.

It isn't an accident, either, that Drew echoes the anti-Soviet campaign of Quebec reactionaries. The publication by Quebec clerical-fascists of a forgery purporting to present a "secret plan for the Sovietization of the Americas" has been promptly followed by Drew's slanderous charge that Canadian Communists "take their orders from abroad". Hitler's choicest weapon, the smokescreen of anti-Communism, finds ready adepts among the opponents of social progress and national unity in our land!

Reactionary toryism is doubly a threat—to our progress at home and our safety abroad.

Against it, the majority forces in both French and English Canada must unite before it is too late. . . .

* * *

The things that the people of French and English-speaking Canada are agreed on—the need for the kind of policies that for the greatest possible number—**can** be achieved if the majority will bring full employment and growing security and well-being—**can** be achieved if the majority forces combine their efforts, close their ranks, unite in a great all-embracing **democratic coalition**.

That is the proposal of the Labor-Progressive Party.

The one thing that will guarantee post-war security and prosperity is the election of a Dominion government that really represents the forward-looking, democratic and progressive forces in both French and English-speaking Canada. The only way to elect such a government, over the furious opposition of the tory crew, is through the labor movement joining forces

with the Mackenzie King Liberals to assure election of a democratic majority in the House of Commons. Labor alone isn't strong enough to form the next government—but it **can** win representation in that government, and play a tremendous part in determining the kind of post-war we'll have.

What has happened in Quebec and Ontario proves that this is the only policy that will work. Tory Duplessis is in power in Quebec with the backing of the reactionary power and textile monopolists, but with minority support among the electors only because liberal-labor unity was split by the self-seeking and suicidal policy of the CCF. Tory Drew remains in power in Ontario (with only 38 seats out of 90) and sabotages Canadian unity and social reform—only because there isn't yet unity between the liberal and labor forces. That state of affairs mustn't be repeated on a national scale!

A democratic coalition, such as we of the Labor-Progressive Party are urging, is the one means available for uniting the majority of French and English-speaking Canadians on a common platform of progressive post-war reconstruction.

The alternative is deepening disunity, tory reaction, and the loss of the biggest opportunity our country ever faced.



73 Adelaide St. West,
Toronto, Nov. 1944.

Fellow Canadian:

This pamphlet is the second in a series to be published by the Labor-Progressive Party. The aim of this and the other pamphlets you shall receive is to clarify the great issues facing our country in the coming Federal Elections.

The Labor-Progressive Party is fighting for a forward-looking government, made possible by a coalition of all democratic forces in the country. Our Party, to contribute its modest share to the creation of such a government is therefore placing some 70 Federal candidates in the field. To make possible a wide public campaign the Labor-Progressive Party is now engaged in a drive for \$250,000 to finance its participation in the coming Federal contest. We appeal to you to help us make this drive a success.

Having read this second of our election series we cordially invite you to write us on any subject pertaining to this issue. We would appreciate your opinion and will be glad to answer any questions or supply further information.

May we hope that you will see your way clear to send us your contribution to our financial drive?

SAM CARR,
NATIONAL ELECTION MANAGER
LABOR-PROGRESSIVE PARTY

For further information write to the following:

British Columbia—119 West Pender, Room 209, Vancouver
Alberta—16 Rothesay Bldg., Edmonton
Saskatchewan—1723 Hamilton Street, Regina
Manitoba—980½ Main Street, Winnipeg
Ontario—95 King Street East, Room 107, Toronto
Quebec—254 St. Catherine East, Room 8, Montreal
Maritimes—16 Highland Street, Glace Bay, N.S.

French Canada

A Study in Canadian Democracy

by CAROL A. EVERTON

James Stewart Cook on French Canada
should be the logical reading list of all who
desire to know the history of the province
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French Canada

A Study in Canadian Democracy

By **STANLEY B. RYERSON**

"Stanley Ryerson's book on French Canada should be on the required reading list of all intellectually honest Canadians, whether statesmen, educators or labor leaders, whose duty it is to provide leadership for the solution of the broad political problems of Canada now and after the war. I know of no other book written in English on French Canada — or even written in French on the same subject — where so much insight is revealed on what the ignorant or the bigoted generally refer to as "French-Canadian problem."

EDMOND TURCOTTE,
EDITOR, LE CANADA,
Montreal, Que.

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