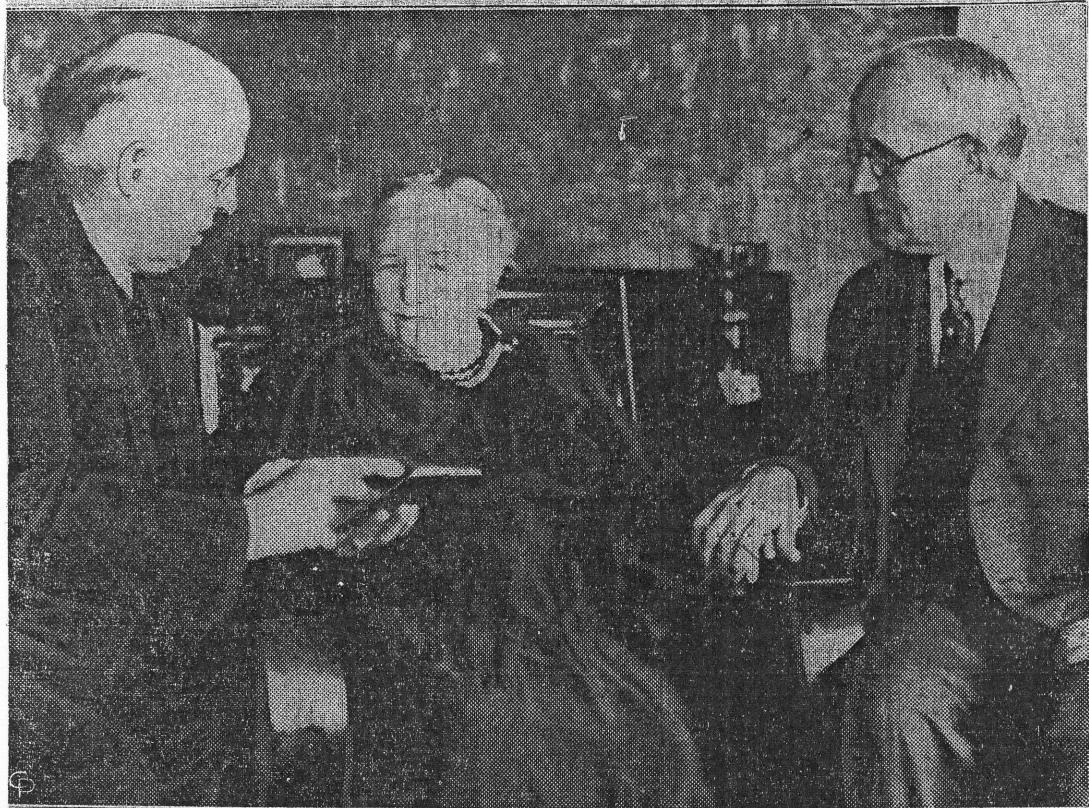


When Social Credit Chief Visited Aged Mother in Ontario



Following a trip to Ottawa to secure federal financial support for his government and a visit to Detroit, where the well-known radio priest, Rev. Father Coughlin, approved his policies, Premier William Aberhart, head of Alberta's new Social Credit cabinet, visited his aged mother, Mrs. Louisa Aberhart, in Seaforth, Ontario. The Calgary high school principal was born in Seaforth, and several brothers still reside there. Mr. Aberhart is seen (left) in conversation with his mother, now 84 years of age, and a brother, Charles (right) in the latter's Seaforth home.

THE DAILY PROVINCE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1939

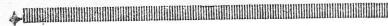


PREMIER'S LADY IN B.C.—
Visiting in Vancouver is Mrs. W. Aberhart, as the guest of her two daughters, Mrs. J. M. Cooper and Mrs. C. A. MacNutt. Above is Mrs. Cooper, with Marilyn. Upper right, Mrs. Aberhart chats with Mrs. MacNutt. Right, she goes walking with the third generation; left to right, Beverley and Donna Marie MacNutt, Marilyn and Patricia Cooper.





—Photos by Alfred Krausee





Mrs. Aberhart---Homemaker---Believes Women Also Have Place In Politics

By MARGARET A. ECKER.

THIS is a drawing in black and white of a very charming lady who is spending Easter in Vancouver.

It is not an interview. Mrs. Aberhart will not give an interview. She doesn't like to answer questions, because the early days of the Aberhart administration brought her some sad experiences at the hands of reporters.

So this can only be a sketch of a very vivacious, white-haired lady, wife of one of Canada's

most famous politicians, whom I had the privilege of chatting with recently in the garden of a Kerrisdale home.

While the sun drifted across the lawn and danced on the daffodils, and an April-scented breeze brought pink bloom petals from the Japanese plum trees floating about us, Mrs. Aberhart played with her four girl-grandchildren and admitted her happiness at spending the Easter days with her two daughters and their families.

"I was the one that lost out when we moved from Calgary to Edmonton," she admitted regretfully. "I can't come to Vancouver so often. . . . to Vancouver"

MRS. ABERHART LIKES ALBERTA.

Chatting with Mrs. Aberhart is pleasant and is effortless. She likes to talk of gardens, where she put in a great deal of time before public life cut into her hobbies. And she likes to talk of Alberta. "It's the doorway to the North, the land of the future," she said. She likes to talk about dogs and horses and the heart-twisting beauty of the foothills.

She likes to talk about Edmonton. "It has so much natural beauty, with its ravines and rivers . . ." She likes to talk about Calgary, her former home. "It's remarkable for a smaller city . . . and the country around is so beautiful . . ."

But she won't talk about politics.

"I'm interested in politics," she admitted, "but I'm not all wrapped up in them. I have so many other things that keep me busy." It must be refreshing for Alberta's Premier to come home after a cyclonic day of Legislature to a companion, so merry, so refreshing, so cosmopolitan in interests and tastes. She confided: "He likes to relax when he comes home, to get his mind off things."

Premier Aberhart has not allowed public life to cut into his home life. "He always comes home for his lunch."

As she spoke of her girlhood in Galt, Ontario, Mrs. Cooper teasingly suggested that her mother had been "a social butterfly."

"Hardly so," laughed Mrs. Aberhart, "though I'm afraid I wasn't very interested in a career. But I do think that it's wonderful that the young women of today are doing so well in the business and professional world."

"STA-UP-TOP"
LE GANT*

WON'T
ROLL
OVER

WON'T
RIDE
UP



PREMIER'S WIFE HAS OLD WORLD CHARM.

However, the speaker herself is an excellent argument for the old regime when poise and grace were cultivated rather than aggressiveness.

"All my interest lies in young people," she went on. "I think the youth problem is our greatest problem. After all, our Canadian youth are our greatest asset, but the machine age seems to have deprived them of the niches in the world that are their birthright."

When her official duties are not too trying Mrs. Aberhart plays a bit of golf and reads "... not too much politics," she admitted. She is also a very enthusiastic member of the Women's Canadian Club.

Although she herself will not ride on the political carrousel, she said: "Women have their place in politics. I think they can play their part in public life and at the same time retain their charm and naturalness."

THE ALBERTAN—*The Newspaper of the Home*—**FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1939**

—FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1939

PREMIER'S DAUGHTER AND GRANDDAUGHTER



—Photo by Oliver

MRS. J. MARTIN COOPER of Vancouver and her daughter Patricia who have been Calgary visitors en route to their home after spending some time with Mrs. Cooper's parents, Premier William Aberhart and Mrs. Aberhart, in Edmonton where they attended ceremonies in honor of the royal visit. In Calgary Mrs. Cooper and her daughter were the guests of the former's mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Cooper.

Patricia felt the picture wouldn't be complete without 'granny's puss' who flourishes under the name Sandy MacGregor MacTavish McPherson, but gets plain Sandy unless he has to be spoken to sternly—but Patricia feels that he never needs sternness.

BOOKS in REVIEW

A Daughter's Fond Look

!
At Aberhart

ABERHART OF ALBERTA, by L. P. V. Johnson and
Ola MacNutt (Institute of Applied Art, Ltd.,
Edmonton, 252 pages, \$6.75) Reviewed by Par-
ker Kent.

Of all Albertans up to now, none was as remarkable or reached such heights of fame and notability as William Aberhart, Alberta's seventh premier. It will be a long time before his like in terms of public power and influence appears upon the scene again.

This is not the same as saying that Mr. Aberhart was a great historic figure. Great men leave a lasting imprint and it is doubtful if the teacher-preacher of the Twenties who became politician and premier in the Thirties and Forties managed to do that. But he was a towering figure in his time. It mattered not whether you loved him or hated him; you were impressed by him.

I think that any Albertan who has any interest at all in his province ought to buy this delightful book, read it, and keep it on the shelf for his progeny and theirs to read. This is a really close-up view of Mr. Aberhart, coming from a genuinely inside source, his youngest daughter, Mrs. Ola J. MacNutt. Mrs. MacNutt collaborated with Dr. L. P. V. Johnson, Staveland-born agricultural scientist who has been professor of genetics at the University of Alberta since 1948. Dr. Johnson presumably performed the writing task, with Mrs. MacNutt providing much of the more interesting information.



IT NATURALLY has to be noted that the book is neither a biography in depth nor a literary creation. The style is more that of an academic writing a thesis than someone who handles words with graceful simplicity. Take this opening paragraph: "There is a farm near Kippen in Hibbert Township, Perth County, Ontario, a few miles west of Egmondville, that will upon inquiry be identified as the birthplace and early home of William Aberhart the younger.

"Identified, indeed, by almost any villager or district farmer, who will mention with some pride, making more or less vague references to Alberta and Social Credit, and to the plaque at Seaforth District High School."

Furthermore, it must be taken for granted that the book is more than a little biased in favor of its subject. But who would have it otherwise? There are plenty of other places to look for more objective stuff about this fascinating man.

The picture which emerges is that of an individual of rustic, God-fearing, puritanically simple upbringing, whose father was a German immigrant and whose mother was of English extraction.

He was born on the Ontario farm, the fourth of



WILLIAM ABERHART

... "a man to be feared"

eight children, on Dec. 30, 1878, and died in Vancouver at the age of sixty-four, on May, 23, 1943.

He became a rural school teacher in 1899, moving to a school in Brantford in 1901. He married Jessie Flatt of Galt the following year. In 1905, at the age of twenty-seven, the hard-working young man had become a school principal. He also had become a dynamic, evangelist-type Bible teacher. He worked overtime to take correspondence courses from Queen's University and finally won his B.A. degree extramurally in 1911. The year before that he had moved to Calgary to become principal of Alexandra school.

In 1912 he became principal of King Edward

school. For some time, the school board had been planning to build a new high school on Crescent Heights but the war held up construction of a building. The new Crescent Heights school was organized on an interim basis in 1915 anyway, and Mr. Aberhart got the coveted job of principal. Until 1928, classes operated in Balmoral school. Finally, in 1929, the large new high school opened and Mr. Aberhart served as its principal until making politics a full-time vocation in 1935.

Key points of William Aberhart's career as teacher, prophetic evangelist and Alberta premier are generally well known. How he branched out from church memberships into taking an independent path of leadership, how his Sunday broadcasts of mass services conducted in the Palace Theatre soon gained him a radio audience of immense proportions and how, eventually, enough offerings poured in to make possible construction of the Prophetic Bible Institute further west along 8th Ave., these things are all here in great and interesting detail.

In a book of this kind one is able to obtain a lot of the little off-camera tid-bits of information so revealing of character.

★ ★ ★

ON THE ROSTRUM, Mr. Aberhart looked like a fierce, avenging prophet of God, a man to be feared, to be respected, but hardly to be loved. His voice was hard. It was used on occasion at full oratorical pitch. The message was simple — pathetically simple, said the educated people of the day. But it carried weight with masses of simple Alberta folk, mostly rural in the late Twenties and early Thirties. And, of course, when the Great Depression came and the bottom dropped out of man's world, what more natural than that everyone should turn to this prophet to whom God had confided not only the secrets of the Last Trump but a new economic gospel which would solve materialistic problems of the here and now as well.

Busy as he always was, William Aberhart was always the attentive and loving family man. He was strict with his children, but fair. He played games with them, raised his voice in song with them around the family piano which he taught himself to play.

"Once one of his daughters had a severe case of mumps. Coming from school, he would go at once upstairs to the bedroom and take her in his arms and walk the floor with her. To this day, his daughters remember how they used to look forward to his loving care."

The book sets forth in new terms the rise to political power, the terrible vicissitudes of high office the drama of times which many of us remember with nostalgia and which all others should add to their store of knowledge.

A must for everyone.

Aberhart, William

B. 02-217-1161167
Aberhart's Daughter To Sue CBC for \$50,000
898 - 3 NTC JUN 8 - 1983

Albertan
Mrs. Ola J. MacNutt, daughter of William Aberhart, founder of the Social Credit movement, is suing the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for \$50,000.

placed. Mrs. MacNutt charges they were lost due to negligence on the part of the CBC.

Named in action is James R. Murray.

Jun 8 - 1983

Mrs. MacNutt says she lent the CBC film and photographs of the late Premier Aberhart when the television network requested them to do a show on him for the series "Explora-

Albertan Jun 8 - 1983

She says she never got them back and that they had an historical value that cannot be re-