INTERVIEW WITH MRS. ABERHART - March 26th, 1954

A's Family

A. Comes to Calgary.

Church Vembership

Cross Ch. Says Hr. and

Tho. A. janed there in

Nov. 1910. Last took

Communion Here in

Harch, 1912.

A. e Sports Hobbies

Met Mr. A. in Hamilton, where she was visiting a girl friend. A.'s sisters were 'Gusta and Nettie. Brothers Chuck, Jack, Lou, etc. - family of 7 altogether. Mrs. Luck came out to Cal. at same time from Ont. A.s came out about Easter time. They asked him to come out to take up a school (Mount Royal). When they arrived school was not finished. He was in Victoria School from Raster until the holidays. Then living on 13th Ave. When big new school of South Calgary was built they made him principal of that and when they put a high school (Balmoral High School) at Crescent Heights he was principal of that - then new Crescent Heights School was built and he went there as principal. Mrs. A. was walking downtown in Cal. soon after they arrived and was confronted by a muttering, drunken Indian who was coming menacingly towards her and Mrs. MacNutt. Mrs. A. took her daughter right out into the middle of the road in order to pass the drunk. 13th Ave. was right on the edge of the prairie. They used to walk across fields to the street car terminus. A. played football, tennis, badminton, also chess and chequers. Wrote a book of chess m plays. Before Bible Inst. and politics used to spend much time playing chess. Was very fond of children and grand children. While still on 13th Ave. he took a correspondence course in Law .- about 25 or 27 years ago. At time of death was studying French and Spanish. Had Linguaphone (set for them and German. Mever got around to the German. The only thing he took to the coast with him on last trip was the Linguaphor set. Had known some French and perhaps German at school or university but was all out of touch with it.

As a young boy he could sit at the table at the farm near Seafotth

Interview with Mrs. Aberhart (Mar.26 - con't.)

with all the family sitting around talking and perhaps their friends, too, and study without effort. Wonderful powers of

consentration.

Could play the pizno, well and mandolin and violin quite a bit - all

self-taught. Had no art training but was competent artist. Huge

chart of Bible history was his own work - did it in the garage - on

long piece of canvas, about 8' long by 4' wide. Painted.

When he took over Premiership he asked for 5 years/absence from

his school and they granted it.

by immersion was the right thing.

Was Presbyterian till 1910 and then changed to Baptist partly because he read the Bible carefully and was convinced that baptism

See George Walker.

luck still alive.

While Bible Inst. was being built A. would go right down after school to see how they were getting on. They were paying out a lot of money hiring the Palace Theater and couldn't give full Bible courses without sufficient accommodation. Was giving regular Bible for Classes at Westbourne Baptist but spoke as guest speaker all over the place. Mrs. MacNutt thought Prof. Broad eccentric. They knew a lady in Cnt. who came out to Cal. to teach and kept writing back telling them what a wonderful place Cal. was. Also kept telling people here about A. and they asked him to come and

After sch. A. would come home, have dinner, read paper, and go down to Bible Inst. 'til about 10.30 or so. Then came home and worked till 2 a.m. Up again about 8 a.m. in time for school at 9.

take Mount Royal Sch. Several teachers came out along then.

In Vancouver are family group and picture of first sch. A. attended A. was the image of his father except that his father had a beard.

Holobies

Premiership

Church Denonworksis

Bible Inst.

Coming to Calgary

The Luch was this Willite

Daily habits.

Boyhood.

Interview with Mrs. Aberhart (Mar. 26 - con't.)

They had a nice farm near Seaforth - you could walk from Seaforth to it. Mrs. A. visited them there.

A. loved anything mathematical. Paid scrupulous attention to detail as well as having administrative and organational ability. Not like those who are good administrators but can't be bothered with detail. Worked like a horse. Never spared himself. Had the habit of working hard. Loved his teaching and preaching equally ww did not sacrifice one for the other. Could manage both. Mrs. A said he seriously considered going into the ministry soon after they were married but decided against - reason probably financial. A. always got travel-sick when going anywhere by train so always sent someone else where possible. On speaking tours went by car. Didn't feel so bad sitting in front seat. Manning drove him. Couldn't bear atmosphere of hospital or sick room. Was always in a hurry to get out. One day visiting sick woman in hospital Mrs. A "thought he would fall downstairs" going out. When Cla was very sic in labour he told Mrs. A. to stay at hospital with her. there for hours. Finally, he said, "I'm going down. I think I can help her." He wanted Ola to hold his hand believing that he could communicate strength to her in that way. He could stand it only five or ten minutes. Then went home again.

Blue & Yellow Madwals.

Lived in Browtford for 12 yrs. Ola born there.

110. A said of blue and yellow manuals that I afterwards somewhat regretted manner of presentation he
had used. His opinions changed ideas and knowledge
improved like other peoples.

Delicate stomach

A.'s Charac.

Squeamish about sick rooms.

Aberhart Farm

Huron Country Lobball

Charles Aberhart

Accident will horse

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. ABERGART - Apr. 11

MR. A's father retired at 50yrs. of age - was comfortable and successful. Gave all of children who wanted it an education. Had lovely big-farm. Lawn all around the house long drive with avenue of trees leading up to house. Picket fence separating the garden from the fields. House was just like a city housex home. - Lovely living room, bedroom off that, diging room, front hall - great big verandah along two sides of the house. Four bedrooms upstairs. Lovely piano, Chesterfield suite (though it wasn't called that in those days) and easy chairs in living.room. Frame house clapboard or siding. Wheat farm - had creek running right through it. Lovely horses - always kept a hired man. A. was Huron County football team - (English football M). Dr. Doyle was in team. A. was 19, 20, or 21 whom in team. Wasn't married then. Mrs. A. wouldn't marry him 'til he got cut of the team. Said "They get hurt so often". Seaforth School Bd. put out a bulletin after Mr. A. was in office.

Mr. Chas. A., c/o Dr. Wm. Aberhart, London, Ont. Chas. was druggist, eldest of family.

When he was about 15 he was sent to water his father's toam of fine, spirited horses. Was taking one of the most lively ones across the farmyard when it broke free, rearing up with its front and then with its hind legs. Strap slipped out of A.'s hands and he was struck in the face by the horse's hind hoof. Was knocked out cold. His sister new was watching from the window and ran out and clapped her

hards in front of the horse so that it didn't run over A.

Druking & Smoking

Interview with Mrs. Aberhart (coa't. - 2) Apr.11.
Then she dragged A. through the gate. In was left with three scars made by the corks(?) of the hoof - one on the chin, one under the left eye, and one over the right eye.

Kayo MacNutt was 6 the day A. was sworn in. He sent her a telegram.

Waiters in the big betels (Pallicer and LacDonald)know to didn't deink and would put a singer als on the tray of costail and serve him first and say, "That's yoursair, Mr. A.". He never smoked. His father wouldn't let the boys stoke, but he did himself.

CORONATION TRIP

Coronation: A. had had invitation to go as Premier and had received several invitations to speak to audiences in Britain but had not accepted any of them. He disliked travelling - was always travel-sick and so was not looking forward very much to the trip, though he would have enjoyed himself when he got there, but knew he would be ill all theway there and all the way back. The newspaper campaign and persuaded him that public opinion was against his going and he said, "If they don't want me to go I won't accept the invitation - after all, to poor people it seems a lot of money" so he refused the invitation but wasn't very disappointed about it.

Mrs. A. didn't mind whether she went or not though she would have gone with him had he accepted. "He wouldn't have gone without me."

Daid was now, a person to exposured his ideas to us. He aid ask everyone for his ideas and have make up his own muid. He aid ask the opinions of all the members of his family and of people all size the place. What more scamp to understand is that must be wanted todo was he halp geople.

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. ABERHART - Vancouver, May

Married in Galt, Cnt.

A'sreducation

Manning Waterwer

Last siekness

Manning asked to stay to look after the house in Cal. when they went to Vancouver. Came out to Vancouver for holidays because they liked it with the children. First came out about 1918 or 1920. Khona came out in 25 for training in Gen. Hospital. graduated in 28. Attended hi. sch. in Seaforth, business college in Chatham, normal sch. in Hamilton. Finished education from Queen's 'University, majoring in mathematics and commerce. As Premier he had introduced 4 major things for teachers - one was profession act, larger school units, pensions, tenure. 5 weeks sick in Vancouver - 2xxxxxx we thought it was tiredness from the session. Enlargement of the liver. Weakness of the liver billiousness in his youth buteased off during his later years. W When he came out here he was not very well for a week. Fourth morning he made 2 records for broadcasting. Went to see doctor in Edmonton. Doctor went to his office. He put him in the hospital for an X-ray. Didn't find anything. Dr. Proctor made X-ray. Thrusday night Mrs. A. made reservations for Saturday, arrived in Vancouver on Sunday morning. Monday got doctor in to see him. Ill on train. Doctors attending him in Vancouver - 5 - Dr. B.D. Gillies (dead), G. E./Gillies (insulting), G.F. Strong still in Vancouver. A. suffered weakness and tiredness. Went into hospital just for a week, first week at Khona's (?) house, third week home, last week in hospital. Made discs in Edmonton dictated few letters about first day he was out here. 2 we ks before he died nurse was playing Chinese checkers with him and he enjoyed it. He said to her, "By your looks you would be about 25,

"When I relie".

Christmas parties.

Gerry oloGear

A 1's Panily Election Day

Mrs. A. 's activities

R.B. Bennett

A's church denominations

by your wisdom about I would say about 45." - when she made a clever move. He would say sometimes, "When I retire, mother, I'm going to spend all my time writing all my sermons."

A. started out by giving lecture in Edmonton every Sunday or every other Sunday night - sharing it with Manning.

Christmas parties sometimes at Coopers - or elsewhere.

Buffet dinner, or midnight buffet dinner. Jerry MacGeer - 50th

anniversary of Vancouver J. McGeer mayor. Patullo was Premier.
"Hi, Aberhart! Where are you?" - heard A.'s voice on train.
They would have great arguments about reform. Anniversary of Vancouver in 36.

A's brothers - one a druggist, one owned a mill, one a farmer. Day after election called men for Cabinet at the house. Election Raxxwax headquarters were in building opposite Tea Kettle. On Election Day A. was upstairs writing hisspeeches in case of failure or success. Campaign Headquarters on 7th Ave. A. came home for dinner that day. Mrs. A. gave 10-minute broadcast during campaign - during speaking tours never spoke but sat through meeting waiting for them. /Always voted for R.B. Bennett. Bennett gave a lot of honours and money to the school children - A. had Bennett up to the sch. Voted always for best man. Mrs. A. taught primary Sunday sch. in the Inst Ch. - didn't teach at Westbourns. Bhe was members of Westbourne and Prophetic Bible Inst Baptist Ch. Mr. & Mrs. A. both Presbyterian. Mr. Burnett baptized A. in Baptist ch. A. attended Wesley in Cal. but was not member. First of all Grace Presbyterian ch. - then Wesley. When War broke out he was at Westbourne. Our place was open house for boys home from the War, who didn't have any other place to go. He was asked to take a class of boys in Wesley. Teaching in the Grand Theatre

Pussell Bradley

bible

Als travels
Thorial evenings

Havial evenings Have sieteness Interview with Mrs. Aberhart, Vancouver, - 3

early as 1914. Palace at first. When he moved to Westbourne he was preaching in Grand on Sundays. Mr. Bradley (Russell B. is his son) was an early failure of A.'s would know about early church activities in Cal. He was exploring in his mind at the time about baptism. Developed his profihetic conceptions during his life in Alta. If he was out in the evening and came in at, say, 11 c'clock he would stay up till 2 a.m. reading the Bible. "I am not going to give up my Bible work" - when he was elected. "That comes first."

Blond hair - girls get red hair from Mrs. A.

Mever visited U.S. until in office - never went to California.

In the course of official duties went to N.Y., Detrait, etc.

Musical evenings - didn't all play different instruments but had

hymn singing. Liked Manning for his brilliant mind.

When he was sick in hospital nurse gave him hypo without telling him what it was and he was upset. Khona told nurse that he wasn't used to that sort of tfeatment and he would like it much better if she told him why she was doing things.

first sign of illness was when he said one morning. "I can't stand up to shave this missing," I to. A. said, "Well, sit down and do it."

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. ABERHART - Oct. 19, 1954

grace Invitair Cal.

Brankford.

Donglas Larkhan Collins A. sat up every night 'til midnight in the MacDonald, working. A.s moved in 1927 from 13th Ave to 5th St. W. They spent no more than a month in an apartment while the house was being gatxxxxxxxx. Lived in only the two houses in Cal. Boarded when they first came oat. A. was an elder in Grace Presbyterian and had a Bible Class there. A. came out at Easter time and Mrs. A. came out in the Summer holidays. We didnt have a house then - were just bearding. We attended services at Grace and Wesley. He likely was holding Bible Classes in different churches simulataeously. Dad was never a member of Wesley. He was still a member of Grace when he went to Westbourne I remember one day I was sitting inside on a Sunday. The girls were going to Sunday Sch. at Wesley. They came in one by one and Dad came in last - he must have been teaching at Wesley. In Brantford we were members of Knox Ch. and he was an elder there. He may have had a Sunday Sch. there. In Ont.he wanted to go into the ministry. It was really too late as he was married and cd. not afford to take the time off to take his training. He may have inquired into it but didn't tell me. He wasn't active in ch. work before we were married. Brantford he went to Knox Presbyterian and he was in the choir and afterwards he was made an elder and that was the first time I knew he was interested in ch. work. He sang baritone. He was in the choir before we were married, not afterwards. His people not active in ch. work. They went to ch. and were Prewbyterians, but not very religious. A. and D. were corresponding and Collins muscled in at the station. They think A. invited D. over and Collins had nothing to do with it and was very pushing. A. probably was madw. Mrs. A. doesn't remember the student who came in the mornings. "It's the kind of thing Dad wd.do." Bowen didn't consult Duggan during the

Interview with Mr. A. - Cot. 18 - 2

Penoval habits

Shows

Discipline for quils

Brantford. Buble classes

disallowances but was consulting someone outside the Att. Gen's Bept. A. was not very concerned about 0./coming over. He felt by that time that DD. didn't know how to put in SC. He tried to work out a scheme himself but couldn't do it because not enough money. He didn't go to shows after he got into his religious work. When he was in Ed. Kay would take riding lessons and in the evening she wd. lean over the back of his chair and say "Woulin't you like to take me to the show?" She finally got him to take her sev. times and after that he went fairly frequently - mostly to a good detective He wd. leave his desk full of work to take Kay to the show. He wd. read detective fiction for relaxation. The girls were only allowed to go to suitable shows - such as Charlie Chaplin. The girls were not allowed to play cards or dance. He was easy to please about clothes and food. He was scrupulously tidy and methodical. He was good around the house - worked everything out theoretically first and was clever with his hands. Never cared for gardening and never did any except mowing the lawn sometimes - they had a gardner. He was no terribly fond of animals - didn't object to them and would pat them but not an animal lover. Ola always had a kitten and a dog. Wasn't hard to please around the house - didn't ax insist on punctual meals, He always put his clothes away - hung them up. Very neat and tidy. Kept the girls under pretty strict discipline - if they were told to play in the yard they didn't play in the street. If they wer told to come in at a certain time they had to be in. He didn't have a Bible Class in the East - never til he came out here. He might have had a Sunday Sch. Don't remember. He had Bible Classes in Grace, Trinity and Wesley, St. Andrews. Might have been in different churches at the same time. Desn't remember any man name of any Bible Class he had. A. not convinced of complete immersion until

Interview with Mrs. A. - Oct. 18 - 3

many the many the me

A. didn't have any legal advice outside the gov. on the constitutionality of SC. "He was the sort of manwho worked things out for himself." He did not consult any lawyer but wd. ask the people around him for their advice and opinions. Can't remember who he wd. have asked about that. Mr. Bowen was a nice man. Didn't have any legal knowledge and asked advice - was given wrong advice.