

No Hope Held

Alberta Premier Lies Near Death In B.C. Hospital

Premier William Aberhart lies near death this afternoon in Vancouver. His condition, announced from the legislative buildings by Hon. Solon E. Low, provincial treasurer, is "very, very bad."

"We expect bad news at any time now," Mr. Low stated. "Doctors at Vancouver have given up all hope, and it is now just a matter of hours."

Hon. Ernest C. Manning, acting premier and provincial secretary, and Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, left Edmonton Saturday morning with their wives for Vancouver.

Mr. Aberhart entered hospital in Vancouver for a checkup, on April 18, and at that time his condition was regarded as not serious.

LIVER AILMENT

Later, however, he again entered the hospital, and it was announced he was suffering from a serious liver ailment, subsequently described as enlargement of the liver.

An emergency consultation of doctors at the coast city diagnosed the premier's condition as "very serious," and from that time on, he gradually sank lower and lower.

Despite the seriousness of Mr. Aberhart's illness, government officials here never gave up hope for his complete recovery. Mr. Manning, as acting premier, stated on several occasions that there was every reason to believe Premier Aberhart would recover and return to his office here.

TURN FOR WORSE

Friday night, the premier's condition took a turn for the worse, and his condition was described as "extremely low." This grave turn of events was confirmed by Mr. Fallow, and it was subsequently announced he and Mr. Manning would rush by the first available train to the coast.

Mr. Low, who is acting head of the government in the absence of Mr. Manning, said a bulletin would be flashed from Vancouver, as soon as Mr. Aberhart's condition changed one way or the other.

Premier William Aberhart Dies in Vancouver Hospital

Only Edmonton Newspaper,
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Edmonton Bulletin

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Weather

Today and Tuesday—Generally fair and warm.

Sun rises Tuesday 4:19. Sets 8:44. Light vehicles by 10:04.

Edmonton Temperatures—Sunday, maximum, 35 above; Monday, minimum, 33 above.

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR

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PAGE FOUR

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William Aberhart— The Man

William Aberhart has passed on, and an era has come to an end in Alberta.

That does not mean that the principles for which Mr. Aberhart stood or the party which he founded will share his dissolution. Principles are eternal. And parties survive individuals.

But the era that ends is the era of the colorful and robust ego, that phase in the history of this province which was dominated by an impressive and fascinating personality. For no one can deny the late premier's personal power. He was hated. He was beloved. He was never ignored.

That mysterious process of death by which the human soul is lifted out of the sweat and grime of earthly striving is a definite and unanswerable thing. It cuts off the individual forever from the affairs of earth. So that when one comes to measure the qualities of the departed, one must make a nice decision between those things which were Caesar's and those things which were God's.

One must consider, not the doctrines held by the person who has passed on, but the purity of his intentions. One must regard, not his temporal accomplishments, but the things that were in his heart.

In brief, it is necessary to think, not of William Aberhart, the Social Credit leader, not of William Aberhart the administrator, not of William Aberhart the politician, but of William Aberhart the man. Death has divorced him from everything but his manhood. That is all that matters now.

The late premier will live in the annals of this country because of his great humanity.

Whatever his obsessions, whatever his political acts, whatever his economic creed, that will be his final tribute—that he loved his fellow man.

Everything in his life pointed to it. Everything he said and did was said and done towards that end.

For twenty-five years he served as principal of a successful high school. Teaching is an act of love.

And through the experience gained in that capacity, he was able to give Alberta the finest educational system in Canada. And education is an act of faith.

In this hour of his death, it is not important to consider the fine social legislation he gave this province. But it is important to remember that that social legislation was the product of a burning sympathy for the aged and the sick and the helpless.

That will be his epitaph, whatever one may think of his politics, that he was the champion of the oppressed.

There is something about such a career that transcends the achievements of statesmanship, something finer and more eternal than the empty phrases of politics.

He loved his fellow man.

Premier of Alberta Dies



Hon. William Aberhart, Premier of Alberta, who died in a Vancouver hospital Sunday. Head of the world's first Social Credit government, he consistently and unflinchingly championed the cause of the common people. He fought for lower interest rates, easing of the debt burden, and social security.

Manning Says Premier's Loss Is Irreparable

VANCOUVER, May 24.—(CP)

—Death of Premier William Aberhart of Alberta here yesterday "has caused a sense of irreparable loss in the hearts and minds of his thousands of friends throughout the entire Dominion," Hon. E. C. Manning, provincial secretary and acting premier, said in a statement.

Mr. Manning's statement:

In the death of Premier William Aberhart, the people of Alberta and of Canada have lost one of their greatest statesmen.

TERRIBLE SHOCK

His untimely passing has come as a terrible shock and has caused a sense of irreparable loss in the hearts and minds of his thousands of friends throughout the entire Dominion.

In a very real sense Mr. Aberhart gave his life in the service of his fellowmen. The boundless energy with which he applied himself to his work and the unselfish zeal with which he labored tirelessly on behalf of others took their inevitable toll of his vitality and contributed to the illness that has resulted in his death at the very height of his outstanding career.

Of him it may be truly said: "He fought a good fight."

His name will go down in history as one of Canada's greatest economic reformers. His memory will live on in the hearts of thousands who knew him as the great Christian gentleman that he was.

SERVICE TO CONTINUE

The influence of his life and service long will continue to inspire those who were privileged to be associated with him to carry on, with unrelenting determination, the work from which he has been called.

The heartfelt sympathy and the prayers of his thousands of friends will be with Mrs. Aberhart and the family in their bereavement.

BRACKEN REGRETS DEATH OF PREMIER

WINNIPEG, May 24.—(CP)—John Bracken, National Progressive Conservative leader, last night paid the following tribute to Premier William A. Aberhart of Al-

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2

Manning Says Premier's Loss Is Irreparable

Continued from Page One

berta, who died yesterday in Vancouver:

In his passing, an interesting figure in Canada's public life has gone. Mr. Aberhart came on the political scene in the depth of Western Canada's worst depression. He felt he had the solution of many of our economic problems and he never faltered in the support of his convictions.

Many of us who knew him well, but who could not follow him in all his views, gave him credit for sincerity and perseverance in his furtherance of them.

He will be greatly missed by his associates in the political movement he sponsored as well as by many of us who from time to time sat with him in conference in recent years.

BLACKMORE PAYS PREMIER TRIBUTE

OTTAWA, May 24.—(CP)—John H. Blackmore, New Democracy member of parliament for Lethbridge and leader of that group in the House of Commons, last night paid the following tribute to Premier W. A. Aberhart of Alberta, who died in Vancouver yesterday:

"In the passing of William Aberhart, a great man has gone—

a great man with a great message. He was an ardent Britisher, a tireless advocate of the principles of true British democracy.

"Of the leading statesmen of his time, some spoke of freedom from want and fear; some promised it. He alone pointed the way by which, without loss of individual liberty, such freedom from want and fear can be attained.

"He lighted a light that men must not allow to be put out."

—V—

Widely Mourned

Many Citizens In Tributes to Late Premier

Widespread tributes from leaders in many walks of life were paid to Premier William Aberhart after news of his death at Vancouver Sunday reached here. His life, works and achievements drew expressions of praise from those who had been associated with him, and who were familiar with his accomplishments. Messages of condolence included one from Prime Minister Mackenzie King, who forwarded his and his government's sympathy direct to Vancouver.

On all sides were heard expressions of regret at his death, untimely, sudden and unexpected.

Below are some of the tributes:

Hon. J. C. Bowen, lieutenant-governor: The passing of Premier Aberhart will come to most Albertans as a very great surprise. He had been active in his duties and frequently broadcast to the people until he left for a brief visit to the coast. Few even of his close friends knew he was conscious of any disability. His unrelenting toil was doubtless taking a heavy toll of his energy and vitality.

Mr. Aberhart was a man of very definite ideas and fixed judgments. He gave constantly of himself in promoting the cause he espoused. He was not lacking in the courage of his convictions.

In his religious principles and in his political philosophy he was fearlessly outspoken. Those who followed him will miss his voice and leadership. Those who disagreed with him will now let the mantle of charity cover their opinions. My sympathy goes to Mrs. Aberhart and members of the family.

Hon. Solon E. Low, provincial treasurer, and members of the executive council: The people of Alberta, of Canada, and indeed numerous Canadians throughout the world will be stunned by the news of Premier Aberhart's sudden and untimely death in the Vancouver General hospital following a brief illness.

As premier of Alberta and as leader of a great reform movement, Mr. Aberhart was held in affectionate esteem in the hearts of thousands of Canadians everywhere.

Continued on Page 2, Col. 6

Many Citizens In Tributes to Late Premier

Continued from Page One

His deep convictions, his courage and the quality of his leadership endeared him to the wide public who looked to him as the one man capable of leading Canada towards her great destiny.

Entering public life for the first time as premier of the province under the most difficult conditions and at an age when most men's thoughts are turning to retirement from active work, Mr. Aberhart achieved a record of stewardship unique in Canadian history. His passionate loyalty, his intolerance of injustice, his determination to carry out the great reforms with which he was identified and his unswerving loyalty to the people whom he served, inspired all who were associated with him, both in the government of the province and in the growing movement for social justice which he led with such dynamic ability.

SELF-SACRIFICE

For nearly eight years without rest or respite he worked unceasingly for the great cause which he desired to bring to fruition. Only those who were closely associated with him realize his unstinting self-sacrifice in this respect—a sacrifice which undermined his robust health and finally resulted in his untimely death.

William Aberhart has passed but the great task to which he set his hand will go on. His spirit lives to inspire us who are left to carry the torch which he kindled. The movement he created will go forward and grow until it brings into being in all its fullness that glorious Canada for which he worked so hard and for which he finally gave his life.

When the history of these critical times is written William Aberhart will occupy a place of far greater honor still than was accorded to him during his life time.

The deep sympathy of many thousands of people who held their leader in affectionate esteem is extended to Mrs. Aberhart and her family in their grief.

We who are left to take up the responsibilities that he has laid down can pay no more fitting tribute to a great Canadian and a noble character than to go forward with renewed determination in the great crusade which he led, with a deep gratitude for the privilege accorded us in having known and worked with him.

Ald Mrs. J. A. Clarke, acting mayor: It was with profound regret that I learned Sunday of the death of Mr. Aberhart. He sincerely attempted to help the underdog, and much of his legislative actions were governed by his desire to bring relief in some measure to others.

During the Highland Games Association parade at the Legislative Buildings, Sunday, 1,000 service

men and 5,000 spectators observed two minutes of silence in tribute to Premier Aberhart.

Mr. Justice Frank Ford, chancellor of the University of Alberta: The death of Premier Aberhart will bring sorrow to a large section of our people who followed him with devotion and will be regretted by many who disagreed with him politically.

"Speaking as chancellor of the university, I can sincerely say that he will be missed, for, as premier and minister of education, he displayed a genuine and practical interest in its work.

His work on behalf of primary and secondary education is best known to those who worked with and for him. I would like to express my sympathy for Mrs. Aberhart and her family in their bereavement.

H. H. Parlee, K.C., chairman of the Board of Governors, U. of A.: Mr. Aberhart at all times gave full support to matters pertaining to the university. He wanted all deserving students in the province to have a cheap access to its advantages. I should add that at no time did he insist on his own views prevailing. . . . The university has lost a real friend and supporter in the death of Mr. Aberhart.

Dr. Robert Newton, president, University of Alberta: I should like

to pay respectful tribute to Mr. Aberhart's memory. He was a soundly progressive educationist. Alberta's school system forged ahead under his administration. I found him most anxious to promote the development of high education in this province. He especially desired that more of our bright young people should have the privilege of attending the university. We of the university mourn his passing as that of a good friend and loyal supporter.

J. Percy Page, M.L.A.: The news of Premier Aberhart's death has come as a great shock to me, and particularly because, until a few days ago, I was not aware that he was ill. His loss will be keenly felt by the members of the house and particularly by his own followers, whom he led with signal success for the past eight years.

Naturally, as a member of the opposition, I did not subscribe to many of his ideas; on the other hand, I was particularly interested in his attitude towards education. As a teacher of wide experience, he knew the teachers' problems from the inside, and exercised a sympathetic attitude towards our professional aims which resulted in keeping Alberta well to the forefront in educational progress.

I should like to extend my personal sympathy to Mrs. Aberhart and to the members of the family.

Brig.-Gen. James A. O'Connor, officer commanding Northwest Service Command, United States Army: Accept my sincere condolences on the death of the Hon. William Aberhart. His willing co-operation and generous assistance will always be gratefully remembered by the American armed forces serving in the province of Alberta.

Since coming to your region a year ago I have had many occasions to appreciate the splendid help which the Alberta government under Premier Aberhart gave our efforts and program.

Col. K. B. Bush, chief of staff, Northwest Service Command, U.S. Army: The staff of the Northwest Service Command wishes to extend its sympathy to the people and government of the province of Alberta on the death of their leader William Aberhart, premier of Alberta.

Sidney Parsons, president of the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council: We feel that the labor movement has lost a very able and sincere friend. We admired his courage in standing for the principles which he believed to be right. In the field of social welfare, we feel that his government has accomplished more than any other government in Canada. . . . It is to be regretted that he did not live to see his desire fulfilled—a world in peace without want and without fear.

R. E. Shaul, president of the Canadian Teachers' Federation: With the death of Premier Aberhart, Canada loses one of its foremost educational leaders. During his administration, education in Alberta forged ahead. The reforms he courageously pioneered won national and international acclaim. Alberta was the first to give its teachers the confidence that comes with professional status. The large administrative unit has made it possible to equalize educational opportunity.

An advanced course of studies revitalized the classroom. Teachers and trustees alike were anxious to co-operate with their minister of education for they recognized in him one who sincerely believed that the hope of the future lay in an enlightened citizenry. In his services to education and through it to the Canadian youth, Mr. Aberhart has built a monument that will long endure.

R. H. Settle, president Edmonton Chamber of Commerce: The news of the death of Premier Aberhart has come as a great shock to all of us. His great concern for the underprivileged and theories for the betterment of their condition brought him and his government many difficulties and disappointments in a world of realism. His energy, tenacity of purpose and skilful guidance of his party will be greatly missed. We are genuinely sorry that he has passed on so suddenly and our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Aberhart and the bereaved family.

The Rev. H. Stibbards, McDonald Baptist Church: I am not a Social Creditor, nor a politician, but I regret the passing of our premier. When a man is chosen by the people he should have their support so as to put across his program. I am very glad there arose a man such as Mr. Aberhart in the time of depression for it was a very hard time for the people. He was a man who lived and worked according to dictates of his conscience. I am glad that some one was great enough to get up and say that fi-

nances are not the greatest things in life.

Although we do not agree with all he did, this we must say in all fairness: we have witnessed a very fine piece of good government. Social legislation has gone forward and educational circles have felt the impact of new ideas and a new understanding and today Ottawa has been compelled to prepare legislation for enactment as a result of the premier's interest on behalf of the oppressed.

The influence of this government has been felt in all parts of the world, and the eyes of the various countries are turned to this province on account of the educational policy which is practically 100 per cent perfect.

I take off my hat to a man such as Mr. Aberhart and sincerely regret his passing.

Colleagues to Attend

Alberta Government Leader To Be Buried at Coast City; Funeral Services Wednesday

Leader of the world's first Social Credit government; vigorous, unwavering and uncompromising protagonist of low interest rates, easement of debt and social security for the common people, and one of the most colorful figures in contemporary Canadian public life, Hon. William Aberhart, premier of Alberta, died at 5 a.m. Sunday in a Vancouver hospital. He was 64 years old. Seventh premier of this province, he was the first to die in office.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday afternoon at Canadian Memorial Church, Vancouver, at which the officiating minister will be the Rev. G. Harrison Vilett, former minister of McDougall United Church in this city and close friend of Premier Aberhart for 15 years. At the request of his daughters, burial will take place at Vancouver. Pall-bearers will be chosen from among the Social Credit members of the legislature, while cabinet ministers will be honorary pall-bearers.

All members of the Alberta cabinet will attend the service, save Hon. D. Bruce MacMillan, minister of agriculture, who will remain here as acting premier. It is expected that a memorial service will be held next Sunday, at the Legis-

lative Buildings grounds.

With Premier Aberhart when he died were his wife and their two daughters, Mrs. Charles MacNutt, and Mrs. James Cooper, both of Vancouver. On the way, travelling by train, were Hon. Ernest C. Manning, minister of trade and industry, and Mrs. Manning, and Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, and Mrs. Fallow. They arrived a few hours after death had taken place.

Leaving here Tuesday will be four members of the cabinet, Hon. Solon E. Low, provincial treasurer; Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, minister of health; Hon. N. E. Tanner, minister of lands and mines, and Hon. Lucien Maynard, K.C., minister of municipal affairs.

A large number of senior government officials, and leaders in the Social Credit party, also will leave Tuesday to attend the funeral.

NEWS FLASHED HERE

News of Premier Aberhart's death was flashed immediately to Mr. Low, who maintained an all-night vigil. The information was rapidly and widely disseminated, and flags soon appeared at half-mast. First to be raised to this position was the flag atop the Legislative Buildings, flown only when the legislature is in session, on ceremonial occasions, or on such an occasion as this.

Soon the flags on the Civic block, the Post Office and main commercial and industrial buildings appeared at half-mast. Among the flags were those on buildings occupied by banks and mortgage companies, institutions against which Premier Aberhart waged some of his most determined attacks, yet who were paying tribute to a man who had the courage of his convictions, displayed tenacity of purpose, and who, while he hit hard, did so fairly and in the open.

At the same time the first of many messages of sympathy and

Continued on Page 3, Col. 1

condolence began moving over wires to Mrs. Aberhart and her daughters.

UNEXPECTED BLOW

Premier Aberhart's final illness struck suddenly and came as a startling, unexpected blow.

As usual, he had led the legislature through its regular session, which ended early in April. Then, as was his custom he went to Vancouver for a vacation during the Easter season, going, however, a few days earlier than was his custom. On April 18 he entered hospital for a clinical examination. After a few days he was discharged as a patient. Although there were some encouraging reports regarding his condition, those coming from reliable Vancouver sources indicated it was unfavorable.

A week prior to his death, he took an unexpected turn for the worse. Physicians, after an emergency consultation, recommended a return to hospital. From then on he sank rapidly. For the last several days he had been in a semi-conscious condition. A decided turn for the worse came Thursday. On Friday his liver and kidneys ceased to function, and attending physicians decided there was no hope for recovery. His cabinet colleagues were advised, and Mr. Manning and Mr. Fallow made preparations to leave for the coast.

Later Friday a state of coma overcame the premier. He never regained consciousness.

BRIEF PERIOD

Thus, in a little more than one month from the time he was carrying on his regular duties, he was dead, and the full significance and ramifications of his illness apparently did not become manifest until last Thursday.

It was recalled by friends here that over the last two or three years he had held consultations with physicians and had received occasional clinical examinations. Also, in the more recent years he had been inclined to diet and had considerably curtailed his extra-government activities, thus conserving his energy for carrying on his post as premier and president of the executive council.

He was a prodigious worker, never sparing himself. He carried a tremendous burden as premier and head of the government. In addition, he held two portfolios. Since 1935 he had been minister of education, and since 1937, attorney-

general as well.

CABINET MEETINGS

It was charged on many occasions by opponents that he was a "dictator" and a "one-man government." On the contrary he left his ministers to direct the affairs of their own departments, but he held frequent cabinet meetings at which ministers reported on their departments and discussions were held regarding government policy, based on information received.

His was one of the most colorful, varied and intense careers in Canadian public life. It was a far cry, and a long road from parental Aberhart farm near Kippen, Huron County, Ont., through the town of Egmondville to which his family moved, and from which he had to walk two and one-half miles to school every day to Seaforth, to obtain his education, to the premiership of a province.

From his arrival in Calgary in 1910 until 1932 he was known mainly as a diligent, faithful and excellent school teacher and high school principal who taught thousands of Alberta's men and women of today. Also he was known as a standout Bible Class teacher who had raised the funds to build, and who had become dean of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute.

But from 1932, when he first became interested in Social Credit, until his death, he became a figure of international prominence.

During his regime the public debt was reduced by several millions of dollars and no new bond issues were made.

Staunch advocate of interest reduction and monetary reform and champion of the doctrine of social security for all; Premier Aberhart had one of the most colorful, varied and at the same time one of the stormiest political careers in Canadian history.

Unexpectedly and suddenly precipitated into the whirlpool of politics from his quiet, well-routined post as principal of the Crescent Heights High School, Calgary, he headed the first, and to date the only Social Credit government in the world.

EXPERT MATHEMATICIAN

An expert mathematician and thoroughly familiar with human psychology through his years of teaching and contact with school children, he brought to bear on his political life the same shrewd, carefully-prepared plans that he had used in the schoolroom.

He made few mistakes. His political sagacity was conceded by all. He was a hard fighter. He received no quarter from his adversaries and he never received any consideration from them. He hit hard himself and never pulled his punches in dealing with opponents.

INTENSE CAMPAIGNS

The victim of some of the most intense campaigns of opposition, taking many and varied forms, of any public man in Canadian history, he survived them all and when, after five years in power, he sought re-election in 1940, his government was returned to power, with a reduced, but still commanding majority.

He was a tremendous worker. He never spared himself, and he expected others to deliver work in tremendous volume. His desk was

cleared at the end of each day and he insisted on prompt decisions and action.

Among his followers he insisted on 100 per cent fidelity and application to duty.

At all times he reserved to himself the right to have in his cabinet those whom he desired. He exercised that right and in cases where he felt there was a deflection of adherence he did not hesitate to ask a cabinet minister for his resignation, as he did in the case of J. W. Hugill, K.C., his first attorney-general, and W. N. Chant, his first minister of agriculture.

He was born Dec. 30, 1878 near Seaforth, in Huron County, Ont., the son of William Aberhart of German birth, who had come to Canada when he was seven years old, and of Louisa Pepper, an English woman.

EASTERN SCHOOL

Attending school he went to Seaforth schools, then to the Chatham Business College, and the Hamilton Normal School. He was graduated from Queen's University, Kingston, with a degree of bachelor of arts.

On July 30, 1902, he was married to Jessie Flatt, daughter of George Flatt of Galt, Ont. They had two children, Ola Janet, now Mrs. Charles MacNutt of Vancouver, and Khona Louise, now Mrs. James Cooper, also of Vancouver.

He taught school first at Wingham, Ont., and after obtaining his first class teacher's certificate, he taught at Brantford from 1905 until 1910, when he came west. From 1910 to 1915 he taught school in Calgary and in 1915 was appointed principal of the Crescent Heights High School, a post he held until 1935 when, on his taking over the premiership of the province, he was given leave of absence by the Calgary school board.

TESTIFY TO CAPACITY

Thousands of Alberta men and women, many of whom have now settled in far-flung parts of the world, received high school instruction at his hands. All testify to his capacity as a teacher, his patience in imparting knowledge and his ability to bring forth the best in the pupils.

Always devoted to the church, he carried on a Bible class at church, to which many young Calgarians went.

In the early summer of 1932 Mr. Aberhart became interested in the theories which, three years later, were to sky-rocket him into worldwide publicity and to the premiership of Alberta.

It was a hot summer day, a typical Edmonton summer day, and Mr. Aberhart was up here marking examination papers, having come at the invitation of the provincial education department.

A member of the Victoria High School staff, C. M. Scarborough, asked Mr. Aberhart if he had read Maurice Colborne's book, "Unemployment or War?" the author being a well-known English actor, who had toured Canada on several occasions.

At that time, Mr. Aberhart had not heard of the book, but he went to the provincial normal school library and obtained it. The book set forth the theories on Social Credit as advocated by Maj. C. H. Douglas, noted British economist.

Overnight, Mr. Aberhart became converted to the new theories. He determined to attempt to do something about them. He had received hundreds of letters from those who had listened to him on the radio.

Canada was in the midst of a deep depression and Alberta was feeling it as acutely as any part of the country. The seriousness of the situation had been deeply impressed on him by reason of a large number of pupils having to leave school. Some had become emaciated with hunger and their parents could provide neither food nor education.

THE SOLUTION

To Mr. Aberhart the implementing of Social Credit was the solution of the ills. He began an intensive study of Social Credit. In the seclusion of his own library he studied all material on Social Credit to which he could put his hands. Gradually there took shape a plan which he felt confident could be implemented and successfully operated in this province.

He commenced to expound his theories to the people of Alberta by means of his radio addresses from the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute, opened in 1927, and which had been built in his home city at a cost of \$65,000. As his plan developed, he explained each point in succession with the utmost care and in complete detail.

As the weeks went by he explained the intricacies and difficulties of price control, credit, circulation and the control by the people of a nation's goods and resources.

Then he came to the point where he expressed his belief that by the control of national credit and resources, the government could pay every man, woman and child a monthly basic dividend of \$25. This point, in the final analysis, proved to be the major plank in his platform and the one that made the greatest appeal to the public mind.

At that time, he said in one of his addresses that "I am satisfied the problem is not to be found in the question of the number of hours per week the laborer must work. I am also convinced the problem is not bound up wholly in the matter of exports and I believe that sabotage for the purpose of increasing prices is really criminal."

"The question as I see it finds its greatest focus in connection with the lack of purchasing power found in the hands of consumers. Social Credit attacks the problem at that point."

The response to Mr. Aberhart's exposition of the Social Credit the-

ory made such an instant impact that organization on a political basis was commenced. Admittedly an expert in the line of organization, Mr. Aberhart soon had a province-wide organization that embraced subsidiary organizations in every constituency.

He placed candidates in every constituency and when the election was announced, he re-doubled his efforts. He spoke in many sections of the province.

SWEPT TO POWER

The election on Aug. 22, 1935 saw the Social Credit forces swept into political power in this province, in the greatest victory in Alberta's history. Social Credit candidates captured 56 of the 63 seats. The United Farmers of Alberta party, which had held the reins of government since 1921 was completely obliterated, not one member being returned. Of the seven opposition members elected, five were Liberals and two Conservatives.

Much of the success of his political campaign could be traced back to his deeply religious nature.

While teaching at Brantford, soon after the turn of the century, Mr. Aberhart developed his religious nature. Already committed to an educationist's career, and unusually well trained for it, he decided to change his course and become a minister of the Presbyterian church, of which he was then an adherent.

LOCAL PRESBYTERY

However, the local presbytery could not at that time guarantee him, a married man, a salary for the two years he would require to take a divinity course at Knox College. He felt he could not afford to take a chance. He left for Calgary, and once there, he founded the Bible class, with the help of the radio, that developed for him a vastly larger parish and congregation than he had ever dreamed of as an ordained minister.

This Bible class which led to the construction of the Prophetic Bible Institute and to the radio addresses which expounded Social Credit, were direct highways leading to the Legislative buildings.

Mr. Aberhart had appeared before the legislature to give evidence before the house agricultural committee in April, 1934, when the U.F.A. government brought Maj. Douglas here to address members on Social Credit and to answer questions regarding same. After the hearing the government offered him office space in the legislative buildings to work on his plan and to formulate a prospective system of social credit for this province, but he declined.

However, he continued his crusade by the radio and in the election campaign, for relief on behalf of the people.

PUBLIC CEREMONY

Elected on Aug. 22, Mr. Aberhart and his cabinet colleagues were sworn into office on Sept. 3. For the first time in the history of the province, a premier and his cabinet

five chamber. Galleries were filled and the whole event attracted a tremendous amount of interest.

ADVERSE CONDITIONS

Mr. Aberhart took office under adverse economic conditions. The depression was still here. The U.F.A. government had reached the end of its political and financial career. It found difficulty in financing. Prior to leaving office, R. G. Reid, the last U.F.A. premier, had stopped payment on provincial savings certificates.

The Social Credit government came into office with little in the treasury and faced with the difficulty of financing.

Mr. Aberhart had said that Social Credit could be implemented within 18 months. But in the meantime money was required, so he and a delegation of ministers visited Ottawa and negotiated a loan from the government.

Soon after taking office, Mr. Aberhart declared that "Social Credit is in reality a scientific method of distributing the goods and services which we have in abundance in our province to the greatest advantage of every one of our citizens. The co-operation of the banks will be sought as an efficient instrument in the carrying out of the business of the province. We have no quarrel with these institutions. The fault is in the economic system." He continued by stating that Social Credit would be brought about by the method of basic dividends issued monthly, so that every bona fide citizen would be assured of at least food, clothing and shelter. He declared that the province would set up a system of price control and continued credit circulation throughout Alberta.

EARLY DIFFICULTIES

Difficulties soon made themselves apparent. In January, 1936, a bond issue became due. The province, defaulted on the payment, but said coupon payments would be kept up to maintain the bonds valid.

On June 1, 1936, by order-in-council, the province decided that the coupon-rate of interest on all its bonds and debentures, would be reduced by 50 per cent, including bonds in default. Subsequently this order, ratified by legislation, became the subject of a court action which had its final hearing before the privy council. The privy council decided that the province was without its power in ordering an interest reduction, but in spite of this, Mr. Aberhart continued his policy of paying one-half the coupon rate.

TO EASE BURDEN

The same policy has been adopted on all bond issues in default. Despite strong opposition and criticism Mr. Aberhart continued his fight on necessity of reducing interest to ease the burden on the depressed taxpayers of this province. Since 1935 the province has met none of its bond maturities and in each case the issue is kept alive by payment of the one-half interest rate.

During 1936 the government instituted a system of "prosperity certificates" which were taxable

were sworn in at a public ceremony.

This ceremony, colorful and impressive, took place in the legisla-

on each transaction. It was proposed to pay large crews of men engaged in road work by means of this medium. However, this experiment was abandoned when merchants, banks and traders declined to accept them as negotiable.

MINISTER RESIGNS

Early in 1937 Mr. Aberhart encountered his main difficulties. Charles Cockroft, his first provincial treasurer was asked to resign, in January. In his stead was appointed Hon. Solon E. Low, the present provincial treasurer. Resignation of Mr. Cockroft was the opening gun in a barrage of trouble aimed at Mr. Aberhart. As Mr. Cockroft left the government only a short time before the opening of the session, the date for that event was set back in order to allow Mr. Low time to prepare his budget.

It was when that budget came into the house that Mr. Aberhart faced the greatest troubles of his career. The session opened calmly enough and the debate on the speech from the throne wended its weary way to a conclusion. But all the while, in a room at a city hotel some members of the Social Credit

party were meeting nearly every night.

These members, not all the party, but about 20 in all, were aided, assisted, goaded and generally encouraged by interests in opposition to the government, whose agents included both volunteer and paid workers.

In the budget debate, the subject of the meetings was revealed. An insurgency had broken out. The Social Credit members associated with this move charged that the government had brought into the house an orthodox budget, and not a budget based on the credit of the province, and providing for the payment of the basic dividend of \$25 a month. One after another the insurgents rose and flayed the orthodox budget and demanded implementing of Social Credit.

TIME HAD ARRIVED

It was now 18 months after his election, and Mr. Aberhart had said that it would require 18 months to put Social Credit into effect.

He had said that "Our basic premise is that it is the duty of the state through its government to organize its economic structure in such a way that no bona fide citizen, man, woman or child, shall be allowed to suffer for bare necessities of food, clothing and shelter.

He had promised that once elected he would engage com-

petent experts to operate Social Credit in Alberta. He maintained that every citizen had a "cultural heritage" in the natural resources of the state, that a right to share in these resources now manipulated by financial "big shots" would be provided by Social Credit. Statistics proved that Alberta was sufficiently wealthy to provide for this distribution. It was into this cultural heritage that he dove-tailed the basic dividend.

BARE NECESSITIES

On one occasion he declared that "To enable each citizen to secure the bare necessities of food, clothing, and shelter, each of them will receive a pass-book in which, at the beginning of each month, will be entered the basic dividend of that month, say \$25. This is supposed to provide for food, clothing and shelter whether he works or does not work, and he shall not be required to pay it back or work it out. The only stipulation is that the individual must co-operate in every way possible."

Those who worked would receive their salaries, wages, or commissions over and above the basic dividend.

But 18 months had passed since he was elected and the basic dividend was not paid. His opponents worked on this point by every means they could devise.

CONSIDERABLE GROWTH

His own members were demanding on the floor of the house that a Social Credit and not an orthodox budget be passed. The insurgency grew to considerable proportions. Several recorded votes sustained the government by a small majority. The insurgents never accepted Mr. Aberhart's challenge to call for a vote of non-confidence on the floor of the house. The uprising, however, did grow strong enough to hold up passage of the budget. Three months supply was granted, other business of the

house was hurried through, and the legislature adjourned for three months—until June.

In the meantime it had been decided to summon Major Douglas, the father of Social Credit to come and assist in working out a plan. Glen H. MacLachlan, who had been named chairman of the Social Credit Board which had been formed out of the insurgency, went to England to try and induce Maj. Douglas to come out here.

Maj. Douglas declined, as he had done previously by cable, but he nominated as his own selections for the post, George F. Powell and L. D. Byrne, the latter at present filling the post of technical adviser to the Social Credit Board. They arrived in time for the re-convening of the legislature in June.

Publication of the personnel of a "shadow cabinet" had shown many insurgents who thought they might win cabinet posts that they were to be left out. Their enthusiasm for the rapidly-dwindling insurgency rapidly waned.

ALL PATCHED UP

By the time Messrs. Powell and Byrne arrived there was ample time for the insurgents to think

things over. The whole matter was patched up and with the exception of five members, the insurgents reaffirmed their fealty to Mr. Aberhart and his policies and from that time on he held the reins of government more firmly in his hands than ever.

When the session re-convened, the rest of the budget was rapidly passed and the session soon ended.

It did not end without the dismissal of another cabinet minister. J. W. Hugill, K.C., attorney general, under questioning from the opposition, said he believed a specified act was unconstitutional and had so advised the government.

That evening, after the house rose, Mr. Aberhart asked for Mr. Hugill's resignation. Mr. Aberhart, though not a lawyer, was sworn in as attorney general, a portfolio he held until the end. When criticized on this matter he pointed out a similar instance in another province and also to the fact that few ministers of health in Canadian provinces were doctors.

ANOTHER DISMISSAL

It was about the same time that Mr. Aberhart dismissed W. N. Chant, his minister of agriculture. Mr. Chant had declined to accede to Mr. Aberhart's request to resign and remained in office until an order-in-council had been signed removing him from office.

Further trouble came for Mr. Aberhart. A pamphlet was issued in which several persons were collectively described as "bankers' toadies". Persons concerned took legal action and after protracted court proceedings, Mr. Powell and Joseph H. Unwin, then Social Credit member of the legislature for Edson, were sentenced respectively to six and three months in the Fort Saskatchewan jail.

This whole incident intensified the fight of the Social Credit party against the "big shots."

In 1938 Mr. Aberhart took part in the provincial general election in Saskatchewan and his campaigning was emphasized and accentuated by disturbances, turbulence and the appearance of a special body-guard to quell heckling.

TREASURY BRANCHES

In September of 1939 the government instituted its treasury branch system, which is still in operation. This system handled cash deposits and also provides a clearing house for treasury vouchers. The civil service and cabinet ministers accept part of their salaries in treasury vouchers, while the Social Credit members of the legislature take part of their indemnities also in vouchers. These are negotiable at most stores for goods and the stores in turn, pass them on to the wholesalers who are enabled to return them to the treasury branches and receive cash. The treasury branches also provide for a bonus on the purchase of Alberta-made goods, the bonus being credited on the basis of purchases. This bonus was instituted as a stimulus to, and the establishment of, new Alberta industries.

RECALL ACT

In the 1935 election campaign one of the main planks of the Social Credit platform was the enactment of a recall act, by which the electorate by a signed petition

signed by 66 2/3 of the qualified

voters in the constituency could recall a member.

By a strange turn of fate, Mr. Aberhart was the first to come under the act. Recall proceedings were instituted against him. He had not been a candidate in the 1935 election, but had said that if his party was elected he would seek a seat in the house in a by-election. He ran in the Okotoks-High River constituency and was elected by acclamation.

The Recall Act was passed by the legislature at the first session after the Social Credit government took office. The Okotoks-High River constituency is one of the lowest-vote constituencies in the province. A recall petition was commenced. It was noted that many signatories had been in the area only long enough to become qualified voters.

ACT RECALLED

Social Credit members, on the floor of the legislature, charged that the immigration to the constituency was for the sole and express purpose of unseating the premier, and the act was repealed before the required number of signatures was obtained. A long altercation took place over the return of the deposit required under recall proceedings. The government declined to refund the money until the petition forms were returned. Those sponsoring the petition did not want the government to obtain the names. Finally the forms were forwarded to the clerk of the legislature, and a special committee was appointed to supervise the burning of the petition—without anyone seeing the names. When this was done the deposit was rebated.

NEW PARTY

In 1939 the New Democracy party was formed. Hon. W. D. Herridge, former Canadian minister to Washington and a brother-in-law of Viscount Bennett, came to this province, and made a series of addresses on monetary reform and in the field of Dominion politics, the Social Credit party became known as the New Democracy party. One large meeting was addressed by both Mr. Aberhart and Mr. Herridge in the Camrose area. Mr. Herridge ceased to continue his activities on behalf of the party, and outside of Alberta the New Democracy movement had little impetus.

The government having lived the span of its life by law, a general election was due in 1940.

A re-distribution bill was passed reducing the number of seats from 63 to 57. The election, in the last week of March, saw Mr. Aberhart again lead his party to victory. In a house of 56 seats he won 36 as against 56 out of 63 seats in 1935.

SOLID OPPOSITION

The victory was gained over the combined forces of all the major opposing parties. Mr. Aberhart himself did not again stand in Okotoks-High River, but ran in his home city of Calgary. "I am picking up the gauntlet thrown at my feet by those who have said, 'Ab-

erhart is afraid to let his name appear on a ballot in Calgary for fear of defeat.'"

In 1941, at Winnipeg, a conference was held at which the Democratic Monetary Reform Organization was founded, with Mr. Aberhart as its national leader. Delegates from all provinces were invited and most provinces were represented.

In the same year he was the victim of circumstances arising in the provincial government controlled University of Alberta. A special committee of the board of governors, headed by Dr. W. A. R. Kerr, president of the University, recommended Mr. Aberhart for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws and he was invited to deliver the annual convocation address. When the recorded vote was taken it was found that the recommendation had been rejected. As it was determined that some of his own professors had not supported him, Dr. Kerr resigned his post as president. Mr. Aberhart did not then accept the invitation to give the address.

WEEKLY ADDRESSES

Toward the end of last year Mr. Aberhart commenced a series of weekly addresses on monetary reform and social security, and continued these until laid low with his last illness. The transcriptions were heard in Quebec and elsewhere.

Early in 1936 he commenced a series of Sunday night addresses in the Strand theatre here under the auspices of the Edmonton Prophetic Bible Conference. He spoke here and at the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute on alternate Sundays. The Edmonton meetings were discontinued in 1938.

Mr. Aberhart always laid the blame on the Dominion government and the courts for blocking the implementing of Social Credit. In support of this are 13 acts passed by the Alberta legislature which were declared ultra vires by the courts or invalidated by the Dominion government. The Dominion retains for itself the power of vetoing any provincial statute, providing such power is exercised within 12 months of receipt of copies of the act to which assent was given.

ACTS DISALLOWED

The disallowed acts were Credit of Alberta Regulation Act; Bank Employees Civil Rights Act; Judicature Act Amendment Act; Home Owners Security Act; Securities Tax Act; Limitation of Actions Act 1935, and Amendment Act 1939; Debt Proceedings Suspension Act 1941; Limitation of Actions Act 1935 and amending Act 1941; Orderly Payment of Land Debts Act; Debt Adjustment Act and Land Sales Act 1942 and amendment Act of 1943, and the Accurate News and Information Act.

While he laid the blame for inability to implement Social Credit

on the dominion government after assurances had been given that it

would adopt a "hands off Alberta" attitude. Mr. Aberhart, as late as the 1943 session of the legislature said that he still hoped to institute a system of Social Credit.

Mr. Aberhart and his government ran into dominion opposition when at a three-day special session in August, 1937, legislation was adopted to license bankers and place them under close government control. The three bills passed were disallowed by the dominion government and Mr. Aberhart called another special session in September to deal with the new situation.

No dominion government had exercised the power of disallowance since 1924, when an act of the Alberta legislature imposing a tax on mineral lands was disallowed without reason given. The power was used frequently in the early days of Confederation, but rarely since the turn of the century.

DOMINION RESPONSIBILITY

Prime Minister Mackenzie King declared the constitution responsibilities placed upon the dominion government by the British North America Act left no other course than to disallow the acts. He emphasized the provisions of the Alberta statutes deprived the individual of his right of access to the courts.

Justice Minister Ernest Lapointe described the statutes as "an unmistakable invasion of the legislative field assigned to parliament." He said "they conflict with dominion laws and virtually supplant dominion institutions."

New banking legislation together with an act "to insure the publication of accurate news and information," was enacted at the September session, but Lt. Gov. J. C. Bowen reserved assent, decision being put up to the governor-general-in-council.

One of the banking bills increased from one-tenth to one-half of one per cent the tax on paid-up capital of the banks and imposed a new tax of one per cent on the reserves and undivided profits of banks. The other, replacing disallowed legislation, was the act to amend and consolidate the Credit of Alberta Regulation Act, providing for licensing of credit institutions and establishment of one or more local directorates to govern credit policy.

TO PRIVY COUNCIL

The banking bill and the press control act were carried to the judicial committee of the privy council after they had been invalidated by the Supreme Court of Canada.

The privy council declined to hear argument on the appeals regarding the measure to regulate credit and the press bill, allowing the judgment of the supreme court, which declared the bills unconstitutional, to stand. Their lordships based their decision on the ground the acts were inoperative and of no practical interest they were ancillary to the Albert Social Credit Act repealed in April, 1938.

The judgment added: "It is contrary to the long-established practice of this board to entertain appeals which have no relation to existing rights created or purported to be created."

DECLINE ARGUMENT

In declining to hear the argument their lordships declared that they did not intend to intimate any doubt as to the correctness of the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada as regards them.

In dismissing the appeal regarding the act taxing chartered banks Lord Maugham in a written judgment declared there was no escape from the conclusion that it invaded the authority of the parliament of the Dominion as laid down in the British North America Act. The judgment said the bill was merely "part of a legislative plan to prevent operation within the province of those banking institutions which have been called into existence and given the necessary powers to conduct their business by the only proper authority—the parliament of Canada."

PRESS BILL

The press bill known as "Accurate News and Information Act" would have compelled Alberta newspapers to print corrective or amplifying statements on government policies at the direction of the chairman of the Social Credit board.

Protest against the press bill was levelled by daily and weekly newspapers of Canada who declared it was in reality "an act to control the press and to require it to publish Social Credit propaganda as prepared by a government press bureau."

Soon after coming into power Mr. Aberhart commenced rehabilitating the civil service. Some officials were dismissed, branches and departments re-organized and expenditures reduced.

The late R. J. Magor, who had put Newfoundland's government on a better business and administrative basis, was engaged to come here and advise on financial policy and business administration. He served for several months.

Mr. Aberhart, on occasions unjustifiably was accused by opponents of being unpatriotic. Those who knew him best testify to his deep-rooted love of freedom and British traditions. He was meticulous about doing the right thing, and in insuring that the conduct of the legislature, of his ministers, and members was in accordance with the highest traditions of British parliamentary procedure.

When the war broke out the Alberta government was the first to give civil servants leave of absence to join the armed services, with positions and seniority guaranteed. In some cases grants were given to men enlisting. Also Alberta was the first to pass legislation protecting soldiers' property for the duration and for a year after.

Alberta co-operated to the fullest extent with the Dominion in the war effort, loaning road-building equipment, taking over the full burden of unemployment relief and in acceding to every request by the Dominion.

When Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth came in 1939 he had all preparations most

carefully supervised. In observing holidays and occasions concerned with tribute to the crown or constituted authority he was most painstaking.

IMPROVED CONDITIONS

Although frustrated in his efforts to bring about Social Credit, he gave a lead in bringing about improved conditions. Social legislation was improved under his administration.

As a former school teacher it was natural that he should combine the duties of minister of education with those of premier. He brought about many reforms in the school system, which the previous government had considered, but had declined to carry through in the face of opposition. Over-riding objections Mr. Aberhart put these reforms into effect and praise of them now is heard on all sides.

Free treatment of cancer, improved mother's allowances and other measures testify to the interest he took in social welfare.

He was an expert mathematician. He seldom spoke in the legislature, stating that he felt he should speak only when he had something that was necessary to the progress of the business of the house. He often said that the business of the house would be expedited if others felt the same.

CHOSE HIS WORDS

His words were chosen carefully. He drew a fine distinction in the meaning of words, selecting his synonyms with a view to obtaining the exact shade of meaning desired. This, coupled with the failure of his opponents to quote or deliberate intention to omit a whole sentence or paragraph of a context, led him into many altercations with other persons and with various publications. He had many disputes with newspapers and magazines and often claimed he was misquoted.

He fought opposing press hard and the press, or that section of it opposed to him fought him. But in spite of all the criticism in print and verbally, he never took exception to it unless he genuinely felt that his words were being twisted or that his full quotation and meaning had not been given. He never took exception to criticism as criticism—only when he thought it unfair.

HAD HIS FRIENDS

Yet, with the newspapers and newspapermen whom he felt he could trust, he was frank, open, cordial and made them confidantes. Frequently he sought their advice. His chosen friends among the newspapermen he would invite to ride to and from the legislative buildings, and freely gave them information ahead of time as to his intentions. Also he inconvenienced himself on many occasions to allow newspapermen with their typewriters, to come into his room and write stories.

He was always "big" news and more especially in the hectic days of 1935-1939 when the passage and disallowance of acts, insurgency and "bankers' toadies" incidents were prominent. The legislative press gallery, in the declining and last years of the U.F.A. regime was well populated with representatives only from two Edmonton daily newspapers.

ALL-TIME RECORD

But in the first few years of the present government's administration there were 20 regular members of the gallery with several transients sitting in every day. Telegraph companies were kept working overtime to clear copy and 35,000 words formed the budget sent out in one day during a highlight of legislative activities. This was an all-time peak in telegraphing from the press gallery.

Newspapers of international repute sent staff men here to interview Aberhart. The New York Times, for instance, sent John MacCormac one of its peak foreign correspondents here to interview him. News of his death was carried on the BBC world news broadcast from London on Sunday.

While in this city, he lived simply and quietly in a two-room suite at the Macdonald hotel, furnished as any other suite in the hotel, but always with a homey atmosphere.

He was a diligent reader of the best literature. He was fond of music and discussed it in a manner that testified to his general knowledge and appreciation.

Always fond of his home, he was content to get back from his office and enjoy such time there as he could snatch from his manifold duties. Mrs. Aberhart, he always considered one of his inspirations and greatest helps, and he valued her advice and assistance beyond measure.

He was an abstainer from both alcohol and nicotine. He was fond of chess and the harder the game the better he liked it. In his younger days he had been an ardent football player.

For Vancouver

Party Leaves Attend Funeral Late Premier

Cabinet ministers, a group of legislative officials and several Social Credit members of the Alberta legislature left Edmonton Tuesday morning for Vancouver, where they will attend the funeral of Premier William Aberhart.

The party included Hon. Nelson F. Low, provincial treasurer, who has been acting as premier in the absence of Acting Premier Ernest C. Manning; Hon. Lucien Maynard, K.C., minister of municipal affairs; Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, minister of health, and Hon. N. E. Tanner, minister of lands and mines.

Already at Vancouver are Mr. Manning, and Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works.

Legislative officials and members who left for the coast are Hon. Peter Dawson, speaker of the legislature and Social Credit member for Little Bow constituency; James Hartley, member for Macleod, deputy speaker of the house; A. C. Gordon Taylor, M.L.A. for Drumheller; A. J. Hooke, M.L.A. for Rocky Mountain House, and chairman of the Alberta Social Credit Board, H. E. DeBolt, M.L.A. for Spirit River.

Others who will attend the funeral are Charles Pearce, Calgary, secretary of the Prophetic Bible Institute in that city, of which Mr. Aberhart was leader; L. D. Byrne, technical adviser to the Alberta Social Credit Board; R. D. Jorgenson, president, Social Credit League, and Orvis Kennedy.

FROM PARLIAMENT

A member of the Dominion parliament attending the funeral will be A. Hlynka, New Democracy, Vegreville, who left on the train with the Edmonton party.

The cabinet ministers will be honorary pall-bearers at the funeral, while legislative members will be active pall-bearers.

Mr. Aberhart's funeral is to be held Wednesday afternoon in Vancouver, from Canadian Memorial church. The Rev. G. Harrison Vilett will conduct the service.

TO CLOSE OFFICES

Hon. D. Bruce MacMillan, minister of agriculture, who is acting as head of the government in Edmonton while the remainder of the ministers are at the coast, announced that all government offices in the province will be closed Wednesday, the day of the funeral.

A memorial service will be held next Sunday, May 30, in the legislative buildings grounds. It was announced here Monday. Plans for this service are to be announced later in the week. It will be attended by all Social Credit members in the legislature, government officials, members of the bench, and numerous other organizations.

Party Leaders Pay Tribute to Former Premier

OTTAWA, May 25. (CP) —

House of Commons party leaders yesterday joined in tributes to Premier William Aberhart of Alberta who died Sunday at Vancouver.

New Democracy Leader Blackmore, chief of the Social Credit group in the house and a long-time colleague of the Alberta premier, said that even those who opposed Mr. Aberhart's money-reform proposals would recognize the loss of an able, public-spirited and energetic man.

PERSONAL LOSS

Prime Minister Mackenzie King, speaking after Mr. Blackmore, said those who did not agree with Mr. Aberhart's point of view still would deeply regret his death. He said he felt a sense of personal loss in the passing of Mr. Aberhart who had been a friend.

Gordon Graydon, Progressive Conservative house leader, said a large section of the Canadian people would mourn Mr. Aberhart's death. He was "a real Christian gentleman," a pioneer in social and economic reform, and a staunch supporter of the principles and ideals of the British Commonwealth.

Angus MacInnis (C.C.F., Vancouver East) said he joined with the spokesmen for other parties in their appreciation of Mr. Aberhart, and in extending sympathy to Mrs. Aberhart and the family.

OTTAWA, May 25. (CP) — Prime Minister Mackenzie King, on his arrival home yesterday from Washington, told reporters of his sorrow on hearing in New York Sunday of the death of Premier William Aberhart of Alberta.

"I was very sorry to hear of Mr. Aberhart's passing and have great sympathy for his family," he said. "Personally I liked Mr. Aberhart very much."

"We disagreed on questions of policy, but that never affected our personal friendship."

At Vancouver

Funeral Rites Late Premier Held at Coast

VANCOUVER, May 26.—(CP)

—Premier William Aberhart of Alberta went to his last resting-place here this afternoon.

For two hours the body of the Social Credit premier who died Sunday lay in state in Canadian Memorial church. Then funeral services were conducted by Rev. G. Harrison Villet, with burial following in Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

Chief mourners included his widow, two daughters and four grand-daughters but the general public and representatives of governing bodies from near and far also attended.

MINISTERS ATTEND

The services were attended by six of the remaining members of Mr. Aberhart's cabinet who acted as honorary pall-bearers. Two of the ministers, Hon. E. C. Manning, provincial secretary and acting premier, and Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, reached Vancouver a few hours after Mr. Aberhart's death.

The others, accompanied by a number of Social Credit M.L.A.'s and colleagues of Mr. Aberhart in religious and political life, followed later.

Active pallbearers were Rev. Peter Dawson, speaker of the Alberta legislature; Alfred Hook, M.L.A., chairman of the Alberta Social Credit Board; Gordon Taylor, M.L.A.; James Hartley, M.L.A.; H. E. de Bolt, M.L.A., and Charles Pearce, executive member of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute.

Besides Mr. Manning and Mr. Fallow, honorary pallbearers were Hon. W. W. Cross, Hon. N. E. Tanner, Hon. Solon E. Low and Hon. Lucien Maynard.

OTHERS ATTENDING

Also attending the funeral from Alberta were Anthony Hlynka, M.P.; R. Jorgenson, president of the Alberta Social Credit League; L. D. Byrne, technical advisor to the Alberta government; C. Hutchinson, principal of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute, and Orvis Kennedy, vice-president of the Alberta Social Credit League.

Mr. Fallow disclosed that before coming to the coast Mr. Aberhart made a number of recorded broadcasts for use by the Prophetic Bible Institute which will be released

Solon Low Says

Likely to Name New S.C. Leader Here on Monday

VANCOUVER, May 26.—(CP)

—Hon. Solon Low, Alberta provincial treasurer, said today that "in all probability" a successor to the late Premier William Aberhart will be named at Edmonton next Monday night.

Mr. Aberhart died here Sunday. Mr. Low and other members of the cabinet, here for his funeral, will leave for Edmonton tonight.

"The cabinet will probably have a meeting on Friday to discuss future plans," said Mr. Low. "Following the memorial services which will be held in Edmonton on Sunday, we will meet again. On Monday night a caucus is planned and in all probability the new leader will be named at that time."

Thousands Pay Farewell Tribute to Late Premier

VANCOUVER, May 27. (C.P.). Last tribute was paid to Premier William Aberhart of Alberta here yesterday. The farewell that thousands paid to the man who brought the Social Credit government to his province was as warm and as simple as his regime as a political leader has been.

Two hours before the funeral services were to start the Grey Stone Canadian Memorial Chapel was packed to every nook and cranny. People pressed against some of the churches windows in an attempt to hear some fragment of the services.

The great came to pay tribute to Mr. Aberhart. But the little people were there too, especially in the crowd outside the church—retired farmers many of them; obviously. They chatted during the long wait of past days in Alberta of the premier and his regime. The passing of the leader was a time for reminiscences.

HON. E. C. MANNING SPEAKS

When the grey coffin, with its simple spray of Calla lilies and rose carnations was placed in the hearse, more than 100 cars followed it to Forest Lawn cemetery.

During the service, the inside of the church was heavy with the scent of the flowers banked high around the coffin.

Hon. E. C. Manning, provincial secretary and acting premier and a friend and associate of Mr. Aberhart for 17 years, voiced the loss felt by the people of Alberta at the death of their leader.

"His passing from this world is the greatest loss ever sustained by

Continued on Page 2, Col. 3

Thousands at Funeral Rites Late Premier

Continued from Page One

the people of his province, for whose good and welfare he fought with such courageous zeal," said Mr. Manning.

"Canada has never had a greater warrior in the cause of human freedoms, nor a more valiant champion of the underprivileged and the oppressed. The great wealth of accomplishment by which Mr. Aberhart enriched the lives of thousands, has been equalled but by few men, no matter how long their sojourn in the world."

Mr. Manning said that Mr. Aberhart's greatness was not within legislative halls alone—that thousands of Canadians had come under his influence in Alberta classrooms where he taught for many years. He spoke also of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute of which Mr. Aberhart was founder and Dean.

He described how in thousands of farm homes throughout the Canadian prairies, for 20 years, men and women gathered before their radios to hear the religious teachings of Mr. Aberhart.

LASTING INFLUENCE

Said Mr. Manning: "Mr. Aberhart's dynamic personality, and the greatness and the goodness of his life and service have stirred a tide in the affairs of men, which will continue to radiate in ever widening circles throughout the years."

Rev. G. Harrison Vilett, minister of Canadian Memorial Church who officiated at the services, spoke of Mr. Aberhart's contribution to the religious life of the province.

Referring to the late premier as "one of the most capable and effective school principals in Alberta," he went on: "He was known as an educator who believed in Christianity as fundamental to any stable form of citizenship, and long before I met him 20 years ago, I knew his voice as he crusaded by radio for Christian teaching and Christian practice in our every day mode of life. He was our pioneer radio preacher. He was one of the first to recognize the power and influence of radio in education and religious teaching."

Active pallbearers were: Rev. Peter Dawson, M.L.A., speaker of Alberta legislature; Alfred Hooks, M.L.A., chairman, Alberta Social Credit board; AC2 Gordon Taylor, M.L.A., R.C.A.F.; James Hartley, M.L.A., H. E. Debolt, M.L.A., and Charles Pearce, of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute.

Honorary pallbearers were: Hon. E. C. Manning, Hon. W. A. Fallow, Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, Hon. N. E. Tanner, Hon. Solon E. Low and Hon. Lucien Maynard, K.C., all members of the Alberta cabinet.

Alberta Ministers Returning Home

Hon. Ernest C. Manning, acting premier, Hon. Solon E. Low, provincial treasurer, Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, minister of health, Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, Hon. N. E. Tanner, minister of lands and mines, and Hon. Lucien Maynard, K.C., minister of municipal affairs, are expected back in Edmonton Thursday night.

The ministers were at Vancouver, B.C., where they were honorary pallbearers at the funeral of Hon. William Aberhart, late premier of the province.

It is expected a cabinet meeting will be called for Friday, at which Mr. Manning, as acting premier, will preside. Plans for the memorial service Sunday for Mr. Aberhart may be discussed at this meeting. It was understood here today.

Complete Plans For Tribute to Late Premier

Plans for the memorial service Sunday for Hon. William Aberhart, late premier of Alberta, were being completed Friday by government officials and the Edmonton Ministerial Association. The service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, in McDougall United church.

The Rev. Daniel Young, of First Baptist church, will preside at the memorial service, and the message of the church will be read by the Rev. R. McElroy Thompson, president of the Ministerial Association.

Hon. Ernest C. Manning, acting premier, will deliver the eulogy, while Hon. Peter Dawson, speaker of the Alberta legislature, will read the scripture passages.

The service will be attended by members of the Alberta cabinet, members of the legislature, high officials of the bench and bar, civic and military officials and many others prominent in the life of the province.

The Crown will be represented at the service by His Honor Lt. Gov. J. C. Bowen, who will be attended by Capt. A. J. Richards, secretary to His Honor. Mrs. Bowen also will attend the service.

The complete program of the memorial service is below:

Call to worship. Invocation. Hymn, "O God Our Help in Ages Past." Responsive reading. Hon. Peter Dawson, speaker of the Alberta legislature. Scripture lesson, the Rev. Daniel Young. Anthem, choir. Prayer, Archdeacon S. F. Tackaberry. Hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers."

Sermon, the Rev. R. McElroy Thompson, president, Edmonton Ministerial Association. Choir selection. Tribute to Mr. Aberhart, "His Life and Work," by Hon. Ernest C. Manning, acting premier of Alberta. Hymn, "Abide With Me." National Anthem. Benediction, the Rev. Dr. A. K. McMilln, minister of McDougall United church.

The service is being conducted under the auspices of the Edmonton Ministerial Association.

Three cabinet ministers, Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, Hon. Solon E. Low, provincial treasurer, and Mr. Manning, arrived from Vancouver Thursday night, after attending the funeral service for Mr. Aberhart in the coast city.

OTHERS BACK

Hon. N. E. Tanner, minister of lands and mines; Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, minister of health, and Hon. Lucien Meynard, K.C., minister of municipal affairs, were expected back Friday.

Mr. Fallow, speaking of the funeral service for Mr. Aberhart in Vancouver Wednesday, said he had never seen such tribute paid to a public leader.

Canadian Memorial church, where the funeral was held, was filled an hour and half before the service started, he said. The floral tributes were magnificent.

It is understood the flowers are being brought from Vancouver, and will be used for the memorial service here Sunday afternoon.

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Edmonton Bulletin

2ND SECTION

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1911

Arrangements Are Completed For Memorial

Final arrangements for the memorial service Sunday for Hon. William Aberhart, late premier of Alberta, have been completed, after discussion between government officials and members of the Edmonton Ministerial Association under auspices of which organization the service is being conducted.

The service is to be held at 3 p.m. at McDougall United church.

All floral tributes will be sent to city hospitals after the service. Foster and McFarvey, funeral directors, will have charge of the floral arrangements.

Ushering at the service is to be done by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, under direction of Sgt. Maj. Harold P. Wilson.

City police, under Sgt. Maj. Alice Riddle, will be in charge of traffic arrangements. It is understood traffic is to be closed off from the top of McDougall Hill at the Macdonald hotel to the Cenotaph, and on other traffic lanes in the vicinity.

To accommodate the large congregation expected at the service, loud-speakers will broadcast the service along 100 avenue, west of Alberta College, on the brow of McDougall Hill, and also to 101 street, in front of the church.

RESERVE SECTIONS

Of the five sections on the floor of the church, two will be reserved entirely for the public. These two sections will be on the extreme left and extreme right of the building.

In the centre section, second row will be the party of His Honor Lt. Gov. J. C. Bowen. In the section to His Honor's right will be the provincial cabinet, and to his left, the judiciary, judges of the supreme and district courts.

Behind the cabinet will sit members of the Alberta legislature, then government officials, deputy ministers and department heads. Then the rest of this section will be open to the public.

STATE VISITORS

Behind the lieutenant-governor's party will be state visitors, the American consul-general, officers of United States troops in the Edmonton area, officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, officers of the Edmonton city police, and officers of the army, navy, and air force. Then the balance of this section will be open to the general public.

Behind the members of the judiciary will be clergymen, educationalists, and representatives of associations, and then this section will be open to the public.

All of the balconies, with the exception of the front two rows in the centre will be open to public. The two rows reserved will be for the press.

V

Edmonton Bulletin

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

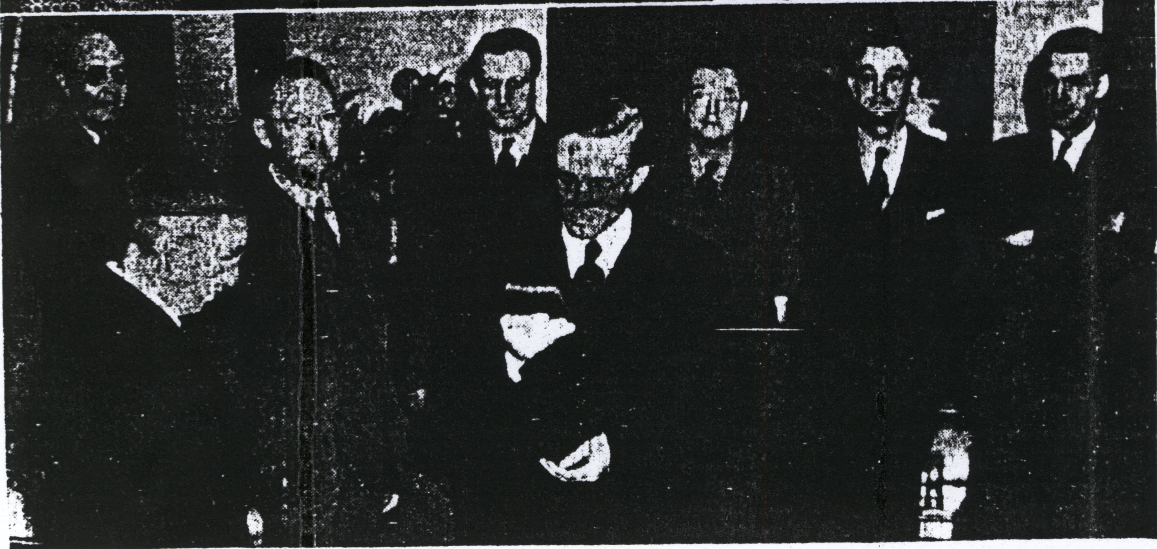
EDMONTON, ALBERTA—MONDAY, MAY 31, 1943

Telephone 25121

Hon. Ernest Manning Is Premier of Alberta

Premier Ernest Manning Is Sworn Into Office





—Photo by Alfred Blyth Studios.

Climaxing the election of a new leader of the Social Credit party in Alberta was a ceremony in the offices of His-Honor Lt.-Gov. J. C. Bowen, where Hon. Ernest Manning was sworn in as premier, before members of the caucus which elected him. In the top photo Premier Manning is affixing his signature in the "Doomsday Book" as the volume containing signatures of all ministers of the Province since 1905 is colloquially called. Lieutenant-Governor Bowen looks on as Mr. Manning signs. In the lower picture, the

new premier has repeated his oath of office, and is about to kiss a copy of the Bible, which act concludes swearing an oath. From the left in this lower photo are His Honor, Capt. A. J. Richards, his secretary; R. A. Andison, clerk of the legislative assembly, Mr. Speaker Peter Dawson, one of the scrutineers at the election; Premier Manning, Hon. W. A. Fallow, minister of public works, James Hartley, Social Credit M.L.A. for Macleod and chairman of the caucus, and extreme right, Hon. N. E. Tanner, minister of lands and mines.

Social Credit Caucus Selects Government Leader Unanimously

Hon. Ernest Manning, former provincial secretary and minister of trade and industry in the government of the late Hon. William Aberhart, is the new premier of Alberta. He was elected unanimously, and with breath-taking speed, at a Social Credit Party caucus in the legislative buildings Monday morning.

Thirty-four years old, he is the youngest premier in Canada. When he first took office in 1935, under Mr. Aberhart, he was the youngest cabinet minister in the British Empire.

In precedent-shattering ceremonies in the office of His Honor Lt-Gov J. C. Bowen, Premier Manning was sworn into office before the whole caucus. The election, announcement, and swearing-in took a matter of a few minutes, and Alberta's Social Credit government again had a leader.

The party caucus began at 10:15 Monday morning, with a minute's silence, a tribute to the memory of Mr. Aberhart.

Then a letter was read from John Blackmore, leader of the New Democracy party in the Dominion House of Commons, by James Hartley, chairman of the caucus.

The election followed immediately. By secret ballot, the thirty-four Social Credit members of the legislature each signified their choice.

ANNOUNCES RESULT

The result, that Mr. Manning was chosen unanimously as premier, was made known by Mr. Speaker Peter Dawson of the legislature, and C. E. Gerhart, M.L.A., for Coronation, party whip, who were scrutineers at the election.

The lieutenant governor was notified immediately, and he signified his intention of asking Mr. Manning to form a government.

Clerk of the Legislature H. A. Anderson then drew up an oath of office, and at 11:05 a.m., before the whole caucus by special invitation of His Honor, Mr. Manning became premier of the province, chairman of the executive council.

Here in the oath Mr. Manning took upon assuming the premiership:

"I, Ernest Charles Manning, do solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my skill and knowledge, execute the powers and trusts reposed in me as president of the council for the province of Alberta. So help me God."

OATH IS SIGNED

The oath was signed by Mr. Manning and the lieutenant governor.

Premier Manning was not sworn into his former portfolios, of provincial secretary and minister of trade and industry.

Interviewed by The Edmonton Bulletin just after he was sworn in, Premier Manning said his immediate task would be to organize the cabinet.

"I feel very deeply the honor which has been conferred upon me through having been called by His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor to form a government following the unanimous endorsement which was given me by the Social Credit members of the legislature," he said.

"Even more than this high honor, I feel the great responsibility which attaches to the office to which I have been called. It will be my earnest endeavor to discharge this responsibility faithfully and efficiently ever keeping in mind the good and welfare of the citizens of Alberta."

"The people may be assured that it will be my determined purpose to continue the fight for their social and economic security and freedom in accordance with the mandate which they gave in 1935 and renewed in 1940."

"The courageous battle which was waged to this end by the late Premier Aberhart will be carried on with unrelenting vigor. I know that thousands will join with me in my determination that the great work which he so well began will be carried on to a victorious conclusion."

"The immediate task at hand is the organization of a new Government and I hope to have an announcement in this connection within the next few days."

Other sources at the legislative buildings said the new cabinet slate would probably be announced tomorrow.

Premier Manning was born on Sept. 20, 1906, at Carnduff, Saskatchewan, of English parentage. He was educated in Saskatchewan.

EARLY FOLLOWER

An early follower of Mr. Aberhart, he and the late premier had been friends for the past 17 years.

Continued on Page 2, Col. 5

Caucus Names Manning New Leader of S.C.

Continued from Page One

Mr. Manning had long been regarded as Premier Aberhart's right-hand man and closest counsellor.

In the general elections of 1935, Mr. Manning was the first candidate to receive approval by Mr. Aberhart, and he was the first minister to be sworn into the cabinet, after the premier himself.

When Premier Manning first entered the Alberta cabinet, it was as provincial secretary, for the portfolio of trade and industry had not at that time been created.

Recognizing the need in Alberta for a department of trade and industry, Mr. Aberhart formed such a government department, as a full-fledged cabinet portfolio, in 1936. Mr. Manning was then appointed as minister in charge, and he remained in charge ever since.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Among the outstanding accomplishments of the department since its inception are the establishment of the credit union movement in the province, and the establishment of a government fire insurance office. Premier Manning was also in charge of negotiations which placed government insurance with Lloyds of London, a move which has resulted in the saving of thousands of dollars.

In the general election of 1940, Premier Manning ran in Edmonton, and was elected at the head of the poll. His popularity has always been high with organized labor, a group with which he has had many dealings, as minister of trade and industry.

In addition to his two posts in the Aberhart government, Premier Manning was generally named acting premier when Mr. Aberhart was out of the province. He was acting in this capacity at the time of the premier's death in Vancouver, May 23.

TWO CHILDREN

Premier Manning is married, and has two children. William Keith, 4 years old, and Ernest Preston, one year.

It is expected he will move his offices over to the main legislative buildings some time this week. The two departments he formerly headed were located in the administrative buildings.

The Social Credit party caucuses will continue through Tuesday, and it is understood there is much routine business to be dealt with, as well as matters pertaining to the death of Mr. Aberhart, and the election of Premier Manning.

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Premier Manning

Hon. Ernest C. Manning, by reason of his long and close association with Mr. Aberhart, was the logical choice as a successor to the late Premier. He brings to the task a clearer understanding than anyone else can have of the policies to implement which the Government was created, and in carrying on those policies he will be on thoroughly familiar ground.

Mr. Manning has the advantage of being still a young man. He has outstanding talents, is a brilliant speaker, and has to his credit a successful administrative record of eight years. Three years ago he was given a remarkable popular tribute, when elected as one of Edmonton's members of the legislature by the largest majority ever received by a candidate for that office. These are all high qualifications for the premiership, and while Mr. Aberhart's dynamic personality must make it difficult for any successor to take his place, Mr. Manning undertakes the duties under very favoring circumstances.

There can be no doubt that the late Premier shortened his life by over-work. The business of the head of a government is to lay down broad lines of policy, fix objectives, and decide upon means to attain them. If he is to do this to the greatest advantage to the public and with proper regard for himself, he must leave to colleagues the details of administration. Sir John Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Mackenzie King in pre-war days, all made it a point to not encumber themselves with the multitudinous worries of detailed administration of heavy departments. Their examples may well stand as finger-boards for Alberta's new Premier. To direct a government, and to choose cabinet associates who can look after the ceaseless run of departmental duties, is a man-sized job for any person.

—V—

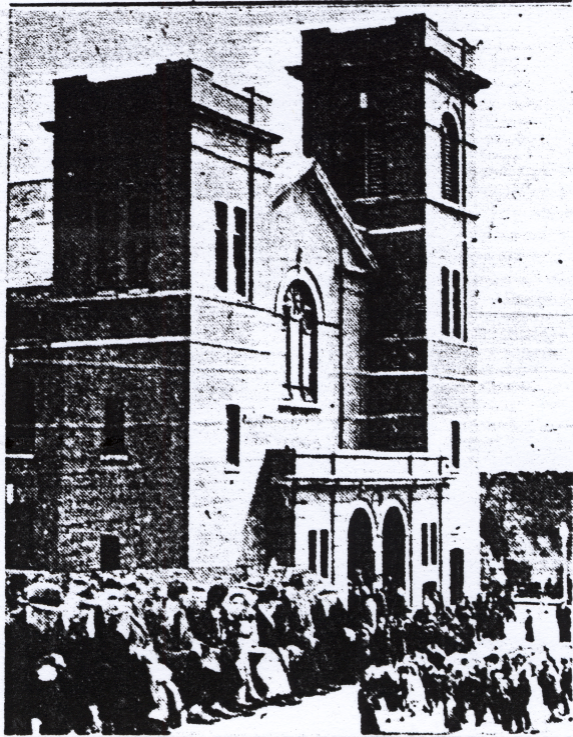
Edmonton Bulletin

ID SECTION

EDMONTON, ALBERTA—MONDAY, MAY 31, 1943

**2 Thousand Honor Late
Premier at Memorial Service**

Tribute Is Paid to Late Premier



—Photo by Alfred Blyth Studios

Here is just a part of the huge throng unable to gain entrance to McDougall United church Sunday afternoon, to take part in the memorial service for Hon. William Aberhart, late premier of Alberta. The congregation outside heard the service through loud speakers. Hundreds sat at the top of McDougall hill, and heard the service from this vantage point. Weather, which had threatened all morning, cleared up at noon, and it was perfect at the time the service started.

State, Church Officials Are Among Congregation As Final Tributes Paid

Two thousand citizens of Alberta paid tribute Sunday afternoon to the memory of Honorable William Aberhart, at a special memorial service held under auspices of the Edmonton General Ministerial Association in McDougall United Church. People from all walks of life paid honor to the late premier of the province—high officials of state, church, those with whom he worked; those whom he led; those who opposed him in public life—all were in the huge congregation which filled the church to its doors, and overflowed onto 101 Street and the brow of McDougall Hill.

From hushed silence which held the congregation while two tributes to Mr. Aberhart were paid, one by Rev. R. McElroy Thompson, president of the Ministerial Association, the other by Hon. Ernest C. Manning, to the stirring-choroused "Onward Christian Soldiers," Mr. Aberhart's favorite hymn, the service was marked with a devoted reverence, as last respects were paid to one of the outstanding men of Canada's public life.

Presiding at the service was Rev. Daniel Young, pastor of First Baptist Church, and past president of the Ministerial Association. Following the Invocation at the opening of the hour-and-fifteen-minute service, the hymn, "O God Our Help in Ages Past" was sung by the congregation, and from Psalms 90 and 39 Rev. Peter Dawson, Speaker of the Alberta Legislature, led responsive readings.

PRAYER FOLLOWS

After Scripture Lessons, read by Rev. Mr. Young, a choir selection, and prayer by Archdeacon S. F. Tackaberry, came "Onward Christian Soldiers".

Rev. Mr. Thompson, who is minister of Metropolitan United church, delivered the sermon, on behalf of Edmonton churches.

"Regardless of political or religious views, we are confronted with the fact that he (Mr. Aberhart) gave his life in service to his fellowmen," Mr. Thompson declared.

"Whether the service he rendered was in a schoolroom, or in the premier's office, he brought to his work an untiring energy, deep convictions, real ability and the influence of a powerful personality. Throughout these years, both in public and private life, he never faltered or failed in bearing open and unashamed testimony to the

Continued on Page Sixteen

Continued from Page Nine

gospel of Jesus Christ as he understood it."

Mr. Thompson's sermon follows:

"My friends and fellow citizens:

"We are gathered here this afternoon to pay our tribute of respect to the memory of the late William Aberhart, premier of this province, whose sudden death in Vancouver came as a great shock to all.

"The Hon. E. C. Manning, on the request of the Edmonton Ministerial Association will pay a tribute to the premier's life and work. As president of the Ministerial Association, I have been asked to speak on behalf of the churches.

"First of all, may I express our deep sympathy with Mrs. Aberhart and the two daughters, in this their hour of great loss.

In the white light that beats upon public office, we are all too apt to forget the office-holder in his life and office. Mr. Aberhart belonged largely to the public, certainly in his own home and in the hour of death he belongs exclusively to his own family—those who, after all, knew him best and loved him most. Great as our sense of loss may be, it is as nothing compared to the loss his wife and daughters have sustained.

"It is our hope and prayer today that the knowledge of our sympathy, may in some small measure help to heal their hurt and comfort them in this hour of sorrow. And where human sympathy fails, we commend them to Him, whose compassion like his love is boundless and unfailing.

"I would like also, on my own and your behalf, to pay a tribute to the memory of this man, whose passing thousands mourn today. This is not the time or place for me to speak of political philosophies and economic theories. But it is the time and place for me to speak of eternal things, which alone give meaning and significance to any human life.

GAVE LIFE IN SERVICE

"Regardless of political or religious views, we are confronted with the fact that he gave his life in service to his fellow-men. Whether that service was rendered in a school room, unfolding and training the mind of youth, or in the premier's office, carrying great responsibilities in changing and turbulent days, he brought to his work an untiring energy, deep convictions, real ability, and the influence of a powerful personality. Throughout these years, both in public and private life, he never faltered or failed in bearing open and unashamed testimony, to the gospel of Jesus Christ as he understood it. And when death called him from his high office, he left it, and went forth into the unknown, with his personal honor untarnished and his personal integrity unchallenged.

"I say these things because they are things that need to be said, because they are the most significant things about his career, and because they are the abiding qualities, which he has both carried with him and at the same time bequeathed to us as a rich memory, and a great example in public and private life.

Now, this thing which we call death has claimed him, as sooner or later it is sure to claim us all. For this messenger comes to the doorstep of all, rich and poor, the great and lowly alike. The premier went to the roost for a few days rest in the midst of a busy and strenuous life. Apparently as strong, vigorous and healthy as any man could be. But in a few days the radio carried the message, "The premier of Alberta is dead." It might just as easily have been any one of us.

Thousands of our physically fit young men are in the front line. One day a telegraph boy stops at our neighbor's door with the message, "Your son was killed in action." That message might just as easily have come to you or me. In the midst of life we are in death—that is the grim reality.

HAVE ANSWER READY

Somehow, you and I have to come to terms with death, somehow we must have our answer ready when he comes knocking at our door. What that answer is, depends on the life we have lived and the faith which we have held.

After all, there are only two answers to this mystery of death, because there are fundamentally only two philosophies about it. The first is the philosophy of materialism, in any one or all of its many forms. A faith, if one can call it such, of futility and despair. The other is the Christian philosophy, which comes to men as a gospel of hope, an anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast.

Now for a moment suppose that the philosophy of materialism is the answer to the riddle of life and the mystery of death. What answer does it give you? It gives you a universe without a trace of purpose in it; it pictures life developing personality only to annihilate it and cast it on the scrap-heap of death; it declares that the finest spirits that ever lived, are of no more significance in the scheme of things, than the leaves that fall before the autumn wind.

That the greatest souls that ever lived, in all their faith and hope, their love and honor, their heroism and self-sacrifice may be blotted out entirely and completely by a microbe or a bit of flying shrapnel. It makes life a thing that begins nowhere, goes nowhere and ends nowhere. It is a philosophy of despair and declares, "That which befalleth the sons of men, befalleth the beasts; even one thing befalleth them; as the one dieth, so dieth the other; so that a man hath no preeminence above the beast; for all is vanity, all go unto the one place; all are of the

dust, and all turn to dust again. It is a philosophy of despair, and leaves men as Paul declares. "Without hope and without God in the world."

The other is the Christian philosophy, which is a gospel of hope, which is as an anchor of the soul. It lifts man out of time and space and sets his life in an eternal background. It gives meaning and significance and rationality to man and the world in which he lives. It declares that the material things are temporal, but the spiritual things are eternal. It declares that personality, and all the fruits of personality, love and honor; truth and justice; faith and fidelity are not in vain, but fit into and form part of an infinite plan and purpose.

DEATH INSIGNIFICANT

"It takes a man like Paul, and enables him to say "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." For such men, physical death loses significance, and we see him figuratively walking up to and shaking his fist in the face of death as he cries "Where O death is thy sting, and where O grave thy victory—Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ".

It takes a man like D. L. Moody and enables him to say, "Some morning you will read in the papers that D. L. Moody is dead. Don't believe a word of it. At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now. I was born of the flesh in 1837—I was born of the spirit in 1856. That which is born of the flesh is temporal and will die but that which is born of the spirit is spiritual and will live forever.

It takes a man, like a very dear and personal friend of mine, concerning whose death a friend wrote me only last week. As he lay on his hospital bed wracked with pain, he turned to his wife and said "If this be my call, I am as ready now as I ever will be, I think it would be rather fine."

Answers like these depend on the kind of life and the kind of faith that has been held. That is the Christian faith—and I declare to you it is a great faith, a faith in which life may take root; a faith that enables a man to face triumphantly all that life can bring to him and all that death can do to him. That faith William Aberhart in life professed, and in the hour of death it failed him not. I commend it to you today.

A solo, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" followed the sermon, and then Mr. Manning delivered a personal tribute to Mr. Aberhart's memory, entitled, "His Life and Work."

MANNING PAYS TRIBUTE

"From the background of 17 years of personal friendship and closest association, I view Mr. Aberhart's passing from this world as the greatest loss ever sustained by the people of his province, for whose good and welfare he fought with such courageous zeal," said Mr. Manning.

Mr. Aberhart's life-work was not such that death can mean its end, he declared. The great good the late premier has done will never die.

Mr. Manning's tribute is below:

TRIBUTE TO MR. ABERHART

It is from a full heart and with a sense of the total inadequacy of human speech, that I pay humble tribute today to the memory of a beloved friend, a brilliant statesman and a great Christian gentleman.

From the background of seventeen treasured years of personal friendship and closest association, I view his passing from this world as the greatest loss ever sustained by the people of his province, for whose good and welfare he fought with such courageous zeal. It was the burning intensity of his life and service that at last undermined even the great strength with which he was endued and resulted in his death. "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Nineteen hundred years ago a valiant soldier, Jesus Christ, heralded the end of his earthly career with these words, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course; I have kept the faith." Those words seem most appropriate today.

He fought a good fight!

No truer inscription could be penned on the closing page of the earthly record of him to whom we now pay our last respects. All who were privileged to know him, revered and admired the dauntless courage with which he fought for those things which he knew to be right. Canada has never had a greater warrior in the cause of human freedoms—nor a more valiant champion of the underprivileged and oppressed. A man of the strongest convictions, he was utterly fearless in his fight to free the people he so deeply loved, from every form of tyranny and oppression.

He finished his course.

PURPOSE FULFILLED

While in our human reasoning we might feel that he has been cut off at the height of a great career and before his course was fully run, we must remember that it is not left to the faulty judgment of men to determine when our purpose in this life has been served. That is reserved unto Him who alone can see the end from the beginning and who worketh all things in accordance with the wise council of His own will. And while it is oftentimes hard for us to understand those things which at best we now see, as through a glass darkly, we can be assured that the giver of life does not take it away until its purpose has been fulfilled.

But this much we all can see. The great wealth of accomplishments by which Mr. Aberhart enriched the lives of thousands, has been equalled by but few men, no

matter how long their sojourns in this world.

Nor was his life's work such that death can mean its end. The great good that he has done will never die. Through his tireless efforts the great principles of the Christian way of life have become so firmly implanted in the hearts and lives of thousands that although he who held so high the torch is gone, they, inspired by his memory, will carry on to the end the great work which he so well began.

He kept the faith:

No man ever had a greater love for whatsoever things are true. For him to know the truth was to yield to it and to act upon it, whether in the realm of his relationship to his God or to his fellow-men. Nothing ever swerved him from that which he knew to be true and right.

LOVED BY THOUSANDS

While his name has become known throughout the world in the field of economic reform, the full measure of his life and service cannot be taken within the legislative halls. Throughout Canada there are thousands of young men and women who felt the influence of his life during the years in which he served with such outstanding distinction in the class room. But that is not all. Above all else, a devout Christian, Mr. Aberhart was known and loved by thousands as one of the greatest Bible teachers of this day and age. He was founder and dean of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute whose radio Sunday School alone has provided tens of thousands of boys and girls with free Christian education and a knowledge in their tender years of the saving power of Christ and the worthwhile truths of life. Through 20 years of active Christian radio ministry, he has been mightily used of God to lead hundreds of men and women into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and to establish thousands in the faith which was "once delivered unto the saints."

Each Sunday afternoon in thousands of homes throughout Alberta and the Canadian west, men and women for years have gathered reverently before their radios to listen to the voice of this man whom they had learned to love so deeply and from whose living faith they drew immeasurable confidence and strength. Each night, from hundreds of those homes beneath the prairie skies, prayers of thanks have ascended to God for a Christian leader who recognized that man cannot live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

But having said all this, I am still conscious of the hopeless inadequacy of faltering words. Perhaps it were better to turn to the simple things of life to seek an apt illustration. We have all seen the waters of a pool when stirred by some external force. The ripples radiate in ever-widening circles until at last they record on the sands of the distant shore, the im-

pression that has been made. So it has been with this great man. His dynamic personality and the greatness and the goodness of his life and service have stirred a tide in the affairs of men, which will continue to radiate in ever-widening circles throughout the years, until at last the ripples break on the shores of eternity itself.

Only as one by one the thousands who have been blessed by the influence of his life, join him there to become his crown of rejoicing in the presence of his Saviour, will the complete story of his work be told and the fullness of the measure of his life be known.

REUNION TO COME

And so I close this humble tribute to his memory, and pay my last respects to him, my dearest friend, not with the hopeless finality of those who know not God, nor the power of His resurrection. Rather, I rejoice with his loved ones that this time of parting is but for a little while and that the great and glorious day of permanent reunion rapidly is drawing nigh. May the certainty with which we look forward to meeting him again on that bright morning shed a new light of realism on the sure promise of God as recorded in these words, "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

ANTHEM ENDS SERVICE

A third hymn, "Abide With Me"; and the National Anthem concluded the memorial service. Benediction was pronounced by Dr. A. K. McMinn, minister of McDougall Church.

The church was crowded a full half-hour before the service began. In the main body of the building were representatives of the Crown, government officials, cabinet ministers, members of the legislature, the clergy, associations, the City of Edmonton, the military, and education officials.

Invited guests at the service included His Honor Lieutenant-Governor J. C. Bowen and Mrs. Bowen; John Randolph, American consul; all cabinet ministers and their wives, all members of the legislature and their wives, and all deputy ministers and their wives. Also seated in the section reserved for the government party were Miss Dorothy Hope, Miss Maureen Palmer, Mr.

and Mrs. M. J. Connors, P. M. Suder, J. A. King, M. W. Robertson, N. C. Noldrum, L. O. Byrne, Clayton Adams, W. S. Gray, George A. Clagh, Dan E. C. Campbell, C. N. Blackstock, Dr. V. W. Wright, A. K. Olive, C. K. Huckvale, Capt. Robert Pearson, and O. S. Longman.

Clergy invited included Rev. A. B. Patterson, Archbishop J. H. MacDonald, Rt. Rev. W. F. Barfoot, Rev. W. T. Young, Rev. S. Grimwood, Brigadier L. Ursaki, Canon J. Middleton, and Rev. A. F. Marsh.

Prominent-Edmonton-citizens invited included His Worship Mayor J. W. Fry, Police Magistrate A. I. Millar, K.C., Chief Constable M. Blackwood, Mr. Charles Campbell, Mr. Fraser-Gerrie, and the mayor of the City of Calgary, Andrew Davison, M.L.A.

From the judiciary were invited Mr. Justice A. F. Ewing, Mr. Justice Frank Ford, Hon. Chief Justice Horace Harvey, Mr. Justice George B. O'Connor, and Mr. Justice W. R. Howson.

MILITARY OFFICIALS

From the military, Lt. Col. A. H. Elliott, E.D., acting Area Commandant; Wing Commander C. J. Beveridge, senior administrative officer, No. 3 "M" Depot; Major-General J. P. G. McKenzie, D.S.O., Inspector-General, Canadian Army, Western Canada; Wing Commander E. G. Macpherson, O.C., No. 4 I.T.S., R.C. A.F.; Lieut. J. Dawson, O.C., Edmonton Naval station, R.C.N. V.R.; Major-General W. A. Griesbach, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.; Assistant Commissioner W. F. W. Hancock, officer in charge, "K" division, R.C.M.P.; Superintendents J. Kelly, E. W. Radcliffe, and J. Bird, R.C. M.P.; Inspectors C. Batch and R. E. Tresher, R.C.M.P., and Wing Commander W. J. MacFarlane, O.C., Northwest Staging Route, R.C.A.F.

Education officials, Dr. Robert Newton, president, University of Alberta; A. E. Ottewell, registrar; H. H. Parlee, K.C., chairman, University board of governors, and A. G. Andrews, secretary, Alberta School Trustees' Association.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

From Alberta associations were invited A. Young, Grand Master; Alberta Grand Lodge, I.O.O.F.; Mrs. A. Neumann, president of Rebecca lodge; Robert Gardiner, president, United Farmers of Alberta; Dr. F. S. McCall, president Alberta College; H. E. Nichols, secretary, Alberta Farmers' Union; J. W. Barnett, secretary, Alberta Teachers' Association; William McGruther, president, Alberta Civil Servants' Association; John Guild, president, Edmonton Social Credit Association; J. B. Gillies, president, Westmount Social Credit group and David Durcan, chairman, Exchange group, Social Credit League.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police, under Sergeant-Major Harold P. Wilson, directed ushering at the service. They were assisted by Robert A. Andison, clerk of the Alberta Legislative Assembly.

City police, under Sergeant-Major Alex Riddell, took charge of traffic outside the church. Streets in the vicinity were closed to vehicular traffic, and loudspeakers were mounted outside to accommodate some 500 persons who could not be seated within the building.

The front of the church was decorated with numerous floral tributes, which were arranged by Foster & McGarvey, funeral directors. After the service, the flowers were distributed to city hospitals.

1,600 ATTEND SERVICE IN CITY OF CALGARY

CALGARY, May 31.—(CP)—More than 1,600 people congregated at the Bible Institute Baptist church yesterday afternoon to pay tribute to the memory of the late Premier William Aberhart who died in Vancouver a week ago.

The ceremony, held in the church he had founded and from which he had conducted a broadcast a few Sundays prior to his death, lasted two hours in which simple but warm tributes were paid to his life as a religious, educational and economic leader.

The altar was banked with floral gifts in the centre of which hung a black crepe draped portrait of Mr. Aberhart. During the funeral march, played by Harry Rimmer on the organ, the congregation stood.

UNFORTUNATE LOSS

"A star of the first magnitude has been struck from our political firmament at a moment when the destiny of our province seemed so inseparably tied to the foresight and initiative of our beloved premier. . . he is called 'away'." said Dr. William E. Spankie, personal friend of Mr. Aberhart's.

He said he had known Mr. Aberhart for a great many years and "I recall the value placed on him as a high school teacher when I was a member of the Calgary school board some 25 years ago."

Dr. Spankie spoke of his closer relationship with the premier since 1933 and said he did not hesitate to say that he possessed the strongest personality of any man to enter the political life of Canada during the speaker's life.

GREATEST PREMIER

Cyril Hutchinson, secretary of the Bible Institute, preached the sermon. He referred to Mr. Aberhart as the seventh and greatest premier of Alberta and a "Christian gentleman."

"He has laid down his labors but his work will follow him for many a day. . . The influence of his teaching and his preaching is still drawing many after him," Mr. Hutchinson said.

Rev. Christopher Burnett, formerly pastor of Crescent Heights Baptist church, told of his association with the premier in the early days of 1921 when he had baptized some 30 or 40 of Mr. Aberhart's converts "some of whom are here this afternoon."

James D. Ferguson, vice-principal of Crescent Heights high school where Mr. Aberhart had taught for 20 years prior to his election as premier in 1935, paid tribute to his "enviable reputation earned in this province for his scholastic attainments."