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## Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Platform of 1953

[*Humanity First* (Ottawa: C.C.F. National Office, 1953)]

In the years since the end of the war, Canadians have toiled to achieve the greatest national production in Canada's history. Our farmers have produced more food; our loggers have cut more timber; our fishermen have caught more fish; our miners have mined more minerals; the workers in our factories have turned out more cars and clothes and chemicals. In the last few years our national production has gone up four or five percent every year.

But the veneer of prosperity in Canada is thinner than the price-inflated production figures would lead us to believe. Those who have labored to produce our great national wealth have not received their full share of its distribution. It's true that they're earning more than they were before the war. But the census showed that three out of every four wage earners in 1951 still made less than \$2,500 a year and over half made less than \$2,000. Farm prices go down while farm costs go up. The average Canadian has few reserves to meet an emergency. Wartime savings were spent to meet the soaring cost of living.

Thousands of families are still without homes of their own. Those who rent are generally paying far more than they can afford and those who have bought are mortgaged to the hilt. Most of those who are ill cannot afford the high cost of the treatment they need. Too many mothers cannot afford properly to feed and clothe their children. Thousands of young men and women with ability have not the money to go to university.

In an economy artificially bolstered by war production no one's future is secure. If peace should "break out", economic collapse could quite easily follow.

Internationally, we are living in constant fear of another and more terrible world war. It has become increasingly clear that the challenge of aggressive and imperialistic communism cannot be met by arms alone. Most of the people of the world go hungry every day and they're more interested in feeding their children than they are in politics. We've got to have a better solution than the communists.

To meet these problems the CCF offers the Canadian people a constructive and democratic program. We believe that Canada has the machines, the men and the means to produce

an abundant living for all. At the same time we can take a lead among the nations in the fight against poverty, hunger and disease in the rest of the world.

The CCF program is a program of the common people. Its principles were hammered out in conventions by farmers, trade unionists, housewives, office workers, business and professional men and women—Canadians in every walk of life—Canadians who are determined to put an end to the exploitation of the poor by the rich, of the weak by the strong—Canadians who believe in working co-operatively for the good of all instead of the dog-eat-dog method of every man for himself.

At present our vast resources are being plundered by profiteers. Forests are being slashed without regard for conservation or the preservation of our forest production for future generations. Irreplaceable mineral wealth is being wantonly depleted. Tragic and costly floods, which could have been prevented, have devastated vast areas. At the same time productive fruit orchards have been uprooted, dairy farms closed out, and other important food production curtailed because of lack of markets.

If there has been waste and misuse of Canada's material resources there has been even more tragic waste of Canada's man-power. Every winter hundreds of thousands of men and women haunt the employment offices unable to find jobs. Careful planning practically eliminated this seasonal unemployment in wartime. But the government refuses to plan today. The whole nation is poorer because so many thousands of pairs of hands remain idle.

And the wealth that is produced is so badly distributed that the few at the top have more than they can ever hope usefully to consume, while the many at the bottom have less than enough to maintain themselves in health and decency.

### PLANNING FOR MAXIMUM PRODUCTION

The CCF will undertake the necessary economic planning to eliminate waste, end unemployment, and develop our resources with a proper application of the principles of conservation. It will establish the social priorities necessary to ensure that the interests of human beings are placed before those of private profit. It will ensure that in the distribution of our national income there are fair shares for all.

In order to accomplish these objectives, new agencies of economic planning will be organized.

An economic planning commission and a national investment board will see to it that the finances and credit of the nation are channelled into the most socially desirable investment fields. The power of the great monopolies and combines which now dominate Canadian economic life will be curbed. Where necessary for adequate economic planning some key industries, such as primary iron and steel, will be publicly owned. The economic power which goes with these industries will pass from private to public authority. The people will be made masters of their economic as well as their political fate.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

There is no room for depressed areas in Canada today. In the Maritimes a CCF federal government will undertake the rehabilitation and expansion of the steel industry, which private monopoly has allowed to deteriorate. New industries based on the forestry, fishing, mineral and other wealth of the Maritimes will be established. This will remove the economic stagnation and depressed conditions which have seriously retarded the economic growth of the Maritime region in the past.

In Western Canada the South Saskatchewan dam will be proceeded with immediately to increase food production and lower costs through proper irrigation of vast new areas. This project will also stimulate industrial development by making available large quantities of low cost power.

#### BIGGER AND MORE SECURE MARKETS

A deepening trade crisis endangers both the economies of Western Europe and the interests of Canadian producers. The economic well-being of these countries and the security of Canadian markets cannot be achieved by temporary expedients. They require a willingness on the part of North America to accept a higher level of imports from these countries. The growth of protectionism in the USA and the apparent indifference of Canada create a threat to economic stability of the whole western world and also endanger the principal markets of our own primary producers. If we want to sell more, we have to buy more.

A CCF government will take an immediate lead in solving the trade problem:

a) As an emergency measure, an offer will be made to the British government for the postponement for three years of the annual payments being made on the British loan providing the

extra dollar exchange thus made available is used for the purchase of Canadian agricultural products.

b) Sterling will be accepted in part payment for Canadian produce sold to sterling area countries.

c) Larger governmental orders will be placed in the sterling area.

d) Tariffs and dumping duties on imports from Britain and other sterling countries will be lowered to make it easier for these countries to earn the Canadian dollars with which to buy Canadian products.

e) Long term commodity agreements will be negotiated. If necessary, credit arrangements will be made with purchasing countries to facilitate the conclusion of such agreements.

f) Full support will be given to the establishment of a World Food Pool such as has been proposed to the FAO by the International Federation of Agricultural Producers.

Canada is one of the most important food producing areas in a hungry world. A major objective of CCF agricultural policies will be to increase food production in Canada to the maximum. This cannot be done, however, until our farmers and other food producers are given much greater security than they have now. They must receive adequate returns for their labor and protection from some of the monopolies which now exploit them.

The farmer has little or no protection against violent fluctuations in the prices of the commodities he produces. This is a major factor in the basic insecurity which hampers agriculture. For years farmers have asked for parity—a fair relationship between their costs of production and the returns for what they sell. They should have it. Fair and stable prices are to farmers what fair and stable wages are to workers.

The CCF will establish a system of guaranteed forward prices based on parity. Minimum prices will be established well ahead of the planning or breeding seasons to enable farmers to plan their production in advance without worrying about market fluctuations. For example, a farmer before undertaking to expand his production of beef will know in advance that when his beef is taken to market two or three years hence he will receive not less than the guaranteed price. He can make his plans accordingly in the sure knowledge that no matter what happens in the market he will receive a basic return for his work and investment. When his product is actually sold the farmer will receive the difference between the

guaranteed price and the market price. Such forward pricing techniques are not mere theory; they have worked successfully in other countries. They can be successfully used in Canada to stimulate a great increase in our food production.

At the same time every effort must be made to bring down the farmer's costs of production. At present he is paying far too much for farm machinery and fertilizers. Government ownership of farm implement manufacturing and co-operative handling of distribution and servicing can remove much of the present waste and thus reduce costs.

During the war, when the government operated three large plants producing fertilizers, processes were introduced which resulted in substantial reductions in the price of fertilizer. But when these plants were returned to private monopolies after the war the price skyrocketed. A CCF government will take over the manufacture of chemical fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in order to make them available to producers at the lowest possible cost.

The Canadian Wheat Board Act will be expanded so as to include the marketing of all grains.

The CCF will appoint a National Livestock Marketing Board for the purpose of regulating and marketing livestock and livestock products. For years the CCF campaigned to have the Canadian Wheat Board made the sole marketing agency for wheat. Since then the wheat growers have had greater stability in the marketing of their grain. A similar agency is needed for livestock producers.

The Liberal government failed to take effective action to retain the British market for Canadian dairy products. That natural and valuable market was lost. Then the United States, arbitrarily and in violation of agreements, established an embargo on certain dairy products from Canada and other countries. Meanwhile, the Canadian dairy industry is facing a severe crisis. Most of its important foreign markets are gone and its stability further threatened by the introduction of vegetable oil substitutes for a wide variety of dairy products.

A CCF government will take vigorous measures to regain the British market, particularly for dairy products. In the meantime, the manufacture and sale of new dairy substitutes made from vegetable oils should be controlled and a full public inquiry held to ascertain the effects of the introduction of such substitutes, from the standpoint of both nutrition and the welfare of the dairy industry.

The marketing, not only of dairy products, but

of all agricultural commodities requires complete revision. The CCF will establish boards with producer representation to take full control of the marketing of agricultural products entering into inter-provincial and export trade when requested by producers of any particular commodity.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is the most important public utility in Canada. Narrow profit considerations and lack of a comprehensive transportation policy have helped to produce a complicated and inequitable freight rate structure which has created bitter dissensions between different parts of the country. An overall transportation policy based on broad considerations of national interest will integrate as far as possible rail, road, water and air services, establishing non-discriminatory freight rate scales as part of the whole transportation plan.

The CCF will also provide federal financial aid to the provinces for highways of national and international importance.

#### MORE HOUSES PEOPLE CAN AFFORD

Good housing and good health are complementary. Canada's lack of an adequate housing program aggravates health and delinquency problems throughout the nation. Yet it is obvious that the federal government has no serious intention of implementing even the low-cost housing sections of its own legislation.

Low rental housing projects remain the chief solution to Canada's present housing problem. The CCF will implement a national housing program on the following basis:

a) Capital Costs: A CCF federal government will provide at least 90% of the total capital required for the completed projects, including the cost of construction and of assembling serviced land. The federal government will provide these funds at a very low interest rate since it can obtain money at a lower rate than municipalities.

b) Annual Subsidy: To permit low rental of the units built, an annual subsidy will be paid, the major portion by the federal government, the remainder by provincial and municipal authorities. The subsidy will be related to the difference between the economic rent for the project and the proper proportion of the tenant's income to be paid for rent.

c) Construction and Operation: The agency for the local construction and operation will be a regional or local housing authority constituted as a public commission.

d) Planning: Low-rent projects will be approved only in areas which have been properly planned to the satisfaction of the federal authority.

#### LOWER INTEREST RATES

Financial and credit policies will be planned to further the objective of maximum production and full employment. Interest rates will be lowered to:

a) reduce the cost of housing through cheaper rates on mortgages and on municipal loans for servicing land to facilitate a vast housing construction program;

b) reduce costs for farmers requiring credit to finance their operations;

c) provide special assistance to small businesses through lower credit costs to help them meet the challenge of big business on more equal terms.

#### \* FULL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

The introduction of nation-wide health insurance has been delayed too long. The CCF will undertake the immediate establishment of a comprehensive health plan to give complete coverage to every man, woman and child in Canada, regardless of income. The service will provide full hospital, medical, dental, optical and other health care. The administration of the plan will, as far as possible, be decentralized through the provincial departments of health and local health regions. The inauguration of the plan will be accompanied by vigorous measures to overcome shortages of doctors, dentists, nurses and other professional personnel, as well as shortages of hospital space and facilities.

There will be full freedom for everyone to choose his or her own family doctor or dentist.

The CCF plan has been criticized because it would cost money. But let's look at what Canadians are paying for inadequate health services now. Each year we spend roughly \$500 million for private medical and hospital bills. On top of that our governments spend nearly \$175 million for various health costs. This adds up to \$675 million. Then too, industrial accidents and disease are costing Canada over \$250 million annually. Each year illness alone costs the nation about 140 million man-hours of lost production. The cost of sickness to the nation is now a staggering one.

It's true that no one can tell ahead of time exactly what the total cost of adequate health care would be. But estimates can be made which should be fairly reliable. The federal government, in its proposals to the Federal-Provincial Confer-

ence in 1945 estimated the cost at that time would be around \$300 million. With the rise in prices since then that figure would amount to about \$470 million today. But the Government's 1945 scheme was not a complete one and the CCF's plan would undoubtedly cost more.

The cost should be compared, however, with what is being spent on medical care by the Canadian people now, and with other expenditures the government is making. In 1953-54, for example, the government provided over \$420 million for the purchase of aircraft and engines alone for the RCAF. The CCF believes that a comparable sum, spent to give all Canadians complete health care, would be a good investment.

Serious illness can often be prevented or at least checked if treated in time. Adequate health services, available to all when they are needed, will mean healthier Canadians. Production time lost through illness will be reduced. The savings thus effected will, in time, more than offset the national expenditures for health care.

Dozens of countries, including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, and others, have various forms of health insurance which have worked successfully for years. Why should Canada lag behind?

#### \* SECURITY FOR ALL

Social security is an essential part of the democratic way of life. Society must provide for the aged, the sick, the disabled, and all those who, through no fault of their own, are unable to provide for themselves. Canada's wealth and resources are sufficient to maintain a high standard of social security; even more so under a CCF government whose economic policies will achieve and maintain a high rate of production and a high national income.

The CCF will organize a comprehensive and well integrated system of social security measures. Co-operation with the provinces will be sought in those fields where the constitutional division of responsibilities makes such federal-provincial action both necessary and desirable.

Old age pensions will be increased to allow for the higher cost of living. The pension will be at least \$60 a month and will be made payable at the age of 65 without any means test. If the means test is completely removed more of the older citizens who are able to work will be encouraged to continue in employment, adding to the nation's wealth. Other social security measures proposed by the CCF, such as health insurance and subsidized housing, will also benefit older people.

Pensions for the blind will be increased to the same amount as the old age pension. Pensions on a similar scale will be provided for those who are incapacitated for reasons other than blindness.

Sickness benefits will be provided to help maintain the income of the family when the breadwinner is ill.

Family allowances will be increased to compensate for the increase in the cost of living since they were first established. A family allowance payment of \$5 a month in 1945 would have to be increased to at least \$7.50 to provide the same purchasing power today. Furthermore, family allowances will be continued for children from 16 to 21 as long as they remain at school or college.

#### CAN WE AFFORD IT?

Social security measures such as pensions, allowances, health insurance and housing subsidies are really methods of redistributing the wealth we produce. The higher our production, the more adequate our social security can be. The CCF's program calls for greatly increased production through proper economic planning, the elimination of waste in resources and manpower, and the curbing of the restrictive practices and high prices of monopolies through social ownership and control. The social security program of the CCF will be built on the firm foundation of full employment and maximum production.

Too often in the past, however, the benefits of increased production have not gone to the producers and to those in need. The CCF will ensure a fairer redistribution of the national income by appropriate taxation measures. Those in greatest need will get a greater share of Canada's wealth in the form of social security financed by those best able to pay.

The CCF's social security legislation will be financed by the federal government out of general revenue. If necessary, this will be supplemented by a social security contribution as part of income tax and graduated according to ability to pay.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The CCF economic program will maintain full employment in Canada. There will always be more jobs available at good wages and working conditions than there are workers to fill the jobs. But to provide for the periods between jobs, when workers are seeking new or better employment and to fill in gaps between times when one type of employment ends and another is getting under

way, unemployment insurance will be greatly improved.

In the first place, unemployment insurance will be extended to cover occupations that are at present excluded. Thus at least half a million more Canadian workers will be given the protection of unemployment insurance. The waiting period will be reduced and ultimately eliminated as will the non-compensable days.

It is generally agreed that the unemployment insurance fund, with present assets of nearly a billion dollars, is now too high in relation to the contributions paid and benefits received. This will be rectified by substantial increases in the benefits. The present maximum of \$24 a week is hopelessly inadequate for a family endeavouring to meet today's cost of living.

One of the most important gaps in the present unemployment insurance legislation is the lack of any provision for sickness. At present an unemployed person drawing benefits is promptly cut off if anything from a cold to a broken leg makes him unemployable. The need for income security at such times is infinitely greater, yet there is no protection. The CCF will provide sickness insurance to fill this gap.

#### NATIONAL LABOUR CODE

A CCF federal government will introduce genuine nation-wide collective bargaining legislation and will co-operate with the provinces in its administration.

The CCF Code will:

- a) Guarantee labor the right to organize and bargain collectively and to obtain union security in all public as well as private enterprises;
- b) Streamline conciliation procedure to expedite the peaceful settlement of disputes;
- c) Outlaw company unions and provide effective sanctions against violations of the provisions of the Act.

The CCF federal labor code will also cover the following fields, setting national minimum standards, but leaving to the provinces the power to set higher standards: maximum hours of labor; minimum wages to give the worker and his family an adequate standard of living; minimum age of employment; vacations with pay; equal pay for equal work; fair employment practices.

The CCF will take steps to secure any constitutional amendments that may be required to carry out this policy.

## PLANNED IMMIGRATION

The CCF believes that the development of our economy requires a vigorous, carefully planned immigration policy. Citizens from other lands have made great contributions to our growth in the past. Increased immigration in the future, properly planned and with adequate safeguards, will help us to increase our national wealth and enrich our cultural life.

The CCF immigration policy will provide:

a) assurance that standards of employment, wages, hours and conditions of work of immigrants shall not be less than those in effect for other Canadians;

b) careful preparation and planning to ensure that houses and jobs are available for those who come and that the livelihood and living standards of our present population are not threatened;

c) non-discriminatory selection of immigrants from all countries and categories subject only to the limitations of a planned immigration scheme.

If these principles are carefully observed and full employment in an expanding economy is carefully planned, Canada can and should greatly increase immigration from other lands.

## FEDERAL AID FOR EDUCATION

A dynamic educational system is of vital importance to democracy and to the democratic way of life. Its purpose should be to discover and develop the capacities of every individual. It should prepare everyone to play his part in and make his contribution to a free society.

In Canada education is a subject of provincial jurisdiction. That is as it should be. The provincial governments, however, have not the financial resources to provide adequately for the educational needs of their people. The CCF will provide federal financial aid for education in amounts sufficient to equalize opportunities in all provinces and without any interference with provincial jurisdiction over education. Federal funds will help the provinces to ensure that the necessary schools are built and to assure teachers adequate salaries.

Furthermore, a CCF government will, by scholarships and in other ways, provide financial assistance to deserving students at the higher educational levels. Ability, not means, will be the criterion.

## TAXATION ACCORDING TO ABILITY TO PAY

The CCF believes that taxes should be levied according to ability to pay. Those who cannot

afford the bare necessities of life should not be required to pay taxes. The money necessary to finance public works, defence, social security and other government services should be contributed by those best able to pay. With this general principle in mind the CCF will make the following tax changes:

a) Exemption levels for income tax will be raised;

b) The sales and special excise tax will be abolished on the necessities of life;

c) All medical expenses will be allowed as deductions for income tax purposes;

d) Tax exemptions for income received from dividends of corporations will be abolished;

e) Taxation on higher income groups and on corporations will be increased;

f) Taxes on excess profits and on capital gains will be introduced.

g) A CCF federal government will pay full municipal taxes on all federal property located in organized municipalities.

## RECREATION, ART AND LEISURE

The CCF's objective is not merely a high standard of living measured exclusively in terms of food, clothing and shelter. People should also have the opportunity to live their lives abundantly. The CCF program is designed to make available to every citizen opportunities, both as participant and as spectator, to appreciate and enjoy recreation, sports, music, drama, art, literature, etc.

For example, the CCF in co-operation with the provinces will undertake the public development of a chain of low-cost hostels and tourist and camping centres to provide every Canadian family with the opportunity for a good wholesome annual holiday in the fresh air at prices they can afford. Canada has an abundant wealth of lakes, rivers, forests and other areas ideally suited for recreational purposes. A great many Canadian boys and girls, as well as many of their parents, never have the opportunity of a holiday in one of these spots. They spend their summers cooped up in hot stuffy cities. The principal resorts that have been developed cater only to the well-to-do. A plan for the extension of holiday facilities to the great masses of the Canadian people is long overdue.

A Canadian Council for the arts, letters, humanities and social sciences, as recommended by the Massey Commission, will be established. This will be a non-political body composed of distinguished artists and citizens advised by panels of experts in each field. This council will stimulate and support by guarantees and grants-in-aid organizations

striving to present for public enjoyment the arts of drama, music, sculpture, literature and painting. It will co-operate with provinces, municipalities and community groups in the construction of community and cultural centres. The cost will be shared by federal, provincial and municipal authorities.

The National Art Gallery will be expanded, and the council will undertake the promotion of travelling exhibits to give people in every part of Canada an opportunity to share in its enjoyment and to assist in the payment of rentals to artists for works of art exhibited. The council will provide grants-in-aid to universities and other recognized institutions in art, drama, sculpture, literature and music and will offer scholarships to students in the arts.

#### PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS

It has been said that Canada is a land of minorities—minorities of religion, language, ethnical background, etc. Although democracy implies decision by majority opinion, democracy cannot exist where minorities do not have full protection against oppression, domination or encroachments on their legitimate freedoms. The CCF will enact a bill of rights to protect the following rights for all:

- a) Freedom of speech;
- b) Freedom to worship according to one's own religion;
- c) Freedom of expression through press and radio;
- d) Freedom for minorities to promote and develop their own individual cultures;
- e) The right to maintain provincial jurisdiction over education;
- f) The right to maintain provincial jurisdiction over the administration of social welfare touching family life.

#### CANADA AS A NATION

Full recognition must be given to the fact that Canada is a bi-cultural and bilingual nation. A CCF government will give equal protection to both cultures and both languages.

Canada has the doubtful distinction of being the only member of the Commonwealth which does not have complete freedom to amend its own constitution and which does not have its own national flag. A CCF federal government will adopt a distinctive Canadian flag and national anthem and will give the Canadian people the power to amend their own constitution.

#### COMMUNISM AND THE CCF

The CCF has always opposed every form of dictatorship including Communist dictatorship. The CCF abhors Communist methods in crushing political opposition whenever and wherever Communists become the dominant force in a country.

The Communists have always declared democratic socialist movements to be their principal enemy and their ultimate objective is to "liquidate" such movements as the CCF. They have good reason to fear democratic socialism. In countries—such as Great Britain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, New Zealand and Australia—where socialist or labor governments have at one time or another come into power, political and economic democracy has advanced while the communists have failed to make any headway.

Although the CCF abhors communism and will continue to fight it, the CCF does not support proposals to outlaw it. The CCF has always contended that the way to fight communism is not to outlaw it, but to correct those social and economic injustices and wrongs on which communism thrives. To outlaw communism and to engage in "McCarthyism" and witch-hunting is to weaken the very freedoms we are trying to protect.

#### WAR AGAINST POVERTY

Mankind's hope for lasting peace can in the long run be realized only through a comprehensive and spectacular program of economic and social advance in every part of the world. Military preparedness, necessary though it is in the present international situation, cannot take the place of positive action to end poverty and exploitation.

With each year since the end of the last war the emphasis in external relations has increasingly shifted from the economic to the military. The important economic and social agencies of the UN are starved; the economic objectives of NATO are ignored; assistance to underdeveloped areas is infinitesimal compared with their needs; raw materials are allowed to follow the dollar and are not distributed in accordance with any plan of world needs.

In short, the high objectives of the UN Charter and the hopes raised by the defeat of Nazism and Fascism are in danger of being destroyed by the ruthless attacks of world communism and the blind greed of world capitalism.

A CCF government will seek a return to the policies and objectives which humanity everywhere welcomed at the end of the second World War. Canada should provide the leadership in

instituting, before it is too late, a world economic program to:

- a) allocate available raw materials in accordance with need;
- b) plan the development of world resources to the highest possible degree;
- c) provide technical and capital assistance to underdeveloped areas on a scale many times greater than the shameful pittance now available for those purposes;
- d) take international action to achieve maximum production of food and provide for its equitable distribution;
- e) establish International Development Corporations for these various purposes which would be free from control by private capitalism or by any one country;
- f) increase the scope and resources of the Colombo Plan;
- g) plan an expansion of world trade based on consideration of world needs; and
- h) achieve greater equality on a high level of living standards everywhere.

Much of the machinery needed for such a program now exists. With a real will for peace and justice, it would be possible to find the necessary resources. A CCF government will play its full part in promoting and developing a world program of economic and social advance and allocate a larger share of Canada's federal budget to such a program. Only such a program has a chance of guaranteeing peace and of defeating totalitarian threats to freedom and decency in human relations.

#### THE UNITED NATIONS AND COLLECTIVE SECURITY

A CCF government will give full support to the principles of the United Nations. Despite its shortcomings the UN remains an essential agency for building world peace.

However, in recent years the principles of the United Nations have often been sacrificed to power politics. A CCF government will:

- a) pursue an independent policy on all questions;
- b) resist attempts by any nation to use the UN for selfish ends;
- c) take the initiative in strengthening the various agencies of the UN and providing them with adequate resources to carry out their purposes and urge the participation of all member nations;
- d) support the inclusion of all nations willing to abide by the UN Charter;
- e) insist that any action against aggression undertaken by the UN be completely under the control of the UN;

f) work toward the abolition of the veto in the United Nations.

The CCF supports NATO as a collective security measure on a regional basis within the spirit and framework of the United Nations Charter. It is opposed, however, to over-rearmament at the expense of economic and social security. The CCF will do all in its power to strengthen the UN as a world force so that regional pacts will increasingly become unnecessary.

The CCF recognizes the upsurge in Africa and Asia toward social and economic improvement and self-determination. It opposes any attempt to maintain the status quo in these areas under the guise of defence. The UN must assist these areas in their efforts toward democratic self-government.

Finally, the CCF believes that peace and security depend on economic justice and personal liberty. Only through the extension of democratic socialism can these ends be securely and permanently achieved.

### Labor-Progressive Platform of 1953

[Campaign Leaflet (Toronto: Labor-Progressive Party, 1953)]

The Labor-Progressive Party calls upon the people of Canada to vote in the coming federal elections for an end to Liberal and Tory misrule, and for the adoption of a *new national policy*: a policy of Canadian independence, people's welfare, democracy and peace!

The Liberal and Progressive-Conservative parties serve only big business and its profiteering monopolies. Their policies endanger the welfare and security of Canada.

For the sake of increasing still further the already fabulous profits of the monopolies, prices of the necessities of life are raised to fantastic heights, though the warehouses are stocked full of them. A backbreaking tax load bears upon the people at the yearly rate of \$1,300 per family (in federal taxes alone), robbing the worker's table of necessities, but scarcely noticeable to the well-to-do. Layoffs are growing, leading to mass unemployment. Farm markets are imperilled by Ottawa's trade policy.

Canada's civilian economy is being sacrificed to an armaments program of over \$2 billion a year. People's welfare is being scuttled in the interests of the munitions makers. Over 1,000 sons of Canada have been killed or wounded in the