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Fulton Promises 'Cleanup' Program

Tory Leader Blasts Mess, Outlines 10-Point Program

GOLDEN (Staff) — Conservative leader Davie Fulton said Friday it would take a Conservative government a year to straighten out the mess made by Premier Bennett.

Fulton, opening his party's campaign for the Sept. 30 provincial election at a nominating convention here, said he would implement a 10-point program to clean up the mess if the Conservatives are elected to office.

The program:

Quick agreement with United States, that would have Columbia River development humming within months and put it in a first-priority position in a provincial power system.

POOR FINANCES

Restore the province's investment climate by repealing what Fulton called the Bennett take-over acts and by making an impartial investigation of B.C.'s financial situation.

Bring new industry to the province by creation of an industrial development board, making an inventory of B.C.'s economic potential and stimulating new sources of funds for business and industry.

Develop water, forest, park and land resources through a revolving natural resources development fund.

Double the existing mileage of first-class highways and build seven major new highways and plan three more.

REVAMP EDUCATION

Revamp the higher education program to ensure that the University of B.C. remains a first-class institution by giving it the support it requires.

Relieve municipalities of two-fifths of their present average school cost, making

possible a 10-per-cent reduction in property taxes across the province, and cut municipal borrowing costs.

Assist farmers in meeting technological change and give them better access to loan funds for farm land and buildings.

Implement immediately a comprehensive medical care program at a cost of \$6 million a year.

TAX REFORMS

Establish a comprehensive portable pension program to cover employees from the age of 30 to retirement.

Fulton said that along with the basic program would go reforms of the tax structure and investigation of government efficiency.

He attacked the premier throughout his speech, saying he had changed from a man of honor when he became premier in 1952 to one heading a government whose policies have become a fraud.

"This man (Bennett) is on the threshold of being destroyed," Fulton said. "For not only will his two-river policy be declared a fraud but his neglect of education, of industrial development, of municipalities, of social security and medical care is about to come home to roost."

The myth of the political wizard, the myth of Bennett as the savior of free enterprise and the savior of the little man is about to be destroyed, Fulton said.

"All that is holding (his campaign) together now is myth and money."

More Highways

Develop Columbia

A Progressive Conservative government would:

Stop the Peace River development because it is unsound, ill-conceived and unjustified.

* * *

Stand behind its leader in opposition to Premier Bennett who is the antithesis of everything sound, democratic and honorable in government.

Develop the Columbia River.

Establish an industrial development commission to attract new industry, while a natural resources development fund would speed up mapping, mining and access roads. Highways would be doubled.

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Take over 70 per cent of the cost of school operation, and later extend this to 100 per cent.

Set up portable pensions for anyone. Extend medical plans for those not already covered.