

This document is sourced from

McCarter, W. Kenneth (1976), *Party Platforms and Manifestos in BC Provincial Elections 1903-1975*, under the supervision of Professor A.C. Cairns, University of British Columbia.

Copyright ©1976 W. Kenneth McCarter

Seven-Plank Tory Platform Starts With Liquor Protest

The B.C. Conservative party today urged the provincial government to stop selling liquor and turn it over to private enterprise.

In a seven-plank platform for the Sept. 12 election, the three-candidate party proposed a system of retail liquor outlets similar to those in much of the United States.

The result, it predicts, would be more and better outlets for improved service, competitive pricing of liquor with no government interference and increased property tax revenues for municipalities.

The PC's also proposed registration of addicts and legal dispensation of drugs, as in the experimental British system.

'NO SCHOOL TAXES'

The provincial government should also assume the total cost of financing schools, they

said, freeing property owners from direct school taxes.

Two of the province's three PC candidates unveiled the platform this morning at Vancouver party headquarters.

Neither Don Paterson (North Vancouver-Capilano) nor Bob Wood (North Vancouver-Seymour) could promise institution of the proposals in the next session.

The third hopeful, White Rock lawyer Philip Govan was not present to comment. He was busy filing nomination papers in Delta riding.

Trying to crack the PC-less legislature, the trio is trumpet-

ing the U.S. cigarette slogan "We'd rather fight than switch."

'BAD SERVICE'

Wood criticized "bad service and shoddy premises" of B.C. liquor, beer and wine stores.

"I feel the liquor industry is much older than the province of B.C. and it can get along very well without the province in on the retailing end."

Patterson and Wood called for:

Complete public school financing by the provincial government, a crash program to increase chronic care beds, stronger measures to eliminate narcotics trafficking and to rehabilitate addicts, stricter anti-pollution laws, increased provincial funds for Lower Mainland municipalities and withdrawal of the government from the retail liquor industry.