

The party system, which we have been lead to believe is the best possible system of government, was never designed to provide good government. It was deliberately designed to divide the voters to keep them from working together to obtain the benefits which everyone except the very rich desire for the people - jobs, education, healthcare, justice. There are many other methods used by the establishment to create artificial divisions -race, gender, degree of education, social position, financial situation, religious denominations.

Divide and rule, divide and control, or to quote Julius Caesar, “divide and conquer..” is the oldest tactic in the book and it always will work if we allow ourselves to be manipulated.

The party system is the most powerful of divisions as it involves the voters in a power struggle that gives them very little and exhausts the resources that could better be used in working for the benefits of good government.

Nearly a century ago, working people came to the realization that they had to work together to get any consideration from the bosses. They did not allow political differences to divide their unions. The benefits they achieved show that grassroots unity, grassroots intelligence and determination can make tremendous changes.

As much and more progress can be made in the political field if our people will only bypass the party system. A start in this direction is being made: the unity movement that is making some progress in some areas of Canada. Examples are COPE in Vancouver, the Coalition for B.C., and the Union of Progressive Forces in Québec. These movements offer the voters a chance to work together, regardless of political affiliations, by concentrating on points of agreement rather than disagreement.

This is not a new concept and should not be viewed with suspicion. Long ago the unions showed us the way. Why not try working together instead of against each other? We have nothing to lose but bad government.

Zella Taylor.
2160 Laurier Cres.
Prince George, BC
V2N 2A7