

THE DAILY NEWS

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HEAD OFFICE

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DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, August 3, 1915.

BOWSER'S SPEECH

The Hon. W. J. Bowser devoted most of the time at his disposal on Thursday night to personal attacks on Moses Cotsworth and the Rev. A. E. Cooke, in an endeavor to show that "The Crisis in British Columbia" was a purely party pamphlet issued for party purposes. The attorney-general spent a great deal of time in trying to prove that Moses Cotsworth was himself a land grabber of the deepest dye. What Moses Cotsworth was, or is, is of little consequence to the people of British Columbia. The fact that the pot calls the kettle black, does not lessen the blackness of the pot. It would be just as logical for the attorney-general to tell the Dominion Trust depositors that they were lucky to get off with their lives, as men had been known to be shot as well as robbed.

There is no denying the fact that Bowser made a clever speech. The occasion demanded it. At the same time he did not clear the McBride-Bowser government of the charge of disposing of the land resources of the province. He did the only thing a clever lawyer could do in the circumstances, he pointed out how the government had succeeded as a real estate firm. He took credit for the fact that the government had realized huge sums and could still claim the land, but he omitted to mention the fact that speculators who owe \$13,000,000 to the government had been protected by special legislation so that they might not lose their holdings.

He covered the whole miserable business by drawing a picture of the land gambling period in the province, in order to gloss over the fact that the

genuine farmer has been land starved, in order that the speculator might reap unearned increment. The fact that the speculator has fallen on evil times, so far as selling land is concerned, is no credit to the McBride government.

After all the ridicule, satire, and personal abuse is taken out of the attorney-general's speech, the central fact remains, that the best land of the province is still held by the speculator, and that the government will not enforce him to give it up. All the satire the attorney-general may pour on the head of Moses Cotsworth will not alter this fact.

Before the warrant was issued for his arrest, Sir Rodmond Roblin could have achieved in Winnipeg exactly the same result that Bowser did in Vancouver. Before a packed house of his party supporters, he could have heaped ridicule and abuse upon his opponents, and they would have cheered him to the echo. Up to the last moment the Manitoba government sought to appear white by blackguarding the opposition, but that line of argument failed at the finish, as is must also fail in British Columbia.

The Province editorially handles the attorney-general's speech very gingerly, concluding as follows:

"While to some extent the meeting was occupied with a defence of the policy and administration of the government it was evidently not considered the occasion for any attempt at the enunciation of those broad and constructive principles of statesmanship on which the stability of any government must ultimately depend, and of which British Columbia seems rather badly in need."

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BELLA BELLA INDIANS EARN BIG BOUNTIES

News reaches us from Bella Bella that two Indians, Lorne Williams and John Wooten, have returned from an expedition to the southern point of Calvert Island, situated near the mouth of Rivers Inlet. Their activities were directed against the sea lions which in the late years have proved so destructive to the salmon industry on that part of the coast.

The Dominion government has found it necessary to offer a bounty of \$2 each for the destruction of this pest. And these two Indians have certainly scored in their campaign against this foe of the salmon, as they killed no less than 1,600 of them. They are good-sized beasts, weighing as high as 1,000 pounds. The number of those killed were about evenly divided between young and full grown. The bodies are not utilized for any purpose whatever, which seems like a great

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waste in times of depression like these. It is stated on good authority that the hides can be used in the manufacture of shoes and gloves, and the Indians, who speak from experience, claim the meat is equal to that of the mountain goat.—Bella Bella Courier.

TAX DELINQUENTS

The city treasurer has reported to the finance committee of the city council that an encouraging response had been made to the delinquent tax notices and advised that publication of delinquents should be delayed until August 14th.

Salvation Army.

Public meetings. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8 p. m. Sundays at 7:30 p. m.

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Corporation of the City of Prince Rupert.

TAKE NOTICE that: (1). The Council of the Corporation of the City of Prince Rupert intends to construct as a Local Improvement, a four-foot plank sidewalk on Claude Street, from the existing plank road on Eighth Avenue to the centre of Seventh Avenue, thence along Seventh Avenue from the centre of Claude Street, to the existing sidewalk on Donald Street, and intends to specially assess the cost upon the land abutting directly on the work.

(2). The estimated cost of the work is \$234.00, of which none is to be paid by the Corporation. The estimated special rate per foot frontage is \$0.26. The special assessment is to be paid in one year.

(3). A petition against the work will not avail to prevent its construction. Dated this 19th day of June, 1915.

ERNEST A. WOODS, Clerk.

3 TRAINS WEEKLY

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