

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Monday, August 9, 1915.

MANITOBA

The landslide in Manitoba is more than a party triumph; it is a glorious victory for clean government as opposed to party bossism, with all its attendant evils of graft and intrigue. The hastily improvised deathbed repentance type of platform rigged up by Sir J. A. M. Aikins deceived no one. It was too transparent a piece of humbug to place before people who had at last regained their political sight.

The Hon. Bob Rogers must be congratulating himself that he got from under just in time. However, Bob's time is coming. What the people of Manitoba rejected yesterday, the people of the Dominion will reject at the first opportunity. The same lack of common honesty in handling public funds, which brought about the downfall of Roblin and company, has been only too apparent in Ottawa. All the time wasting of the Davidson commission cannot hide the fact. The public conscience has been thoroughly awakened, and all the make-shifts of Rogers and his gang cannot save the situation. Probably the fact that Sir J. A. M. Aikens assisted in the whitewashing at the "boot" enquiry helped in his defeat in Brandon.

The Manitoba debacle does not tend to make things any more comfortable for McBride, Bowser and Company in British Columbia. Whenever the people of British Columbia get the opportunity, they will do just exactly what the people of Manitoba have done. For many years British Columbia has been a nice, comfortable family carryall for the McBrides, Bowsers and Mansons. As old Gorgon Graham said, "Blood is thicker than water, but when it's the blood of a forty-second cousin looking for a job, it's thicker than molasses, and sticks closer than a brother." The people of British Columbia have seen the

province milked dry by the family, railroad and land syndicate type of politician, and will see to it that men instead of politicians are sent to Victoria.

It is to be regretted that the opposition in Manitoba is so weak. A strong opposition makes for a strong, sound government. Sir John A. Macdonald uttered a great truth when he said that "a weak opposition would corrupt a government of archangels." We do not infer that the McBride-Bowser bunch have ever shown signs of sprouting wings, but there is no doubt that a strong opposition would have saved many millions for the people of British Columbia. With no opposition and booming real estate times, the McBride gang entered upon a reign of profligacy equal to anything attempted in Manitoba. Today, British Columbia is called upon to pay the price, and tomorrow the spenders will be called upon to give an account of their spending. In every corner of the province there are evidences of misgovernment and worse, and smooth, lawyer-like platform speeches must fail utterly to cover up the signs. The McBride government is sitting on a magazine of political high explosive, which only requires the application of the match of independent enquiry to provide a shock which shall reverberate from coast to coast.

OUT OF LUCK

Vancouver, Wash., Aug. 7.—"Ah, just my luck to find a diamond ring when what I need is a meal," complained William Robertson as he "found" an imitation diamond ring when a gullible-looking individual approached. "What will you give me for it?" "About five dollars," responded William's intended victim, who happened to be Chief of Police Barbeau in plain clothes. "Five dollars," said the judge.

PEOPLE OF B. C. MUST RECLAIM THEIR HERITAGE

(Continued From Page One.)
of the timber assets of British Columbia are in the hands of exploiters. As usual the McBride government's German and pro-German friends got their bit. For instance one German firm, Fleishbacker Brothers, of San Francisco, along with Count Alvo Von Alvensleben, now a fugitive, control perhaps 146,000 acres or almost one-tenth of the timber assets of the province. Count Alvo Von Alvensleben, by the way, is credited with wrecking the Dominion Trust Company and driving its manager to suicide by his depredations.

The pulp leases were another fruitful field for the speculators. In 1907 the law was eased up so as to grant pulp companies who pleaded inability to comply with the conditions an extension of time in which to fulfill their contracts to build mills and employ a certain number of hands. According to Premier McBride's campaign speeches of 1912 there were in operation then the Powell River Mills, employing 1200 men, the Ocean Falls Mill employing 1000 men, the Swanson Bay Works erected at a cost of a million dollars, a \$600,000 mill at Howe Sound, and the British Columbia Wood Pulp and Paper Co., which had spent \$600,000 on development. Of these concerns two are long since bankrupt, and the Ocean Falls Company instead of employing 1000, now employs three caretakers and lets it go at that. The capital of these companies has been largely wasted, the creditors and shareholders robbed and the workmen thrown on the cold world. Meanwhile the promoters keep the plunder. The pulp lands have not reverted to the Crown. The Ocean Falls Company which had a capital of \$6,000,000 of which \$1,500,000 was put into development and \$4,500,000

000 divided in stock between the promoters and their friends has since fallen into the hands of Fleishbaker Bros. and a German syndicate. This German syndicate under pretext of securing the creditors of the bankrupt Ocean Falls Company, takes over 80,000 acres of timber, and two billion feet of timber additional, in return for which they hand the creditors \$310,000 in shares in a company which they proceed to capitalize at \$10,000,000. The shareholders of the defunct Ocean Falls Company, most of whom are residents in England, are left to look after themselves.

The stakers and exploiters have not overlooked the immensely rich coal measures of British Columbia with the result that in the Groundhog district alone, that is to say the district drained by the Skeena and Naas rivers, three hundred and twenty thousand acres of coal lands have already been alienated to six syndicates. How rich this coal land is may be judged from the fact that one syndicate, possessing some 23,000 acres, estimates the tonnage at 4,350 millions, or thirty million tons per acre for 145 years. For this block of 23,000 acres the coal company has promised to pay the government \$928,000 as soon as it is able. This one case, in which the British Columbia government

(Continued on Page 4)

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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 \$284.99, 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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Drawn for The Daily News. —By "Hop."