

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, October 19, 1915.

PARKER WILLIAMS' SPEECH.

Liberals have for long been exposing the corrupt methods of the McBride government, and have been told by the Conservative press that they are only anxious to get back into power, but when a man of the type of Parker Williams, who has no brief for the Liberals, comes along and states in no uncertain fashion that the people of British Columbia have been systematically robbed, it must set all right-thinking men of whatever political creed, pondering over the situation as they never have done before. On Saturday night, the leader of the Socialist party in British Columbia drew aside the veil, behind which Conservative graft and corruption have been hiding, and exposed to view Bowserism in all its naked hideousness.

In plain language, which no man could misconstrue, he described the qualities (?) of William Manson. Liberals, in the past, have not hesitated to say what they thought about this gentleman as a politician, but, on Saturday night, Parker Williams drew a picture of him which was not a caricature, but a life-like portrait. He took William Manson as typical of the class of men the bosses at Victoria have been provided with. Men who have not manhood enough to say "this thing is wrong," or "that should be altered," but who are willing that Bowser and McBride should be allowed to play fast and loose with the affairs of the province to their hearts' content, so long as this and that little constituency is supplied with enough "of the stuff" to keep the party heelers at heel. He scored Mr. Manson in such a way that even hide-bound Conservatives must have

blushed for very shame, if that is within the bounds of possibility. He challenged Mr. Manson to meet him here at a later date in order that he may have an opportunity of replying to the charges made, as he had no diffidence in making exactly the same statements in Mr. Manson's presence. If Mr. Manson does not accept that challenge, it is an admission that the word portrait of him drawn by Mr. Williams is a true likeness.

Parker Williams, of all men, cannot be accused of playing party politics for the Liberals. He simply described things as he had found them in Victoria. He bombarded the government with their own figures and statements, and shattered their defences with shells of their own making. One Tory was heard to say that his speech was wholly destructive. It was. It destroyed with a terrible precision the semblance of representative government which has been allowed to wreck this province, and, while it was destroying, it played a searchlight over the Conservative entrenchments which showed clearly the kind of thing it was destroying. It destroyed nothing which has, or ever had, any right to live.

WHAT THE LIBERAL POLITY WOULD DO FOR THE FARMER

(Continued From Page One.)

er would get ten cents a bushel more for his wheat than he does now—that is to say he would get the duty. There is no reason why the United States won't take that duty off except that Canada won't take hers off too. It is understood that the light still holds out to burn at Washington, and that in spite of the repulse to reciprocity in 1914, the United

NO ALUM



States continues to welcome mutual concessions which will make food cheaper.

Canada could remove her tariff on American wheat with perfect impunity because Canada is not a wheat-importing country. The only thing that prevents is cracker-barrel politics. Canadian wheat must be denied its nearest and dearest market because the interests, and consequently the government elected by the interests, say so. It is being recalled in the present juncture, that it was the wheat crowd, and the meat crowd that defeated reciprocity—not the men who produce the wheat and the meat, but the men who roll it and grind it and cure it and smoke it and freeze it and squeeze it, for monopolizer's profits.

The war seems not to have altered the Borden government's intention of making a few millers and packers rich at the expense of the masses. The farmers of the Northwest were deliberately encouraged to increase their wheat acreage this year, the prospect being held out of war prices for a bumper crop. Briefly speaking, that was the "patriotism and production policy," launched by the Borden government. The farmers were told that Russia was all tied up at the Dardanelles and now was their chance to cash in. And the farmers, though not lacking experience of these fair promises before, took them at their word. Water-sodden year though it was they produced several million bushels more wheat than they did in 1914.

Much good it does them! The European market goes glimmering. Even if it didn't go glimmering the ships Sir Ribert promised had faded away—so what was the use? The farmers were told to hang on—not to flood the market with a great deluge of wheat—to dole it out and keep prices steady. Good advice, perhaps, if the Northwest farmers had barns to store wheat in, but not so good when it leaves them at the ten-

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der mercy of the railways and elevator companies.

Besides, the winter price threatens to be weak, and no man wants to hold on for a loss. A government commission has shown that on an average it costs the Northwest farmer sixty-four cents to produce a bushel of wheat. Some years it costs seventy cents a bushel. Suppose Winnipeg buys at ninety cents a bushel—today's quotation for No. 1 hard, and all wheat, mind you, isn't No. 1 hard—what's there in it for the farmer after freight rates and elevator charges are taken out? A small margin which tends constantly to disappear. And if the wheat grower holds on, as he is advised to do, the risk increases only through deterioration. (Continued on Page Three.)

Salvation Army.

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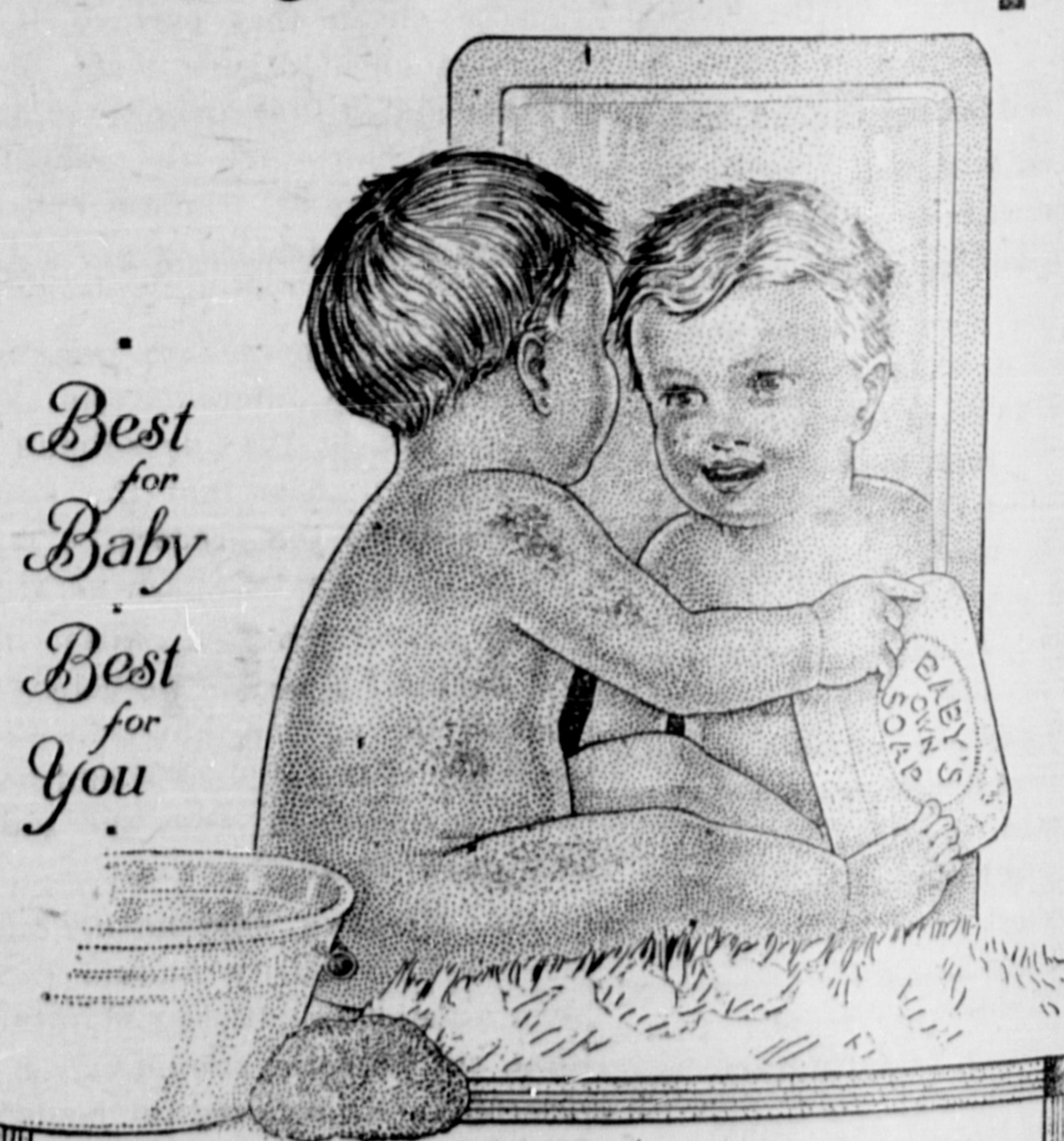
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