

THE DAILY NEWS

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
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HEAD OFFICE

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DAILY EDITION

Monday, November 6, 1916.

PARTY FIRST

The Provincial Conservative Association held a meeting in Vancouver recently and the chief theme of discussion seems to have been the re-habilitating of the party. Some advocated the holding of a convention in order to inspire enthusiasm and to help restore the shattered fortunes of the party, while others believed in a policy of watchful waiting, meantime giving the Liberals plenty of rope. In the reports of the meeting in the Tory press, there is not one word in regard to the welfare of the province. Evidently the Tories have not yet read the lesson of the recent election, and they are evidently still blind to the signs of the times. The party, its hopes and plans is the one topic which concerns them.

The idea of giving the Liberals plenty of rope is that they may, with their big majority in the house, carry out exactly the same hanging operation recently performed by the Bowser government. What W. J. Bowser thinks of such a policy is not recorded but it is to be hoped that he, as leader of the Opposition, will feel that it is his duty to work just as hard for the welfare of the province as the leader of the government will certainly do. What sort of an Opposition would we have if its sole aim was to see the government go to pieces on the rocks which wrecked the Tory ship? What sort of a province would we have under such conditions?

The people of the province, and of the Dominion, are heartily sick of the party political game, played along the above lines and both parties must realize that this is so. That Mr. Brewster does so is evidenced by his insistence

that patronage, which is the prize to be won in the game, must be abolished. Men of the stamp of H. C. Brewster are needed throughout the Dominion today. The day of the professional politician is over and the sooner the Tories of British Columbia realize this fact the better. In politics, there must always be at least two parties, so long as the party system is followed, and no country has yet been able to devise a better system, but these parties must in the future be composed of men whose ideals rise above party. "Pat" Donnelly, in his speech at the Liberal reception, said that he took his defeat philosophically as he realized that the welfare of the community must be put before that of the individual. In the same way, the welfare of the party must take second place to the welfare of the country, in fact should have no place at all when the welfare of the country is in the balance. If British Columbia is to prosper, and if the Dominion is to reach the place it ought in the scheme of things, men of high ideals must be placed in the forefront of politics in both parties.

In selecting a man of the stamp of H. C. Brewster as their leader, the Liberals of British Columbia have made a splendid start, and the leader has been surrounded by men of a high standard. The opposition is perhaps scarcely strong enough, yet, if the ten Conservatives serve their province as they ought, they may do much to redeem the past. The premier-elect is no longer a politician, but the man at the helm of the province, guiding its destinies, not for the benefit of any party, but for the benefit of every man, woman and child in British Columbia. Mr. H. C.

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For Anyox.

Wednesday, box closes 10 p. m.

Brewster is big enough and broad enough to place the province before party, and in that lies our greatest hope for the future. The Tories are at liberty to raise all the enthusiasm they care in their ranks, but, if they continue to place party before country, they must fail.

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NOTES AND COMMENTS

Hon. A. E. Kemp says that the Borden cabinet has decided to ask for a further extension of the life of parliament. Is this to be done in the interests of the Tory party and its "honorary" military friends, or in the interests of the Dominion? If the people were asked to express an opinion on the matter they would undoubtedly shout "Clear them out."

General Steele has been placed at the head of a seniority board in connection with Canadian military affairs in England. The colonel should be the right man for the job, as he is a real soldier. There is room for improvement in regard to promotions and if Colonel Steele has been asked to bring things down to a system much good should result.

It is gratifying to find that Brussiloff's army has returned to the offensive on the Galician front. They have been acting recently as if they were short of material but Saturday's gains should do much to restore confidence.

Von Mackenzen seems to be awaiting the outcome of the Transylvanian struggle. Unless Von Falkenhayn's army can link up with the Teutonic forces on the Dobrudja front, the gains made between the Black Sea and the Danube will have no permanent effect.

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