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THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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THE PORK BARREL

The Tolmie faction of the Conservative party in British Columbia expresses itself as very much concerned over what it calls "the pork barrel policy" of the Liberal party.

Premier MacLean says he thinks he is better able to do business with the friendly Dominion government than the man who for years had organized the Conservative forces against them. Then, from purely selfish interests, the people should return MacLean in order to have the railway deal completed. That is the pork barrel policy.

And, after all, throughout life we adopt the pork barrel policy. All business is selfish, most religions are selfish and mostly politics is a selfish business. We elect a man because we think he will help to make conditions better than if we elect the other man. So today it is suggested to electors of British Columbia that they would be wise to elect a supporter of the present government rather than an opponent because the country is likely to benefit from such action. That is the pork barrel policy.

We have two good men offering themselves for election. Undoubtedly Mr. Pattullo is the more able of the two but Mr. Thompson is also an able man and will do his duty as he sees it. We think all will agree about that. The Conservatives could not have made a better choice. But Mr. Pattullo is a member of the government that is able to help us. He can help dispose of the P.G.E. to advantage and he can help us in our fight for recognition here. He has represented us well and there is no good reason why he should not continue to do so. Prince Rupert needs to consider the pork barrel a little just now.

SUCCESSION DUTIES

(Vancouver Star)

When it is demanded that particular taxes be done away with it should also be stated from what source the deficiency of revenue is to be made up. If the succession duties are abolished, taxation to an equal amount must be obtained elsewhere, presumably from industry and labor. As at present imposed, the succession duties bear very lightly on small inheritances, and much more lightly on large inheritances that go to near relatives than on those that go to distant relatives. Surely, as in the latter case, a remote connection who inherits a million say, that he has done nothing whatever to earn, and of which he might have been deprived had the testator so decided, may well be asked to contribute a reasonable sum to the expenses of the government that has protected the property constituting his legacy.

KERGIN FOR MINISTER

The despatch we publish today suggesting that H. F. Kergin may quite possibly get the portfolio of mines in the cabinet of the MacLean government is interesting in that it indicates the value placed on the Atlin member in the capital.

So far as this paper is concerned we shall be glad to lend our support in helping Mr. Kergin get the portfolio. We believe he is well qualified and that his appointment would be popular in the north. If we all unite in a request to the provincial authorities it is quite probable we may succeed.

WONDERFUL ADDRESS

The address by Hon. A. M. Manson at the big meeting last night was the most remarkable political speech ever heard in Prince Rupert. There was almost a total absence of flippancy. So serious was it that one might have fancied himself at a religious instead of a political meeting. The hall was packed to the doors and it was impossible to have been present and not be impressed with the righteousness of the Liberal cause in the present campaign. No sign of dissent was there to anything said and indeed it would have been difficult to argue, so complete was the case made by the attorney general in favor of the return of the present administration.

FLIT KILLS

Mosquitoes, Flies Roaches, Bed Bugs

HUGE AUDIENCE HEARD MANSON TELL WHY LIBERALS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY ELECTORS.

(continued from page one)

directors and the private members, the council. All over British Columbia the annual meeting was being held and on July 18 the directors would be decided upon. The speaker suggested the following questions for the shareholders to consider in reaching their decision:

FOURFOLD POLICY

1—How had business been under these directors? Had the assets been developed and had progress been satisfactory?

2—What kind of administration had been given? Had it been honest and reasonably efficient and were the finances in good shape?

In examining the statute book, was the legislation passed in the interests of the rank and file? Had the government made good to the common humanity of the province? Had the legislation which was passed encouraged business?

4—What policy had the directors to offer for the future. Was it retrograde, standstill or forward looking?

There should also be examined the policies of those who would substitute the present government as well as criticisms that had been made. One criticism was that the debt had increased tremendously and was a burden upon the people. Another was that the rate of taxation had gone up. Still another was that the directors had been reckless in their expenditure and had spent money without bounds.

WHISPERING CAMPAIGNING

Mr. Manson decried briefly the fact that personalities, insinuation, abuse and whispering should enter into the campaign. Though it had been seldom if ever that such a campaign of malignity had proven profitable, there were incidents of indiscreet abuse in this campaign. For instance, Mr. Pooley, the first lieutenant of Dr. Tolmie, had said that Dr. MacLean was unworthy of belief, that he would not believe him on a stack of Bibles, that he was touched in the upper-story. That type of speech-making, the speaker believed, would cost Mr. Pooley his seat. His fine constituents would resent and condemn that kind of language.

Mr. Manson referred to the serious charges that had been launched a year ago by Mr. Twigg, the Conservative of Victoria. To investigate those charges, the senior judge of the land, Mr. Justice Morrison; a churchman of fifty years standing, Rev. J. S. Henderson, and a leading Vancouver Conservative and prohibitionist, W. H. Malkin, had been appointed. They had heard all the evidence and their verdict was unanimously that there was not a jot or tittle of evidence to support the charges. "Yet I see in a window on the street here a cartoon of the same old insinuation—a fair sample of what men without a case will resort to." Mr. Manson also referred to a Conservative pamphlet, bearing a genial face upon its frontispiece, which devoted considerable space to his (Mr. Manson's) department and described him as " amost inhuman wretch of most despicable type." Why if it is true, I should be behind the bars but I do not think you have that estimation of me. It is just another part of the campaign of insinuation, villification and whispering."

ACCELERATOR OR BRAKE

While no government should take all the credit or all the responsibility for the progress and business of the country, a government could act as an accelerator or brake upon the wheels of progress. He asked the audience to consider how business had been in this progress. In this connection, the speaker gave many facts and figures to show how the basic industries of the province had increased in the period from 1916 to 1926. Agriculture had showed an increased production of 192 percent; population had increased 36 percent but imports had gone up only 20 or 22 percent while exports had increased 300 percent. Due largely to the administration of Mr. Pattullo, lumber production had seen an increase of 240 percent, waterborne trade going up 984 percent and pulp and paper production rising by 368 percent. Mineral production had gone up 101 percent until now B. C. produced a quarter of the mineral wealth of the Dominion. The production of the fishing industry had increased by 75 percent and the average increase of the province's industries was 101 percent. Was that not a magnificent increase?

Speaking of local affairs, Mr. Manson spoke briefly of the political opposition to the development of the Port of Prince Rupert—both federally and provincially. It would amaze the people here to know how petty and jealous certain other portions of the province had been in the matter of the development of this part of the province. "But you have been fortunate," asserted Mr. Manson, "to have had Hon. T. D. Pattullo to fight on your behalf." The speaker referred to the advances that had been made by this port in even a short space of two years. There was the new mill at Seal Cove and the second one building at the other end of the Island; the magnificent elevator, better streets and many other improvements.

POOR ADVERTISING

Why should people lose their common sense and why should they be bitter in surveying the progress of the province as a business proposition? Any reasonable person could not but admit that magnificent progress had been made. "Capital is now coming into British Columbia as it never came before in this province, or, for that matter, any part of Canada or the United States in history. But what is the message that Dr. Tolmie and his supporters broadcast through all Canada and the United States and even to the ships in the Pacific Ocean? That British Columbia is in the doldrums, she is distressed, groaning under a burden of taxation, the boys and girls are leaving the land and business is broken down. What do you think of a party that would pay the price for power of besmirching the fair name of the province? It is an ill bird that fouls its own nest."

Mr. Manson referred to the development of power and the strides that were being made in that connection in the province. Politics had crept in and Prince Rupert, in its early days, had blundered, yes, woefully blundered, when it had stopped the development of electrical energy here and prevented the industries from coming in. Too late, the mistake was now realized and many would undo what they had done. "But let me tell you, you may get another chance. Mr. Pattullo is working hard and if you again give us five members from the north we will make our voice heard and may be able to rectify the terrific mistake that the people of Prince Rupert made."

In the matter of administration, Mr. Manson referred to the fact that each of the directors save one was a husband and a father. Each had taken into the cabinet a record of successful private business and personal honor. "There are no drunks or reprobates but a body of men I am pround to be associated with. When the Liberals had taken office, the financial situation was so bad that the banks had gone so far as to warn the government that it could not honor its cheques unless an adequate increase was made in taxation. After years of continuous deficit and saddled with a load of unprovided for debt, the government had so administered that, in all its twelve years of office, there was not a single year when expenditures had exceeded revenue. It was true that the debt had been increased but much service had been given. In the matter of the increase of the debt, the Conservatives, however, might be fair. They said that the debt had increased from $20,000,000 to $100,000,000. But they took on one hand the net debt they had left and, on the other, the gross debt now. The true figures were in 1916 a net debt of $20,000,000 and a gross debt of $25,000,000; in 1927 a gross degtnt of $79,000,000 and a net debt, deducting sinking and repayment funds, of $45,000,000. The fair comparison was $20,000,000 and $45,000,000. Then Mr. Manson explained how this increased debt had come about—in building highways, liquidation of old debt, the University buildings, institutions such as Tranquille sanitarium. Boys' Industrial school, Home for the Deaf and School for the Blind, soldiers housing, soldiers' employment, continuation of the P.G.E. Even with all this, the debt of British Columbia was less than that of some cities of the Dominion.

RETURNED MEN

Speaking of what had been done for thirty percent more returned men who had come to the province than had left here for the war, Mr. Manson asserted that it had been not only the duty but the privilege of the province to give some service to these men in return for the great service they had given for the country. He told, how, in every department of the government returned men were given the preference in employment. It had been a case of give employment or have a bread line and the government had chosen the former although it had increased the debt. "We have made some mistakes, we admit, for we are only human and average business men, but we have got as good a record as any business concern you can find in Canada."

Mr. Manson referred to the fact that the government had not to resort to any of its leaders or political sources for an opinion on its financial standing. It had gone to the money markets and obtained the lowest rate of interest of any province in Canada or on its own history on its bonds. "Why these messages of gloom and criticism in the face of what the bond houses

(continued on page six)

LAND ACT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO LEASE LAND

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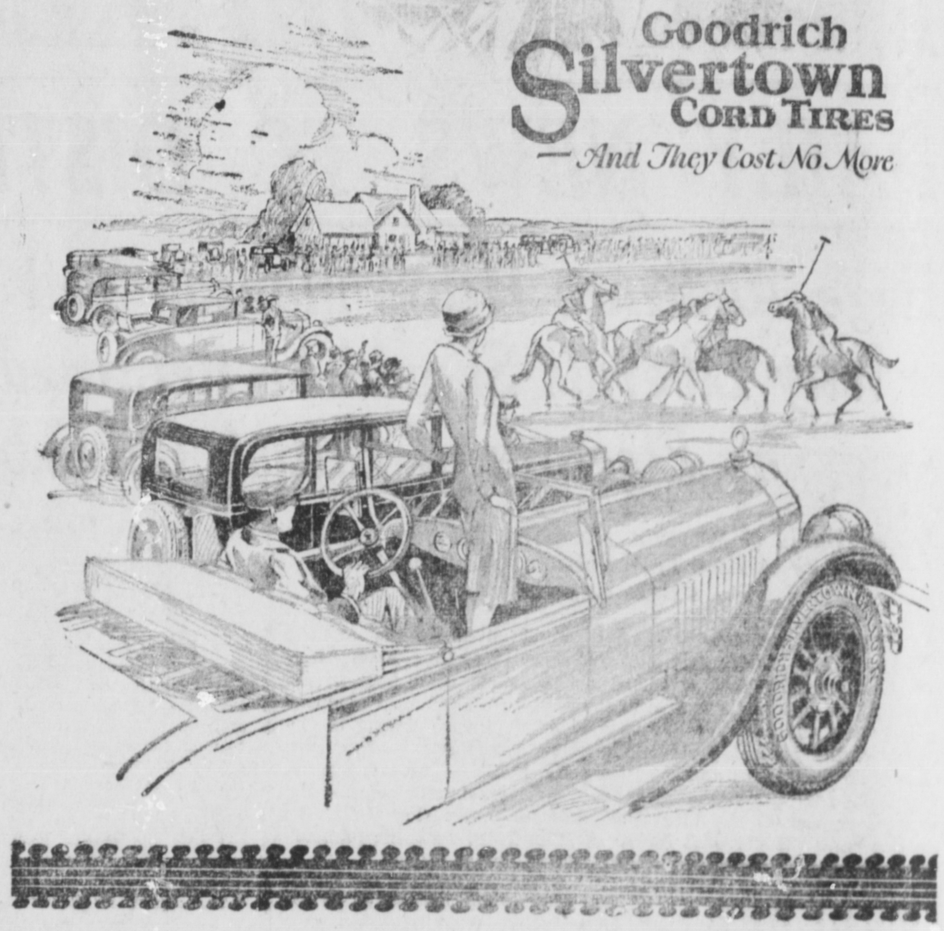

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