

# THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION.



FRIDAY, MARCH 15

## PLENTY OF CANDIDATES TO CHOOSE FROM.

Every man with political ambitions knows that to be the sole representative of a great constituency such as this, with the coming world-port as its metropolis, will be a position of unique importance. Had there been the redistribution of seats the rapidly increasing population has the right to demand there would have been two members to elect from the Prince Rupert and Skeena district alone, with members for the vast district beyond Hazelton, for the Portland Canal district and for the islands and the coast to the south. But to follow out such a just course must of necessity have meant an increase in the opposition to the Two-Man government, and these monopolists of political faith and liberty schemed to avoid this. They schemed also to defeat any honest and direct representation of the people by giving insufficient time for the scrutiny and correction of the padded voting lists.

However, that is an evil that cannot be remedied at this election and, as we started out to say, the citizens of this constituency have four candidates to select from. The most interesting point in this is that there are two Conservative members, both loyal supporters of the McBride government which the people generally desire to see defeated or at least curbed in its rapacity, but who are at issue to the death in regard to the local representation to that government. There is plenty of room for a choice between them and the man who thinks cannot possibly make a mistake.

Of William Manson we all know. He has earned a high reputation here, as high as that of Charles II "who never said a witty thing and never did a wise one." Locally he is known as the silent servitor of a political machine. It has even been suggested that by sending a proxy to the legislature instead expense might be spared and just as much good for Prince Rupert secured. The other Conservative candidate, Dr. Clayton, has shown some manhood and ability as an alderman. It is manhood that counts with the people and they showed their appreciation of the stamina of the Clayton brand by again returning him to the council. Dr. Clayton declares that if elected he will loyally support the McBride government BUT—and this is a but that will make all Conservatives in this constituency pause and consider.

"I have a strong objection to the great Conservative party being made the tool of a petty clique who use it merely for their own selfish ends. \* \* \* I ask every loyal Conservative who has the real interest of his party at heart to stamp out utterly on the 28th the ring rule which has cursed the party for the last few years."

There is some backbone in that. It rings true, honest and independent. It costs something to declare one's self openly and defiantly against a secret political monopoly. The man with the bravery to do it can be absolutely sure of popular admiration.

News was received here yesterday that Dr. H. C. Young, the provincial secretary and minister of education, had been returned for Atlin by acclamation. One of the old-timers of Atlin, who knows the difficulty of reaching there over the ice from Log Cabin or Carcross this time of the year, says the fact that there was no other nomination saved the government at least \$18,000, that being the sum spent at the previous election in shipping voters at \$5 a day to support the McBride candidate.

The whole community was shocked this morning by the horrible sequence of events. Rev. Warren H. McLeod on Sunday apologized to his congregation in McIntyre Hall for the stench to which they were subjected because of the orgy of Manson's supporters in the hall the previous evening. Last night the popular pastor was sandbagged and was this morning in the hospital.

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## Platform of the Liberals of British Columbia

Adopted at the Vancouver Convention, March 1st, 1912

### 1. Free Lands for Settlers—None for Speculators.

We emphatically condemn the McBride government for its connivance at the evasion of the land laws by persons, syndicates and corporations, who have been allowed to obtain millions of acres of the choicest accessible public lands, which are held without use and to the detriment of the province as a whole.

We hold that agricultural land should be disposed of only on such conditions as will ensure its continuous use and occupation.

Free homesteads to actual settlers. Holders of pre-emptions to be given benefit of this provision.

Advances to settlers on easy terms to assist in land clearing, dyking, irrigation and other permanent improvements.

Surveys of all accessible agricultural lands to be rapidly completed, and survey sheets and all necessary information to be made easily available to the public.

Settlement in block to be encouraged by the removal of reserves, which scatter population and greatly increase the cost of roads, schools and other necessary facilities.

No public land for the speculator.

### 2. Transportation.

The immediate construction of a railway to Peace River.

We will co-operate with the Dominion government in securing all-rail connection between the railway systems of Vancouver Island and the railway systems of the mainland.

The construction of a line owned by the government to give direct communication, by the best route as to grades and distances, between the Similkameen and other interior points and the coast.

We favor the husbanding of the Provincial credit to assist lines that will open up new territory.

Provincial credit and resources not to be wasted in paralleling existing lines.

No land subvention to railways beyond what is necessary for railway purposes.

Abolition of the system of giving away Crown lands for town-sites free of taxation and under railway control.

Aid to railways not to exceed what is reasonably necessary to secure construction.

The prevention of over capitalization of railways.

The Province to co-operate with the Dominion in aiding railway and highway construction.

All franchises for the construction, operation and ownership or leasing of government-aided roads to be open for public competition.

Freight, passenger and express rates and telegraph tolls of all government-aided roads to be under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Railway Commission.

With a view to meeting the demand for the transportation of grain from Saskatchewan and Alberta, the immediate construction of government-owned elevators.

The people to control the railways, and not the railways the people.

### 3. Timber.

We condemn without reserve the wholesale disposal of timber lands to speculators, which has been the only timber policy of the present government.

We advocate the survey, cruising and valuation of timber lands by the government before alienation, and the disposal of all such lands by public competition to actual users.

Improved methods of preventing timber waste and systematized reforestation.

Hand loggers licenses to be granted where conditions demand.

### 4. Public Protection in Respect to Coal.

Coal lands not to be alienated, but leased under conditions to be fixed periodically by the legislature.

Wherever practicable and necessary government operation of coal mines to be at once undertaken with a view to reduction of existing prices.

We insist upon the appointment of a royal commission to investigate the present exorbitant coal prices.

### 5. Practical Education.

We condemn the present educational autocracy of the government.

We recommend the appointment of a representative advisory board in educational matters, such as exists in all other provinces.

The present school curriculum is so overloaded with subjects as to render thorough education in any branch impossible.

We advocate an increase of

manual and agricultural training and domestic science teaching, and the establishment of an efficient system of technical schools.

The present school system bears unjustly on settlers in unorganized districts, and should be immediately remedied.

### 6. Representation.

The government's policy as to revision of the voters' lists and precipitating the present election without a proper redistribution of constituencies is a complete subversion of all the privileges of representative government.

We favor personal registration and insist on immediate redistribution.

We favor woman suffrage and personal property taxes, and the raising of the exemption of income limit to \$2,000.

### 7. Taxation.

Abolition of the poll tax.

Exemption of improvements on all lands paying taxes to the Provincial government.

A readjustment of the system of taxation whereby the Province may receive a fairer proportion of the unearned increment.

Immediate reform of the present costly, cumbersome and inequitable system of collecting school taxes in unorganized districts.

### 8. Labor—Workmen's Compensation—Without Litigation.

A Provincial department of labor to be created, and a free government labor bureau established.

Thorough and frequent inspection of all industrial premises to ensure health, sanitation and safety.

The complete prohibition of child labor in factories and shops.

The present system of employers' liability insurance bears heavily upon employers, and is a frequent source of injustice to workmen and their families.

We advocate the establishment by the government of a permanent industrial insurance commission, independent of politics. This commission to have full charge of a system providing positive compensation to employees for injury received during employment, without recourse to litigation, and giving employers the benefit of accident insurance at minimum cost.

The extension of the scope of the Workmen's Compensation Act, so as to cover all hazardous employments.

The payment of wages should be made at least fortnightly.

### 9. Oriental Immigration.

We unhesitatingly condemn the hypocrisy of the Provincial government as evidenced by its refusal to re-enact its own remedy—the Natal Act—on the ground that it would embarrass the Conservative Dominion government.

We stand for a "White British Columbia," and advocate continuously increasing stringency in immigration laws until this result is attained. The Liberals of British Columbia are in favor of the total exclusion of Orientals from the Province.

We insist that the Provincial authorities shall enforce strict sanitary regulations in all congested districts.

### 10. Extension of Municipal Powers.

Increase of local control in municipal matters.

Election of license and police commissioners by popular vote.

### 11. Public Ownership of Utilities.

We emphatically declare our adherence to the principle of public ownership of public utilities, and advocate limitation of terms of franchise to corporations, renewing the same, if in the public interest, in equitable terms.

### 12. Local Control of Liquor Traffic.

The liquor traffic of British Columbia is at present under the absolute control of the Provincial government, and is used by it as a political machine.

We insist upon the complete removal of the liquor question from party politics.

The control of the traffic should be vested in municipalities, or, in unorganized territory, in locally elected authorities.

We favor a local option law.

In the protection of the public we insist on frequent inspection of liquor offered for sale.

### 13. Public Accounts.

We denounce the McBride government for withholding year after year the public accounts from examination by the Public Accounts Committee.

We advocate the organization of an auditor general's department, independent of the government.

### 14. Fishery Control.

We advocate immediate steps

to restore the fishing industry to white fishermen.

The protection of British Columbia fisheries from foreign poachers.

The adequate policing of Canadian waters.

### 15. Protection of Water Supply.

We condemn the shortsighted policy of the Provincial government in alienating the timber lands on watersheds tributary to cities, towns and municipalities. It should be the immediate duty of the government to remedy the mischief caused by this mistaken policy.

### 16. Torrens System of Registration of Title.

The present system of land registration is expensive and cumbersome. We advocate the adoption of the Torrens system of titles, and a reduction of registration fees.

### 17. Non-Partisan Civil Service.

We favor the organization of a civil service commission for both inside and outside services. Appointments to the civil service should be based on fitness, and not on partisan service.

# ATHABASCA'S WHEAT VALLEYS

After Four Years in North Coun-  
R. N. W. M. P. Sergeant Tells  
of Promising Prospects There  
for Agriculture.

Sergeant A. W. L. Miller, in charge of the R. N. W. M. P. post at Fort Chipewyan, on his way to his home in Scotland, declared it to be his well founded belief that the district about Lake Athabasca will be a good wheat country. The summer season is quite as long as it is in the Edmonton district and the days are much longer, thus giving the grain a good deal of sunshine and so developing it more rapidly. Wheat is being grown now at Fort Province on Great Slave Lake.

The possibilities of the country as a ranching district are undoubtedly good, for the wild buffalo still roam the prairies to the north of Lake Athabasca, and where the buffalo can live there ranching should be a paying proposition.

Sergeant Miller stated that his duties in the north had to do principally with infringements on the liquor and game laws, the Indians being remarkably law abiding and easy to manage. The Indians are Crees and Chipewyans and all the pure blood Indians are under the direction of the Catholic priests, all of them being Roman Catholics, there not being a single full blooded Indian who is a Protestant.

The colony of white people at Fort Chipewyan consists of the sergeant and two troopers, two priests and three other white men. The remainder are either half breeds or Indians.

The railroad to Athabasca Landing, now finished, makes it possible to travel by rail and river to Fort McPherson, on Peel River, the farthest north Hudson's Bay post. There has been a gold discovery reported at the east end of Lake Athabasca, but the proofs have not as yet been forthcoming.

The fur bearing animals in the region about Lake Athabasca are again increasing, the rabbits being on the increase. The rabbit is the real fur bearing animal, because it is the food of those animals which are trapped for their pelts. About every six years the rabbits are thinned out by plagues or by those animals which live on them, so that the supply of fur is cut down considerably until the rabbits become more numerous.

Sergeant Miller has been at the fort for four years and so is well acquainted with the district. This is his first leave of absence in ten years. He will return to his post when his leave expires.

### 5,000 Facts About Canada.

The 1912 edition of that popular and indispensable booklet, "5,000 Facts About Canada," compiled by Frank Yeigh, the widely known writer and lecturer, and author of "Through the Heart of Canada," is now out and is replete with new matter, including an outline map of Canada, a calendar and the new census figures. In compact form is found a wealth of facts and figures of the Dominion that will prove a revelation of our natural resources and growth. The mass of information, gathered with infinite pains, should be in the hands of every intelligent Canadian, and the wide sale and popularity of the publication is easily understood. Copies may be had for 25 cents from the Canadian Facts Publishing Company, 667 Spadina avenue, Toronto.

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