

## THE DAILY NEWS

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## DAILY EDITION.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

## NOT A "FRIEND AT COURT" BUT A FIGHTER.

"In an effort to keep the party together the Liberals of the city last night named a candidate."—The Trombone.

It would have been news to citizens generally to state when, how and why the Liberal party of this city got broken up and scattered. It is only a few months since there was a federal election, and the party then made a fight against the Both-Feet-in-the-Trough party that will be remembered for some time. It will be regrettably recalled by them fourteen days from date.

The Liberal party of this city has never been split up into cliques and factions as is the Conservative party of the city today. There are no protesting Progressives in its ranks, condemning the rule or ruin element as claiming a right to freedom of opinion. All the Liberals are progressives, united for progress and the best interests of the city and not for the spoils of party.

They are as united now as they were at the last election. They have added to their numbers because of the general disaffection in the Conservative ranks and the disgust of citizens generally at the abuses worked by the Two-Man government and the supineness of the local member.

The Liberals are confident of making even a better showing this time than last. They are stronger and they have more to fight for. Then it was a fight for the general principles of reciprocity; now it is a specific fight for home; for our city so scandalously robbed and jobbed by McBride and the horde of hirelings paid to support him.

"Prince Rupert and the Skeena has much to expect from the government in the next few years. It needs a friend at court."—The Trombone.

The policy of the government we are asked to support is to keep us expecting for "the next few years" and then some. We need no friend at court. We have tried that and found it absolutely worthless. The "friend at court" we are asked to support is not a free and independent citizen, but a servile flunky of the court, one to whom his master's wink or nod is a command. We need a champion at court to fight for the people's rights; a man of youthful enthusiasm and virile force;

a man of trained logical mentality ever ready with intellectual expedients to wage honest battle for his city and his home, and in Alex. M. Manson, the candidate selected for the whole people by the Liberal party of the city, such a well-armored champion is presented.

Reports from different parts of the province indicate that a large crop of independent Conservative candidates is springing up. This promises well for the election of Liberals in what have hitherto been regarded as Conservative strongholds.—Vancouver World.

Announcement is made of a general election in British Columbia in March. As the Liberals are represented in the legislature by one lone member they have not much to lose and should welcome the chance to increase their representation in the house. The Liberals in British Columbia, on the showing made in both the local and Dominion elections, constitute some 40 per cent. of the voting population, yet they have only one representative in the legislature and none at all at Ottawa.—Halifax Chronicle.

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 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 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, crusing 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 reafforestation.

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.

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

**14. Fishery Control.**

We advocate an increase of

the present school curriculum to render thorough education in any branch impossible.

We advocate immediate steps

## 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 convenience 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.

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.

The immediate construction of a railway to Peace River.

We will co-operate with the Dominion government in securing an 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.

## 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 actual users.

Improved methods of preventing timber waste and systematized reafforestation.

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.

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

## 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.

We advocate an increase of

the present school curriculum to render thorough education in any branch impossible.

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.

## 18. Protection of Native Indians.

We condemn the present policy of the Provincial government in regard to native Indians.

We advocate the organization of a commission to inquire into the condition of native Indians.

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