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DAILY HERALD

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1907

OPPOSITION FALLACIES.

Mr. Hazen seems to have been more reckless than usual in his statements at the Gagetown Tory meeting.

There was nobody there to controvert his declarations—to prove the falsity of them, and bring him up with a round turn, as happens to him when face to face with the government members and their supporters in the legislature.

Nobody believes—not even Mr. Hazen himself—that this province is going to the dogs simply because one J. D. Hazen is not at the head of the government.

Nobody believes either that Mr. Hazen is receiving or is likely to receive any considerable Liberal support to set himself and his Tory friends in authority, and when he alleges to the contrary he is simply deceiving his audiences.

He would not be much of a Liberal who would cast in his lot with the Tory opposition in the legislature, who are doing their best to destroy the Liberal governments, both in Fredericton and Ottawa.

Mr. Hazen still harps on the Highway Act, and declares that he would repeal it, but he would do nothing of the kind, were he in power to-morrow. Mr. Hazen and his supporters in the legislature voted for the principle of the Highway Act. Mr. Hazen himself declaring in unequivocal terms that the old statute law or law was no good, and must be repealed, and it is childish and absurd for him to be running through the country declaring against an act which he was compelled to support.

Mr. Hazen was equally astray in his reference to the agricultural policy and administration.

The government has been particularly industrious and intelligently active in the interests of the farmers. They established the Department of Agriculture, with a responsible minister at its head, they have bonused rolling mills, established by provincial aid, butter and cheese factories, and have made several importations of stock which have proved of great benefit to the farmers. They established the farmers' institutes at which the tillers of the soil receive educational advantages never provided them before, and in various other ways have helped in the development of the agricultural interests. Mr. Hazen knows all this, yet he flagrantly and maliciously misrepresents and belies the government, but the farmers whom he addresses know better.

And so it goes all through Mr. Hazen's Gagetown speech which is but a parrot-like repetition of his other addresses delivered throughout the province.

Mr. Hazen is hungry for office, from which he has been excluded so long.

There never was a greater political failure in the whole history of the province than the present leader of the opposition. There is absolutely nothing in the statute books, either here or at Ottawa, to give evidence that he possesses the smallest ability as a constructive politician. In parliament he was a failure, a blind follower of a Tory government which went to smash in the same election that wound up his federal career, and in the legislature and before the people he has led his party to defeat after defeat, until in the present House it is a mere remnant. Mr. Hazen is in the field as a prophet, and he appears to believe that

the people of New Brunswick are prepared to entrust its affairs to a Tory administration led by himself, but he never made a greater mistake.

He will discover that when the government throws down the gauge of battle the country will respond willingly and enthusiastically to the administration's appeal, and that he and his party will be left high and dry on the rocks of popular condemnation.

Mr. Hazen's present assumption of confidence is only bluff, his political addresses are fiction, and the electors will weigh him in the balance and will find him wanting as happened in the last contest.

A DIVIDED PARTY.

The faction fight among the Tories of York as the time for holding their convention draws near, waxes hotter and hotter. Mr. Pinder is bound to have a place on the ticket, but others of his party are just as determined that he shall be turned down.

Mr. Pinder cannot see why a few recent converts should have so much to say in the Tory councils, and his friends very strongly resent the attempt to strangle his political aspirations. But the party wants men with money on their ticket.

Have they not declared for electoral purity from Leader Borden down?

Some leading Tories declare that if Mr. Pinder is nominated they will not support the ticket, while others are equally insistent that if the Nackawick king is not recognized the ticket need not look to them for assistance, and the fight is a pretty one as it stands.

CURRENT COMMENT

Mr. Borden wanted opposition in St. John, and he got it where the chicken got the axe.

Great political reaction in St. John. Tory by 600 majority in 1904; Liberal by acclamation in 1907.

Dr. Daniel, Tory M. P. for St. John city must feel like—well he cannot help seeing, in large letters, the handwriting on the wall.

Hon. Dr. Pugsley, Minister of Public Works, and Hon. Geo. P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, were elected by acclamation to-day in St. John and Brockville respectively.

An elector at the Gagetown Tory meeting tried to draw out Mr. Slipp on the sewerage question, but did not meet with much success. That gentleman has long enjoyed the practical benefit of sewage disposal by means of the river.

Our Tory friends look anything but pleasant when reminded that St. John city and county which went against the government by 600 majority in the last election, is now represented by that eminent Liberal minister, Hon. Dr. Pugsley, elected by acclamation.

One of the Tory orators at the Gagetown meeting was Mr. Maxwell, M. P. P., whose political career is drawing rapidly to a close. The other day Mr. Maxwell could not command sufficient support in the St. John common council to secure re-election to the school board.

Mr. Hazen's Fredericton organ, assuming that Mr. A. P. Barnhill may be called to the office of attorney-general, proceeds to reflect on that gentleman, but where is the lawyer in the whole Opposition outfit that will measure anywhere near Mr. Barnhill in ability in his profession. If the Tories should come into power Mr. Hazen would be attorney-general, but think you that Mr. Barnhill is not at least the equal of the opposition leader in his profession?

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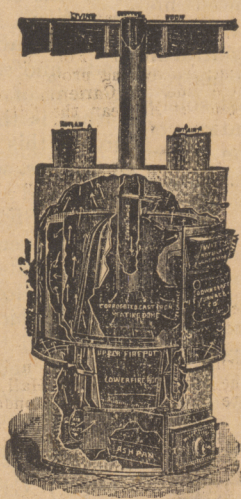
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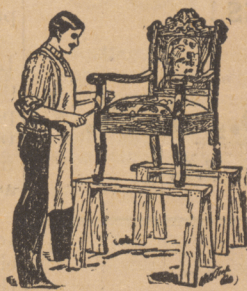
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