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DAILY HERALD.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1902.

DECLINE TO ENTHUSE.

Mr. Hazen's campaign of education, of arousing the public conscience against the government, as Mr. Macinerney puts it, is not meeting with that measure of success that the promoters desire. Indeed Mr. Hazen's efforts to organize his party throughout the province and select candidates is a disastrous failure. The opposition leader and his chief lieutenant have been on the road for a couple of weeks, with very disappointing results. The country absolutely refuses to arouse, even though attacked by the florid oratory of Mr. Hazen and Mr. Macinerney. Within a week three opposition conventions called for the express purpose of nominating candidates, have failed to name men willing to contest the constituencies. At Fairville, Campbellton and Gagetown Mr. Hazen's supporters could not muster gatherings sufficiently large and representative to put men in the field.

In Queen's, the opposition convention was advertised for weeks, and it was announced privately that candidates would be found ready to take the field, but the convention after listening to an oration from the leader, adjourned without doing any real business. The attendance was small, some parishes being entirely unrepresented, and even the Sun, feeling the effects of the failure, makes no mention either in its news or editorial columns, of the gathering.

Where then is the evidence of the intense desire of the people of New Brunswick to rid themselves of the present government and establish Mr. Hazen and his friends in office?

The opposition campaign up to date is a fizzle, a useless expenditure of wind, a succession of flimsy speeches without practical action to back them up. Mr. Hazen is a fluent talker but a poor organizer, and the people of New Brunswick, like Mr. Teed of St. Stephen, have no confidence in his ability to lead a party successfully.

AN UNFAIR ATTACK.

We doubt if the kind of criticism which some of Mr. Hazen's speakers are making of the government will win people to the opposition side. For instance one of the gentlemen who addressed the electors at Campbellton is credited in the Moncton Times report in this way: "There was Surveyor General Dunn, a man totally unfit for his position. He was unfit to introduce a bill in the legislature respecting his own department, and was always conveniently absent when anything of this kind had to be done. Then there was the Minister of Agriculture. His greatest parliamentary oratorical effort from 1900 to 1902 was, 'I move that you do now leave the chair, Mr. Speaker.' Hon. Mr. Hill was an honorable enough man, but he was a child in the hands of Tweedie and Pugsley."

Hon Mr Dunn is known from one end of the country to the other as one of the most successful administrators that ever had charge of the Crown Land office in this province. The allegation that he is unfit to introduce bills respecting his own department, and that he is always conveniently absent when anything of this kind has to be done, is as unkind as it is untrue, and Mr Hazen who listened to this statement knows better, and should not have permitted it to pass unchallenged.

The observations regarding Mr Farris are equally far from the truth. The

Commissioner of Agriculture does not pose as an orator, but his addresses in the house are plain, honest statements of facts and are always well received by the House, and given full credence in the country. Mr. Hill is a gentleman of high and honorable character, with a long political experience, and neither he nor his colleagues who are said by Mr. Hazen's lieutenant to be but clay in the hands of the Premier and Attorney General, are open to the charge that is made against them. All three are gentlemen of standing, influence and good character in their constituencies and throughout the province, and Mr. Hazen's friends have no justification for attacking them in the manner that we have quoted.

RICH IN PROMISES.

Mr. Hazen at Campbellton, made a big bid for the lumbermen's vote, which is rather a humiliating position for him to take after the way the opposition have abused the gentlemen engaged in that important industry.

The lumbermen have been represented as the special pets of the government and as men who have contributed large sums of money to corrupt the constituencies in the interest of the government, yet these are the gentlemen who Mr. Hazen is attempting to attract to his support. Rather presumptuous, business is it not? Hear Mr. Hazen's appeal for support. "There was no intention," he declared, "on the part of myself or the opposition to deal other than fairly by the lumber industry. There was no disposition on his part to increase by a single cent the charge made upon the stumpage of this province. Rather if it was found that it was more than the industry could bear he would decrease the cost of operating."

Mr. Hazen has evidently taken upon himself the renewal of the yellow valise campaign to seduce the lumbermen from their support of the government. While his organs and speakers have been declaring that the lumbermen were being caressed and honored by the administration, the leader himself steps in and practically offers a reduction of stumpage, for which there is no demand even among the men engaged in the lumber business. Mr. Hazen does not name a figure in his reduction program, but Mr. Mott has said that he would favor a rate of sixty-five cents.

Promises are cheap and ready just now in opposition circles, anything and everything to gain support, but the lumbermen are not likely to jump at the bait thrown out to them.

St. Andrew's Beacon: "The man who has his knife in Mr. Blair, the man who wants the attorney-general's job; the man whose friends were dismissed from office because they tried to cheat the public; the man who got mad because he couldn't squeeze the government to the tune of several thousand dollars every year, all these, and many more, have thrown in their lot with the local opposition party, and are trying to impress the public with a sense of their unadulterated, unalloyed selfishness."

The opposition leader and his lieutenants are making touching appeals to Liberals for support in the elections. They are ardent coalitionists now—want everybody in their ranks, no matter whether Grit or Tory, and how have they commenced their work. By nominating a straight Tory ticket in St John city, and asking Liberals to swallow the dose.

Mr Hazen did not bring Mr Macinerney to Gagetown, but Mr Horton Hetherington was there. Was the Opposition leader afraid Mr Hetherington might repeat some of his Bathurst school agitation speeches in the presence of Mr Macinerney?

THE TWO SCOURGES

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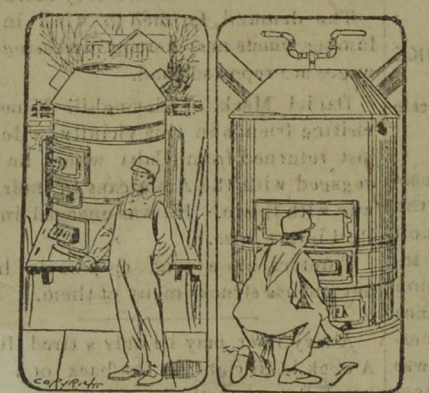
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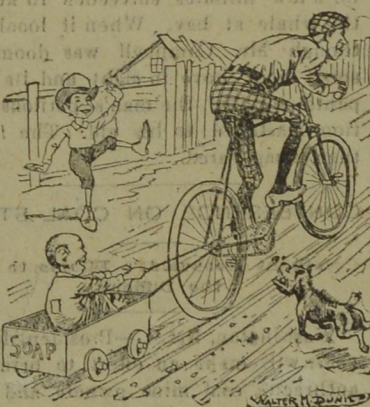
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