The Colonist.

MONDAY, JULY 12, 1897.

OUR FOOD PRODUCTS IN THE ORIENT.

Vice-President Spaulding, of the Pacific Meat Company, in an interview at Tacoma a few days ago, made this interesting statement:

The future great meat market of the Pacific Northwest lies beyond the Pacific. The Chinese and Japanese are gradually developing an appetite for meats. We will have to wait but a year or two, I believe, to enjoy a good demand from those countries. The Asiatics will learn to like meat just as they have learned to like flour.

It is not very easy to grasp the full significance of this, and especially what it means to Canada as a whole and British Columbia in particular. This Province has many millions of acres of the finest cattle ranges in the world and there is a vast region in the Northwest Territories to supplement them. We can produce a very large portion of the meat which the Orient is likely to require for years to come. This must be shipped in cold storage, which means the erection of extensive abattoirs and cold storage plants in this Province, and a fleet of steamers with cold storage appliances on the Oriental route. But it means more than this to the Province, for the hides of the beeves would be worked up here into leather, thereby utilizing our great hemlock forests, and glue and fertilizer factories would follow as a matter of course. If this meat trade develops, as Mr. Spaulding thinks it will, it means as much to British Columbia in the long run as the gold mines.

That the Orient will become a great consumer of our wheat is now settled beyond all question. This means that upwards of 400,000,000 people will be, to a greater or less extent, consumers of our farm products. When we reflect upon what the demand for American wheat and beef from the less than 40,000,000 people of the British Isles has amounted to, we get some basis from which we may surmise as to the possible expansion of the Oriental trade. If the people of the Orient should in time come to consume one-tenth per capita of imported wheat and meats as the people of the British Isles do, the trade would reach $200,000,000 a year. If they should never consume more than one-twentieth as much per capita as the British people, the trade would be worth $100,000,000 a year. In the face of these astounding figures the most extravagant anticipations of the greatness of our future Oriental commerce seem justified.

Canada's position in respect to this possible trade is commanding. We have advantages, in respect to geographical situation; we have the enormous advantages of possessing the greatest unoccupied wheat-growing and cattle-raising area in the world. The competition of the United States may be quite serious at the outset, but it will not after a time be greatly felt. That country has about reached the limit of its wheat production. Owing to favorable seasons there may be isolated years hereafter, as there have been during the last decade, when the wheat crop increased very largely above the average; but this is not because a greater breadth of wheat is sown, for there is practically no more land suitable for wheat growing to be taken up. By this it is not meant that there are not millions of acres in the United States, not yet in the hands of farmers, that are fit or can be made fit to grow wheat. There is much of such land, but of it 100,000,000 acres, or thereabouts, will not be available for cultivation without irrigation, and wheat cannot be grown on irrigated lands and sold in competition with the product of the natural wheat fields of Canada, Argentine and elsewhere. There is in the Southern States a large area of timbered and swamp lands, which if cleared and drained will grow wheat, but in these cases the cost of preparing for the crop, and the smallness of the yield per acre, put them out of the sphere of competition. There remain scattered acres of natural wheat lands yet unoccupied, but these will not more than supply the needs of the increasing population and offset the diminishing product per acre of the Middle West. Some competent authorities deny that they will do this. For these reasons it is very clear that the United States cannot supply the Orient with much of its wheat.

In the meat trade the United States can be a more formidable competitor, owing to the vast corn crop produced every year, and the possibility of increasing this. But Canada has better natural ranges, a more favorable climate on the whole for cattle, and some advantages in the matter of transportation. This country can hold its own in the export of cattle to the Orient. It can reasonably hope to divide the trade with its neighbors, if the business is handled systematically and intelligently.

These matters are of course, peculiarly subjects for private enterprise; nevertheless the federal government can do something towards advancing them. We are at a disadvantage in not having anything abroad that can be called a Canadian consular system. On the other hand the United States consuls in Oriental parts send home monthly very valuable reports on trade questions, which are printed for public distribution. We suggest that Sir Wilfrid Laurier would be doing some practical work along the line of Imperial consolidation, if he could induce the British government to instruct its consuls in China and Japan to investigate and make occasional reports to the Dominion government on the Oriental market for Canadian products.

THERE IS HOPE YET.

Hon. Mr. Turner told the Board of Trade Friday that the Provincial government has renewed its efforts to secure the construction of the railway from Penticton to Boundary Creek, and that he was hopeful of a successful result. The importance of this piece of railway is such that it may commend itself to the Federal government for immediate consideration. For some reason best known to themselves, and which, we believe, we could very closely guess, a certain noisy but uninfluential clique in Victoria are opposing this. They would rather that the railway never should be built, that the development of the Boundary Creek country should be retarded and that its trade should be drawn away to United States cities, than that the Turner government should be successful in its efforts to promote the immediate construction of this line. This is unfortunate, because any division in a community on a question of this character is prejudicial; but the effort to have the railway begun this year may yet succeed in spite of these obstructionists, as every other plan for the betterment of the city and Province has succeeded in spite of their opposition.

WILL JAPAN SEIZE HAWAII?

Some of the Japanese papers have adopted a very warlike tone in regard to Hawaii. The statement is freely made that if the claims that have been preferred against the Dole government are not immediately recognized, a Japanese army of occupation with a naval squadron will be sent to Honolulu. We take this sort of talk with many grains of allowance. Undoubtedly Japan could take possession of the island republic at any time, if no other nation interfered; but the United States will not permit anything of the kind to happen. As the Japan Herald says, once in possession it would be a very difficult matter and perhaps almost impossible for the United States to dislodge the Japanese, but it would not be a very easy matter to get possession. The cruiser Philadelphia is now at Honolulu, and the Oregon could, if necessary, be sent to the islands. These two vessels could protect Hawaii. The only difficulty would be the coal supply. If the Japanese residents of the islands were armed, being all men who have served a military term, they could readily take possession of the coal stores, in which event the United States vessels would have to come home after a time unless they could be coaled at sea. If there was any danger of a *coup de main* on the part of Japan, it would be a comparatively easy matter for the United States government to despatch to Honolulu one or two steam colliers in company with the Oregon, in which event that government would be master of the situation. We do not imagine that there will be any trouble between the United States and Japan over Hawaii, and if the government of the former power would stop talking about what it is going to do and do something, there would not be the least prospect of any.

BURLEIGH-SALISBURY.

Attention has been directed to the remarkable fact that when Elizabeth sat on the throne of England, her prime minister was William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burleigh. Three hundred and fifty years from the time that Cecil entered parliament, Britain's greatest Queen celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of her ascension to the throne and her prime minister is another Cecil, Robert Arthur Talbot Gascoyne-Cecil, Marquis of Salisbury. Robert Cecil, son of Lord Burleigh, was created Earl of Salisbury in 1605. The Marquis of Salisbury is a direct descendant of the first Earl and hence from Elizabeth's great prime minister.

There are not many more notable things than this on the personal side of political history. Not many people have reflected upon the fact that in all the jubilee festivities the Marquis of Salisbury has not been especially prominent. He is not a man who lends himself readily to the spectacular. He is inclined to be blunt yet argumentative in his treatment of public questions. Socially he is retiring. He did not marry to please his father and his income in his younger days was so small that he was glad to supplement it by contributing to the Saturday Review. The habits of retirement which he then acquired have not changed, and to-day he is not much in the public eye except when his duties compel. Yet even his reserved nature must be stirred by the consciousness that, as premier of Great Britain, at the height of the Victorian era, he can look back to his remote ancestor, who was premier when the glories of the Elizabethan era reached their culmination. It was the first great Cecil who summoned the navy of England to the Channel to meet and vanquish the Spanish Armada and secure for Britain the right to rule the ocean. It is a Cecil who calls the greatest fleet that the world has ever seen to meet in the same waters to demonstrate to the world that the sceptre which Howard of Effingham snatched from Spain is still in British hands. The mention of Salisbury's name in connection with the Jubilee brings up in the light of history almost as much food for thought as any feature of this great demonstration.

OUR PROVINCIAL NEIGHBORS.

Some of the public men and newspapers of Great Britain having expressed satisfaction over the prospect of better times in the United States, quite a chorus has gone up from the press of the latter country to the effect that the improvement will not benefit British trade. It is not very easy to imagine anything more absurdly provincial. The United States is a large, prosperous and wealthy country. It has a foreign trade, that is, of exports and imports, of about $1,500,000,000 a year, the greater part of which is carried in British ships. There is enough British capital invested in the United States to yield $300,000,000 a year if all the investments paid 6 per cent. The most of the trade which the United States does with other countries, except Great Britain, increases the importations of those countries from Great Britain and adds to the value of British investments in those countries. It is simply impossible for the United States to be prosperous without its prosperity being reflected upon Great Britain.

That men with sufficient intelligence to act as editors of leading newspapers should have such inadequate conceptions of the first principle of commercial intercourse between countries as to take the extraordinary position, which some of American papers have in this connection, is a matter of surprise, or would be if we had not had so many exhibitions of this kind of folly. It is not very long ago that the advocates of McKinley's election to the presidency were urging as a reason why he should be elected, that there was prosperity in British labor circles. This, instead of being a satisfaction to the people of the United States, as it ought to be, seeing that the British workman is the best customer in the world for American food products, was harped on as illustrating the wickedness of the Democratic administration, which had about as much to do with the condition of business in Great Britain as with the last transit of Venus.

We sincerely hope that there will be good times, the very best of times, in the United States, for they cannot keep their prosperity to themselves. Good times are as catching as the smallpox. By and bye the public men and newspapers will realize the inexpressible littleness of their present attitude to other countries. When they do, their own country will advance in dignity, wealth and importance as never before.

BELIEVING that when a man has, or thinks he has, a grievance he should be allowed a reasonable opportunity of stating it, we print Mr. Peter McLennan's letter, but not that signed "Fiat Justicia" accompanying it; for the latter has no conceivable bearing upon the case, as far as we are able to discover. Mr. McLennan's grievance is two years old. The facts of the case are that he was road foreman at Cobble Hill, and that in 1895 his services were no longer required by the government in that capacity, but he was given superintendence of the Victoria-Nanaimo highway. It is not our place to answer the questions, which he propounds in his letter; but as he has chosen the COLONIST as a means of making his queries public, we have taken the trouble to investigate the case, and can inform him that, if he has done any of the things which he asks about, the Department of Public Works has no information to that effect. There is no complaint of any kind on file against him. He was a good officer, but it seemed desirable in the public interest that his services should be utilized in another capacity. We may add, for his information, that a road foreman has no permanent tenure of office, but holds his place only as long as the Department wishes him to. Sometimes the fact that a man has held such a place for a number of years, as Mr. McLennan did, makes it expedient to give him another field of usefulness. The letter accompanying Mr. McLennan's, and to which he refers, speaks of him as having been suspended for a year. He was not suspended. He was simply notified that his services as foreman at Cobble Hill would not be needed in 1895. This did not mean that he would be needed in 1896 or at any subsequent time.

VANCOUVER, or rather the Vancouver World, has not yet risen above the petty jealousy of the town lot boomster. Some days ago the COLONIST took occasion to correct some errors in a description of Victoria printed in the New York Evening Post. There was not a line in it to which a Vancouver man could take offence, for that city was only referred to in the most incidental manner. This article the World uses as a text for an article lauding Vancouver to the sky and belittling Victoria. When the COLONIST finds itself unable to set forth the advantages of this city without decrying other places, it will cease to write on such subjects.

THEY had a rousing Fourth of July in Rossland. Such celebrations by Americans in Canada suggest the complaint which young husbands are alleged to indulge in to the effect that "this bread is not like what mother used to make." Our American friends came here because they can do better here than at home, fall so much in love with our institutions that they want to run them, and once a year burst forth into gushing laudations of the greater happiness, peace and freedom which is enjoyed under the Stars and Stripes. This is all right. It pleases them and does not hurt us, but in passing it may be observed to them that, when it comes to talking about liberty, they must realize this to be the country where it exists in a pure and unadulterated form. To be allowed to celebrate their national holiday, to display their national flag everywhere and assert their nationality in any way they see fit, is a privilege which British countries only permit foreigners to exercise.

THE Boundary Creek Times has the meanness to insinuate that Mr. Heinze obtained the land grant for the Columbia & Western by means of a champagne supper. One can usually judge of a man's price by what he thinks other people can be bought for. Does the Boundary Creek paper wish it to be understood that it can be bought for a bottle of champagne? If not, what does it mean by its miserable insinuation that the Lieutenant-Governor, the provincial ministers and members of the legislature were bought by a supper? We cry "For Shame" against such despicable insinuations either in the legislature or the press. Let us at least have the decency to accord to our political opponents the ordinary attributes of manliness.

THE Vancouver World says that the COLONIST "continues to harp" upon the claims of the Province upon the Dominion. We cannot congratulate the World upon its choice of language, and at the same time give it credit, as we would like to do, for having the interests of the Province at heart. Everybody admits these claims, says our contemporary. Everybody does not. If the utterances of papers, that are supposed to represent the Liberal party count for anything, these claims are not recognized in the East, and not very heartily endorsed even at home. The COLONIST proposes to continue to harp on these claims until they receive not only nominal but substantial acknowledgment.

THE Nelson Tribune, which claims to know more things and know them more positively than anybody else in the world, declares that, not only the members of the Provincial government, but all the subordinate officials of the government must be dismissed and will be dismissed after the next election. Kootenay is apparently to have everything in future. Will the Tribune tell us if Victoria may hope to retain its climate and its remembrance of the glories that are so soon to vanish?

IT may be quite true, as the Oregonian says, that the trade of the United States is so enormous that the nations, which talk about tariff retaliation, will hesitate about beginning it; but at the same time a fence may be made so high, that no matter how much a man wants to get on the other side, he will prefer to stay where he is than be at the trouble of climbing over it.

HARVARD and Yale had a baseball game the other day. Harvard won, and the boys felt so good over it that they telegraphed the result to the Queen, the Kaiser and the Czar. They intended sending a message to the same effect to Li Hung Chang and the Emperor of China, but their funds were not sufficient, so they expended the balance in champagne.

AN interesting piece of news comes from equitorial Africa. The Soudanese tribes there have revolted against the Khalifa, who has been obliged to send a force against them. and has thereby so greatly weakened his position at Omdurman that the Anglo-Egyptian expedition will probably meet little resistance in its next advance.

THE Times is quite right. The COLONIST does not like to see or hear any reference to the dinner which Mr. Heinze gave some eighteen months ago to some gentlemen at the Driard. The COLONIST is utterly unable to understand why a gentleman may not recognize the hospitality of his friends by inviting them to dine with him.

THE Inland Sentinel has forgotten the facts when it says that the COLONIST's present attitude, in regard to the claims of British Columbia for railway construction is inconsistent with its former position on this subject. The COLONIST stands now on precisely the same ground as it always stood, as reference to its files will show.

THE Halifax Chronicle, in the course of a long article, says that there will be a general objection to doing much for railways in British Columbia. Our contemporary ought to come West and see the country and then it will cease to print such rubbish.

THE Oregonian issued a special illustrated mining number on July 3, which was undoubtedly unequalled in completeness by any special mining number ever issued on the Pacific Coast.

THERE is just 46.6 cents' worth of silver in an American dollar.

She—What a little mouth your young lady friend has! It doesn't look large enough to hold her tongue. He—It doesn't. —Tit-Bits.

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HE WILL GET THERE!

Jam! Jam! Not *Jim Jam*, but Red Currant *Jam*, Black Currant *Jam*, Apricot *Jam*, and all *Jam*. We have the fruit and sugar to make *Jam*, and the bottles to hold *Jam*.

Pint Jam Jars	75c
Quart Jam Jars	90c
Half Gallon Jam Jars	1.10
Apricots per box	90c
Peaches per box	90c
Sugar, 20 lbs. for	1.00

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THE CANADIAN PRESS.

OUTPUT OF OUR MINES.

The ore shipments from the Rossland camp for last week, as shown by our report, aggregated the magnificent total of 1,806 tons. This is the biggest week in our history and one of which any young camp in the world might be proud. It is more than 300 tons a day for the six working days in the week and at the rate of nearly 100,000 tons a year. This ore is worth $30 a ton at least, probably much more, and the 1,806 tons we shipped last week added to the wealth of the world over $50,000.

In this connection we would like to call attention to the great record West Kootenay is making this year as a wealth producer. The Slocan country is now shipping about 700 tons of ore and concentrates a week, worth say $80 a ton or in the aggregate $56,000. The Nelson district is sending to the Hall Mines smelter about 1,200 tons a week, worth over $20 a ton, or $25,000 in the aggregate. The three districts—Rossland, Slocan and Nelson—are therefore producing ore to the value of $130,000 a week, which is at the rate of a little over $9,000,000 per year.—Rossland Miner.

ADVICE TO PROSPECTORS.

Now the only course that seems reasonable for you to pursue in order that you may realize on your summer's work in the hills, is to meet the capitalist half way. You can bind him to do a certain amount and character of development work. If you are honest in your confidence in your property you should not be afraid to sell on what may be found after a certain amount of sinking or tunnelling. If you are dealing in "wild cats" that is another proposition; you may conceal your business for a time but sooner or later you will be properly placed. At any rate, whether or not you are actuated by honesty, your present policy is working an injury to the community and you yourself are among the chief sufferers.—Slocan Pioneer.

THE SENATE.

It would seem to be worth Canada's while to think seriously of the desirability of changing the appointive system of our Senate to an elective one.—Toronto Star.

A FIGHT AGAINST THE SENATE.

The case in favor of a second chamber is so strong that the Senators will probably regard the coming of such a contest with the calm and confidence of the possessors of a well-nigh impregnable position, both in the constitution of the Dominion and in the better sense of the whole Dominion.—Montreal Star.

CANADA'S OPPORTUNITY.

Canada is to all intents and purposes the only country which now has room for any great number of the northern races.—Winnipeg Tribune.

PUSH IMMIGRATION.

Now is the time to push immigration. Now is the time to let people abroad know more about Canada.—Monetary Times.

CAN THIS BE TRUE?

Toronto has faults.—Toronto Telegram.