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# The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR — THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST TUESDAY OCTOBER 9, 1900 — VOLUME LXII—NO. 49

## Nanaimo's Hot Time

### The Liberal Brethren Do Not Dwell Together In Unity.

### Ralph Smith's First Meeting Almost Winds Up In Fisticuffs.

### Lively Exchange of Language and Some Dirty Linen Washed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Oct. 6.—Ralph Smith opened his campaign in an address delivered to-night to an audience which filled the opera house to overflowing, as an interesting time was anticipated owing to Sloan attending with a strong following. The expectation was not disappointed.

Dr. McKechnie, the chairman, briefly introduced Mr. Smith. On the platform were W. W. McInnes, Mr. Hawthornthwaite and other well known speakers. Dr. McKechnie said he was supporting Mr. Smith because there was no real straight Liberal to whom he could give his allegiance. Mr. Sloane, he said, three months ago was unknown politically, and nobody knew whether he was a Liberal, a Conservative or a middle-of-the road mugwump. He deprecated rumors to the effect that there would be turbulence at this meeting, for he anticipated nothing of the kind.

Mr. Ralph Smith got a hearty reception from his followers. He explained that the alteration in his position was at serious personal pecuniary loss to himself. The reason he had refused a lucrative position was because he considered his duty lay with the labor interest in Nanaimo. He considered the cause of labor would have been injured if he had accepted. (Great cheering.)

There was a long series of interruptions by Mr. Ben Nott, who demanded to know if Mr. Smith had applied to S. M. Robins for support. The fracas almost terminated in a row, but Nott finally subsided.

Mr. Smith went on to say that he deeply regretted the failure of the Dominion government to make the arbitration in labor compulsory, and contended that the only men to send to represent labor interests were men directly interested in labor. He construed Mr. Sloan's opposition to him as opposition to labor interests of this country. Regarding the Oriental commission, he said it was of tremendous importance to have labor members at Ottawa. He denounced the entrance tax on Chinese and said that the only cure was absolute exclusion. He did not believe any man could defeat him in this district, and he was confident he could defeat Messrs. Sloan and Bryden, combined, and be sent to Ottawa by a larger majority than that which sent him to the provincial house.

Mr. Sloan followed, and explained his position, saying he was particularly interested in the Chinese question from long residence in China. He confessed that he had asked Mr. Robins for support, and had also asked Ralph Smith for his. He was determined to stay in the field and win.

A resolution was then moved by J. Campbell, seconded by James Young, to the effect that as the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress had endorsed Ralph Smith, the labor unions of Nanaimo do the same, and pledge themselves to support him.

Scenes of great turbulence occurred. Mr. W. W. B. McInnes began a violent denunciation of Ralph Smith. Mr. McInnes said it was an extraordinary thing for Mr. Smith to be forced on the constituency by outsiders, when he failed utterly to get endorsation right here. He declared Smith had gone round seeking endorsation and exerting influence to get it.

Mr. Smith bounded to the front of the platform and shouted:

"I deny that I ever went up and down the district exerting any kind of influence."

A tremendous uproar, lasting many minutes, followed, and Mr. McInnes reiterated his statement amidst deafening uproar.

A miner named Rowbottom leaped on the platform and yelled to McInnes to make good his statements.

Half the audience rose amid great excitement and every appearance of a physical clash.

Finally Mr. McInnes resumed his bitter attack on Smith amidst constant interruptions, denouncing him as a nominee of people with no interest in this district, and as a man rejected by the majority of Vancouver electoral district. A resolution endorsing Smith was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Smith replied to Mr. McInnes' strictures, declaring the latter a good man, but one who couldn't tell the truth. He denounced his Chinese expulsion bill of last session as the most ridiculous affair ever placed on record in any legislature, and wound up by declaring McInnes had got a nomination for the Dominion house at a private meeting in a private house. The meeting terminated after three rousing cheers for Smith.

Ottawa, Oct. 6.—Once again the expectant public is disappointed. The cabinet met this afternoon, but, contrary to general belief, the date of the elections was not announced. Clearly the government are not ready. Several reports from the treasury board dealing with promotions and retirements were passed.

The government will not go to the country till every vacant office is filled, but the names of appointees will not be made public until the elections are over, in order not to sour any of the faithful.

Meanwhile parliament is prorogued proforma to November 12.

Montreal, Oct. 6.—At a meeting of prohibitionists of Brome, Hon. Sydney Fisher's constituency, held yesterday, it was decided not to put an Independent candidate in the field to oppose him. The fight will now be a straight party affair between Mr. Fisher and Mr. England, the Conservative candidate.

Toronto, Oct. 6.—The Conservative convention has fixed conventions for the three Toronto districts as follows: West Toronto, Saturday, October 13; Centre Toronto, October 15; East Toronto, October 16.

The Telegram says that Tuesday, October 30, is certain to be the day the Laurier government will go before the country. The announcement is to be made in a few days.

### BELLIGERENT FISHERMEN.

Fire on a Spanish Gunboat—War Ship Ordered to the Scene.

Vigo, Spain, Oct. 6.—The fishermen of Cangas, province of Pontevedra, who are in conflict with those of the neighborhood on account of industrial rivalry, fired on the Spanish gunboat Vasco Nunez de Balboa as that vessel was leaving the port to-day, and many were wounded. The naval commandant of the port was also attacked. The government has decided to send a war vessel to the scene of the trouble.

### SUEZ CANAL CLEAR.

Sunken Collier Has Been Floated and Traffic Is Resumed.

Port Said, Oct. 6.—The American steam collier Emir, which recently sank in the Suez canal while on her way to Manila with coal for the United States fleet, has been floated, and the canal is now open to traffic.

## Dewet Turns Up Again

### He Suddenly Appears in Southern Part of Orange River Colony.

### Enters Rouxville at One End as Police Leave By the Other.

Aliwal North, Cape Colony, Oct. 1.—Gen. Dewet is reported to be a few miles south of Wepener, in the Orange River Colony, about 70 miles north of Aliwal North. The Boers near here are in a state of great excitement. All outpost camps have been called in and preparations are being made to defend the town. The detachment of Cape Police engaged in reconnoitering Rouxville, somewhat less than half way between Aliwal North and Wepener, rode out of one end of the town as the Boers galloped in at the other end. Two mounted Australians were captured. Some of the Rouxville merchants have destroyed their stocks to prevent them falling into the hands of the Boers.

### NEEDLESS ALARM.

Trouble Was Feared From Striking Miners, But All Passed Off Quietly.

Hazelton, Oct. 4.—An uprising of striking miners in the Shamokin region seemed imminent for several hours late to-night, and there were forebodings of a serious clash between armed deputies and a large body of strikers. Prompt action of some of the cooler heads succeeded in quieting the threatened conflict. Some 3,000 strikers assembled at Mount Carmel, and, headed by a band of music, started on a march to Trevorton, 16 miles away, with the avowed purpose of forcing those at work in the North Franklyn colliery to quit and join the strikers. The marchers were in an excited frame of mind. When they had covered three miles of their march, they were met by officials of their organization, who after much persuasion induced the men to abandon their purpose. The strikers then turned back, though many did so reluctantly. Meanwhile several hundred deputies had been rushed to Trevorton on special trains, and a serious conflict could scarcely have been averted had the excited strikers arrived at the scene and endeavored to carry out their threats against the workmen. Gen. Gobin, as a result of this disturbance, to-night rescinded his order for "C" Battery, National Guard, to return home to-morrow.

### A LARGE MAJORITY.

Government Will Have a Hundred and Fifty Seats in the Commons.

London, Oct. 7.—The only results of the day's polling received to-night are those from the Flint and Carnarvon districts, both of which elect Liberals; and from the Shipley division of Yorkshire West riding, which returns a Unionist. These do not alter the gains of the respective parties. There have been elected 481 members thus far, 322 of which are Ministerialists and 159 Opposition. There is no probability that the result of the balloting in 19 constituencies still to be heard from will materially affect the present position of the parties, and it is conceded that the ministerial majority in the new parliament will be in the neighborhood of 150.

### CHARITABLE HOME DESTROYED

House of Providence at Dundas Burned.

Hamilton, Oct. 4.—Fire in Dundas this afternoon destroyed the House of Providence, a large three-story building. Two hundred inmates of the home, many bedridden, were saved with difficulty. Many were brought out on beds. Loss is about $25,000.

AROUSED AT LAST

To the horrible ravages of consumption in Ontario, the government is petitioned to establish hospitals for consumptives. As a preventative to consumption there is no treatment to be compared to Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, which promptly and effectively cures every cough and cold. It has by far the largest sale of any remedy for throat and lung troubles. 25 cents a bottle. Family size, 90 cents. All dealers.

### WANTS TUAN BEHEADED.

A Story From Washington That United States Government Wants His Execution.

London, Oct. 6.—Lord Salisbury, the Associated Press understands, answered Germany's last note to-day, accepting its proposals.

The Daily Chronicle publishes the following statement by its Washington correspondent: "The United States government has proposed to the powers to insist that Prince Tuan be beheaded; that the Emperor be induced to return to Pekin to form a government of progression, under the support of European bayonets; and that the Empress Dowager be deposed."

The Daily Chronicle admits that it finds considerable difficulty in believing this report.

Rome, Oct. 6.—The Tribune publishes a despatch from Taku, dated October 4, which says that in the attack on the Shan Hai Kwan forts a mistake occurred between the Russians and French, who fired upon each other in the belief that they were assailing Boxers. Several were killed and wounded on each side.

New York, Oct. 6.—Owing to restrictive regulations and unfavorable treatment, says a Herald despatch from Hongkong, British shipping companies have abandoned the West river trade, and sold their vessels for the Yang Tse, leaving foreigners in the river ports dependent on Chinese launches in the event of a rising. Two roughly constructed beach boats, which were landing stores at Hongkong, have received hurried orders to proceed to Canton.

## The Strike Is Nearly Over

### General Opinion Is That Miners Will Accept the Owners Offer

### Nearly All Individual Operators Ready to Grant an Advance

Philadelphia, Oct. 5.—There are indications that the individual coalers in the anthracite field have agreed to the ten per cent. advance in mine workers' wages made by the big coal company. Representatives of the former, who have been in New York since Monday to secure concessions from the coal carrying roads, returned to Scranton to-day, and it is expected that the entire region will be posted to-morrow with notices from the individual operators, granting the increase. It is believed this will be followed by the return of the men to work on orders from the union leaders.

Hazelton, Oct. 5.—Pardee & Co., operating the Cranberry and Crystal Ridge mines and employing about one thousand men, posted a notice at its collieries this afternoon of an advance of 10 per cent. in wages. This is the first individual operator in the region who has granted this advance, and it is believed to indicate that all of the individual operators have agreed to pay the advance.

Scranton, Oct. 5.—The individual operators, at their meeting here this afternoon, heard the report of their committee which went to New York to ask concessions on freight rates from the coal carrying railroads. They agreed to join in the offer of a 10 per cent. increase in wages made by the big companies. One of those present says the committee did not secure any concessions, but they received a hint that if they expect consideration in this line they will stand a better show of getting it by ceasing their revolt.

To-day's decision of the individual coal operators to offer a 10 per cent. increase in wages to the striking mine workers, is regarded throughout the anthracite region as the beginning of the end of the strike. Nearly all the individual operators to-day made the announcement of their willingness to grant the increase, and notices to this effect will, it is believed, be posted at the various independent collieries. It is fully believed that the few operators who have not yet expressed their intention on the subject will fall in line with the others and grant the increase.

According to some of the operators, powder will be sold to the miners at $1.50 per keg, instead of at $2.75, as heretofore, but this reduction will be taken into consideration in figuring the next ten per cent. advance. No other concessions to the strikers are hinted at, and in fact it has been openly declared by some of the officials of the big companies that no further concessions would be granted. The individual operators delayed announcing their willingness to grant the increase pending the report of a committee sent by them to New York to endeavor to secure some concessions from the carrying companies. The committee was successful and reported to the operators. The feeling that further opposition to the big companies was useless decided them to follow the lead and grant the advance. It is the opinion that the great majority of the strikers will be satisfied to accept the offer and to return to work. Some have already been posted.

### AT THE BAYONET'S POINT.

Dublin Fusiliers Rush a Boer Laager and Make Important Captures.

London, Oct. 4.—Lord Roberts has wired as follows to the war office:

"Pulleine has returned to Lyndenburg from Spitskop with 1,000 sheep. There are skirmishes with the Boers daily, but they are small affairs.

"The Dublin Fusiliers made a night assault with the bayonet on a Boer laager between Pretoria and Johannesburg, and captured nine men, mostly important Boers who have troubled the district.

"A party of Boers have penetrated the southern part of Orange River Colony, entering Dewetsdorp and Weepener. Detachments are after them."

Women with pale, colorless faces, who feel weak and discouraged will receive both mental and bodily vigor by using Carter's Iron Pills, which are made for the blood, nerves and complexion.

## The Royal City Show

### Yesterday's Attendance Was the Largest Ever Seen at Westminister.

### Victoria Wins in the Basebal Match After Close Play.

### Vancouver Looses to Winnipeg at Lacrosse in a Rough Game.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Oct. 4.—More people attended the Westminster fair to-day than on the previous days, and it was probably the biggest crowd that ever passed through the turnstiles at Queen's park.

In the morning the big attraction was the baseball match between Victoria and Westminster. The Victoria team were again victorious, winning from the Royal City team by a score of 9 to 6. The match was closely contested throughout. For Victoria, Holness struck out 7; Wrigleswortb made a couple of two-baggers and a three-bagger and sent the ball over the fence, and Harrison made a home run. For New Westminster, Fowler struck out 7 men; Anderson and Knight made a couple of two-base hits, and Lewis three.

At 1:30 the stock parade attracted a great deal of attention, for it was far ahead of anything ever seen in New Westminster. The stock exhibited by the American breeders was very much admired.

The big event of the day, the lacrosse match between Vancouver and Winnipeg, did not come off until 3:30, and was not finished until a few minutes to 6. The game was witnessed by about 7,000 people, and was one of the hardest, roughest games ever seen in the province.

Opinions differ as to whose fault it was that there was so much rough play, but it was certainly the case that on Tuesday there was not a suggestion of roughness in the play of the Winnipeggers in their game with the Westminsters.

Vancouver had decided to play Belfrey and C. Cullin, but the Winnipeggers, on learning of their intention, refused to play if the Victoria men played with the Vancouveritos. As a result, a compromise was made, and each team played ten a side. The match was rough from the face-off, and in the first game, which lasted 23 minutes, many stops had to be made to mend up the players and settle disputes. Winnipeg scored with a clean shot on goal. The second game lasted 5 minutes, Winnipeg again scoring.

In the third game, the roughest of the lot, there was some ruling off and Vancouver claimed that the referee, a Westminster man, was acting partially. Vancouver finally won in 12 minutes. In the fourth game, the Winnipeggers again scored, after 23 minutes actual play. Vancouver took the fifth game with a rush in 2 minutes, and Winnipeg the sixth, in 9 minutes. Winnipeg's victory of 4 goals to 2 entitles them to play the Westminsters again on Saturday next.

## MINERS HOLD MASS MEETING

### New Vancouver Coal Company Employees Decide Not to Strike.

Nanaimo, Oct. 6.—A mass meeting of the miners employed by the New Vancouver Coal Company was held this afternoon in the Nanaimo opera house. It was originally intended to hold the meeting in the Free Press hall, but the number who turned out to attend the meeting compelled a change of venue to the larger hall. Ralph Smith, secretary of the Union, Tully Boyce and Tom Keith and other leading spirits in the union, were present. The meeting was held to consider the advisability of pressing the company for the demanded ten per cent. on wages, and was orignally intended to be for the pushers only, but the miners finally determined to take a hand in it, and the mines were closed for the afternoon. It was fully expected that a very stormy debate would result from the discussion, as the opinion of the men was fairly evenly divided on the question. Many of them were strongly in favor of the demand being enforced by the usual means of a strike, but the majority, it was learned before the proceeding opened, favored giving the company time to complete its contracts. During the debate which took place, one speaker pointed out that even if the company did throw up its contracts as the cheaper alternative, it would be a bad thing, because the same contracts could not likely be secured again, as the persons who had had their contracts broken would not be likely to run a similar risk again.

After a number of speeches, some violently urging a strike, the meeting decided to accept Mr. Robins' offer of ten per cent. rise in wagers to pushers and drivers, and to send a committee to him on Monday to make arrangements, as he requested. The wages of diggers and miners remain the same as at the present time until March, when the contracts expire.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE'S POPULATION

It Has Increased Slightly Over Nine Per Cent. in Ten Years.

Washington, Oct. 6.—As officially announced by the census bureau, the population of the state of New Hampshire is 411,588. In 1890 the population was 376,530, the increase being 35,058, or 9.3 per cent.

### MINERS' CONVENTION.

President Mitchell Says He Will Call One in a Few Days.

Philadelphia, Oct. 6.—President Mitchell has at last announced his intention to call a convention of miners to decide what action shall be taken in regard to the operators' offer of a 10 per cent. increase in wages. He made the announcement to-day in a speech at a miners' mass meeting at Shenandoah. He said he would issue a call in a few days. More collieries were closed to-day, the most important being the mines of Calvin, Pardee & Co. at Lattimer. Mr. Pardee announced that work would be suspended at the mines until further notice, because, he said, the authorities did not afford sufficient protection to his employees from intimidation by mobs of strikers, and he therefore would cease work to prevent injury to property and loss of life. Quietness prevailed in the other locations. The D. & H. Co. to-day joined with the other operators and posted notices offering the 10 per cent. increase. The Pennsylvania Coal Company is the only other large operator that has not posted the notices, but President Thorne has been quoted as saying that his company will agree to whatever the others do.

### LADY MINTO.

Leaves Winnipeg For Ottawa—Ball in Honor of Her Children.

Winnipeg, Oct. 6.—Lady Minto leaves to-night for the East. Last night a brilliant children's ball was held at Government House in honor of Lady Minto's daughters.

## Sentenced To Be Hanged

### One Chinese Murderer of Chief Main Pleads Guilty to the Crime.

### He Will Die on the Scaffold on November 17—Broke Jail.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver Oct. 4.—A surprise was sprung this morning in the assizes by Hip Chuck, charged with the murder of Chief Main, of Steveston, pleading guilty.

He was sentenced this afternoon to be hanged on Friday, November 17. He heard the sentence through an interpreter without a tremor, and walked out with the same dogged firmness that has always characterized his conduct.

Lee Chung, the second murderer, pleaded not guilty, and his case has not yet been concluded.

Thos. Johnson, sentenced yesterday to four years' for house breaking, escaped this morning.

### NANAIMO NEWS.

Mr. J. A. Bate and Miss Perchet Married—Striking Miners.

Nanaimo, Oct. 6—John Augustus Bate, a popular young clerk in the government offices here, and fourth son of Mayor Bate, was one of the principals in a very pretty ceremony performed late last evening in the Wallace Street Methodist church parsonage by the Rev. Walter W. Baer. The other principal was Miss Edith Perchet, step-daughter of Mr. Dempsey, at one time proprietor of the Hotel Windsor in this city. It was a very quiet wedding, and was solemnized in the presence of only a few intimate friends. Mr. Bate and his bride used to take leading parts in the amateur theatrical entertainments which were a feature of winter life in Nanaimo a few years ago. Miss Perchet is a very pretty girl, and her powers as a singer are well known in Vancouver, where she has been residing for some time past. Mr. Bate is one of the best known of the young men about town, and his marriage came as a great surprise to the boys, who did not suspect that he was meditating benedictcy. The young couple will spend the honeymoon in California, having left for Vancouver by this morning's boat.

The 40 Scotch miners who quit work at Union arrived here to-day.

### REDUCING FORCES.

Japan Sending Some of Her Troops Home From Pekin.

Pekin, Oct. 2, via Tien Tsin and Shanghai, Oct. 6.—The Japanese retrograde movement has begun, and Japanese forces in China are being rapidly reduced. It is stated that half the army will return to Japan. The British have arraigned a party of Pekin Chinese for selling ammunition to the Boxers.

Tien Tsin, Oct. 5.—Li Hung Chang has ordered the release and safe escort to Pekin of five Belgian engineers and fifteen missionaries, who have been kept prisoners many weeks at Pao Ting Fu.

Li Hung Chang is apparently doing his utmost to please the powers. His visit to Pekin is apparently indefinitely postponed.

### BRITISH GUNBOATS.

They Are Making Surveys in View of Future Events.

Shanghai, Oct. 6.—The British river gunboat Woodcock has gone to Hankow to survey the Nan river. It is significant of future events regarding the capture of the Chinese court, that the British river gunboat Woodlark is surveying a landing place near the Kang Yin forts.

### RESERVE OPEN.

Bench and Hill Claims on Bonanza and Eldorado May Be Located.

Ottawa. Oct. 6.—The government has declared that the reserve bench and hill claims on Eldorado and Bonanza creeks in the Yukon are thrown open to location.

### GUERILLA BANDS.

Boers Have Re-appeared in the Krugersdorp District.

Johannesburg, Oct. 6.—General Barton is fighting with a Boer commando northeast of Krugersdorp. Several bands of guerillas have re-appeared in that district recently, and more are expected.

Mr. Edwards, an Englishman, commanding a Boer force, who became prominent after the Jameson raid, on account of a rabid anti-British speech he made, has surrendered in Krugersdorp with a few men.

A colonial force has gone south to Elandfontein to clear the Boers out of Klip-Riversberg hills. These hills have been a regular rendezvous for the burghers lately.

The ignorant Boer inhabitants here attribute the fact that the British officials are selling and distributing food to a desire on their part to clear out the stores before they give up the country. These same people still readily believe and circulate the most absurd stories about the intervention of the powers.

Col. Henry, who wears the decoration of the Star of India, is re-organizing the police department here, and has introduced the system of identification by finger-marks, and in this way intends to register every native. This plan will be of great assistance in the distributing of passes, the regulation of labor, and the suppression of illicit liquor selling.

Heidelberg, Oct. 8.—Five persons were killed and 75 injured in a railway collision at Karlsthor last evening. The accident was due to an error in signalling. One official has been arrested.

## They Will Not Return

### The Emperor and Empress Decline to Go Back to Pekin.

### Do Not Care to Trust Themselves to Foreign Forces There.

Washington, Oct. 8.—The effort to induce the Chinese imperial court to return to Pekin has failed, after a week's persistent effort on the part of the powers. News to that effect was brought to the state department to-day by the Chinese minister, who received it via St. Petersburg from Viceroys Liu Kun Yih and Chang Chih Tung, under date of October 4. Minister Wu received the message last night. It was as follows:

"The departure of their imperial majesties from Shen Si (province) was due to the distressing conditions at Tai Yuen Fu. There is a scarcity of food supplies in the province of Shen Si on account of the long-continued drought, and the provincial capital (Tai Yuen) is almost deserted, the trades people having left on account of the disturbances caused and continued for months by the Boxer rebels who had invaded that province with the encouragement of the government. Their majesties, therefore, were obliged to proceed to Shen Si, where telegraphic communication with Shanghai and other parts of the empire is opened, and rapid communication with their majesties may thus be carried on, thus court and official business may be carried on more expeditiously. The reasons for the temporary postponement of their majesties' return to Pekin are the presence of the allied forces there, on account of which solicitous fear is doubtless entertained, besides a dread of the outbreak of diseases which usually follow after great disturbances, destruction of property and military operations. It is hoped the powers will be considerate in their judgment in this matter."

Hongkong, Oct. 8.—The town of San Chun is quiet this morning, and the stores have been re-opened. The rebels who attacked Sai Wan, near San Chun, on Saturday, are believed to belong to the force of Triads which proceeded westward levying blackmail and recruiting. The missions in the Hinterland are safe.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 8.—Admiral Alexieff, in reporting the occupation of Shan Pai Suan, on the Gulf of Laio Tung, says: "In accordance with an agreement of admirals, the forts have been divided among the different nations. The town has not been occupied, but the gates are guarded by artillery. The forts are nearly intact, and the whole route from Peng Kea to Shan Hai Kuan is now occupied by the Russians. After the occupation of Shan Hai Kuan, the Americans refused to participate further in the operations. Part of the Russian force is advancing northwards."

### SPENDTHRIFTS.

From Mail and Empire.

"Canadian exports to Great Britain in 1900 increased $12,339,035. The preferential tariff is doing much to improve and increase our trade with Great Britain." So says one of the government papers. The sum mentioned is just the amount by which the public expenditures have increased. They have spent the money just as fast as the people have earned it.

### HIS SHORT MEMORY.

From Nelson Miner.

"We never promised free trade," sa'd Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his Sohmer Park speech a few nights ago. "Five years ago I declared that free trade was a principle to be aimed at, but it was impossible to adopt it." For what Sir Wilfrid said five years ago it will be better to take the records. In a speech at Winnipeg, according to the revised and authorized report as published in the Toronto Globe, the chief organ of the party, he said: "And now I will ask you, what is the policy of the Liberal party? I refer to freedom of trade such as exists in England, freedom of trade as it is practiced in Great Britain, freedom of trade as was in vogue at the time of Cobden and Bright. We shall give you free trade, and although it will be a hard fight, we shall not give in one inch or retrace one step until we have reached the goal, and that goal is the same policy of free trade as it exists in England today."

## British Gossip

### An Extraordinary Percentage of the Wounded Soldiers Have Recovered.

### Roberts' Return to London Will Be Marked by Great Demonstration.

### Coming Elections In the Dominion Is Awaited With Much Interest.

London, Oct. 6.—Thanks to Germany's withdrawal of her first note and the substitution of a compromise, there is a general impression in England that a basis of united action between the powers is now in sight. With the Chinese muddle showing signs of clearing up, there is some opportunity of paying attention to the quiet ending up of the war in South Africa. Out of 30,000 wounded, 29,000 have actually returned to duty. Such quick recovery of such a large percentage of the wounded rather breaks down Baron Bloch's theory that a modern war is impossible owing to its slaughter, though it is true that 10,000 British soldiers have found graves in South Africa.

London is already in a state of expectancy, awaiting the return of the City Imperial volunteers from South Africa, and as soon as the elections are over, the whole country is likely to give itself up to a period of jubilant anticipation, pending the arrival of Lord Roberts, whose return home will be marked by celebrations such as Great Britain has not seen for many years.

The attitude of the Canadian electors towards the policy of sending soldiers to South Africa from Canada is awaited here with some unrest. The Globe, editorially, expresses the hope that Mr. Bourassa and others agreeing with him may be defeated, but adds: "Whether Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the premier, is returned or not, we believe the next administration of Canada will be even more strongly Imperialistic than the present."

The personnel of the next British parliament, as decided up to date, promises to be of interest. Labor is well represented by Messrs. Burns, Kier-Hardie and Bell, the last named being the employees' representative during the recent Taff Vale railway strike. Mr. Kier-Hardie's success was quite unexpected. He visited the constituency (the Merthyr-Tydvil district of Wales), where he defeated Mr. William Pritchard Morgan a few days before the poll.

One of the most remarkable features of the elections was the sweeping defeat of Capt. Lambton, of the British crusier Powerful, who opposed the government candidate at Newcastle-on-Tyne, though the failure of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Liberal, president of the United Kingdom Alliance for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic, to defeat his Conservative opponent in the Cockermouth division of Cumberland, was scarcely less surprising.

Literary England will be well represented in spite of the defeat of Dr. Conon. Doyle and Mr. Augustine Birrel, for there will be Lecky, the historian; Professor James Bryce, the historian; Winston Churchill, Gilbert Parker and others present at St. Stephen, to uphold the various branches of literature, to say nothing of Sir George Newnes and Arnold Foster.

London is almost solidly Conservative, and Glasgow entirely so. In fact, nearly all the large cities have given Lord Salisbury sweeping majorities.

Mr. George Goschen, who was first lord of the admiralty, intends devoting his retirement to the compilation of a biography of his grandfather, a publisher of Frankfort-on-the-Main, whose letters to many literary celebrities he has preserved, and which are said to form a most interesting collection.

The progress of the bubonic plague in Glasgow may now be said to have been completely stopped. There has been but one fresh case in fifteen days. Twenty-one persons remain in the hospital; two cases are doubtful, while six persons who have been in contact with plague patients remain in the reception house. The result may be fairly said to be creditable to the Glasgow physicians and sanitary authorities.

A remarkable case of wholesale skin grafting has occurred at Blackburn, where a factory girl was literally scalped by her hair catching in some machinery. Twenty pieces of skin have already been taken from her arms and grafted on her head. They have taken root and promise to form an adequate protection, though the doctors say the girl will never have any hair, and say a year must elapse before she will have fully recovered.

### HARRY MUNSIE HURT.

Victoria Boy Meets With Serious Accident in Vancouver.

Vancouver, Oct. 6.—Harry Munsie, a son of William Munsie, of Victoria, and compositor on the News-Advertiser here, met with a serious accident to-night. He sat on a copy file, carelessly left on a chair, and nearly four inches penetrated his groin. Munsie was taken to the hospital. It is not thought fatal results will follow the accident, although the wound is a very serious one.

### TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

The Chinese commission met yesterday in Ottawa. Messrs. Clute and Munn being present. Mr. Ralph Smith, the third member, is busy electioneering. The next meeting will be held on this Coast.

The National Tobacco Workers' Union of America have decided to take up the fight against child laobr. Its plans will be to take away the union label from all the factories which give employment to anyone under the age of 16 years. Tobacco factories all over the country will be given until May 1st to recognize the order.

The steamship Centennial has arrived on the Sound, with $150,000 of treasure from Nome.