

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1897.

THE YUKON TRADE.

Vice-President Shaughnessy, of the Canadian Pacific, has stated publicly that it is the intention of that company to put on a line of steamers from Victoria to a point North, probably the Stickeen. The importance of this announcement will not be questioned. That the company will make this city the starting point of any service to the North is to be expected. No other place on the coast is so well adapted as a centering point for Yukon travel over the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the railways entering San Francisco. It is becoming every day more apparent that the great outfitting trade will be done in British Columbia. If the suggested regulations as to miners' licenses is adopted by the Dominion government, all intending miners will come to British Columbia cities. We repeat what we said some days ago as to the advisability of Victoria, Vancouver and the C. P. R. acting in harmony in advertising.

THE NEW WEST.

Such is the platform which the Liberals of British Columbia, assembled at a convention for organization as a branch of the great Liberal party of Canada, have seen fit to adopt. This is "Liberalism" up to date. This is the political provender which is supposed to satisfy a party, whose leaders, in the only arena where the party has a recognized status, are endeavoring, as they best know how, to develop Canadian nationality, to build up Canadian industry, to elevate Canadian politics. It is a poor mess, but it is quite worthy of the people who are responsible for it.

put himself at the mercy of every black-miler who may choose to bid against him. Without this qualification we would endorse the proposal.

Forestry preservation and restoration are very good things, but the people of British Columbia will hardly divide into hostile political camps over them. Royal commissions to investigate the manner in which the land laws are administered are among the things demanded. There is nothing to warrant such a plank. If there were, it is inconceivable that session after session could pass without a motion being made in the house for such a commission. We therefore style this plank the production of a demagogue.

The desirability of legislation to preventing the locking up of large areas of wild land will be admitted. This is one of those questions which have lately forced themselves to the front. It is chiefly of local interest, but will, we think, have to be dealt with.

The other three planks, one condemning sectional issues, the other declaring for the taxation of coal, and the third favoring non-sectarian education call for no special comment. Everyone favors the first and the last. The second is intended as a sectional appeal to Kootenay.

Such is the platform which the Liberals of British Columbia, assembled at a convention for organization as a branch of the great Liberal party of Canada, have seen fit to adopt. This is "Liberalism" up to date. This is the political provender which is supposed to satisfy a party, whose leaders, in the only arena where the party has a recognized status, are endeavoring, as they best know how, to develop Canadian nationality, to build up Canadian industry, to elevate Canadian politics. It is a poor mess, but it is quite worthy of the people who are responsible for it.

STOCK RAISING ON THE LOWER FRASER.

There is no part of Canada, and perhaps no part of the world, better adapted for the growth of hay and roots than for the lower portion of the Fraser valley; or, say, from Agassiz to the sea. The grasses, which flourish here, are of the best quality; the roots grown are large and the yield to the acre enormous. The winter is short and the period when cattle can thrive out of doors is long. These are the conditions which make a district especially adapted to the production of beef cattle, and this ought to be a principal feature of the business of the farmers. By this it is not meant that the production of fat cattle should be carried on simply in a casual way, but that it should become the principal feature of the district. There is a home market for all that can be produced.

On this last part an observation may be made. Complaints are frequent that there is no market for this, that or the other kind of farm produce, when in many cases the real truth is that there is no produce to market. Unless a district supplies enough of any particular line to make it an object for purchasers to go there to get it, and unless the supply is sufficiently steady to be reckoned upon in making business calculations, the market will always be fitful and precarious; but let a district once establish a reputation for the steady supply of a good line of farm produce and purchasers will make their plans accordingly. Transportation facilities will then follow as a matter of course.

In British Columbia the beef market will probably for years to come be principally supplied by range cattle; but there is a time each year when the quality of this stock falls too low to be marketable, and then importations are necessary. Last spring beef was bought in Montreal for the Victoria market, and this is quite a common thing. Probably the farmers of the Lower Fraser could not hope to compete with the range cattle when these latter are at their best, and it is doubtless better that they should try to do so. They should make their plans so as to get their fat cattle upon the market when the range supply falls off and prices are consequently at their best.

Before this line of business can be successfully presented it is necessary that better stock should be introduced into the district. This can only be done by a systematic plan, and to adopt such a plan it is necessary that the farmers should co-operate. We believe, also, that government assistance should be given. Late New Brunswick papers speak of an importation of young pure bred stock by the government, and the papers of both sides of politics say that the sale was very successful. This makes the sixth importation of this kind made in the last twelve years, and possibly in the last forty years there have been fifteen or twenty. These have resulted in the maintenance of so high a standard of stock that in a province where cattle must be fed in stables six months a year, and beef in the winter sells by the quarter at 3 and 5 cents a pound, it is found to pay to raise beef cattle. In the State of Maine, where the conditions for cattle raising are much less favorable than in British Columbia, the raising of beef cattle is one of the leading agricultural industries. The herds which the great cattle raising firm of Bodwell & Burleigh used to exhibit at New England fairs, and which their successors still exhibit, were remarkable for early maturity and high quality. This firm made it a rule

never to keep a steer a day longer than he could be kept gaining in flesh. In the State of Maine, as in the Province of Ontario, government aid is not necessary, because there are plenty of well-to-do farmers with established herds; but in British Columbia as in New Brunswick the farming communities are not sufficiently compact, and too few individuals maintain herds of pure bred animals to render public assistance superfluous. We hope, therefore, to see Farmers' Institutes formed in the Lower Fraser valley with the express object of promoting cattle raising, and to find in the next provincial estimates a sum for the purchase of pure bred sires to be sold to the institutes for the use of members, and of pure bred heifers to be sold outright to members of the institutes.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the advantage of having pure-bred stock. It may be explained that the word "thoroughbred" is not properly applied to any animals but horses which are registered or may be entitled to registry in the English or American racing stud book. There is no such thing as a thoroughbred Clydesdale horse, or Short-horn bull, or Southdown sheep. The pure-bred stocks are the result of careful selection and breeding of animals typical of a certain class. The Jersey, for example, is the product of careful breeding under the peculiar conditions existing in the island of that name, and so strong have its characteristics become that they are marked in animals having very little of the Jersey blood in them and bred under conditions far different from those existing in their original habitat. This is true of other stock, but not in the same degree, much depending upon the antiquity of the breed. Thus the qualities of the Ayshire will show themselves in remote out-croppers, for this is an ancient breed; but the Shorthorns and Herefords, the Red Polls, the Polled Angus are comparatively modern, their characteristics are not so strongly imbedded, and therefore it is necessary to strengthen the herds with new pure bred stock in order that they may be at their best. We incline to the idea that for the Lower Fraser valley the Shorthorn, or Durham, is the best breed of cattle. They are fair milkers and they are exceptionally good beef animals.

THE GOLD OUTPUT.

A matter of prime economic importance is the very great increase recently in the production of gold. The Director of the United States mint estimates that the output for 1897 will be between \$235,000,000 and \$240,000,000, with the probabilities in favor of the last named figure. Last year the output was estimated at \$205,000,000. These estimates are pretty close approximations and may be accepted as substantially accurate. How much of the metal is used in the arts is largely conjectural. Estimates run all the way from \$30,000,000 to \$70,000,000. It is, perhaps, safe to say that of the product of this year \$175,000,000 will be available either for coinage or for remittance as bullion for the settlement of balances. Much of it will not be coined, for the reason that the use of gold coin is open to some serious objections. The loss by abrasion is very considerable, and although no one takes any account of this when coins pass from hand to hand in the course of retail trade, it is very evident that when large amounts are dealt with the aggregate of the small fractional losses on the several coins may amount to sufficient to disarrange nice financial calculations. Bars or ingots are not affected in this way, and hence are most convenient for shipment. Gold goes by weight in the settlement of foreign balances. The mint stamp on a coin is only valuable as a guarantee of fineness. But whether the gold is coined or made up into ingots, it is available for monetary purposes, for all the mints in the world coin gold freely. It is estimated that the United States will produce \$60,000,000 worth of gold in 1897, which is one-fifth more than last year, and keeps that country in the front place in this respect. South Africa and Australia are next in order, each being credited with a probable output of \$50,000,000, and Russia is put next with \$20,000,000. Thus four countries are credited with \$180,000,000. The United States mint authorities do not give the probable product for Canada. We are without sufficient data to form a definite opinion, but it seems probable that, when the full returns for the year are available it will be found that fully half the gold produced during the year comes from mines in British territory.

SOME PROPOSED REFORMS.

The Montreal Star has one of its periodical spasms of reform. This time it proposes the following: "The reduction of the membership of the Dominion parliament by one-half." "The cutting in two of each provincial legislature in the same way." "The union of the three maritime legislatures in one." "The striking of certain specified portfolios from the list of each cabinet, federal and provincial." "Perhaps biennial sessions of the provincial legislatures." "While the passion for reform was animating the Star the desirability of a change nearer at home, and a much more legitimate subject of discussion than some of the foregoing, might have suggested itself, namely, the abolition of the legislative council in Quebec. Here is an institution that must cost that province a good round \$30,000 a year and probably more; but the Montreal paper, while very desirous of changing around the legislative arrangements of the other provinces seems to think that this needless part of Quebec's legislative machinery should be continued. The Star should remember that reform, like charity, should begin at home.

Only one of the five propositions advanced here very much to recommend it, and some of them are objectionable. The reduction of the federal cabinet is defensible. In some of the provinces, such for example as British Columbia, there is need of an increase in the Cabinet. It is not now necessary to add anything to what was said in the Colonist the other day as to the reduction of the federal cabinet, but it may be interesting to mention how the provincial governments are constituted. Ontario has eight ministers, seven of them being heads of department and

KOOTENAY.

Occasionally one finds in a Kootenay paper an article written in an apologetic tone in regard to the prospects of that portion of the province. Quite frequently some of the Interior papers complain that the Coast dailies do not give as great prominence to the prospects of that portion of the province as they deserve. The apology and the complaint are alike needless. Kootenay is on a solid foundation and progressing as rapidly as can be expected, and the Coast papers recognize that he time has gone by when the great advantages which it offers for the investment of capital need to be exploited in their editorial columns. Mining in Kootenay has reached the status of a firm and solid business, and will hereafter be dealt with by the public like any other business matter. At the banquet to Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Captain Hall, superintendent of the Le Roi mine, expressed his belief that within a few years Roseland would have a population of 30,000 people. He based his opinion upon his examination of the mines in that vicinity and from a comparison between them and other mines, saying he had visited and studied the greatest mining regions on the American continent. He stated that the Roseland mines made a better showing than any others for the development done. There are hundreds of thousands of tons of good ore in sight, which only await capital, and millions of tons of low grade ore that only require cheaper rates for freight and treatment. He expressed the opinion that mining in the vicinity of Roseland was attended with less risk than elsewhere.

Roseland is not all Kootenay by any means, and a city of 30,000 people and a long pay roll is by no means the limit of the prospects of this splendid region. The mines of the Slooan will support at least as large a population as those of Trail Creek. Northward of Slooan and extending up as far as the Great Bend of the Columbia is a region that is rapidly forcing itself to the front. Revelstoke has metropolitan ambitions, and its people will probably not assent to Capt. Hall's claim that Roseland will be the "hub of British Columbia." Of best Kootenay, with its wealth of coal and metalliferous ore, it is impossible to speak too highly. Take Kootenay as a whole: It is at least 250 miles long with an average breadth of 100 miles. This gives an area of 22,000 square miles. In other words, it is as large as Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island put together. Of this great area no one can lay off a section ten miles square and affirm with confidence that it is not mineralized highly enough to be valuable from a miner's standpoint. There is a very considerable area of good farming land in the river valleys.

In view of these facts, it is impossible not to grow enthusiastic when speaking of the prospects of this portion of the province. In spite of the tone of disappointment in which some of its papers speak, we maintain that the progress of Kootenay has been and is very rapid. True, the Klondyke and other Yukon discoveries have given people something else to talk about. Last year we heard nothing but Kootenay. This year we hear more of the mines of the Far North. But, so far as the Colony can observe, if there has been less talk of Kootenay than hitherto, and less of the fever of speculation, there never was a time when more enduring progress was being made, and when the prospects were brighter in that part of the province than now.

We print a very interesting letter from Mr. Gilbert Malcolm Sproat, on Liberalism. There is not a principle in the letter which the Colonist cannot heartily endorse. Our point is not that there is no such thing as Liberalism or Conservatism in respect to Canadian affairs, but that regarded from the standpoint of "the circumstances of the moment," by which we mean the practical side of politics as exemplified during the thirty years of union, the Liberal party cannot claim to be the conservator and exponent of liberal and progressive ideas, nor can it be truly alleged that the Conservative party represent the policy of reaction or stagnation. In articles preceding that which called out Mr. Sproat's letter, reference was made to the several subjects referred to by him, in illustration of what Liberalism means. We mention this to show that we had not overlooked them in saying that "Liberalism has no meaning in connection with Canadian politics."

The British Columbia Mining Record says: "The illiberal treatment of prospectors by the E. & N. Ry. Co. has to all intents and purposes put a stop to prospecting within the limits of the island railway belt." It is a matter of surprise that our contemporary, which seems usually to aim to be correct, did not take the trouble to ascertain the facts in this case. An inquiry at the land department of the E. & N. Ry. Co. would have elicited the information that so far from the company's announcement of terms having checked prospectors, it has had quite the contrary effect. More than three hundred notices of discovery have been filed with the company since the publication of the terms and prospectors are freely taking advantage of the offer for the sale of surface rights.

salaried. These are the Attorney-General, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the Treasurer, the Minister of Education, the Commissioner of Public Works, the Minister of Agriculture and the Provincial Secretary.

Quebec has seven ministers, all salaried, as follows: Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Crown Lands, Attorney-General, Treasurer, Provincial Secretary and President of the Council.

Nova Scotia has eight ministers, three only being in receipt of salaries, namely, the Attorney-General, the Provincial Secretary and the Commissioner of Works and Mines.

New Brunswick has seven ministers, six receiving salaries, namely, the Attorney-General, the Provincial Secretary, the Commissioner of Works, the Surveyor-General, the Solicitor-General, and the Commissioner for Agriculture.

Manitoba has five ministers, all receiving salaries, namely, the Minister of Agriculture and Immigration and Railway Commissioner, the Minister of Public Works, the Attorney-General, the Provincial Treasurer and the Provincial Secretary.

British Columbia has five ministers, four receiving salary, namely, the Minister of Finance and Agriculture, the Attorney-General, the Provincial Secretary, who is also Minister of Mines, of Education and Immigration and Clerk of the Council, and the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Prince Edward's Island has eight ministers, three receiving salary, namely, the Attorney-General, the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Provincial Secretary, who is also Treasurer and Commissioner of Public Lands.

This list shows the absurdity of the Star's general proposition in regard to the reduction of the provincial cabinets. Biennial sessions of the local legislatures are incompatible with the workings of responsible government.

The union of the three Maritime Provinces is a matter that can be best left to the people of the provinces directly interested to decide, and the same is true about the reduction of the membership of the local legislatures.

As for the reduction of the membership of parliament one-half, it is useless to discuss a proposition which would leave British Columbia and P.E. Island with three members each, Manitoba with two and a half, and the Northwest Territories with two.

On Monday night the Times of this city congratulated itself upon the fact that "not the slightest excuse now exists for any dubiety as to the aims and objects of the Liberals of British Columbia." From our contemporary's point of view everything was as lovely as could be, and not a cloud obscured the political sky. Yesterday morning the Colonist showed up the trumping character of the said aims and objects as set forth in the thing called a platform, and last night there was blood on the moon, and if there is anything harder to be said about the Vancouver World and Mr. McLagan, for having made public the alleged platform, than the Times has uttered, the Times does not know it. The weak point in our Victoria contemporary's assault upon its Vancouver Liberal brother is that it failed to quote the Conservative News-Advertiser's denunciation of the World. We beg to qualify our observation about Liberalism having no meaning in connection with politics in Canada by saying that in British Columbia, as illustrated by the recent convention, it is synonymous with a circus.

Advertisement for Castoria medicine. Text: SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF CHAS. H. FLETCHER IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. Includes a signature and a small illustration of a bottle.

Advertisement for E. G. Prior & Co., Ltd. Text: E. G. PRIOR & CO., Ld. Ly ESTABLISHED 1859. DEALERS IN Miners, Loggers & Mill Supplies. BUILDERS' HARDWARE AND TOOLS, BAR AND SHEET IRON, JESSOP'S STEEL, FARM IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY, WAGONS, BUGGIES AND CARTS. Headquarters, Victoria. BRANCH STORES AT VANCOUVER & KAMLOOPS.

Advertisement for Dixie H. Ross & Co. Text: LOOK OUT FOR BURGLARS. For This Week Only... Smith's Sodas, Cartoons, 20c. Pratt's Astral Oil, tin, \$1.40. Cornmeal, 10 lbs., 20c. Rolled Oats, 9 lbs., 25c.

Advertisement for The Present Issue of The Semi-Weekly Colonist. Text: THE PRESENT ISSUE OF THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST. Contains all the News. INCLUDING FULL REPORTS OF ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM THE YUKON GOLD FIELDS. PRICE 5 CENTS PER COPY. PER ANNUM \$1.50.

NEWS OF THE Canadian Manufacturer Good Name In Smuggler's... Half a Million Dollars the Russell Company Fruit Export... OTTAWA, Oct. 11.—Canadian agent at Christ his quarterly report of trade and commerce... competitive test of... Canada has taken... prize against the... that Canadian... excellent product... Mr. Sproat... has given notice for... her treaty of commerce... under which importation... try, after the duty had... admitted into the other... The customs depart... received \$25 consencie... Ottawa Y. M. C. A... John McDougall, ex... customs, has gone to... The Premier went to... The last shipment of... a cold storage to Eng... reek. Owing to indif... hipping, the first two... culture, but the later... need remunerative rates... A largely attended m... in the city hall to-night... of taking active steps to... ferred by the Casselman... executive committee... Subscriptions are flow... parts. Mr. Edwards, M... \$500,000 is a conserva... the loss... The Ontario list of... taken up in the Sup... Monday.

NEWS OF THE New Departure in Canada Another Yukon... (From Our Own Cor... OTTAWA, Oct. 9.—The... loan contemplates quite... Canada's method of... duration of the loan will... and the rate of interest... the minimum offer rece... for each \$100. Tenders... in London on Friday... A number of Ottawa... incorporated by letter... Canadian Yukon Minin... ing Company... The forest fires have b... on the Canada Atlantic... of Bearbrook is threat... FRENCH COLONIA... to be absorbed if G... nits—The British in... NDON, Oct. 9.—In sp... d'essai suggesting... to turn Great... Egypt, the evacuation of... British troops was proba... note as it is not to ma... the possible deposition... whose attitude lately h... submissive as the Bri... minister plenipotentiary... desires, in which event... protectorate will inevita... sia, it is said, has effe... the French efforts to m... question a European op... LONDON, Oct. 9.—In... tempts at colonial exp... Africa, France is appar... to swallow the Kingd... Temps, organ of the... office, enumerates the p... with Siam in such a ma... that the belief that t... ment intends to try and... vassalage unless Gre... venales.

ENGINEERS Y... Seventy Thousand Still R... Former Terms—Rail... Uneasy... LONDON, Oct. 9.—The... tion of improvement in... strike, and the embitt... been emp... hom 70,000... ith almost... a general... involving... id employ... great conference at Bir... and will formulate... the companies say it... them to grant, and in... fusal a general strike of... workers, which will pro... lidence of 100,000 other... FOOD AND DRIN... Both to be Increased to... tions to German... BERLIN, Oct. 11.—As... for increasing the stre... in spite of denials the... points out as significant... of the Conservative... dwelling upon the ne... taxes. The Post affir... be taxed higher and... duty on cereals will be... marks per ton, which... government an extra rev... 50,000,000 marks... Bears in To... BELLEVILLE, Oct. 11.—... raging in the north... Hastings county and de... coming into the towns... Wind... Purest and Best... No adulteration.