THE NEW MINISTRY.

It is announced that Hon. Richard McBride has "completely filled up" his cabinet. But he hasn't. The Constitution Act says that the government "shall include the following officials, namely, Provincial Secretary, Attorney-General, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Minister of Finance and Agriculture, Minister of Mines and President of the Council, of whom not more than five shall receive any salary."

We suppose it will not be contended that Mr. McBride, notable man though he be, has the power to vary the constitution according to the dictates of his own sweet will. If he has, and intends to plead economy in extenuation of his course, has he not also the power to reduce the membership of the Legislature with the same object?

It is quite evident that the Premier has made a virtue of his extremity and has refrained from rewarding another of his importunate followers because he considers it would be unsafe to open any constituency in the province save Vancouver, and also dangerous to offend any more of his rebellious supporters by setting another member over their heads.

We are constrained to admit, however, that it is eminently fitting that Hon. F. J. Fulton should become a minister in Hon. Richard McBride's cabinet. It is enough to say that the Premier by his latest act has shown a singular aptitude for maintaining balances. The government is beautifully and symmetrically rounded off. The public will appreciate this when the strong men of the aggregation are put upon their defence in the House. They will add to the renown of the great Conservative party and prepare the way for the great victory of Borden in the misty future.

THE CROW POLICY.

The McBride government is complete, and it has a policy. Therefore it is impregnable—proof against the assaults of any opposition. The cabinet slate was completed Thursday, with the exception of one Minister. The Premier intimates that in capacity he is equal to any two of his colleagues by taking over the administration of two departments. This is in accordance with his well-known modesty of character. However, that phase of the situation may be conveniently left over for discussion at another time. The important fact at present is that the government has wiped away the reproach that it had no policy save that of sacking a few civil servants. Its policy has been appropriately announced by the Minister of Finance, inasmuch as a great financial problem is involved. Hon. R. G. Tatlow inconsiderately neglected to give a title to this policy, and we find it rather difficult to give it a sufficiently comprehensive name, one worthy of the momentousness of the issues involved. However, the policy may be shortly termed a "crow policy."

The black-visaged, funerally garbed, croaking birds have made themselves offensive to the people of Vancouver. They have taken possession of the pride of the heart of every Terminal City individual, the Park, and there has ascended a loud demand that they must be exterminated. With the assistance of the able Attorney-general, also from Vancouver, a measure has been drawn up which, it is expected, will be fatal to crow life. A price, not to exceed five cents, has been set upon the head of every crow that croaks and creates discord in the volume of sweet bird sounds that arises within the sylvan glades of Stanley Park. All laws governing the discharge of firearms within the precincts of the profaned inclosure have been temporarily suspended. All the artillery within the environs of the outraged city has been limbered up. If a din like "the dreadful sound of war" should be heard within the next few days, our citizens must set it down to nothing more serious than Vancouver going forth against the crows. All the C. P. R. fleet, it is understood, has been chartered to bring down the "trophies of the chase" and substantiate the claims for the five cents a head bounty. When the transaction is completed there will be sounds of revelry in Vancouver, and it will be a good time to bring on the bye-election. No wonder the Colonist is confident Hon. Charles Wilson cannot be defeated.

In the meantime the public would like to be informed whether the crow policy applies to the province as a whole. If it is intended to be merely local in its application, as the Ministry is local in its make-up, a clear intimation should be given. The crow policy has not been properly advertised.

THE VERY LATEST.

After days of meditation and careful study of the columns of the Mail and Empire, the Colonist has concluded that the Alaska boundary question can be turned to political account. The general result is a complete somersault. From a tangle of mystical sentences the readers of our wobbling contemporary may gather an impression that Sir Wilfrid Laurier should be regarded as a "separatist" because he has intimated that Canada must be endowed with greater powers in all negotiations in which her interests are of vital concern. We do not know that there is anything particularly new or revolutionary in the position of Sir Wilfrid. It has been taken by the predecessors of the present Premier, by men who were not professors of Liberal principles. Sir John Macdonald was the first Canadian statesman to privately point out that the interests of the Dominion could not safely be intrusted in the hands of British diplomats anxious to dispose of troublesome Imperial matters. His experience during the negotiations which resulted in the reluctant attachment of his name to the treaty of Washington convinced him that if Canada was to remain a permanent possession of the British Crown she must be given a larger voice in all negotiations in which concerns of vital import to her were at stake. Hence his note of warning that the attitude of British statesmen was calculated to create a sentiment in favor of annexation.

It is no secret that there have been advisers of the crown in Great Britain who held the opinion that colonies, and especially colonies possessing a large measure of autonomy, were a source of weakness to the Mother Country. Neither is it any secret that the interests of Canada have been repeatedly sacrificed by Imperial diplomats either in the vain hope of placating the United States or as an easy way of disposing of vexatious questions. In the light of the general attitude of British public men up to a comparatively recent date, there is nothing to be particularly surprised at in their lack of what we call backbone. They have just awakened to a realization of the potentialities of the Dominion. Even yet there is a considerable faction in the Old Land, a faction not without political influence, which openly holds that the interests of Great Britain would be best served by the political union of Canada with the United States, to be followed later by a union of still more importance. They are as ignorant as suckling babes of the real sentiments of the American people. The republic has been idealized in their minds. They are either far in advance of or far behind the age in their opinions. Their attitude appears to us who live in the world of America, not up in the air in Britain, absurd and unnatural. But they look to time to vindicate them. In the meantime Canadians object to their country being made the instrument of conciliation.

Sir John Macdonald feared the creation of annexation sentiment by the bungling and lack of comprehension of British representatives. We have nothing of that kind to apprehend now. The duty of Canadian statesmen of the present day is to guard against the growth of a spirit of indifference, which would surely be followed by something of a more definite character, if the suspicion were permitted to grow and spread that Great Britain would under no circumstances uphold the rights of Canada when her sons resisted what they believed to be the aggressions of her strong neighbor.

It is to guard against such possible contingencies that leading Canadians demand a more powerful voice in the conduct of all negotiations affecting the interests of their country. That is the only absolutely safe course to pursue. Then we shall feel our responsibility, and we shall be sobered by the weight of it. We have been working along towards such a consummation for years. We reached the highest point in the constitution of the Joint High Commission. When we are vested with full authority to conduct negotiations of vital moment there can be no such danger of a public outbreak such as we have just passed through. Conservative newspapers were, if anything, more outspoken in their language than Liberal journals. Men on the street openly proclaimed their belief that the parting of the ways as between the parent and the child had been reached. In the midst of the tumult whose voice was raised in temperate rebuke? Who characteristically gave utterance to what the greatest of British newspapers described as the most statesmanlike utterance upon the subject? None other than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the alleged separatist; the man whose government gave the British a preference in our markets; the leader whose followers initiated the scheme of Imperial penny postage; the chief of a Ministry under whose guidance Imperialism in Canada has been given a habitation and a name. And the leader of the ultra-loyal party, whose patriotism goes no deeper than his lips, blundered around in the hope of finding an excuse whereby he hoped to profit politically by the storm the decision of the Alaska boundary tribunal had raised. It is a very fitting thing that a newspaper which was at one time the organ of the annexationists of the United States, a mere reprint of the New York Sun, the Toronto Mail and Empire, should be the chief mouthpiece of such an opportunist and of the party which at one time hung up the motto, "so much the worse for British connection."

If the Conservative party had believed that the cry of independence sent up by a few men in Canada within the last couple of weeks would have led it on to an electoral victory, it would have taken up that cry, and the Mail and Empire and the Colonist, which now rail at Sir Wilfrid Laurier and call him a "separatist," would have been among the warmest advocates of a revolution.

RAIL TO THE YUKON.

There is no doubt as to the attitude of the people of Canada upon an all-Canadian line to the Yukon, and when Sir Wilfrid Laurier, with his characteristic statesmanlike grasp of national questions, declared in his place in Parliament that the time had come when this enterprise must be taken up and carried through, he evoked a strong expression of approval from one end of the Dominion to the other. We see now as never before the almost criminal nature of the Senate's action a few years ago in defeating the government bill providing for the beginning of such a railway, a project so meritorious, and regarded in this province as so essential, that not a Conservative paper in British Columbia opposed it, and the Colonist very strongly commended it.

The Victoria Board of Trade has acted very wisely in taking this question up, and the resolution, moved by Mr. Lugrin last night and carried unanimously, will, it is to be hoped, be cordially endorsed by all the cities and centres of population interested. The object of the resolution was frankly admitted by the mover to be to bring sufficient pressure upon the Federal government and parliament to secure the coast cities of British Columbia fair play in the location of the proposed line. It is felt here that if the Yukon line is so located as to cut off the coast cities from direct connection and give Winnipeg and Eastern points more direct connection with the northern part of this province and the Yukon, very grave injustice will be done. The matter is of such great importance to Victoria, Vancouver and the other coast cities that no legitimate means should be left untried to secure a decision along the lines indicated in the resolution. Fortunately, the idea is one upon which all the people of the coast can unite.

In the interests of Northern British Columbia and the Yukon it is highly desirable that the line to the sea should be built in the shortest time and by the shortest feasible route. In good time other connections on the Mainland will be provided, for the whole country is rich in resources and capable of supplying traffic to several lines of railway, but the first thing to be done is to secure at the earliest possible moment the shortest and best all-Canadian line from the Yukon to the sea.

The extension of the system by the construction of a line down Vancouver Island will commend itself to all who investigate it, and we are satisfied that examination will show it to be an enterprise that will yield large returns. What is needed is that the whole case should be presented to the government and people of Canada in the strongest possible way, and the efficient committee appointed by the board has a responsible task in hand.

MORE DISTRESS.

Troubles never come singly, and the same is often true of problems.

An evening or two ago we published a couple of brain twisters, one of which has been occupying the public mind to a distressing extent. Now, however, that Ann's age seems to have ceased from troubling, a fresh and more virulent mental cataclysm is pending over the other—a difficulty between a man and his wife in regard to the same vexed subject of years.

The problem is as follows:

"A man is twice the age his wife was when he was the age that she is now. When she reaches his present age their combined years will be 100. Find the age of each."

Since the publication of the above, a few nights ago, domestic peace has become but a memory in half a hundred homes in this city, and life-long friendships have been wrecked. A professional gentleman wearing a haggard and hunted expression on his usually benign countenance staggered into our sanctum this morning waving in his hand a document, the contents of which we print below. He told in broken and incoherent language of the tribulations through which he had come in his public spirited efforts to solve the mystery, and how he had shown the answer to twenty friends, all of whom had declared it wrong. An attempt was made to open a discussion with him on the matter, but he put up both hands as if to ward off a blow and fled, muttering, from the room.

On the scrap of paper which he dropped in his flight was found the following:

"A man is twice as old as his wife was when he was the age that she is now, which is another way of saying that a man is now twice as old as he was at a previous time, and his wife is now this latter age. When the wife gets to be as old as the man is now, their joint ages will be a hundred. Assume the man to be now 40, when half as old he was 20, the wife is now therefore 20. In 20 years more the wife will be as old as the man is now, or 40, and the man will be 60, and both will be 100."

Will our readers kindly tell us whether this is correct or not?

The Toronto World is a Conservative paper of the extraordinary type that has profound respect for the intelligence of its readers. Its comments upon the Alaska boundary award have been intelligent, sane and interesting withal. It does not deny that the government protested against the ratification of the treaty, inasmuch as it knows the correspondence has been published and that it would be an insult to its readers to deny facts that have been verified. The World says, however, that the "correspondence so far brought down does not show very clearly to what extent Canada protested, and under what circumstances the protest was overridden. Our government insists that the tribunal was recognized by the Imperial government while the protests were supposed to be under consideration." Then our contemporary endorses the position of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in language which is unmistakable if to some extent figurative. It says: "Colonialism is childhood, and there is a certain happy irresponsibility connected with that state. But it cannot last forever. The man who, in the midst of the care and strife of manhood, looks back with momentary regret to the little red schoolhouse, would not really choose to return to that period, when everything was done for him, and when he was expected to obey orders implicitly. Moreover, he could not do it if he chose. In the same way Canada, as it grows, must take upon itself powers and responsibilities equal to those of the United Kingdom. Some of us think more about rights and powers. Some think more about duties and responsibilities. The two ideas must grow together. It is not unlikely that in this period of transition some impractical ideas will be formed. The middle-aged man knows that all the ideals and fancies of his youth could not be realized. But we cannot tell the young man that he must cease thinking. He must be left to form his own plans and to make his own mistakes. In the end, he cannot be controlled, for he will be managing his own affairs and the affairs of his country when the old fellows are in their graves."

* * *

Another great strike is impending in Chicago. The street railway employees have intimated that if their demands are not met they will walk out. Then there will be trouble which will not end with the stoppage of the cars. It will begin when the company attempts to run them. There is not much respect for the majesty of the law in Chicago. Dealing with the economic effect of strikes generally the Chronicle says the loss by strikes in the building trades for the year are estimated at $14,000,000 in Chicago, $10,000,000 in New York, $6,000,000 in Philadelphia, $4,000,000 in Pittsburg and similar sums in other cities. And yet we are not moving rapidly in the direction of saner methods of settling industrial disputes.

* * *

Mme. Patti's final farewell concert tour promises to be a veritable gold mine to the talented old lady with the ever-youthful voice. At the auction sale in New York for seats at her concert in Carnegie hall the highest price paid for a box was $375, and $105 was paid for the first choice of chairs. The receipts of the sale amounted to $10,000, assuring her, the management said, of a $25,000 opening house.

NEW COAL MINE.

Installing Extra Pumps at Departure Bay—Two Logging Camps Opened.

Nanaimo, Nov. 7.—Extra boilers and pumps are being installed by the Western Fuel Company at their new workings at Departure Bay in order to keep the mine clear of water, which has, of late, caused a stoppage of work owing to the inadequacy of the present pumps to keep the mine free. The water, which is reported to be coming from a crack in the roof, is causing no uneasiness to the management. Several scow loads of coal have already been shipped from this mine, the quality of which has been pronounced A1.

The clearing of land for a townsite at Departure Bay is now well under way, and the removal of over a hundred miners' cottages from Northfield has commenced.

Messrs. Wilson and Dorfman have opened two logging camps at French Creek and Courtney. About seventy men are now actively engaged getting out the valuable timber recently acquired by this firm. The machinery for the portable sawmill, which is to be constructed near Departure Bay, is now en route, and the firm expect to be cutting the logs by the latter part of the month.

THE MISSING MILLIONAIRE.

Father Denies There Are Clues to His Whereabouts—Unfounded Stories Regarding Ransom.

Bristol, Tenn., Nov. 7.—"There are no developments; deny emphatically all rumors. My son is yet missing, and there is no clue to his whereabout," was what J. S. Wentz, father of Edward L. Wentz, who disappeared from the mountains near Big Stone Cap four weeks ago last Wednesday, said when asked for a statement by a reporter.

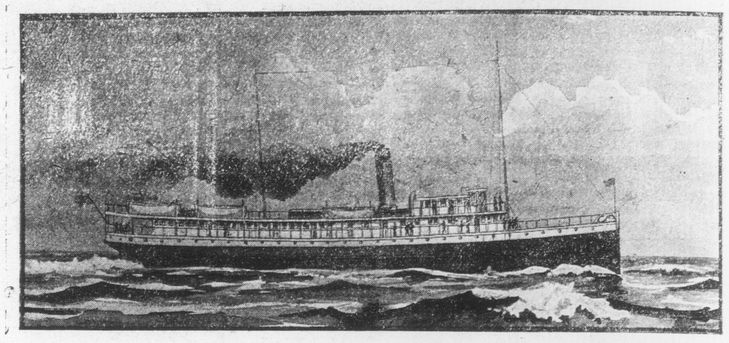
Mr. and Mrs. Wentz are en route to Philadelphia. Reports that the family had received a postal card from the alleged kidnappers of young Wentz were exploded by the fact that the father and mother were leaving for their homes. The rumors current that the kidnappers were holding the young man until a ransom of $200,000 was paid them are most emphatically denied, not only by the father, but by others closely allied with the Virginia Coal & Iron Co. and the Stone, Coal & Coke Co., in which the missing man held large interest, the missing man held large interests.

IN KITE BOAT.

London, Nov. 7.—After several failures, S. F. Cody to-day succeeded in crossing the channel in his kite boat. He left Calais at 11 o'clock last night and reached Dover thirteen hours later. He encountered much shipping, and had some narrow escapes.

"MY STOMACH GAVE OUT ENTIRELY and I suffered untold agonies." This was the experience of Mr. D. G. Whidden, Postmaster, East Wentworth, N. S., after three attacks of La Grippe. Doctors and doses gave him no permanent relief, but Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets had the permanent virtue that won him back to perfect health—pleasant and harmless, but powerful and quick. 35 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—169.

NEW C. P. R. STEAMER.



PRINCESS BEATRICE.

THE CHINESE MURDER.

Charley Sing Recently Told Police His Life Had Been Threatened—Mysterious Case.

Vancouver, Nov. 7.—No arrests have yet been made in connection with the murder of Charley Sing, who was found in his room at Steveston with his throat cut, although the police have detained three Japs, whom some Chinese are blaming as possible murderers. These Japs are alleged to have been partners of the deceased in gambling games at Steveston. An inquest is being held this afternoon.

This case is developing very mysteriously, and looks like a Highbinder plot. Charley went to Chief Murchison, of Steveston, recently and gave him the name of a Chinaman who, he said, threatened his life. He told Murchison if anything happened to him, this Chinaman would be the man who did the crime. Charley was suspected by other Chinese of having given notice to the police which resulted in sixty Chinamen being captured in a raid at 516 Carrall street. Ten days after the raid Charley was summoned before the Highbinders' Society, when fifty members were present, and told that if he did not get the imprisoned men out he was a marked man. Charley related this story to the police, but did not have nerve enough to have the threatening Chinese arrested. Later he again complained they were threatening him, and went to Steveston. Charley was well known in Victoria, and had been in the province thirty years.

THE COPPER WAR.

Rumor That Settlement Is in Sight and That Work Will Shortly Be Resumed.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 7.—The Oregonian to-day prints the following special from Butte, Montana:

"A report, apparently based upon the best authority, indicates that a settlement of the long and bitter copper war between F. August Heinze and the Amalgamated Copper Company is in sight, and the resumption of the latter's mines and smelters is not far distant.

"According to information Heinze has sold out his entire Butte holdings with the exception of a small interest, and he will act as the Amalgamated Copper Company's manager of all its mines and smelters. The price paid by the Amalgamated or the price it is to pay in full was not ascertained.

"President Scallon, of the Anaconda Copper Co., and representative of the Amalgamated, refused either to affirm or deny the report."

CHINA'S AWAKENING.

Report That Council Has Advised Viceroys and Governors to Prepare For Conflict.

London, Nov. 7.—Specials from China gives conflicting reports of China's attitude in the Far Eastern trouble.

Telegrams from Tientsin and Shanghai say the grand council at Pekin has issued a circular to the viceroys and governors declaring that a rupture with Russia is inevitable, and urging them to raise funds and troops.

The correspondent of the Morning Post at Chefoo reports that the further consolidation of Russian troops in Southern Manchuria is proceeding, and expresses doubt as to whether Russia has capacity for coaling, docking and maintaining the enormous fleet she is accumulating in China waters.

Japan and Russia.

Berlin, Nov. 6.—Negotiations between Russia and Japan have so far advanced that the Associated Press is officially informed that the announcement of a settlement may be expected soon.

WINS NOBEL PRIZE.

Herbert Spencer Among Those Who Participate in Inventor's Bequest.

Stockholm, Nov. 7.—Herbert Spencer has received one of the Alfred Nobel prizes.

Alfred Nobel, the inventor, by terms of his will, left a large sum of money to be distributed annually in five prizes, each individual prize being worth from $48,000 to $55,000, to be distributed among those who have made the most important discoveries or inventions in physic, chemistry, medicine and literature, as well as a prize for those who adopt the best means for advancing the fraternal association of all nations, the abolition or diminishing of standing armies and the propagation of peace.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Steps Taken to Establish Communication Between Italy and Argentine Republic.

Rome, Nov. 7.—The government has ordered the beginning of the work of construction of an extraordinarily powerful wireless telegraphy station for the establishment of communication between Italy and the Argentine Republic. The station is to be erected on the Royal estate of San Rossore, on which King Victor Emmanuel has his hunting lodge. The site was chosen by Marconi as the best adapted for the purpose.

STRIKE ORDERED.

Forty Thousand Men Will Probably Be Affected.

New York, Nov. 7.—With Sam Parks in Sing Sing, President Frank Buchanan, of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers of America, and a persistent opponent heretofore of Parks and the latter's policy, has ordered a strike throughout the country over on all contracts held by the Iron League of New York. Forty thousand men in the building trades and 200 buildings under construction are effected by the strike order.

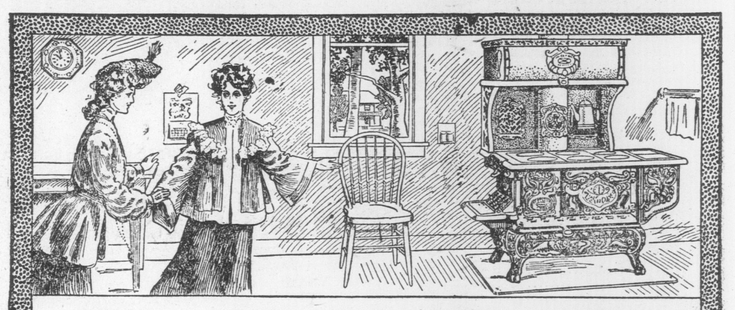
After Sam Parks had tied up the contracts of the Iron League for months last spring, the employees formed a Housesmiths' Union of their own, from members of Parks's union and iron workers from out of town, who were willing to sign the arbitration agreement. The union now has a membership of 1,900. The league claims it has more men than the company has work for. Outside of New York the contracts held by members of the Iron League are few, only a few buildings in Philadelphia, Pittsburg and St. Louis being affected. Buchanan claimed to-day that 5,000 men will walk in New York, and the building mechanics will be thrown out of work by their actions.

FIRE AT WINNIPEG.

Winnipeg, Nov. 7.—Bullman's lithographer's stock room was the scene of a fierce fire this morning at 1 o'clock, and a large quantity of valuable paper stock was destroyed. The fire was detected by Louis Tapper, a stereotyper, who was eating his lunch at the time in the Telegram's press room, which is separated from the stock room by a frail partition. He ran to the central fire hall and called out the brigade, which was immediately on the spot. The fire started near a furnace, a network of electric wires for power and light, and on the opposite side of the partition to the Telegram's stereotyping crucible. The loss in stock and in damage to the building was estimated in the neighborhood of $10,000, all of which is fully covered by insurance.

CATARRH FOR TWENTY YEARS AND CURED IN A FEW DAYS.—Hon. George James, of Scranton, Pa., says: "I have been a martyr to Catarrh for twenty years, constant hawking, dropping in the throat and pain in the head, very offensive breath. I tried Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. The first application gave instant relief. After using a few bottles I was cured. 50 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—1.

Hon. F. J. Fulton expects to leave this evening for Kamloops.



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Is built on entirely new and modern principles from *entirely new designs*—no old patterns were used to hamper the good working qualities of the new features.

Possesses labor and fuel-saving devices which are entirely new—triple, triangular grates, enameled steel reservoir and special flue construction, are not used in any other make of range.

The fire-box, hot-air flues, body and oven linings, dampers, etc., are improved over old styles and all combine to make a perfect baking oven.

Bold, rich carving extra highly-polished nickeling, heavy leg base and sheet-steel warming closet give the "Pandora" a rich, elegant appearance not seen in old style ranges.

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