

Prominent Topics.

C. P. R. Hotel at Vancouver.

It is declared that the C. P. R. hotel at Vancouver, will be the largest and finest hotel on the Canadian Pacific system. It will contain four or five hundred rooms. The C. P. R. hotels are all fine buildings, and all well-equipped and well managed.

Roosevelt Ahead.

Colonel Roosevelt has come in for a good deal of criticism lately and some of it of a rather savage kind; but it does not appear to have affected his popularity in the New York Republican camp. Perhaps his supporters love him all the more for the enemies he has made. The ex-president was elected temporary chairman of the New York Republican Convention, by a vote of 568 to 443. It was a significant test vote.

The Rev. Dr. Barclay.

The resignation by the Rev. Dr. Barclay, of the pastorate of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, has been accepted with great regret by the congregation. Dr. Barclay is not only one of the most eloquent and broad-minded preachers and most practical speakers in Montreal, but one of the most popular men, and there will be general gratification among our people at learning that he intends to remain here. He could ill be spared from the social and educational life of this city.

Isolation in Toronto.

They must have some queer ideas about isolation in the Toronto Isolation Hospital. An engineer testified that he had gone into both the diphtheria and scarlet fever wards, without disinfection, that he had removed bodies, taken infected mattresses to pieces, handled the milk supply, dipping the milk out of cans into bottles, and dined with the maids, all on the same day. If this kind of thing happens in an "Isolation Hospital," what must be the state of affairs in a hospital that does not make a specialty of isolation.

Canada and the Empire.

Sir George Doughty in the course of a spirited and inspiring address to the Canadian Club of Montreal, on Monday, said some appreciative things about Canadians, and gave them some excellent advice. He credited most of them with the spirit of British character and urged them to cleave to the Empire. He advised a Federal Parliament for the Empire, and added:—"Some people say if that were brought about, Canada would be nowhere, and Australia and New Zealand would be nowhere. All the history of the British in the past goes to prove the contrary. Is it not a fact that in new life and new blood has been revived and strengthened the older stock of our nation? And I am certain that when the time comes you, as a sister nation, and Australia and all the others, come together in one great Federal Parliament, then all our world

interests and all that goes to the protection of every part of the British Empire, will be made so secure that we shall feel ourselves in a stronger sense than ever one people."

Hochelaga Bank.

The Hon. J. D. Rolland, M.L.C., for some years a director of the Hochelaga Bank, has been elected President of the bank, in succession to the late Mr. F. X. St. Charles. The appointment will meet with general approval. Mr. Rolland is at the head of many important business institutions, and has been a very active, influential and popular member of the Manufacturers' Association and the Commercial Travellers' Association. Senator Beique has been elected to the vacant directorship, and the board now consists of, in addition to these two gentlemen, Mr. Robert Bickerdike, M.P., vice-president; Messrs. J. A. Vaillancourt, A. Turcotte, J. M. Wilson and E. H. Lemay with Mr. M. J. A. Pendergast, as general manager.

Canada-West India Trade Commission.

The report of the Royal Commission on Trade between Canada and the West Indies was issued in London on Monday. It declares that the preference granted by Canada has been of great benefit to the West Indies, and strongly urges the West Indian governments to make reciprocal concessions to Canadian goods. All the West Indian colonies, except Jamaica, are said to favour preferential trade with Canada, the Jamaican fear being that such a preference would provoke retaliative legislation by the United States; a fear which the commissioners do not share. The Commission advises that any preference granted to Canada take the form of a reduction on Canadian goods, duties on foreign goods remaining, as at present, but each colony being left free to make its own tariff, so long as the agreed amount of preference is provided. It is considered unreasonable that Canada should be asked to make reciprocal arrangements with the smaller colonies only; but if several of the larger ones are ready for such an agreement, the others could be taken in from time to time.

The existing steamship service is condemned, and it is recommended that with the co-operation of the British Post Office, two faster lines be established, one from Montreal and St. John, the other from Halifax to West Indian ports. Cheaper cable and wireless service is urged, and government assistance advised. The report is signed by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Hon. Mr. Fielding, the Hon. Mr. Paterson, Lord Islington and Sir Daniel Morris.

AT A MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Travellers Life Assurance Company of Canada, held recently, Mr. Nathaniel Curry was added to the Board. Mr. Curry is president of the Canadian Car & Foundry Company and a director of the Bank of Nova Scotia.