

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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STEAMBOAT FARES.

There is no doubt that summer travel on the steamboats plying between here and Seattle has been somewhat disappointing. Possibly the summer travel to Seattle has not yet fairly begun. The people of the United States are not given, as a rule, to settling out on vacation trips before the national holiday is over; but the fact remains that a great many people have gone to Seattle from nearby towns to attend the Exposition, and only a few of these have visited Victoria. We do not assume to dictate to the Canadian Pacific Railway management what course it should adopt to stimulate travel, but as the company depends upon the public for its patronage there can be no harm in mentioning what people say on the subject. There is a very strong opinion prevalent that rates are too high on the triangular trip. The two Princesses make six trips, sailing every twenty-four hours. They are never loaded to their full capacity. They could carry 6,000 people a day with the greatest of comfort, that is a thousand to and from Seattle, a thousand to and from Vancouver and a thousand each way between Vancouver and Seattle. How near they are to doing this we do not know, but fancy that they must fall a long way short of it. They can hardly do so at the present rate of local fares, for the charge is rather more than most people care to pay simply in a pleasure trip. A dollar and a quarter one way and \$2.50 return between Victoria and Seattle and Victoria and Vancouver would have the effect of greatly increasing travel, and so we assume would a corresponding rate between Vancouver and Seattle. As we have said, we do not assume to dictate to the Canadian Pacific, but we may add that the merchants of Victoria who prepared for a large summer trade with travelers, feel that the company might very properly consider their case and endeavor to develop travel by a reduction of rates.

THE PREMIER'S TOUR.

Apart altogether from political considerations, which really formed a secondary object, if they were even that importance in his mind, the tour of Mr. McBride, which he has just concluded, is very interesting. He visited about thirty places, and in so doing, was able to see the country very thoroughly. The report which he brings back of the conditions of business and the signs of progress is very gratifying. Mr. McBride is a good deal of an enthusiast on the subject of British Columbia and its development, but the general opinion of the province is so favorable that he lacks words to express his appreciation of it. Such a tour cannot fail to have an inspiring effect upon his mind and make him feel determined to approach the many problems presented by the growing needs of the country with courage and in a statesmanlike way. His plan of keeping closely in touch with the tour, attending to all the business that comes up, is an excellent one. It enables him to learn for himself much about the requirements of the province, and puts him in a position to discuss with knowledge all propositions placed before him by representatives from the different localities. This is of itself a very excellent thing.

Mr. McBride seems to have greatly enjoyed his tour, for though he was kept very busy, it afforded a much-desired change from the constant routine of office work. Few people on the outside know the calls upon a premier's time in this province. They are relatively greater than in any other province, because British Columbia is in a sort of transition stage. Many things that are dealt with in other provinces by the municipalities come directly under the attention of the government here, and there has grown up a habit of "wanting to see the premier" upon a lot of matters which really ought not to occupy his attention at all. People come to see him as if he were the manager of an exhibition, and want to know all kinds of things. It doubtless was an enjoyable change to get out into the country and move around among all sorts and conditions of people, hearing what this one wanted, and what that one had to complain of, seeing how the country is filling up, and with what steady steps industry is conquering the land. We notice that every time Mr. McBride comes home from a provincial tour he is more sanguine of the future of the province, and more convinced that those who do not see the country thoroughly can have only a very inadequate idea of what advancement it has made, and of what its possibilities are.

"THE WEARY TITAN"

We gave space on this page yesterday to a poem from Punch suggested by speeches delivered by British statesmen to the Imperial Press Conference. It is some time since Punch has attempted to handle national issues seriously, and one can hardly say that its contribution was as

forceful as some of his predecessors in that sort of work have been. But it is very clear that if he has not overstated the gravity of the occasion, he has certainly not overestimated the need of the Empire for a leader.

Lately we have heard a great deal about "the weary Titan," as though the people of the United Kingdom felt like laying down the burden, which they are bearing; but this is a consumption which no lover of human freedom can contemplate with serenity. Of what does the Titan's load consist? It is not so much of expenditures for the army and navy, although these are what we are most apt to think of in such a connection. The United Kingdom is better able to bear the cost of an army and navy than any other European power. It is not directly at least, the responsibility of a world-wide Empire, although we have been told it was not infrequently lately. The burden of the British people arises from the fact that, while it is maintaining its position as first among the nations, it is endeavoring to solve tremendous domestic problems. The leaven of British democracy, working with a force to which nothing in the past history of the nation can be compared. If the people were content to let domestic reform stand until the question of national defence had been placed beyond all room for doubt, the Titan's burden would be greatly lightened; but they will not do this. In the articles, which have appeared in "An Hour With the Editor" dealing with the Hundred Year War, reference has been made several times to the fact that, while England was engaged in hostilities abroad she was solving important problems at home. In this lay the great difference between England and her Continental rivals. Domestic progress stood still with them, while they waged war. The stress of providing armies and navies never stayed English progress, but on the contrary stimulated it. The Titan's burden was always heavy. It was heavy in the days of which we have just spoken; it was heavy during the Napoleonic wars. It is heavy today. But as the nation has come out of all crises stronger than ever, so will it come out of this crisis. It may be as the poet of Punch seems to think, that there is no leader in sight, who is capable of coping with the situation; but we must not be too sure of this. Britain has never lacked leaders in time of need, although they have not always been recognized by their contemporaries.

THE RIGHT OF APPEAL.

It seems to be the intention of the Ontario government to restrict greatly, if it does not wholly abolish, the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. There may be some doubt as to the constitutionality of such a course, and indeed it has been expressly held that a provincial legislature cannot take away a right of appeal conferred by the Supreme Court Act of Canada. Without discussing the legal question involved, and speaking with not a very accurate idea of what is proposed, we may express the opinion that, in our humble judgment, the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee ought not to be greatly limited. The Judicial Committee represents in its appellate capacity that personal prerogative of the Sovereign by virtue of which we speak of him as the fountain of justice. To understand the matter correctly we must go a long way back in history. We must think of the days when justice was administered in the Hall of the King, and when it was held that the Sovereign could not deny to any one the right to be heard. As conditions changed, it became impossible for the Sovereign himself to hear and determine cases, and instead of the court moving about from place to place to right wrongs, judges were assigned to the duty, but the name "court" was preserved because the Sovereign was always supposed to be present. The right of the subject to appeal to the Crown has never been called in question since the granting of the Great Charter. Therefore so far as the Sovereign is concerned the right of appeal cannot be taken away by him. That right can only be annulled by Parliament. There can be no question but that the power to annul it rests somewhere, but we greatly doubt if it is vested in the local legislatures.

We think it would be a matter of much regret if any part of the British dominions were to cut itself loose from the Crown by refusing this right of appeal. That right is

today one of the most efficient bonds of union between the various dominions and the Mother Country. The right has an actual value. It seems important that there should be only one final court of last resort in the Empire, for if there is more than one, we will not have that uniformity of law, which seems essential to the general welfare. No question of the ability of our colonial judges is raised by contending for the right of appeal.

MR. LUMSDEN'S RESIGNATION.

What may be taken as the government's explanation of the resignation of Mr. Hugh Lumsden, chief engineer of the National Transcontinental Railway, appears in an Ottawa despatch to the Montreal Herald. It is stated that Mr. Lumsden some time ago intimated that he would ask to be relieved of his duties, if his salary was not increased, and he was not given leave of absence. It is suggested that Mr. Lumsden kept too close to the office and did not go over the work often enough. The immediate cause of his resignation arose out of work done by the Board of directors in connection with the railway. This board consisted of Mr. Lumsden, acting for the railway commissioners, Mr. Koller, of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and Mr. Collingwood Schrieber, of the railway department. The arbitrators have examined the 450 miles between Winnipeg and Superior Junction, and were only a week doing it. The district engineers and contractors complained that the arbitrators did not take sufficient time to examine the work, nor did they give them an opportunity to be heard on disputed points. These complaints were sent to the arbitrators with an expression of opinion by the commissioners to the effect that all persons affected by the classification ought to have been given an opportunity of stating their side of the case. Mr. Lumsden, thereupon resigned. Chairman Parent, of the Railway Commission, says that Mr. Lumsden has given his reason for resigning in a letter accompanying his resignation, but the letter has not been given out for publication. It is clear from what Mr. Parent says that there will be considerable trouble over the matter of classification.

The matter is giving the government a good deal of concern, as shown by the following despatch from Ottawa to the Montreal Star:

Ottawa, Ont., June 30.—Hon. George P. Graham and Mr. Wilfrid Laurier were in a long conference today over the situation arising out of the resignation of Hugh D. Lumsden, chief engineer of the National Transcontinental Railway. No definite announcement was forthcoming.

"Will Mr. Lumsden's resignation be accepted?" asked Mr. Laurier. Mr. Graham, when he left the Premier's office.

"I have not accepted it yet," answered the Minister of Railways, "but he will doubtless retain the position until I do."

Mr. Graham leaves Ottawa this afternoon on his Friday morning train. He understood the minister will not take any action himself as regards the resignation. To do so would necessitate his plans being altered. It is probable that the government or the railway will deal with the question, that the resignation will be accepted, the present engineering staff keeping the matter quiet. The ministry will look about for a successor to Mr. Lumsden. When one is found, one of the first steps to be taken will be the appointment of a new board of arbitrators, to go very fully into the question of classification, and hear the district engineers and contractors as well as the Grand Trunk Pacific, which has made the complaint.

A CANADIAN NAVY.

A St. Louis paper thinks it absurd folly for Canada to talk about building a navy, and gives two reasons for its opinion. One is that the Dominion has two fleets upon which it can rely for defence, one being that of the United Kingdom and the other that of the United States. It adds that, if we have a fleet, it will be an incentive to the last named country to build a more powerful navy, and thus a rivalry may be engendered that may lead to regrettable results. It is not very evident how, if the United States is prepared to defend us, unpleasantness will be created by our getting ready to do something in our own defence. An outsider might be justified in thinking that it would be the other way about. That Canada would build a navy with hostile designs against the United States is too absurd a suggestion to be considered for a moment. The proposition that the United States navy would be available for our defence is one of the strongest reasons why we should have a fleet of our own. To be placed in such a humiliating position that we should have to look for defence to a foreign power is something which no red-blooded Canadian can contemplate with serenity. If we owe it to ourselves not to be a helpless burden on the Mother Country in case of war, still more does a sense of national dignity require that we shall not be dependent upon a foreign government for our defence. The fact is absolutely unprepared to meet possible enemies on the seas.

A Money-Saving Occasion

TO GAIN MUCHLY NEEDED SPACE—SPACE FOR INCOMING GOODS
—WE ARE OFFERING GREAT MONEY-SAVING INDUCEMENTS

THIS stock-clearing move of ours is a money-saving occasion you shouldn't fail to investigate. To gain muchly needed space—space we must have for incoming goods purchased on the last Eastern trip of our buyer—we are clearing every piece of furniture of which we have but one or two of a kind.

Exceptional reductions are offered—and when you remember that these are not specially purchased "sale" goods, but regular Weiler Quality lines you'll better appreciate the great opportunity to save.

Do Not Fail to Visit This Store Today—You Can't Afford to Miss It

There is room in most every home for one or more of these dainty furniture pieces, and here is the one occasion of the year when you can get goods of such superior quality at such little prices. The quality of every piece is backed by our guarantee of absolute satisfaction. The upholstered pieces are the work of our own upholstering department in nearly every instance.

A Small Cash Payment Secures Any of These Offerings for You

Perhaps you are not prepared to purchase such items just at present. In such a case a small cash payment will secure them for you and we shall deliver in a few days. Or if you prefer other satisfactory arrangements may be made. By all means see these offerings—do not spend a cent until you have seen the offerings of this sale.

Oak Library Table

Regular \$20 for \$16

Here is a sample value. A beautiful golden oak library table with square shaped top, 26x38 in., has one drawer and shelf beneath, finely finished. Regular price \$20, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$16

Parlor Cabinets for Little

Many Excellent Values Offered

Many interesting price tickets are to be found on the parlor cabinets. We have many single pieces we wish to dispose of at once and these reductions should move the lot in record time. Space prevents us from listing the several items here today. Drop in and see the interesting styles and still more interesting prices. Music cabinets are close by and clearance prices on these will surprise you. Handsome designs, too.

Oak Parlor Table

Regular \$37.50 for \$22.50

Another interesting value—

A parlor table in golden oak, 10' in oval, 26x40 in., and is highly polished. Table has one drawer. It is a massive style. Regular price was \$37.50. CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$22.50

SUBSTANTIAL PRICE SAVINGS ON THESE BEDROOM LINES

SOME choice bedroom furniture pieces are included in the clearance sale, and if you have a bedroom to furnish or one that would be improved by the addition of an attractive dresser, chiffonier or wardrobe, here is a grand opportunity to save in the buying. Let us show you these pieces—sample values from the stock:

DRESSER—329. A mahogany style. Has 3 swinging mirrors and 2 drawers. Regular price was \$52. Clearance price \$45.

DRESSER—451. Another swinging mirror style with 3 bevel plate mirrors. This dresser has 2 cupboards and one drawer. Mahogany. Regular price was \$100. Clearance price \$80.

DRESSER—475. A mahogany dresser of stylish design. Has oval mirror and three drawers. Regular price was \$50. Clearance price \$40.

DRESSER—A low and slender dresser much liked by ladies. Has a long oval bevel mirror and one drawer. Mahogany. Regular price \$40. Clearance price \$35.

CHIFFONIER—667. Here is a beautiful design in mahogany dresser. Has square shaped bevel mirror, 4 large and 2 small drawers. Regular price was \$52. Clearance price \$45.

CHIFFONIER—111. Here is an attractive chiffonier style at a little price. Mahogany finished or in golden oak. Has bevel mirror, 4 drawers and 2 cupboards. Regular price \$35. Clearance price \$30.

WARDROBE—529. A most useful furniture piece in the bedroom. This is made of selected oak finished in a beautiful golden. Has tall cupboard with sliding clothes hangers, 5 drawers and swinging bevel mirror. Regular price \$48. Clearance price \$38.

WARDROBE—534. Another wardrobe style of merit. Made of golden finished oak. Has tall cupboard with sliding clothes hangers and five drawers. A very attractive and useful piece. Regular price \$45. Clearance price \$35.

DRESSER AND STAND—An excellent set in golden oak. Dresser has oval bevel mirror placed horizontally. 2 large and 2 small drawers. Dresser has 2 small and 1 large drawers and bevel mirror. Regular, \$37.50. Clearance price \$30.

DRESSER AND STAND—458. This set consists of a very pretty designed dressing table with oval bevel mirror placed horizontally. Stand designed to match. Selected Bird's eye maple. Regular price \$75. Clearance price \$55.

DRESSER AND STAND—525. This dresser and stand is made of selected Bird's eye maple, highly polished, and is a very stylish set. Dresser has large bevel mirror and large drawer. Stand designed to match. The regular price was \$49. Clearance price \$37.50.

DRESSER AND STAND—582. A splendid value in a medium priced set. Made of golden finished oak. Dresser has 2 small and 1 large drawers and bevel mirror. Regular, \$37.50. Clearance price \$30.

DRESSER AND STAND—583. Other handsome golden oak set. Dresser has massive square-shaped mirror and three drawers. Dresser designed to match. The regular price was \$53. Clearance price \$45.

THREE LADIES' WRITING DESKS PRICED AT SAVING FIGURES

Three desk styles that'll please the ladies and priced at saving figures. A desk is a very convenient furniture piece to have in the home and these are priced to help you own such a convenience. Shown on third floor.

LADIES' DESK, 846—An attractive desk in golden oak. Has book-shelf beneath. Conveniently arranged and finely finished. Regular price was \$18, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$15

LADIES' DESK—A Louis XV. desk style that would add much to the attractiveness and convenience of some home. Well arranged. Regular price was \$30, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$25

LADIES' DESK—A writing table in beautiful carciassian walnut. A genuinely handsome desk and at this price, splendid value. The regular price was \$95, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$75. Other equally interesting values.

SIDEBOARD, 1905—Another large style in golden oak. Has three small and one large drawer and two cupboards, also large bevel mirror of first quality. The regular price was \$65, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$50

PUT ONE OF THESE IN YOUR DINING ROOM—EASY AT THESE PRICES

Easy to outfit your diningroom in royal shape at these easy prices. Here is an opportunity to get some splendid diningroom furniture pieces at saving prices. A few sample values:

SIDEBOARD, 140—This is one of the most attractive styles we show in the shop. Beautiful oak has been used and finished in best manner. Has three small and one large drawers and two cupboards. Large bevel mirror. Regular price was \$140, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$100

SIDEBOARD, 4340—A massive sideboard style in oak. Has three small and one large drawer and two cupboards. Mirror is very large bevel extending full width of sideboard. Carved work adds to the attractiveness. Regular price \$110, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$85

BUFFET AND CHINA CABINET, 442—One of those popular combinations. China cabinet part has five shelves and leaded glass doors. Buffet section has two drawers and cupboard and two bevel mirrors. Golden oak. Regular price was \$75, CLEARANCE PRICE.....\$65

HUNDREDS OF SPECIAL VALUES ALL OVER STORE

ALL through the store you'll find wonderful values. Furniture pieces suitable for every room in the home are included in these reductions and in every case the reduction is genuine and the article the best.

There is sense of security in buying Weiler furniture because of the guarantee of satisfaction that goes with it. Every one of these special values carry the same guarantee of satisfaction. Don't fail to visit us and of course the earlier you come the better choice we shall be able to offer.

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CLEARING METHODS FOR LOGGED OFF LAND

The subject dealt with in this article, here published by courtesy of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, is the most important in the clearing of the most important in this province. Mr. Clark seems to have brought careful thought and sane judgment to his study of the question.—Ed.)

The department of agriculture at Washington has just taken from the press the report made by Harry Thompson, the government expert, on his preliminary investigations in the Northwest in the economical clearing of logged-off lands. The report shows that there are 2,352,109 acres of logged-off land in the counties of Western Washington, while there are only 423,829 acres of land in cultivation. The report contains accounts of various methods contrived by Washington farmers for clearing their land, and gives the average cost per acre obtained by each method. Following is the introduction of the pamphlet:

"The rapid decrease of merchantable timber and the consequent increasing acreage of logged-off land has brought to the attention of the people of the Pacific Northwest the importance of the agricultural development of this section of the United States. In order to make this land suitable for agricultural purposes it must be cleared for the plow. To do this the standing timber, the logs, the underbrush, and the stumps must be removed."

"A preliminary investigation of the situation was made during the summer of 1908 to determine the extent of the logged-off land, the methods in use at the present time, and as nearly as possible the cost of clearing by the different methods used. No experiments were undertaken, and consequently no definite figures can be given in regard to the cost of clearing by the different methods in use except as given by contractors and owners who have kept the accounts of the work done from other expenses. The territory covered in this investigation embraces Western Washington, Western Oregon, and Northern California. Extent of Logged-Off Land.

"In the state of Washington the mountains west of the Cascade range have a total area of 8,700,000 acres of assessed land, as given by the various assessors of the respective counties. Of this, 23,000 acres are in cultivation or improved pasture, 5,044,000 acres in standing merchantable timber, and 3,636,000 acres are in cultivation or improved pasture. From this it will be seen that 27 per cent of the total acreage is logged-off land, and that the acreage in cultivation, much of which is pasture land from which the large stumps have not been removed, is only 5 per cent of the whole area.

Washington Has Advantage.

"The timber lands in Western Oregon, and Northern California are not nearly so accessible as those of Western Washington. Neither is there nearly so much logged-off land in this land, so well adapted for agricultural purposes as that in Washington. While the demand for timber in Oregon and California is well supplied by prairie and easily cleared brush land, the necessity of clearing the logged-off land in these states is not pressing. On the other hand, Western Washington has a large area of logged-off land, and the demand for agricultural products far exceeds the supply. The land was heavily timbered at one time and the demand for agricultural products has brought about the clearing of this land and is clearly before the people. The character of the clearing ranges from the small square-shaped spruce and cedar lands through the benches and side hills covered with fir stumps and a dense growth of underbrush to the more square-shaped hemlock ridges.

"The spruce stump is thought to be the most expensive to remove, owing to the fact that it is found only on the deepest soil, where it roots deeply, it often requiring one hundred pounds of stumping powder to loosen a single stump five feet in diameter.

"The fir stump is the most common of all logged-off lands in Washington and Oregon, and is removed by various methods described below.

"The cedar grows to some extent wherever the fir is found and predominates on low ground.

"All of the above trees have lateral root systems and do not root deeply except in loose soil, where the roots penetrate to a depth of several feet. On flooded or swampy land the roots are often partly above the surface.

"In the logged-off lands of the redwood country of northern California there has been little effort made to clear the land for agricultural purposes, since prairie land is plentiful and the logged-off land is rough and hilly.

"Some attempts have been made to clear the land of everything but the stumps and then to seed to orchard grass for cattle range. This work of clearing has been done for 10 or 15 years. This method of making range has proved a failure in most cases, as the great quantity of brush and the sucker growth of the redwood stumps have almost entirely covered the ground in two or three years.

"It is estimated that the logged-off land of California can be reclaimed at about the same expense as the fir-stump land of Oregon and Washington.

"Most of the clearing that has been done in Oregon was done by cheap labor until recent years. The donkey engine method has been used in some sections of the state recently.

Hand Method.

"Until recent years clearing was almost wholly done by what is now known as the 'by hand' method, where the farmer, equipped with peavey, mattock, shovel and brush saw, would put under cultivation the logger's stubble field. By this method the standing trees and brush were slashed generally during the summer months. Then, in September or October, after the first rainfall when the ground was no danger to neighboring improvements or timber, a fire was started and allowed to burn over the slashed, when most of the brush and small logs were burned completely. The remaining logs were sawed into convenient lengths, piled and burned. After the rains had softened the ground sufficiently the smaller stumps and roots were grubbed and pulled out. Often a stump puller of the captain type was used in pulling the smaller stumps after they had been loosened by digging around them.

"This type of stump puller is often used in clearing small tracts after the stumps have been broken into several pieces and loosened by the use of stumping powder, without which no