

Twice-a-Week Times
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THE BUDGET.
If Finance Minister Bowser had turned his first, and probably last, budget speech over to some qualified person, say the President of the Council, to "boil down" to reasonable proportions, it would have been received with greater acceptance.

Mr. Bowser ought to know that the day of long speeches has gone by. This is an age of hurry. The aim of statesmen as well as of business men is to be concise, brief and to the point—to condense everything that is spoken or written within the smallest possible compass.

However, there was a note of optimism in the first budget speech of Mr. Bowser that will be a source of gratification to all British Columbians. The finances are flourishing—and the expenditures are increasing in a corresponding degree.

Although the government of Premier McBride during the seven years it has held power cannot point to a single act it has performed to promote the development of the province, the natural course of industrial events could not be completely stayed.

Even the old policy of the McBride government, which it is gratifying to note is about to be abandoned, could not hold it back.

THE POSITION OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES OF CANADA UPON THE NAVAL ISSUE COULD NOT BE MORE aptly, more truly and more concisely stated than in the following sentence: "The disloyal Grit party is now carrying on an Imperial campaign in Quebec, while the Quebec leader of the Tories is Mr. Monk."

DEATH OF MRS. MABEE.
Toronto, Feb. 26.—Mrs. Mabee, wife of Justice Mabee, chairman of the railway commission, died yesterday after a protracted illness.

Canada, and cites several instances from the history of diplomacy to prove that the interests of this country have been sacrificed in the hope of gaining the good graces of other powers.

"Sir John Macdonald was fully as good a fighter as any Conservative of the present day, but he never lost touch with Canadianism. Forty-five years ago, before Confederation was an accomplished fact, and when Canada was a thinly populated fringe of country lying along the lakes and the St. Lawrence, he said that the colonies were in a transition state, and he spoke of the Canada of the future as a friendly nation."

As it is Bulgaria is bound before long to take official notice of Turkey's military preparations and ask for an explanation. When it occurs, as it must, the row will follow.

MACDONALD WINS LIBEL ACTION
Foster's Position as Public Man Leaves Him Open to Criticism

Toronto, Feb. 28.—The plea of privilege proved the strong card in the Foster-Macdonald libel action, which was concluded on Saturday night, the jury returning a verdict to the effect that while Mr. Foster had acted in good faith as manager of the Unionist Trust Company, his position as a public man and a candidate for North Toronto had rendered him a fit subject for newspaper criticism.

HOW THE GAME IS PLAYED.
The Premier stated in his address to the stalwarts Thursday night that they were not, "like some, always out for the leaves and the fishes."

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THE WAR CLOUD IN THE BALKANS

HOSTILITIES FEARED IN THE SPRING
Turkey and Belgium Preparing for Struggle Which Seems Inevitable

Berlin, Feb. 28.—Affairs in the Balkans are once more causing the greatest anxiety at Berlin. Everyone has now come to the conclusion that a war between Turkey and Bulgaria is inevitable in the spring.

Already Turkey has placed large orders for arms supplies with Krupp in Germany and Armstrong's in England, and important orders for automatic guns will also shortly be placed with German firms.

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BUDGET TAKES SECOND PLACE

VETO BILL TO BE CONSIDERED FIRST
Premier Asquith Explains Government's Programme Regarding the Lords

London, Feb. 28.—The personal promise of Lord George that the bill curtailing the veto power of the Lords would be considered before the budget saved the government tonight. Following his statement, the House of Commons voted a division to pass the financial proposition submitted by Premier Asquith.

At the last moment the Radicals and Laborites backed down, and the only active opposition to Asquith's programme came from the Irish members. The serious situation, which developed this afternoon following the statement of the premier, in which he failed to satisfy the Radicals and Nationalists, required in an appeal to Lord George to step into the breach.

Asquith explained that the constitutional changes proposed were without prejudice, and contemplated in a subsequent year the substitution of an elective instead of a hereditary as a basis for the second chamber.

COMOX RESIDENT DIED THIS MORNING
Mrs. Mundell Passed Away at Jubilee Hospital at Early Hour

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Two Mining Towns Buried by Avalanche

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DAVID SPENCER, LIMITED

The Value of Bon Ton and Royal Worcester Corsets Fully Demonstrated by Miss Frances Hope Gale

BON TON, ROYAL WORCESTER AND ADJUSTO CORSETS

Advertisement for Bon Ton and Royal Worcester corsets, featuring illustrations of women in corsets and descriptive text about the quality and fit.

All the Glory of Spring Reflected in the New Foulards and Organdies

Advertisement for clothing items including Holly Batiste, Cotton Foulards, Madras Waistings, and Printed Swiss, with prices and descriptions.

New Waists Priced at 50c

50c is a very small figure to spend on a new waist. If you were to buy the material and attempt to make one up yourself you would find that the cost of the material alone in most cases would be much more than the price we are offering the garment ready to wear for.

The New Turban Effects in Hair Dressing Most Fashionable

Every year adds something new, something novel and beautiful in the hair-dressing world. This year the new Turban effect is all the rage. It has rapidly gained favor with every lady of taste and refinement.

A good cup of tea when down town this cold weather is just the thing—daintily served at our Tea Room, Third Floor.

Preparations for Local Kennel Club, listing various dog breeds and prizes offered, including Great Dane, Greyhounds, and others.