

The Colonist.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Our request yesterday, that COLONIST readers would suggest any point that we had overlooked in our summary of what Hon. Mr. Sifton can do to help the Coast cities, has resulted in our being asked once more to draw attention to the great desirability of providing a place in Victoria, and another in Vancouver, where persons going into the Yukon can obtain mining licenses.

We think that such licenses should be obtainable both in Victoria and Vancouver, so that both cities would be on the same footing. If it is made known that licenses can be obtained in these cities, thousands of outfitters will come and get them there, and being there will buy large amounts of supplies.

A BRITISH COLUMBIA POLICY.

When the Hon. Mr. Turner was asked at Vancouver as to his views in regard to the proposal to run provincial politics on Dominion lines, he expressed his indifference, but declared that for him British Columbia lines were sufficient. In this Mr. Turner has shown an excellent appreciation of the needs of the hour.

But the more important part of Mr. Turner's statement is his declaration to the effect that he believes British Columbia questions should be paramount in British Columbia politics, for when his administration appeals to the people it will not do so because the ministers composing it are of one political faith or another, so far as Dominion issues go, but because its record shows it to have the desire and ability to formulate such lines of policy as will contribute to the development of the resources of our matchless province.

The holding of the Fall exhibitions is calculated to attract public attention of British Columbia agriculture, which has been somewhat lost sight of in the interest attaching to the gold discoveries. Yet unless farming keeps pace with the other industries we will lose the greater part of the advantage to be derived from them.

It is an old saying that it costs a dollar to produce a dollar's worth of gold, and perhaps if account is taken of the vast sums that are spent by persons, who do not take out an ounce of the metal, the estimate is not extravagant. Mr. Ogilvie has said that in his opinion Klondyke will yield from \$60,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

mondous possibilities. Shall we fritter them away in squabbles as to whether John Doe or Richard Roe shall draw a salary? Can we not, as a people, rise above the paltriness of personal altercation—for as yet that is all our politics amounts to—and deal with the great subjects at hand in a manner worthy of them? Would it not be well for the opposition to try the experiment of admitting that possibly the ministers may be honorable men, and that they may be striving to do as best they can to promote what they believe to be the best interests of the province? If the opposition believe that the government does not understand in what direction those interests lie, or, understanding it, has failed to appreciate the means of promoting them, it is their bounden duty to show it. There may be legitimate differences of opinion as to what constitutes the best policy for British Columbia. Surely here is a wide enough scope for the ability of our real and would-be leaders of public opinion. Surely here they can find a standing ground above the mire of personalities. Let British Columbia politics be run on British Columbia lines.

A BOSTONESE DISCOVERY.

Mr. Thomas S. Nowell, president of a couple of quartz mill companies in Alaska, was in Seattle the other day and gave away the whole policy of the British government. This was very unkind of Mr. Nowell, and may be a case belli or something of that sort. Just where Mr. Nowell discovered this policy he has not yet disclosed, but here the article is just as he found it:

England's plain purpose in thus seeking to control the newly discovered gold regions is that she may be able, when it should become necessary, to restrict the production of gold without a concert of nations. This is certainly a remarkable discovery on the part of Mr. Nowell, and we wait with some interest to know whether he discovered it at Berner's Bay or at Boston. It deserves under any circumstances to be ranked with the discovery of the planet Neptune. Mr. Nowell has put this and that together and proved his discovery to his own satisfaction. There is a flaw or two in the indictment, but a few flaws cut no figure with the average American, who is afflicted with Anglo-phobia.

THE FARMING INTEREST.

The holding of the Fall exhibitions is calculated to attract public attention of British Columbia agriculture, which has been somewhat lost sight of in the interest attaching to the gold discoveries. Yet unless farming keeps pace with the other industries we will lose the greater part of the advantage to be derived from them. It is an old saying that it costs a dollar to produce a dollar's worth of gold, and perhaps if account is taken of the vast sums that are spent by persons, who do not take out an ounce of the metal, the estimate is not extravagant. Mr. Ogilvie has said that in his opinion Klondyke will yield from \$60,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

the fisheries or shipping. If these are added, the magnitude of the market for British Columbia farm produce during the next decade will be seen to be astonishing. So great will it be that we do not suppose that any effort, which our farmers can make, will enable them to overtake it. This being the case, or even if this estimate is far in excess of the facts, it will be seen of what immense importance it is to every line of business and to every interest that everything shall be done that can be done to give a stimulus to agriculture.

We submit that the greatest question of the hour in British Columbia is as to what can be done for the above purpose. We submit that if the farmers will formulate their requests they must, if reasonable and practical, receive consideration at the hands of the government and the legislature, for if any disposition is shown to turn a deaf ear to them, public opinion will demand that they shall be complied with. We do not say this to encourage demagoguery and economic quackery. There never yet was found a universal panacea for the ills of agriculture. Farming is a practical business; if it can be assisted at all the assistance must be of practical value. There is no sense in wasting time in trying experiments with fanciful theories. Let the farmers themselves, as practical men, discuss their affairs in a practical way and if they can discover some practical manner in which the government can assist them to produce better articles, or more of them, or to market them more advantageously, they may feel very sure that their wishes will be acceded to if it is within the power of the legislature to do so.

WHAT IS LIBERALISM?

The appeal is made for the introduction of Liberalism into provincial politics. This is simply the introduction of a catchword for the opposition. As was stated in these columns a few days ago, the word Liberalism has no meaning in connection with Canadian politics. The Liberals are a party, but they do not represent any special principle and hardly as yet represent a policy. This is said, not in any spirit of contempt, but as a simple statement of a fact, which is not necessarily discreditable to the Liberal party. In a country like Canada it is, indeed, almost impossible that political parties can be formed along hard and fast lines.

QUALIFICATION OF ELECTORS.

Replying to the request of the Colonist, the Columbian refers to the issue of this paper of August 28th as containing an article in which the impression is conveyed that a voter must reside a year in a district in order to get his name on the list. The allegation appears in an extract from the Grand Forks Miner giving the remarks of Mr. Charles Kay at a public meeting, and the Colonist did not correct the statement, its remarks being wholly directed to the last part of Mr. Kay's remarks, and in point of fact the statement above referred to was overlooked. In order that there may be no mistake as to what the law in regard to registration of voters is the section of the statute may be quoted:

A PERMANENT GOLD FIELD.

The statement of Mr. William Ogilvie, printed in the Colonist to-day, in regard to the quartz deposits of the Yukon is of extreme interest. The existence of rich auriferous quartz ledges means that the Yukon will be a permanent gold producing country. It is not easy to over-estimate the importance of such a fact. By it the settlement of the whole interior of British Columbia will be hastened and the building up of British Columbia cities will be placed beyond all doubt. Years will be needed to work out the placer mines, but simultaneously with the exploitation of the gold therein contained will come the erection of quartz mills, which means the permanent settlement in the Yukon valley of thousands of workmen. Truly, the prospects of Canada and the western portion of Canada are of the greatest brilliancy.

that it may be fairly said that neither in 1896 nor yet in the preceding general election was the tariff an issue. It was ostensibly the bone of contention, but in point of fact the struggle was on other questions, many of them local and personal. So it came about that when the Laurier ministry took office its treatment of the tariff was on very different lines from those along which the party had fought in the 80's. The principle of protection was not abandoned, and it may be said with perfect truth that there was not a single line of policy advocated by the Liberal leaders, which might not have been adopted by the Conservatives, if they had remained in power, without the sacrifice of a single principle. We are speaking now of principles not of details. To all intents and purposes it is true that the Liberal party in Dominion politics has not yet developed a policy, although one appears to be in process of development in connection with trade with the Mother Country.

Liberalism in federal politics does not mean progress, but on the contrary it meant the reverse, while the Liberals were in opposition. It does not mean lower taxation, smaller expenditure, reduction of debt or administrative reforms, any more than Conservatism means those things. It simply means the harmony existing between those voters who believe the administration of public affairs ought to be entrusted to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his associates rather than to Sir Charles Tupper and his associates. A certain set of leaders who have been accustomed to work together and be supported by certain voters constitute the Liberal party, and what these leaders think expedient constitutes the Liberal policy, as far as it has been evolved. We say these things without disrespect to the Liberals as a party, but simply because it is well to make political sketches from the nude occasionally.

In view of the above considerations, which we believe truly set out the salient facts of party history in Canada, to talk of Liberalism as something that can be applied to provincial politics in any other than a strict party sense is in the last degree absurd. If a man, who gives his support to the party led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, should take the position that his party ought to control the provincial governments as well as the Dominion, he would be quite intelligible and possibly, speaking as a strict party man, he might be able to make out a plausible case. If this is what is meant by Liberalism, it is very easy to understand it and very easy to show how erroneous it would be, from a provincial standpoint, to adopt such a course. But if something else is meant, if there is some principle which it is desirable to introduce into provincial politics and of which the Liberal party of Canada is the exponent, surely the public ought to be told what it is, and what is more they should be shown when the Liberal party proved itself to be its exponent. If we ought to have Liberalism, let us know what it is. The men who clamor for it are not such as inspire faith in it.

Every male of the full age of twenty-one years, not being disqualified by this act or any other law in force in the province, being entitled within this province to the privileges of a natural-born British subject, having resided in this province for twelve months and in the electoral district in which he claims to vote for two months of that period immediately previous to sending in his claim to vote as hereinafter mentioned, and being duly registered as an elector under the provisions of this act, shall be entitled to vote at any election.

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Tax Boundary Creek Times says that the Colonist has suggested the possibility of there being no redistribution until after the completion of the census of 1901. The Colonist never suggested anything of the kind, never mentioned the census in connection with redistribution, never said when it thought there ought to be a redistribution, never said there ought not to be a redistribution next year, never, in fact, expressed any opinion at all in reference to the time when there should be a redistribution. It has confined itself exclusively to asking the Opposition papers what they meant when they talked about redistribution and to showing that the Premier did not promise a redistribution bill before the next election. It has not said that there will not be a redistribution next session. It has been, in fact, extremely careful to express no opinion on the desirability of any change or changes in the present plan of representation, not because it has not very fixed and definite views on the subject, but simply and solely because it has no intention of dancing to the opposition's music. It will discuss the question affirmatively when it gets ready to do so. Until then it recommends the Boundary Creek Times and its other contemporaries to possess their souls in patience and try for a change to stick to the truth.

The Colonist has not noticed one in twenty of the personal references to its editor in the opposition press, and so long as they touch him personally only it will continue to ignore them. But when the statement is made, as in the Nelson Tribune, that the editor of this paper personally attacks other editors, the falsehood is a reflection upon the character of the paper. The Colonist asserts that there has not for years been a reference in its columns to the editor of a paper, as such, in any other than complimentary terms, and very few of these, for it believes in the impersonality of journalism. It has referred to editors of papers, who are before the public in some other than an editorial capacity, but when the editor of a newspaper enters political life he must expect to be treated exactly like any other public man. To illustrate what we mean: A criticism of Mr. Cotton, M.P.P., for his course as a member of the legislature is not an attack upon the editor of the News-Advertiser, though he is editor of that paper.

In a late San Francisco weekly there appeared an article that is new in its way. Like many other gems, it would have been the better for cutting. The subject of the article is the Yukon gold fields, and among others the following statements are made: That Canada cannot possibly get into the Yukon without crossing United States territory; that the United States government can keep out the Canadian police; that the police now there cannot preserve order; that the world will hold Canada for any disorders that occur; that the Americans now on the Yukon will not respect Canadian laws, and that the United States ought forthwith to acquire the whole Canadian Northwest coast. At last accounts the persons responsible for this rubbish were still running at large.

We have read Mr. John F. Smith's letter, as requested by the Kamloops Sentinel. We think that the Sentinel hardly appreciates the situation. The great effort of the Colonist at the present time is to secure the control of the outfitting trade to the British Columbia cities. This is not something that can be postponed until a long new railway is built, but is a business that will begin with the New Year and will be pretty well over in two years. We are speaking now exclusively of the outfitting of individual miners. After two years most of the miners will go in light and buy their outfits on the Yukon.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Montreal to secure an increase in the salaries of the judges, the ground taken being that present salaries are not large enough to give a successful lawyer to be willing to lead up his practice, and hence that there is danger of the bench deteriorating.

The Vancouver Island Produce Association has been organized under the Farmers' Institutes Act. The object of the organization will be inferred from its name. The formation is very timely. Agriculture on Vancouver Island and the Coast generally has a great chance ahead of it, if the farmers are only on the alert to their opportunities. Co-operation is what they need, and this they will secure through the medium of this society.

The Colonist reprinted an extract from the Nanaimo Review in which there was reference to Mr. Deane, editor of the Kamloops Sentinel. We were not aware that a part of the reference was to work done by Mr. Deane in his capacity of newspaper reporter or we should have cut it out of the extract. Under the circumstances we feel that an apology is due Mr. Deane from the Colonist, which we hereby tender him, and we do so all the more readily because of the very gentlemanly course he has taken in bringing the matter to our attention. SPEAKING OF Canada the Calgary Herald says: "We are simply a blotch on the map." The Herald ought to be ashamed of itself.

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GREECE IS ST...

The New Ministry D... Question of the... Turkey Premier Ralli Attri... many the Present... of His Cou...

LONDON, Sept. 30.—T respondent of the Times when presenting to the liminary treaty of peace ception to its terms, attr many all that had been Greece. He declared the submit a resolution app because it was executory did not require approv cause such a step would the sovereign rights of the crown. M. Deljanoff expressed of this position, but blam ment for again asking a dence, as this had already. Therefore, premimin erment was actuated by M. Deljanoff said that hold his support. The taken. ATHENS, Oct. 1.—The five assembly met to the peace treaty with a political situation in Greece were crowded an ings were followed with M. Ralli, the premie tribune and after review leading up to the signi conditions, invited the confidence in the govern posed a resolution to the political situation in Greece. The resolution by vote The defeat precipitat deemed impracticable continue in office with now constituted. The D a large majority in the cabinet could conduct without their approval.

CHINA'S NEXT...

English, German and Ame in Competition LONDON, Sept. 30.—T morning publishes a lon financial situation in other things the writer fall of silver has wip for hypothecations which of the customs revenue the letter says: "But C new loan to pay the bal anese indemnity before the treasury profits to 234,000,000 taes and H ese evacuation of Wei-H is not only negotiating w German banks, but States consular agent, w powerful American synd playing off one against fact that a syndicate ha liminary contract need conclusive of any intent teen millions in that qu ter of fact, at the date of is still receiving overar cans, and has been rece since the signing of the p tract.

YELLOW FEVE...

Health Officers Mobbed W Raise the Embargo WASHINGTON, Sept. 30 the progress of the yell up to the close of yester office of the Surgeon-Ge rine hospital service, six cases, and 60 deaths in the try.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 30. Reached this city earl The left yesterday to m and other health officer raising the quarantine fr freight, and had a very t at Raine. A mob with vented further progress ordered to turn back, w circumstances, they we do. During the trip the up twenty-four rapre health boards and had a at which they fully dis tion here and elsewhere resolution tending to reg of freight, a count pointed to communic orities of the lines with ing the operation of presive conditions.

ONLY WHITE L...

Virginia Citizens Will No time to Neg BUFFALO, N.Y., Sept. to the Evening News fr pot, Va., says: "Peb woman in the Virginia been found lynched. sound yesterday dangle hatched to a scymore li hanging there several de ers were probably neg Falls had not associat race for years. The lyn at Massamint mon east of here. "Peb" P woman as cooling the im she was, the citizens ar not put up with the lyn woman by negroes.

JAPAN'S REPRESENT...

Her Foreign Minister W on to Sealing and O WASHINGTON, Sept. 30 ter Guardian says that the Japanese foreign m to represent Japan in the conference at Washing count of the importance sses covers; he has been portant matters betwe United States in the set he is desirous of assist