

The Colonist.

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability
27 Broad Street, Victoria, B.C.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year \$1.00
Six months50
Three months25
Sent postpaid to Canada and the United Kingdom.

MR. BORDEN'S SPEECH.

In speaking of Mr. Borden's tour a few days ago, the Colonist expressed the opinion that the questions, which he would discuss, would be of a general character, with only an incidental reference, if any, to matters which are chiefly local in their application. At the opening meeting in Halifax he quite bore out this view. His speech there, judging from the very full telegraphic synopsis, which was printed yesterday, is fully in line with our general forecast. In the sixteen propositions which he laid down, Mr. Borden dealt with general propositions, and while it seemed as though he would plunk in the Conservative platform which they embody principles upon which all Conservatives can unite. It is much too soon to lay down a platform for an election campaign, and Mr. Borden has been wise in contenting himself with defining the lines along which he proposes that his party shall proceed in its effort to give Canada a better government. The first four of his propositions aim at stricter honesty and greater efficiency in the administration of affairs. Mr. Borden realizes that in the appropriation and expenditure of public money the conduct of elections and appointments to public offices party expediency is given undue prominence. Unfortunately there can be no doubt upon this point. Under the regime of Sir Wilfrid Laurier expediency has been so much the rule that there has unquestionably arisen a practice in which the welfare of the party and its chances on are deemed of greater importance than the well-being of the country. It is eminently proper that the Conservative leader should give this subject the first place in his consideration of public affairs. It is the one line along which the continued existence of Canada as a nationality demands that there shall be immediate and drastic action.

The seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh paragraphs into which the summary was divided may properly be considered together. In brief they may be said to mean that under Mr. Borden's leadership the Conservative party will stand for an extension of the principle of government ownership when possible, and a government control, in cases where ownership is not expedient, of what are called public utilities. He wishes to see the public domain, in which term he very properly includes great public franchises, administered and controlled for the public benefit. He proposes to extend government ownership at present to telegraph and telephone lines, and this only after full investigation, but he advocates an enlargement of the powers of the railway commission as to the control of the adequate control of companies enjoying franchises of a national character. In this connection it is interesting to note that he looks forward to the construction of another transcontinental railway and holds that this ought to be owned and operated by the government of Canada.

Mr. Borden declares for the maintenance of provincial autonomy. This is very timely, for undoubtedly the rights of the provinces have received scant justice at the hands of the Liberal party since it came into power. He favors senate reform, but until we know better what plan suggests to accomplish this, we hardly know what to say about it. That such a reform is needed, and that it is one of the forgotten planks upon which the Liberals floated into power are matters of common knowledge. We would like to give a little further consideration to the proposal to hand over the public domain in Saskatchewan and Alberta to those provinces before expressing an opinion upon it. The idea has much to recommend it, but we would like to know just what Mr. Borden proposes shall be given by those provinces in consideration therefor. This comes pretty close to British Columbia, which also has its open question with the Dominion. The improvement of postal facilities was mentioned by the Conservative leader, and this is notable because he has declared himself to favor rural free delivery if it is found feasible. This can hardly become a party issue for we fancy that the government will be prepared to go as far as that direction as the revenue will justify.

Mr. Borden's declaration in regard to the tariff will bear a little more elucidation than is given in the telegraphic synopsis of his speech. What he is reported as saying can hardly be called an out-and-out declaration in favor of high protection, but taken in connection with what he has added about a system of mutual preference within the Empire, it is about as far as he could very well go. He desires to promote manufactures at home, but at the same time he wishes to advance inter-imperial trade by a system of mutual preference. The latter project may easily be somewhat antagonistic to the protective principle as it has hitherto been understood in Canada. In the position which he appears to take upon this very important subject, Mr. Borden is, in the opinion of the Colonist, upon perfectly tenable ground, and the only one that any public man can justify himself in occupying at the present time. In view of the trend of public opinion in the United Kingdom and the United States, a Canadian political leader is bound to be extremely guarded as to his declarations on fiscal questions, especially when he does not have to give immediate effect to them.

A REMARKABLE UTTERANCE.

The speech of President Roosevelt at the laying of the cornerstone of the Cape Cod Pilgrims' monument at Provincetown, Mass., on Tuesday, constituted one of the most remarkable and important utterances which have

fallen from the lips of that eminent statesman since he assumed the high office he now holds. It cannot fail to attract world-wide attention and have a tremendous effect upon public opinion in the United States. His charge, that great capitalists have combined "to bring about as much financial stress as possible in order to discredit the policy of the government, and thereby bring about a reversal of policy is most grave, in that it is calculated to inflame the passions of that element in the populace which regards the Trusts as the greatest evil of modern times. The kernel of the theme of his test speech lies in the announcement that there will be no reversal of policy, but that the violators of the law, especially corporations, will "still be pursued." There will be general agreement that this is a most important utterance, and an eminently correct position, for one entrusted with the conduct of the affairs of a great nation. There is ample room for speculation, however, as to whether the task which the President has set himself will prove any more difficult, or even one possessing his unquestioned courage, determination and political skill. Mr. Roosevelt would strike at the root of the greatest evil of the economic interests of the United States today—the illegitimate combinations of capitalists aimed at draining the earnings of the producing masses into their own coffers. But the ramifications of the system are immeasurably huge and of a growth extending over many years. The great trust combinations of capital, A "corner" on, say, potatoes, in a given city or district, is a trust in a small way, and to an extent, is a hardship on the consumer who is forced to pay exorbitant prices. The consideration of these facts will serve to indicate how monumental is the task set the governmental authorities in the United States when they attempt to rectify the evil. Of course, in so far as there is legislation on the statute books aimed at restricting the powers of capitalists to combine illegitimately for their own aggrandizement, which is being broken, the President may be able to enforce a better observance of the law, but when one considers that the whole political fabric of the United States is built upon a structure of favoritism—the price of office being the ability of the office-holder to render a quick and good support during a campaign, one cannot hope that even the drastic policy enunciated by President Roosevelt can be very effective in working a permanent success. Yet one thing is certain: The President is sound in his convictions and honest and courageous in his intentions. To the extent to which such a position is desirable for one holding so eminent an office the situation is hopeful for a change for the better.

THE V. & S. RAILWAY.

We are glad to be able to say that the agitation, which has been going on in the columns of the Colonist for a better service on the Victoria & Saanich railway, is likely to lead to very good results. In the course of it we took occasion to direct the attention of the provincial government to what we conceived to be its duties in the premises. We learn that one of the members of the government thereupon sent to the President of the Great Northern Railway Company extracts from this paper and invited his attention to the fact that the Colonist had been a little too severe, and that sufficient allowance has not been made for the very small amount of business done over the road, but he promises that the matter will very shortly be taken up and disposed of in a manner that will be quite satisfactory to the city of Victoria and the section of country which the railway is designed to serve. Since the letter containing these statements was written a report has been circulated to the effect that the Grand Trunk Pacific proposes to acquire this line. We do not know if there is any truth in this, but we feel very certain that within a short time there will be much less reason to complain of the service on the V. & S. than there is at present.

THE PAPAL SYLLABUS.

Probably a very great many people who read the abstract of the Papal Syllabus, printed in the Colonist, were surprised at most of its contents for the reason that, as one reader said he did, they omitted to notice the effect of one sentence. The sixty-five paragraphs of the statements of doctrine, which are stated for the purpose of "reproving and proscribing" them. It is stated that this pronouncement was called forth by a petition recently received by the Pope from eminent French, German, Austrian and Italian prelates, requesting the abolition of the Index Expurgatorius, or, if that were impossible, at least to allow the condemned authors to reply in self-defense. We quote the following from a despatch from Rome: "This movement, the expression of which is contained in the petition, is condemned by the Osservatore Romano and curiously stamped as a plot of the Anglo-Saxon Modernists." The petitioners came together in a mutual communication through an effort to erect a monument to the late Prof. Schell, a theologian whose liberalism had caused his books to be placed upon the Index. A committee was selected to collect funds for the undertaking. It included the Archbishop of Ramburg, the Bishop of Passau, Profs. Diekamp, Braun, Funk, Piroli, and Hesse of Munster, Wurzburg, Tubingen, Bonn, Strasbourg, Bamberg, and a number of other eminent theologians." It is said that the sixty-five points mentioned in the Syllabus have been taken from the writings of the petitioners and their associates.

We are inclined to look upon this Syllabus as one of the most important documents which has been issued from the Vatican in many years. Some of the points mentioned in it are reprobated and proscribed, have not much popular interest, but most of them have. They are stated with a clearness which is eminently fair. Readers will not fail to note the absence of anything like denunciation. The language, which Pius X. employs, would hardly have been chosen by a more liberal Pope. Some of the points mentioned in it are reprobated and proscribed, have not much popular interest, but most of them have. They are stated with a clearness which is eminently fair. Readers will not fail to note the absence of anything like denunciation. The language, which Pius X. employs, would hardly have been chosen by a more liberal Pope. Some of the points mentioned in it are reprobated and proscribed, have not much popular interest, but most of them have. They are stated with a clearness which is eminently fair. Readers will not fail to note the absence of anything like denunciation. The language, which Pius X. employs, would hardly have been chosen by a more liberal Pope.

withdrew their names, but the despatch above quoted says "their places were quickly taken by others quite as important." The petitioners accept the decree of their spiritual head, and will there be a schism? What will be the effect of this publication upon the public mind as well without as within the church of Rome? Never have what may be called "modern" religious doctrines been so grouped as they are in the Syllabus. Hundreds of thousands of people, who read them, will give their assent to them and a much stronger influence than the disapproval of the Pope will be necessary to prevent them from incorporating them into their religious faith. It is needless to say that we look for nothing suddenly revolutionary. Great religious movements, based upon intellectual forces alone, are rarely rapid or spectacular. But that the publication of the Syllabus will have a profound influence upon Christendom, can hardly be questioned.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

This being the silly season, it is only reasonable to expect that the great minds, which guide public opinion in the western part of this fair land, should occasionally get down from their Jove-like attitude of superiority and—not to put too fine a point upon it—devote their attention to what if better understood than it is, namely, the fact that the Governor-General can take his advice in preference to that of the First Minister. The case, the last night would have been driven to the point of responsible government. We might preserve the form of it, but the soul would be fled.

Possibly, as this is the silly season, when most newspaper writers like to deal with abstract questions, it may be excusable if we say a few words about a subject, which ought to be better understood than it is, namely, as to what responsible government is. The Crown, and by the Crown the Governor-General is meant in Canada, do not recognize the existence of an Opposition. Some one, some half a century ago coined the very happy phrase, "Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition." Queen Victoria being then upon the throne, the phrase has been changed, but the sense remains, and there are not a few people, who suppose that the Crown must constitutionally take cognizance of the fact that there is an Opposition. They call politicians calling themselves the Opposition. When the Canadian Parliament decided that the leader of such a body should receive a salary, he was elevated in the eyes of some to the constitutional level of a minister. True, he was a sort of political Advocate Diaboli, but he had official standing and right to have his wishes consulted, so that the game of the political game might not be stacked against him. Except certain precedents, which are personal to the sovereign, very few of the duties are exercisable by the Governor-General. The Crown can do nothing except on the advice of a responsible minister. That responsible minister is what was called a century or so ago, "the minister," and later the First Minister, or Premier. It is upon the advice of the Premier that the Crown acts. When the First Minister resigns, the duty falls to him to advise the Crown as to who should be his successor. The Leader of the Opposition has no constitutional right to the succession, even in cases where the minister has been defeated. The Crown may select any person as first minister, quite irrespective of whether the person chosen has a seat in parliament. To cite a local instance, Lt.-Gov. McInnes called in Mr. Beaven to form a government after the election of 1893. The full powers of the Crown were not in for the vote in Cassiar, and since then, and it was an open question if the Turner minister had been defeated, but Mr. McInnes, basing his course on the fact that Mr. Turner had forfeited his confidence, called in Mr. Beaven. This course was strictly constitutional, although it could not be justified by the facts of the case. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier were to resign tomorrow, he would probably recommend Mr. Fielding as his successor, but the Governor-General might, if he chose, select some one else. He would send for a new man. In the choice of a First Minister, the Crown may act on its own initiative, but whether it does so or not, the incoming minister must be prepared to justify to parliament the act of the Crown in selecting him.

We do not wish to be understood as saying that there may not be circumstances under which the Crown may decline to sanction a course recommended by the First Minister. The Governor-General declined in 1895 to act upon certain advice given by Sir Charles Tupper as premier because the elections of that year had resulted adversely to Sir Charles' ministry. He did not do so, however, upon the advice of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, although later the last named gentleman had to accept the responsibility of the Governor-General's action. Minor instances perhaps arise quite frequently where the Crown declines to follow the suggestions of the Premier. Cases frequently occur in which the First Minister is really advised by the Crown. A case from a Canadian province may be cited. The late Mr. Blair, premier of New Brunswick, said that he was often guided in his policy by the late Lt.-Gov. Fraser, of that province, who, oddly enough, had been leader of the government when Mr. Blair was leader of the Opposition in the provincial house. To take the most conspicuous illustration possible, there is no doubt that the British Ministry avails itself of the ripened judgment and sound common-sense of the Crown in many of its decisions. It is quite easy to understand that a premier of Canada might consult with a Gov-

ernor-General as to the advisability of a dissolution. If he did, and the judgment of the latter should prevail, no violence would be done to constitutional practice. There is no ground, so far as we are aware, in supposing that anything of this kind has taken place, and we are very confident that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has not asked for a dissolution and been refused because of Mr. Borden's objection. Earl Grey is too good a constitutionalist to take such a position; Mr. Borden would be the last man to seek to have him do so, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier would, we feel very sure, not for one moment hold office if a request for a dissolution had been refused on such a ground.

LIQUOR AT THE DRIVING PARK.

The letter of the Bishop of Columbia in regard to the sale of liquor at the driving park during the exhibition is worthy of consideration. As he pointed out, there is no law, as yet, felt necessary to permit the sale of spirituous liquors at fairs in order to ensure financial success. In point of fact, the exhibition could be cited as an instance of a fair in which the sale of liquor was carried on by governments or with government assistance, where the sale of liquor is strictly forbidden, but it is not one that we would still not agree with the bishop in prohibiting of Women, for we think the absence of such a restriction as they would provide may have the effect of increasing the consumption of spirituous liquors. We sympathize with the spirit which animated the protest, and we question the wisdom of their decision.

Bishop Perrin thinks the statement, that the absence of a saloon from the track would greatly reduce the receipts of the fair, is a very weak one. With this we agree. We believe the reduction would be measured by the amount paid for privileges, and not a dollar more. We refuse for a moment to drop of the proposition that a single individual will go to the exhibition, because he can get a drink there, who would stay away from it, if there are such persons they can be named, and we do not recall having heard the names of any. The granting of a privilege in the sale of liquor at the driving park is a weak concession to a weak sentiment.

Down in Nova Scotia they seem to be getting ready for a federal election, but there does not appear to be any reason in sight for such a course of action.

C. P. R. telegraph operators have decided not to go out on strike, for which exhibition of good sense on their part we are all duly thankful.

A Tokyo correspondent sends possibilities of an "awakening" in China. No serious trouble may be apprehended until Korea has been properly "absorbed" by Japan.

The Oak Bay Municipality probably had reasons of its own for the new names adopted for the streets there, but they have certainly demonstrated in some cases that a change is not an improvement.

Senator Cox is going to finance the Salvation Army's colonization project in Ontario. The Senator will hardly regard the advance of \$50,000 necessary for that purpose as a very serious proposition.

It is said that 11,000 farm hands will be required to harvest the grain crops in the Prairie Provinces. Is it not possible to arrange a plan whereby some of these men can be brought to this province later in the year?

The Prince Rupert Empire thinks the mails should be sent to the G. T. P. terminals by the Camosun as well as by the C. P. R. boats. This seems reasonable. People on the frontier ought to get mails by every convenient means available.

The Alberni Pioneer News, Vol. 1, No. 1, and the first copy of the paper to come off the press has reached the Colonist. The editor is Mr. R. J. Burde, formerly of the staff of this paper, and a very capable-looking publication and is full of interesting matter, and it ought to be very successful. Its appearance simultaneous with the announcement of railway construction in Alberni is a happy coincidence, which, we hope, implies all that it seems to. The Pioneer News gives timely warning to people who may be induced to buy town lots from paper plans only. We wish our new contemporary all kinds of good luck.

An Ottawa correspondent says Sir Wilfrid Laurier is likely to invite Hon. Clifford Sifton to again enter the cabinet. Such a move is not at all improbable, as Mr. Sifton has "made good" at the game of politics as played by the Liberal administration. It would be a mistaken policy to attempt to read the minds of the public life of Canada by throwing mud. The Laurier government, to be ousted from office, must be attacked on its general record.

It would appear that the shortage of school teachers in Western Canada is a matter easily remedied, if those in the Old Country are eligible for the positions. A cable dispatch from London the other day announced that the Empire Educational League, recently published two letters in the Mail respecting the present demand for teachers in Saskatchewan. He now finds it necessary to write a reply to 1,200 correspondents who asked for further information.

IN HOT WEATHER USE

ADONIS HED-RUB

\$1.00

Quite refreshing and Cooling. Stops itching instantly. Delightful odor.

CYRUS H. BOWES

98 Government St. CHEMIST Near Yates St.

WEILER BROS.

HOME, HOTEL AND CLUB FURNISHERS—VICTORIA, B.C.

We are Talking Tables

WE HAVE just unpacked and placed in our showrooms a carload of nothing but tables, weighing 36,000 lbs. That is the way we purchase all our goods, in carload lots, by so doing we obtain the very best prices and lowest freight rates. These advantages we offer to you. Amongst the tables in this car are a number of new patterns—samples which the manufacturers have sent out, and of which there are only one of a pattern. They are the very latest, and as our showrooms are taxed to the utmost for room, we have marked them at very modest prices, and they will certainly sell quickly. So grip strong a chance like this before it slips along.

Extension Tables



A Few of the Best Values



A BEAUTIFULLY FINISHED EXTENSION TABLE, in surface oak that can hardly be distinguished from the real oak, size 6 ft. x 40 inches, polished top, at only \$8.50
SOLID OAK EXTENSION TABLE, 6 ft. x 40 inches \$10.00
SOLID OAK EXTENSION TABLE, 8 ft. x 40 inches \$12.00
SURFACE QUARTERED OAK EXTENSION TABLE, 8 ft. x 44 inches, with heavy pillar centre. A most imposing table at the price \$20.00

SURFACE QUARTERED OAK EXTENSION TABLE, 8 ft. x 42 inches, nicely finished sides and heavy legs, \$16.00
SOLID QUARTER CUT OAK EXTENSION TABLE, extra heavy legs, with round top highly polished and excellently flaked, 8 ft. x 40 inches, \$30.00
SAME TABLE, 10 ft. x 48 in., \$35.00
Many other styles, at all prices, up to \$55.00, in early English and Golden Oak.

Parlor or Center Tables

Take Elevator to the Third and Fourth Floors and See These Tables



These Tables are Displayed on the Third and Fourth Floors

QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK CENTRE TABLE, round top, 24 inch, with shelf beneath, very neat and plain. Price \$5.50
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK OR EMPIRE MAHOGANY CENTRE TABLE, 24 inch round top, beautiful shaped legs. Price \$6.50
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK OR MAHOGANY FINISH SIDE TABLE, with drawer on side, size of top 24 x 16 inches. Price \$7.00
SELECTED QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK CENTRE TABLE, 24 x 24 inch top, with shelf beneath and four plain shaped legs, highly polished \$10.00

QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK CENTRE TABLE, top 24 x 24 inches, with underneath shelf, shaped legs .. \$3.50
EMPIRE MAHOGANY CENTRE TABLE, oval shape, size of top 18 x 28 inches, shaped shelf and legs, splendid value \$7.50
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK PILLAR CENTRE TABLE, round top, 28 inches diameter, beautiful finish, only \$12.00
MAHOGANY VENEER CENTRE TABLE, round top, 30 inches diameter, a splendid imposing table for .. \$16.00
A LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER BEAUTIFUL TABLES, impossible to describe here, at all prices up to \$40.00

Library Tables



Library Tables in Excellent Selected Quartered Oak Exquisitely Polished and Flaked

Library Tables the Better Sort Come in Today and See Them

QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK, top 24 x 34, with drawer and shelf .. \$12.00
EMPIRE MAHOGANY, same size and style \$20.00
EARLY ENGLISH OAK TOP, 26 x 40, with drawer and shelf \$15.00
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK TOP, 26 x 44, with shelf beneath and shaped legs \$20.00

EMPIRE MAHOGANY, same size and style \$20.00
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK OR MAHOGANY VENEERED, 26 x 42, with one long and two short drawers, very neat and pretty \$25.00
QUARTERED GOLDEN OAK, oval shape, 60 inches long, beautifully finished or very massive table and something entirely new \$45.00

Just received a large shipment of McIntock's famous Russian Down Filled Quilts. See them on the second floor. They are beauties. Priced from \$5.50 to .. \$35.00

WEILER BROS.

HOME, HOTEL AND CLUB FURNISHERS—VICTORIA, B.C.

Try Our Satisfactory Mail Order Service