and important, their political friends, elected from the city, would be among the first and most streauous in advocat-ing them. It is undeniable that these Company, Limited Liability Colonist Printing & Publishin 27 E. and Street, Victoria, S. C.

The Colonist.

THE SEM WEEKLY COLONIS One year .....

Six months Euree months .....

PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE We call upon every voter to ponder

well what this means. We have right A few days ago an up-country Op-osition paper said that the govern-tent had claimed credit for advancwhich are entitled to consideration one dares deny that; they have been admitted by the Dominion government; ing the interests of agriculture, bu all it had done was to send a fruit they have been admitted by all the provincial premiers. Now we are told by an emissary from Ottawa that these send a fruit all it had done was to send a full shipment to Europe. Of course it has done much more than this, but it would be interesting to know what rights will not be recognized until we have dismissed Mr. McBride from of-This is a little the worst, a lit-the most bare-faced attempt to tile the voice of a free people, of some people think a government ought to do to promote the farming a the interests. Surely it is not expected to ask the legislature for appropria-tions to pay for plowing or harvest-ing. Surely the members of the minwhich the political annals of Canada have any record. reply of the voters of Brit

istry are not expected to go arou ish Columbia be as unmistakable as the threat. Let them tell Mr. McInnes, istry are not expected to go around the country doing farm work. There are not very many things open to an administration in connection with ag-riculture, but among the development let them tell the people of Ottawa, who have authorized this outrageous statement, that they value their rights as citizens of British Columbia f markets is entitled to a first place. British Columbia can raise excellent wheat and vegetables; but its most profitable line of husbandry at present highly to surrender them at any

greatly misjudge the Liberal Party of this province, if they will submit to dictation from an ex-federal official. The issue is not of our seekseems to be fruit culture, for which such a large part of its area is ex-ceedingly well adapted. The local demand is not great, for the reason that the population is yet small. Hence it but the answer is in the hands ing, but the people.

THE LIBERAL CANDIDATES

women a fables and the second president and the

It is also very evident that in the present divided state of the electorate the possibility of the Liberals succeedin general every effort will be made to side markets, and the government has secure to the people of British Colum-bia the advantages resulting from im-proved conditions. Among other things, night's meeting. The only new thing The Colonist has no fault to find with done this with conspicuous success. By means of well-selected exhibits, it has been demonstrated to the people of the Central Provinces and the they said was something about irrigathe selection of candidates for this city made by the Liberal Convention. The phoice has greatly simplified the work of tion, and even in regard to this the Colonist was weeks ahead of them. The difficulty under which the gentlemen named are laboring arises irom the fact that they have no case, and they know they have none. We do not say that a good case could not ing in electing a working majority in the new House is exceedingly remote choice has greatly surpluser ment. The the supporters of the government. The sentiamen named have been be-We do not imagine for a moment that United Kingdom that this province not gentlemen named have been be-the people of Victoria in a repreonly can produce fruit of the very highest quality, but that it can be shipped to the markets there in prime condition. To an ordinary individual, they will get anything like a majority and drainage, and in this connection the ver, after conceding them everything sentative capacity, and they may very properly be judged upon their public be judged upon their public Mr. Hall has had a longer do not say that a good case could not public interests in unappropriated water condition. To an ordinary individual, to hot say that a good case could not not blinded by partizanship, this would seem to be a highly praiseworthy and important thing. It is along the same line as was pursued by Mr. Sid-have been to be a connection with certain have been to be a constructive case, not merely a that they can reasonably claim, to com rights will be properly protected. It is not proposed to alter the mining or land laws in any material way, as the results of the operation of the existing statutes to the conclusion that the result of the elections will enable Mr. Macdonald, if degislative experience than the others, but in the observations, which we are about to make, we propose to confine-ourselves to the last three and a half he has a seat in the new House, to form a government that can What the strength of the I carry on ney Fisher in connection with certain products of Eastern farms. The Lib-eral press took great credit to Mr. Fisher for what he did in this way, have been so satisfactory to the public miscellaneous collection of nonsensical criticisms. If after the last general election the Liberal Party had de-voted itself to a study of the needs and to the treasury. The remarkable gain in receipts from timber licenses, as During that period there has a ministry in power in Ottawa, which the four representatives of will be has yet to be ascertained; so also years. has the effect of the nomination of So with which the four representatives of this city were in sympathy. During the same period also there have been many matters of grave public importance in connection with Victoria, which properly came within the powers of the federal notorities. Among them were the im-provement of Victoria harbor, the proper safeguarding of the coast, the de-tablishment of rail connection with the compared with what they would have cialist candidates. This much is cer tain. The presence of Labor and So cialist candidates in the field will weak en the Liberal vote. Now we submit it to be of the utmost importance that His policy will be to bring to the prov-ince a good class of white immigrants, and to steadily and persistently discour-mand such a number of votes that the Saturday administration of affairs can be carried on resolutely and a combination among the other ele-ments of the legislature to defeat any tablishment of rail connection with the Mainland, the settlement of the Songrailways, the Premier makes his posi-tion very plain, and all reasonable peowe have spoken only of them. fore the electors now with some rea-January 12th hees Reserve, the improved mail and steamship service to the West Coast sonable hope of success. But these particular policy. We do not think there THE FUEL SHORTAGE are the very things that they did not do. They have been astute to discover ways of showing themselves up to the ple will bear him out in the course which he followed. The railway cons the least likelihood that, under any onditions which are probable, the Liband to Seattle, the establishment of a free port, the pilotage question, and other subjects of a similar general char-To talk about a fuel famine in Vicstruction now in progress in the prov-ince shows that he acted very wisely in erals can hope to be in that position in toria is a good deal like the reference the new House. This being the case country as mere fault-finders and in "Nothing to Wear" of the total des-titution of Brussels point lace, which the philanthropist discovered in sev-eral homes on Fifth Avenue. There is scandal-mongers. The result is that they find themselves a few weeks be-fore the election in the same position ways we need and getting them at a acter, all absolutely non-partizan. These And will continue until Jan. 22nd things have all been pressed by the City Council and the Board of Trade upon the attention of the government with as the foolish virgins. The oil of slanbe wise to discard the strictness of party cleavage and secure the return to minimum of expense to the province. enough rubbish lying around within two miles of the City Hall to keep ev-ery household supplied with fuel until next summer, but out in this part of We shall only this morning mention the School Law, and invite attention to what Mr. McBride says upon it, and der has given out and they cannot re-fill their lamps. This was why Mon-day night's meeting was a disappoint-ment to the Liberals themselves. This ich vigor and some success. During **TEN DAYS ONLY!** the same period two Royal Commis-sions have visited the city, one dealing power, with a strong backing, of the men who are morally certain to have a majority of the House, or, if this is what Mr. McBride says upon it, and the same as to his references to Better Terms, the Kaien Island matter and the Columbia and Western subsidy. These are matters into which we shall go at length in later issues. The whole address is admirable. It is not boastful; it is not flamboyant. It has not been written to catch voles, for it is a plain and straightforward statements of facts, all of which can be supported by referthe world we have the idea that un-less everything is of the very finest quality, we are being very badly used. If the day should ever come, when we did not have the best of coal in just with the tariff and the other with transis why among other things, the portation. It is the plain, unvarnished truth that the Liberal representatives is why among other things, the elec-torate of this city is going to elect Conservative candidates. A party that misses its opportunity must take thought to be putting it too strongly who are sure to have more votes hind them than any other party FIT-REFORM of this city in the local legislature, with the single exception of Mr. Hall, have been conspicuously lacking in a diswhich the legislature may be divided the consequences, and the Liberals The Conservative party is unquestion-ably stronger in local politics than either of the others. We feel confident that it will be shown to be stronger than all the others combined, but we are writing now to those, who may be underided as to how they will you and the right sizes to burn in kitchen stoves and open grates, we would think the end of all things was about have woefully missed theirs. play of interest in these great questions. If there is a single matter of great local importance, a single matter relating to the development of the commerce and husiness progress of Victoria, a single matter relating to the advancement of the interests of this folly and this fal-A MARE'S NEST to come, and to suggest that any one all of which can be supported by referthe best quality of fir and oak would be to invite derision. If we had just The Times devotes a double-leaded editorial to an alleged discovery that the ence to the public records. Comparing it with the manifesto issued by Mr. Macdonald, it appears to very great adinter relating to the advancement of interests of this City and this Islold House was to have been called toundecided as to how they will vote, and hence we claim no more than seems ab-solutely certain on the face of things. a little dose of what other people have gether on March 7th, but something in-tervened to prevent. It says that the notices were prepared; that some of to put up with, perhaps we would not go around shivering, when the mer-cury gets down below freezing just wantage. It is the utterance of a man who is conscious of having well dis-charged a very onerous duty, who is in-**OUR FIRST SERIES OF JOB LOTS** and in any particular, which might prop-erly have received the attention of the Dominion government, and in connec-tion with which either Mr. Drury, Mr. The province needs a stable govern ment. The only sure way to get it is to strengthen the hands of a ministry charged a very onerous duty, who is hi-spired by a desire to promote the wel-fare of his native province, who appre-ciates the responsibility of public office, and who has given the people in his past acts the best possible reason to be-lieve that he will discharge his duty well in the future. them were sent out, but that the rest were stopped. If this were true, it would not be anything very strange, be-cause governments have before now to see how it will fit part of the thermometer, and wondering what we will neron or Mr. McNiven has displayed interest publicly, we should be very which has shown itself able to give the do to prevent a fuel famine. But there is a fuel shortage all over the West, province stable government, even al-though it had behind it only a narrow majority over all other parties. cause governments have before now changed their minds in regard to hold-ing sessions; but the amusing part of the matter is that the letter, which the glad to know what it was. and we need not be surprised if Vic-Apologists of these gentlemen say that these are not matters within the toria has to part with a little of its We invite persons not very closely identified with either political party to look at the matter along these lines. Let them reflect upon the few simple these are not matters within the diction of the provincial legislature, ities out. the matter is that the feat, is correct Times prints, and which is correct enough, was sent out as a matter of routine in connection with the dissolu-it the new House should be called to gether on March 7th, notices were pre-pared accordingly, and were sent out to the members of the existing House. the members of the existing House. the members of the existing House. the members of the energing of in the session has been fixed; to pnotify all vas the members. In the case of a dissolu-and tion, such a course seems to be some-the members. In the case of a dissolu-and the members. In the case of a dissolu-the members of the energing of the members. In the case of a dissolu-the members. In the case of a dissolu-to be the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-to doing soi, but we are informed the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne case of a dissolu-the bean tunne fixed; to pnotify all was the members. In the case of a dissolu-the bean tunne case of a dissolu-the bean tunne case of a dissolu-the true some idea of what such an the true some idea of what such an For one week we offer the following articles: well in the future. tites out. The principal reason for this short-age, which in some places is very like a fuel famine, is the increase in the population, coupled with the lack of labor. Another reason is to be found in the fact that the mines in the Store of Washington are being rear arght ic expect that they will take some part in promoting all great questions affecting their constituency. If we could be assured that our representatives maintained the same abstinence in re-gard to matters of federal patronage. there might be some slight reason to state of Vashington are being rap-tidly exhausted. The local coal output. State of washington are being rap-idly exhausted. The local coal output. there might be some slight reason to excuse their indifference towards wider subjects, but every one knows that they have been quick to see every opening in that direction and to use their fuffuence in such ways as seemed to them best. They, or at least some of them, have never lost an occasion to influence the tore and the same abstine of them best. Dominon gyernment in things of that kind, but we regret our inability to re-call a single instance in which either bis veice, in public at least, for the ad-bis veice, in public at least, for the adconsiderations advanced above. They Skates, No. 7, Steel, per pair ..... \$2.50 are very simple considerations, but all really important things in politics, as in everything else, are simple. The Skates, No. o, Acme Club, per pair.... 1.00 idea that in order to decide how to cast a vote a man must wade through all the minutiae of political controversy Conductors ..... I.00 and reach a conclusion upon things, in regard to which certainty is impossible, is a mistake. A few general principles are all that are necessary to be con-Each week we will have special sales. WATCH OUR ADS sidered, such as: Has the country pros-pered under the administration? Has the policy of the government produced beneficial results? Has there been hon-est administration? Have the laws been faithfully carried out? Have the opponents of the government exhibited what unnecessary, but we are informed by the Provincial Secretary's Office that it is the practice, and that being so, it was followed in this case. There was no stopping of the notices. The Pro-vincial Secretary's Office is under the impression that all the members re-ceived them; they were sent out to all. But be this as it may, it is absolutely true that the government had, no inten-C. C. Greenshaw B.C. Hardware Co. with the demand for it, and the result is that the San Francisco market has opponents of the government exhibited any special qualifications fitting them for ministerial positions? Is there a probability that a new government can But be this as it may, it is absolutely true that the government had no inten-tion of calling the old. House together "mortality" among freight cars is very for March 7; and hence it follows, that there was no change in the intention of the government. It is not "now clear that the government intended to hold and hesides all this was every ten years, his voice, in public at least, for the ad-Cor. Broad & Yates St. of the proposals referred aich the future of the city so been compelled to draw more largely to, upon wh than ever upon British Columbia. In our own province the rapid growth of Vancouver has of course led to a great increase in the demand for coal, and 'PHONE 82 improve upon what the existing gov-ernment has done and is doing? Which party is most reasonably likely to be strongest in the new House? We do ich depends. A constituency, when much depends. A construency, when it elects a representative, has a right to expect that he will concern himself ac-tively in all public movements, on one side or the other. When Royal Com-increase in the demand for coal, and the same thing is true, though to a less extent, of Victoria. In regard to the wood supply, there is plenty of that standing in nearby forests, but the men to cut it are not available, and if they were the wood would be too green to be first class fuel. Moreover some of the available stand-the timber is not near enough town that the government. It is not "now clear that the government intended to hold another session," as the Times alleges; it is not true that anything happened in connection with the Chief Commis-tioner to any how clear to accommodate in the best wood in the world for traight cars is the Dougles Fir. Next not suggest that pronounced party men will be altogether influenced by the an-swers to such questions as these, but missions visit the city to inquire into its necessities along certain lines, the peo-- THE the great majority of men are not strong partizans, but hold themselves free to vote as their judgment dictates. Such men will support the government at the nle have a right to expect their repre \$5.00 == GILLETTE SAFETY BAZOR == \$5.00 freight cars is the Douglas Fir. Next to it comes the Southern Pine, but the latter is heavier than the former, the difference being about three tons to the in connection with the Chief Commis-sioner or any one else to lead the gov-ernment to reconsider its decision. If the fact is of any interest to the Times, we may inform it that very early in De-cember, Mr. McBride obtained the con-sent of the Lieutenant-Governor to a discontion, whenever he chose to ach tatives to make some effort towards informing those commissions as to what the needs of the city are. But our representatives, with the single exception mentioned, have at all times been con-tent to say nothing and look wise. Efcar, a very formidable item, and quite sufficient to determine what wood will ing timber is not near enough town to enable wood dealers to pay the freight in addition to the cost of get-ting it to the cars and sell it at a price that has heretofore been obelection, because they know it has been We are now enabled to save a good government, because they are uncertain what would be the conse-quences of its defeat, and because they tent to say nothing and look wise. Efforts made with great pains by private citizens have never been seconded by anything which these gentlemen could do. They did not even show a passing interest in them. Their indifference has been a dead weight upon everything pro-been a dead weight upon everything pro-been a dead weight upon everything pro-tis the world be the reason of the dissolution would be announced in the time interest of the dissolution would be announced that it was known and the miners' for the Ottawa government to think that, if proposals were really pressing that, if proposals were really pressing that is probably the shortage is principally interest is principally in the shortage is principally is principally in the shortage is principally is principally in the shortage is principally is provided in the shortage is principally in the shortage is principally is provided in the shortage is principally is principally in the shortage is principally is provided in the shortage is principally is principally in the shortage is principally in the shortage is principally is principally in the shortage is principally have the preference, especially as the fir is equally strong with the pine. Of iron there is abundance, and the you the duty on this Razor It is said "once you get used to the Gilette way it is the only way you will go." CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST 98 Government St. -

which action of the Dominion govern-What is the explanation? We are un-What is the explanation / We are un-willing to believe that it is that they are not interested in promoting the welfare of the city, because we think they are. The explanation is that they look to Ot-tawa for inspiration in all lines. They are afraid to act, lest they may embar-reas their friends at Ottawa. An evi-dence of this subserviency is afforded be the fact that the next we convention THE LIBERAL MEETING The feeling among the Liberals yes

ntlemen have stood in an attitude indifference towards every great pub-question that has interested the peo-of Victoria since 1908, and upon

ber of places.

due to the failure of the supply to keep pace with the increase in popu-lation and fuel-consuming industries. The considerations arising out of the facts as set forth above are of the monterial increases of the politic column

greatest importance to British Colum-bla. This province has an immense store of coal, located in a great num-ber of places. British Columbia is

machine at Ottawa, if it cannot make a better showing that this. THE PREMIER'S ADDRESS We print this morning an address by the Hon. Mr. McBride to the voters of British Columbia. It is written so sucthree and a half years, while the gov-ernment has been grapping with dif-ficult problems and handling them suc-cessfully, while the country has been cinctly that it is hardly necessary to give an epitome of it here. Every voter will read it, and it cannot fail to have very great influence in determining the result of the election. Mr. McBride re-views the condition in which the pubsteadily advancing along every line the Opposition have contented them-selves with scolding. Probably, if the truth were known, this was the true reason of Mr. McInnes' abandonment of the legislature for an office in the Yukon. He saw that the Opposition as constituted was politically hopeless. What he saw every one else saw: and lic business was when he took office. and reminds the voters that he then stated that his policy would be, first of all, "to restore confidence in the finan-cial and political administration of the province." To accomplish this, step had to be taken to raise money immedi What he saw every one else saw; and what he saw every one else saw, and it is too late now to make a change. While the ex-commissioner naturally spoke with a confident tone, it was evident enough that he does not feel the confidence which he tries to exately, and to increase the public rev-enue. After this had been done, and a rigid regime of economy and retrenchment had been inaugurated, a steady im rovement set in, and the result now s that the financial position of the provhibit; and this is the true inwardness of his failure to stir up his audience of his failure to stir up his audienc on Monday night to that degree of in ince is excellent, the revenue is increas ing, the credit of British Columbia is good everywhere, capital is flowing in, and there is prosperity on all sides. This terest, which usually characterizes public meetings at which he is a prin-cipal speaker. It is all very well to say, as some of his friends do, that being the case, the government is now able to change the general character of its policy in some respects. It is able to see him at his best he must have opposition, but when a man enters po-litical life and asks the people to en-trust the control of affairs in his to become more aggressive in such

directions as the necessities of the prov ince demand. The first step will be in the direction hands, the people have a right to expect of him something more than ora-torical pugilism. They have a right to look to him for the presentation of of reducing direct paration. New pub-lic works will be inaugurated and new areas will be opened to settlement. Ag-riculture will be stimulated in every way possible in all its departments, and an affirmative case, which will command their attention and enlist their support. This neither Mr. Macdonald nor Mr. McInnes presented to Monday

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THE MACHINE WINS OUT principally because the factories making the material are rushed with work and have orders far ahead. If the new bounty takes effect on, say, July 1st next, a plant here would be debarred from participating in its benefit for six months, and therefore its share of the higher bounties would be just that much readraced If the law when passed The machine has won out, and the four Victoria members in the late House have been chosen by the Liberal Convention as candidates at the forth coming election. This is as it should be, for it would be a pity to spoil the chances of any aspirants to political uch reduced. If the law when passed rovides that so far as smelting plants I British Columbia are concerned, fu hall not take effect until, say, January ber of places. British Columbia is really the great source of fuel for the whole western part of the Continent, its supply from Alberta. This means a region extending from Alaska on the north to the Isthmus of Panama on the south In this fact clone there is the 1st, 1908, there is practically no doub but that a plant will be put up this year. The promoters of the enterprise year. The promoters of the enterprise are already in correspondence with th

VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

Ominion government on the subject With iron at hand, and of the highest quality, all the metal going into the manufacture of freight cars can be made on the ground, and with the very best lumber available almost at the Messrs. Cameron, Drury, Hall and McNiven are all very good citizens and actimatics door of any factory that may be erect MCNiven are all very good clizens and estimable gentlemen, but they have per-mitted themselves to be led into a poli-tical Slough of Despond, from which there is no escape. We congratulate them on their surveys in structure ed, we have here everything needed for the establishment of a great industry

## WHY MAKE A CHANGE ?

there is no escape. We congratulate them on their courage in standing by their party, and we prophesy such a defeat for them as will make the other candidates for momination thankful that It is good logic and good politics also to say that the burden of proof rests upon those who propose something new. Our Opposition friends want to bring about a change of government. It is perhaps natural enough that they should want office and all that is there-in implied; but where will the public derive any advantage form the changed they were not chosen. The Liberal convention was a small one, numbering less than 200. Compared with conventions of that party at the last three elections, it might al most be called a "fizzle." It augurs very badly for the machine, which will rap-idly lose the confidence of the greater derive any advantage from the change Mr. J. A. Macdonald says that he is to The people of British Columbia Party. The people of British Columbia have had an opportunity of judging of his qualities as a public man. No one de-nies his personal respectability, his abil-ity in some lines, and his many estim-able characteristics. He has made friends in and out of the House, but not many warm friends. many warm friends. His supporter respect him, but they do not look upon him as a capable leader. He lacks in itiative, magnetism and aggressiveness On none of the questions, that have been before the public during the last three years, has he taken a position that has in any way impressed itself upon the public mind. He has made very few promises for the future, and seems to be entirely lacking in that grasp of conditions, which is necessary to en able any man to direct successfully the affairs of a province. He is clever at criticism of details, but weak in his ap-preciation of broad questions. Such a man has so little to offer the electorate that it is small wonder that Mr. McIn nes has been persuaded to enter the field. The Liberals hope that he will supply, for campaign purposes, the qual ities in which Mr. Macdonald is con picuously lacking. As to what may take place after that, they have no taken the trouble to think they ask for is a victory. T Chey shirk a decision as to what will follow a victory. That Mr. McInnes would be content to play the part of lieutenant to Mr. Macdonald may be a good enough story for immediate use, but every one who knows the ex-Commis-sioner for the Yukon will concede that he must be "aut Caesar aut nullus" his party.

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