

The Colonist.

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

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year \$1.00
Six months 50
Three months 25
Sent postpaid to Canada and the United Kingdom.

THE WATERWORKS CASE.

We print in full this morning the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case involving the respective rights of the City and the Esquimalt Waterworks Company to the water of the Goldstream watershed. Every citizen ought to read it, because in a matter of such grave importance to the city, it is advisable to know just what the legal aspects of the case are. The attitude of the City Council and a good many people towards the proposal for the acquisition of the property of the Company and even the purchase of water from it, has been influenced to a very considerable degree by the belief that the Company was making claims which could not be sustained in law. Hence it will assist to an unprejudiced consideration of the case to understand thoroughly what the highest court in the realm has said on the subject.

It will be noticed that the court gives only passing consideration to the right of the city under the Act of 1873, and says that it does so "only to get it out of the way." The point in the case was whether the waters of Goldstream below a certain point and the waters of Niagara Creek are unrecorded waters and it is hardly necessary to recapitulate the facts of the case as set out in the judgment, but we draw attention to the stress laid by the court upon the obligation of the Company to supply the city with water at 6 cents a gallon. The court says that this perpetual obligation renders it reasonable to contend that the powers of the Company necessary to enable them to fulfill it must also be perpetual. The judgment itself is so very clearly expressed that any layman can understand it without any attempt on the part of the Colonist to assist him in so doing.

We suggest that it is time for the people of Victoria to approach the acquisition of the Waterworks Company's property in a sane and rational manner. The Judicial Committee have cleared the ground of all questions as to right. There remains those of expediency and value. These should be looked at from the standpoint of ordinary business sense.

THE C. P. R.'S PLANS.

The announcement that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company will proceed forthwith to clear up 10,000 acres on Vancouver Island so as to make it ready for settlement, is very gratifying. Ten thousand acres is a large area. It would provide a large area for settlement, with a 10-acre farm cleared, or four hundred each with a 25-acre farm cleared. We do not know whether the company will adopt in selling this land, but assume that in a general way the purchaser will have to take some unimproved land in addition to the improved land. In other words the clearing of the land will be in the nature of an inducement to settlers to come to the island. Therefore we incline to the belief that the area mentioned is more likely to pass into the hands of a thousand individual owners than a smaller number of large owners. In this case, it will mean directly an addition of from 5,000 to 10,000 to the population of the island, besides a very large indirect increase. We do not know anything, which the Canadian Pacific can do more calculated to promote the prosperity of this part of the province. Presumably the land to be cleared will not be in the immediate vicinity of Victoria, and therefore some other business centre is likely to enjoy the greater share of the increased trade to be developed by the settlement of such an area, but this in no way detracts from the hearty satisfaction felt by the Colonist at the announcement referred to.

VICTORIA AND SIDNEY RAILWAY.

In another column the views of some patrons of the Victoria and Sidney railway respecting the inadequacy of the service are set forth. It appears that there is abundant evidence to warrant the contention that not only the train equipment hopelessly inadequate, but that the manner in which the road is operated is positively dangerous to the public. Very many complaints have been lodged against this intolerable condition of affairs, but they seem to have had no effect—in fact, those in a position to speak with knowledge say that the service was never bad as at present, nor the trackage and rolling stock facilities in so dangerous a condition. We are not at all surprised, to learn that an agitation has been set afoot looking to securing some action on the part of the provincial government which may remedy the grievance. The point taken by many persons who are compelled to use the railway is that if it cannot be improved so that all elements of danger to the travelling public may be removed, the properly constituted authorities should take steps to see that it is not operated at all. This seems an eminently proper course to pursue, and we assume would be only a preliminary step to vacating the franchise of the company. If it be true as contended, that the roadbed and the trackage facilities generally are in a deplorable condition, it would be gross negligence on the part of the authorities to permit the existence of such a menace to the travelling public. There is every legitimate reason for suggesting that an investigation should immediately be made.

PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

We have in several recent articles endeavored to concentrate public opinion upon the importance of a policy of provincial development. At the outset we were careful to say that the suggestions advanced were not to be regarded as forecasting the policy of the political party in harmony with which the Colonist usually acts. What we view the government of the province may hold in relation to railway construction and colonization we are not aware, nor does it seem material at this stage that we should know them, because we were as long as possible to discuss public questions without that bias, which necessarily arises from political association. We have

spoken freely, so that the gentlemen, who are charged with framing a policy to be placed before the Legislature, shall have whatever advantage may arise from a frank expression of opinion from a newspaper, which has always striven as best it could to promote such projects as are calculated to lead to the material progress of the country. In treating the various phases of the subject we have spoken with equal frankness as to what appears to be the duties of both governments. If we have urged action from our representatives at Ottawa, we have none the less tried to impress upon the members of the local legislature a full sense of what we regard as their responsibility in the premises. In the main the suggestions have been received in the spirit in which they have been made, and we think it can be truthfully said that there is a rapidly growing opinion that there ought to be a more energetic policy. We are confident that the people of British Columbia, irrespective of party allegiance, will unite in supporting any well devised plan, whereby the great unproductive areas of the province can be opened by transportation facilities and the settlement of the country on a systematic plan can be begun.

As the situation presents itself to the public mind, the time has come for an aggressive policy. Timidity should have no place in the counsels of those upon whom rests the duty of formulating plans for the immediate future of such a vast and important province. The questions to be dealt with are large. They involve great outlays of money, either public or private. They necessitate a broad and far-reaching policy, which must be dealt with not only as they will affect us today or tomorrow, but as they will influence the future. Those who took an interest in provincial politics during the last year will recall with what a storm of protests the measures taken for the development of Kootenay were met. About that time the Liberals had come into power at Ottawa, and the supporters of Sir Wilfrid Laurier in this province went to extremes in denouncing the members of the local government, who, it so happened, were all Conservatives. The exaggerations and in many cases false reports, that were sent out from this province, were accepted in the East as truth, and a group of public men, who were exceptionally farseeing and enthusiastic over the future of the province, were branded as wasteful, corrupt and dishonest. Time has shown how false these charges were; it has also shown how wise was the policy which had for its corner stone unbounded faith in the potentialities of the province. The results which have followed from the courageous policy of the Davis and Turner administrations can be easily surpassed if the same courage and foresight are exhibited by the McBride administration. The present is a far more auspicious opportunity than was at hand twelve or fifteen years ago. Then all Canada was to a certain extent under a cloud. Now the reputation of the country stands foremost among all new lands. Then the whole civilized world was suffering from business depression; now there is a spirit of boundless enterprise abroad. Then British Columbia was little known; now it is a land where great things are sure to be accomplished. Then the expansion of trans-Pacific commerce was the hope of enthusiasts; now it is a reality. The taxes, the capacity of transportation companies.

Such are some of the considerations which lead us to advocate a policy of provincial development, upon a broad and generous basis. We believe the time has come when a policy of combined courage and prudence will produce results of surpassing greatness. There is no doubt that the work embarked in the development of the country; there are thousands upon thousands of people who stand ready to settle upon our vacant areas. It seems to us that, under these circumstances, it ought to be no very difficult thing to decide upon some plan of action, whereby the Dominion and provincial governments can contribute to the development of the province, to a certain extent co-operate in the work.

SCARCITY OF MONEY.

To answer the question: Why is money scarce? by saying, Because it is, may seem like trifling with an important question, but after reading a good many columns written by people calling themselves financiers, that is the thought which comes uppermost in the mind. Money is scarce simply because there is not enough of it. New securities have been placed upon the market during the last twelve years at the rate of something like a billion dollars' worth a year, or about four times as great as the total value of all the gold produced in the world, and considerably more than four times the amount of that metal which has been coined into money. About twelve years ago, then, we began to scurry among the smaller nations to secure the gold standard, and the result has been that even of the gold available for money, a very large part has been absorbed in gold reserves. Cillien has shown by common consent concluded that gold and gold only can be strictly called money. For the information of those who have never investigated the subject, it may be mentioned that silver coins are not money in the sense that gold is. They are only "tokens" representing gold. The amount of silver in them bears no necessary relation to their value, except for purposes of exchange in foreign countries. That is to say, a silver coin is worth in the country where it is issued what the law of that country says it is worth; in any other country it is worth only what it will bring as metal. Gold is of equal value everywhere. Bank bills and government issues represent gold and silver, and never increase in value. The amount of money available for business depends in the last analysis upon the amount of gold available as coin or for coinage, and as we have pointed out, the production of the gold has not kept pace with the expansion of the demand for money.

The above facts explain why it is the general belief in financial circles that money will be dearer in future than in the past. This state of things was foretold by those who from ten to fifteen years ago advocated the remonetization of silver. They said that the enormous increase in the production of commodities of all kinds and the construction of great public and private undertakings would certainly lead in a short time to an advance in the price of money. The expression "price of money" may seem to some a contradiction in terms, for they say a dollar is a dollar and can never be more or less, which is true enough; but by the price of money is meant what has to be paid for the use of it. The cost of doing things is greater now than ever. A

man does not do any more work now in a day than he did twenty years ago, but he wants about twice as much pay for doing it. There are a score of things to be done now where there were ten a decade ago. Therefore, more money is needed because more things must be done, and because it costs more to do them. The supply of gold not having kept pace with the demand for money, money is certain to cost more, and the rate of interest is certain to be higher.

But these things only in part cause the existing stringency in the money market. If there were more available gold there would be less stringency; but at the same time it is not the scarcity of gold alone which makes money tight. As a matter of fact, very little of the business of the world is done in gold. It is nearly all done on credit. Gold is used only for settling balances, that is, as a general proposition, for no one wants to have a large quantity of gold in his possession, if it can be avoided. One of the immediate causes of the scarcity of money, that is, of a condition of things when the price of it, or interest, is so high, is the fact that it cannot be got at all is a contraction of credit. This may result from a variety of causes; but we think the chief of them is over-capitalization, followed by the investing public both in the home and in the ability of the leaders in the financial world in America. To this loss of confidence the disclosures in the proceedings against the Standard Oil Company, and the very general apprehension that the great railway corporations will shortly find themselves in the hands of the law, have chiefly contributed. Probably this lost confidence will never be fully restored, but the business interests of the country are too vast to be prejudicially affected by such causes for any great length of time, and therefore we look forward to fairly easy financial conditions prevailing in the course of a short time, when business will pay some solid basis than ever, for one great element of uncertainty, the engineered fluctuations of the stock market, will be greatly curtailed.

MR. BORDEN'S TOUR.

We do not know what aspects of Canadian politics Mr. R. L. Borden will discuss during his forthcoming transcontinental tour, but we hardly think it probable that he will have much to say upon issues of a local nature. He will make the tour as the leader of a group of political parties of the Dominion, and while we all know that elections are frequently decided upon questions of an extremely sectional nature, it is not to be expected that the Canadian politician will attract attention to matters of that nature. He must of necessity confine himself chiefly to the broader issues, and deliver the same message to the people of Nova Scotia as he does to those of British Columbia. To what extent he will feel called upon to consider those things which are local to provinces and cities, rather than general to the Dominion, cannot be predicted, but we shall be surprised if these form any very considerable feature of his address.

There is one point upon which we feel sure that he will speak, and that is the duty of Canadians to elevate the standard of political life. Mr. Borden is a gentleman of refined instincts and honorable motives, and we are sure that he will speak in a special degree the timeliness of an appeal to the electorate of Canada to remove the reproach arising from corruption in high places. It is not the intention of the Colonist to take issue as a champion of purity, for, if there is anything specially hateful to it, it is the Pharisaical spirit which thanks God that it is not as other men are; but it cannot shut its eyes to the fact that there is growing up in Canada a laxity of political decency, which if not checked, will mean disaster to the Dominion. The temptations in the way of public men are many. Happily the great Canadian leaders have risen superior to them. The most bitter critic has never been able to bring home to such men as Sir John Macdonald, Sir George E. Foster, Sir A. D. Gordon, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Oliver Mowat, Alexander Mackenzie, George Brown, R. L. Borden and many others, living and dead, whose names are held in reverence, that they had been guilty of corrupt transactions. These men lived in "the fierce light which beats upon" high position, and while, perhaps, they all cannot say, as Edward Blake hoped would be said of him, that they "ever wore the white flower of a blameless life," they were men of high patriotic motives who devoted their whole energies to the welfare of their country, with little regard to other than the consciousness of duty well and honestly performed. The denunciation of public men for corrupt practices has undoubtedly been too sweeping. Men have been frequently accused of "graft" when they have only had business shrewdness sufficient to enable them to take advantage of the legitimate opportunities afforded by the development of the country. There is nothing wrong in this, and the wonder is that so few of the leaders of Canadian progress have done so. The explanation probably is to be found in the fact that a political leader, who is devoted to his work, has no time to look after his private interests. But when every allowance has been made for the men of unimpeachable reputation, whose names are honored throughout the country, and for the legitimate advantages which men have derived by reason of their public positions, the fact remains that the standard of political morality has very greatly depreciated of late years. This is in part due to the newspapers. The public demand sensations, and if they cannot have sensational facts they will have sensational insinuations. The easiest answer to make to the argument is to question the motives of

the person advancing it; the simplest way to destroy the influence of a public man is to denigrate his character. If the papers would refuse to descend to such tactics, the tone of political life would be greatly improved. But even as it is, we would object to the exposure of wrong-doing. To this we reply: Certainly not, but nine-tenths of what appears in the public press is simply guess-work; nothing is as long as the minds of the people are filled with the idea that all public men are more or less corrupt, whereas in point of fact the very great majority of our public men are honest.

We hope that Mr. Borden will make the principal part of his public address an appeal for higher politics, not so much among the leaders of public opinion as among the rank and file. We hope he will cause it to be understood that he will expect the party, of which he is the leader, to be influenced by motives of patriotism and not by "graft" and other such things. His leader there will be no place in Conservative ranks for men who disregard the decencies of private life or the obligations to common honesty which all public men should respect. While we do not believe that politicians are as black as they are painted, the disclosures of the past few months may well make us anxious for the future of the country. Mr. Borden can do more for Canada at this juncture by condemning what is wrong and asserting his determination to stand by only what is right in the conduct of public affairs, than by making any declaration of general public policy or espousing any special question of local interest.

THE SCOTT ACT.

It is announced that Cape Breton has repealed the Scott act and that henceforth the laws of Nova Scotia will be under the provincial license law. The Scott act is a local option law passed in 1875 and it was brought into force in very many parts of the Maritime provinces and Ontario. It remains in force in a number of places. It is a very well framed enactment, which all public men should respect. It is estimated that a public authority to spend the necessary amount of money, it can be enforced in rural communities and small cities and towns so as to abolish substantially the sale of spirituous liquors. This has been done, and so there is not the least use for any one to say that it cannot be done. Nevertheless, it is open to very grave doubt if the law has done very much to promote total abstinence.

Our observations in regard to the Total Abstinence Movement in America may be of value for the lessons, which can be drawn from its history. It began early in the last century in an organization known as the Washington society. This gave way in 1842 to the Sons of Temperance, a body which is still in existence and has had the most potent influence for temperance reform that the world has ever seen. It has branches in all parts of the world, and it is estimated that the organization has had a membership of more than 3,000,000 in the United States alone, not counting the hundreds of thousands of boys and girls enrolled in the Order of Temperance. This organization in the time of its greatest activity received scant support from religious denominations. It was a man's organization for the reforming of men by moral suasion and the bringing up of boys to habits of total abstinence. Later came the Independent Order of Good Templars, which had a wonderful growth. With the organization of the society women began to take an active part in temperance work and almost simultaneously there arose a cry for the legislative prohibition of the liquor traffic. As this demand increased in strength, efforts at the reform of individuals relaxed, and while it would not be true to say that the influence exerted in later years by all temperance organizations, including the W. C. T. U., has not been for the great good of the public, no one who has watched the history of the total abstinence movement will deny that the abandonment of moral suasion for legal enactment has been a great mistake. Experience has shown that where the two lines go hand in hand the best results are obtained, but where, as is usually the case, moral efforts are relaxed the moment prohibitive laws are brought into force, the result is bad. This is the reason why the Scott act has been repealed in so many communities where it was carried by immense majorities.

The number of immigrants who arrived in Canada during the year ending April 30, was \$52,038, a gain of 88 per cent. over the previous year. If we allow for the excess of births over deaths it would be safe to assume that the Dominion increased in population upwards of 300,000 during that period, even making a liberal allowance for persons who have left the country. It would doubtless be safe to estimate that the population of Canada has increased considerably more than a million since the last census was taken. If the present rate continues, and it is likely to increase, we will have more than 8,000,000 people resident in the country when the next census is taken.

A large number of highly-skilled ex-arsenal mechanics have left Woolwich for Canada. They are being sent out by the Woolwich District Committee. Such men ought easily to find openings in this country. As mechanics they are in the very front rank.

Poor San Francisco. One would have thought it had troubles enough without a visit from the bubonic plague.

"Darling," he said, "what would you do if I should die? Tell me." "Please don't say that," she said, "I shall be a widow." "I can't bear the thought of a stepfather for our little boy," Brooklyn Life.

IN HOT WEATHER USE

ADONIS HEAD-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.

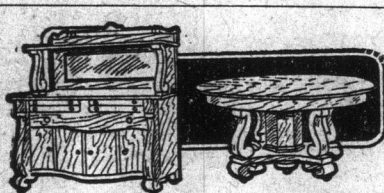
A SPECIALTY

THIS is the age of specialists. In the professions, in every mercantile pursuit, you know the real successes are those who concentrate their whole attention on one line and become specialists.

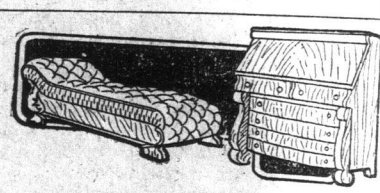
This institution concentrates its entire time and energy on the furnishing of homes, hotels and clubs. We apply to this one work the knowledge gained from almost fifty years' experience in this single line. We keep in closest touch with the dictators of fashion in home furnishings, and endeavor to have at all times the cream of the newest and best ideas.

Combine these and other apparent facts with the enormous output of this, the largest exclusive house furnishing establishment in Western Canada, and you can readily understand why we can give you better service, better goods, and better values than you can possibly procure elsewhere at an equal price.

We want all those who contemplate the purchase of any furnishings to come in and talk with us before deciding upon a single piece. We shall charge you nothing for our suggestions as to what we think is "the proper," and you are under no obligation to spend a cent upon the purchase of anything, so let us see you.



See the New
"Early English"
Furniture



The Latest Arrivals in Willow and Rush Chairs

Here we give you an idea of the great range of prices on some of the newest and nicest Willow and Rush Chairs we have ever stocked. This is a big shipment direct from the largest makers of this class of goods in Great Britain, and the assortment contains some of their choicest creations.

On account of the exceptionally heavy purchase and very low freight rate we are enabled to offer you tempting prices on this lot. We advise a visit. The chairs and prices are out-of-the-ordinary and we want you to see them.

WILLOW CHAIRS, in many sizes, at each, \$3.50, \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.00, up to \$14.00
RUSH CHAIRS, at each, \$10.00, \$9.00, \$6.00, \$5.00 and \$3.50

PULP CANE CHAIRS, at each \$15.00, \$12.00 and \$9.00
CHILD'S COTS, at each, \$4.00 and \$3.00

A New Line of Upholstered Furniture

ARM CHAIRS, at from each, \$60.00, down to \$15.00
ROCKERS, at from each, \$30.00, down to \$18.00
COUCHES, at from each, \$65.00, down to \$45.00

MORRIS CHAIRS, at each \$40.00, and \$35.00
PARLOR SUITES, 5 pieces, in handsome heavy mahogany frames, upholstered with beautiful silk coverings, at, per suite \$100.00
DAVENPORTS, at each \$110.00

Some Prices on "Gold Medal" Camp Furniture

GOLD MEDAL FOLDING CAMP STOOLS, at each \$65.00
GOLD MEDAL FOLDING CAMP STOOLS, with back, at each \$85.00
GOLD MEDAL FOLDING CAMP CHAIRS, at each \$15.00
FOLDING RECLINING CHAIRS, at each, \$1.75 and \$1.50

GOLD MEDAL FOLDING CAMP BEDS, at each \$4.00
GOLD MEDAL FOLDING BATH TUBS, at each \$12.50
OTHER MAKES OF CAMP STOOLS, at, up from, each 40c
OTHER MAKES OF CAMP COTS, at, up from each \$2.25

Some Prices on Delightful "Old Hickory"

SEVERAL NICE STYLES OF ARM CHAIRS, ranging in price at each, \$8.00, \$7.00, \$6.50, \$6.00, \$4.00, \$3.75 and \$3.00
ATTRACTIVE DESIGNS IN ARM ROCKERS, ranging in price from, each, \$7.00, down to \$4.50
KEG TABOURETTES, at each \$3.25

SOME COMFORTABLE STYLES OF SETTEES, at each, \$11.00, \$8.50, and \$7.00
A RUSTIC "OLD HICKORY" TABLE that will complete your set, for, each \$7.00
TABOURETTES, at each \$2.25

Just Try the Mail Order Way of Shopping Here

Through this department we bring out-of-town residents into close touch with the largest and best stocks of dependable home furnishings in Western Canada.

Out-of-town orders are packed and shipped promptly. We make no charge for packing and shipping—prices quoted in catalogue being F.O.B., train or boat, Victoria, B.C. Send for our large illustrated catalogue of Home Furnishing Goods. It is an attractive and interesting book and is mailed free upon request.

Write us for anything you require in Carpets, Linoleums, Drapery, Furniture, Wallpapers, Pottery. No matter how large or small the order, the packing will ensure safe carriage to any distance.

Sensible, Serviceable Wedding Gifts Here

Cool and Comfortable Summer Furniture

WEILER BROS

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

Try Our Satisfactory Mail Order Service

SOME ASTRON

During the past who have been out observed the un shooting stars, wh across the sky. O that she counted s—and there is no remark either.

part of what "swarm." The which enters the enormous. We a stantly by the outer space, but of these are so generated by their the atmosphere c plode into powder the snow has been a fine dust which come from meteors advanced regarding they have an i weather. The pat which the earth year, is in a curve of ours and some are between us an times the reverse nearer the sun th supposed to obstru rays and give u they are outside o supposed to refle upon the earth a temperature. A named Angot has observations whic this is the case, what we call "Ind to the fact that h heat reflected fro

of observations c years shows that may be looked up cool days. These spend with the 1 of November, the them being aro same observation 12 and 13 are 1 warmer than any year, while six, nuary we have v weather. The M periods correspon the earth near the known as the Le gust and Februa with our contact meteors known a periods of exce referred to are make the accep theory a matter is possible that the susceptible of in consonance w

You know wher Pleiades. There a the little group that name is used there are hundre these the princis star called by as This great star i central orb not on Pleiades group, b sun revolves aro of the Royal As the latest writt in which respect Sir John Hersche motion of the su heavens has been also its direction tion is the same very many othe of the sun has b observed to per of data sufficien path is circular, certain movement universe are in l to a greater or reasonable to inf is the same, an the inference around some gra so far as we k Aleyone as any remarkable star ern hemisphere Next to Sirius it the heavens. It latitude. No mo in the case of remoteness is so lax can be obser us is beyond cal as bright as our mensely larger with such inter suggested that the centre of a among which t to be small by teresting to me of the stars has certainly by the other way. The to suppose that stars consist o about equal in bers of one gro times as rapidly

A very intere of Mars has lat shows very fra changes upon t These changes t theory that all centred during the Poles and e Eight charts dra period of two which though g plete. During a the planet w as if by fog, an the involved m contrasts of th were distinct