

Rossland Weekly Miner

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GREAT BRITAIN'S MONEY.

According to Great Britain's official statistical abstract, the total amount of British money loaned in India, the colonies and foreign countries in 1902 was \$6,092,858,800—a big row of figures, whose full meaning is not easily grasped.

They mean that the British people, numbering 40,000,000, have invested a portion of the savings of centuries in lands beyond the sea to the extent of \$107 per capita for every man, woman and child in the three islands.

One-half of the British investments abroad are estimated to be in foreign countries. The interest paid yearly to the British people on their foreign and colonial investments is stated at \$304,642,000.

This fact explains why Mr. Balfour could truthfully state in his pamphlet yesterday that Great Britain is not living on her capital. Judged by all available tests, both the total wealth and the diffused well-being of the country are generally greater than they have ever been.

TWO SLANDERS.

Two slanders of Canada have been cabled to this country recently. The chairman of a trade convention, held at Nottingham, told a meeting that "Canadians had shown no sign of caring for England, and their interests were bound up in the United States." This sapient, but clearly, very ill-informed man, appears never to have heard of the Canadian contingents, the "Strathcona Horse," or of the preferential tariff of Canada, in favor of British goods. He probably does not know in which hemisphere Canada is situated. Another slander appears in the last issue of Truth, a weekly paper the title of which is ironical. Truth calls Canada "a rotten colony." We commend this malignant phrase and the sneer of the Nottingham speaker to the attention of the British trade delegates and the press representatives, who have recently visited this country. We venture to say that every man of them regards such slanders of Canada with indignation and contempt.

THE RIGHT TO DISCHARGE.

United States Commissioner Carroll D. Wright, who was some time ago named as umpire of the conciliation board appointed to adjust disputes between the Pennsylvania coal miners and the operators, has rendered decisions upon several points, of which the most important is as to the right of the mine owners to discharge employees. This question arose upon the complaint of one William Mowry that he was unjustly discharged by the Philadelphia Coal & Iron company. Mr. Wright decided against the complainant, thus sustaining the action of the employing company. His decision is generally regarded as a far-reaching declaration of the rights of employers on the one hand and of employees on the other as affecting the maintenance or the severance of relations between them.

The umpire says that, taking the rulings of the court, the assertion of the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission, the clauses in the agreement made by and with the United Mine Workers of America, and the admissions of the different members of the board of conciliation, whether on the one side or the other, there can be no doubt that a man has a right to quit the service of his employer whenever he sees fit, with or without giving any reason, provided he gives proper notice, and that the employer has a perfect right to employ and discharge men in accordance with the conditions of his industry, and that he is not obliged to assign any cause for the discharge of an employee, but that he should, as in the reverse case, give proper notice.

In other words, in the view of the umpire, the right to discharge must be sustained. Any other view of the case would, in his opinion, result in compelling men to work for an employer when they did not wish to, and thus enslave them; and, on the other hand, it would compel employers to employ men whether they had work for them or not, and whether the men were incompetent or not, and would thus stagnate business and work to the injury of all other employees. The principle here announced is a corollary from the statement made by the strike commission in reference to the right to strike. The commission, it may be remembered, laid down the doctrine that "the worker has the right to quit or strike in conjunction with his fellows when by so doing he does not violate a contract made by or for him." What is true of the employee must, of course, be true of the employer. If one has the right to sever the relation of employment, the other must of necessity have the same right. Indeed, the principle would seem to be self-evident. The only wonder is that it should ever have been called in question. The right of the employer, as of the employee, to enter upon or to determine the relation of employment must be, and must continue to be, free where limited by no contract or by no special exigencies of a particular occupation.

PROMISING OUTLOOK.

It is an interesting fact that over \$150,000 is being expended on milling plants for the immediate concentration of Rossland ores. One of the mills is virtually ready for operation and will be treating ore at its full capacity within a week. The other will be rushed to completion as rapidly as circumstances will permit. These works are, however, only the nucleus of a huge concentrating industry in and around Rossland. It is safe to say that within the next twelve months over half a million dollars will be invested in concentration works in this camp. This would mean a milling capacity of 2,000 tons daily, which added to an output of shipping ore at least as large as the present tonnage, would mean the raising of 3,000 tons of ore per diem. To enable the extraction of such an enormous quantity of ore the employment of over 2,500 men would be required. This would reasonably justify a population of not less than 10,000 for the Golden City.

But it is not to be imagined for a moment that the tonnage six months from now will be confined to the mines now in active operation. The Miner is reliably informed that plans are well under way for the working of several semi-developed properties of great promise on a very extensive scale. Besides, within the next few months both the Jumbo and the White Bear will be as heavy shippers as the biggest properties in the camp and work will be resumed on four, if not five, mines in the North and South belts.

Rossland has passed the doubtful stage and the period of hard times. From now on the industrial and commercial condition of the town will improve with a steadiness that should satisfy any ordinary mortal.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

Peculiar among the phases of a strike that has arrived at a condition of violence is the conflict of authority. The situation at Cripple Creek, Colorado, is an example of this. The miners' strike has reached a stage so acute that the governor deemed wise the calling out of the state militia. The troops are now on duty. No discussion of the merits of the strike is involved in mentioning this matter here, nor is it sought to criticize adversely or otherwise the course of the governor. Aside from natural friction with the miners, these troops constantly clash with the local authorities. If they make an arrest they are threatened with arrest by civil process. If they place in jail one regarded by them as a dangerous character, habeas corpus is sought on his behalf. There is no reason why the case should be considered novel. Many times before just such cases have arisen. The purpose of the civil and the military arms of a state government should be identical. It should be the preservation of peace, the protection of life and property. If there is sign of riot, either troops are needed, or they are not needed. If they are needed, the co-operation of the civil authorities should follow as a matter of course, and if they are not needed they should not be sent. To send them when after their arrival they can only add to the turmoil is

a mistake. In troublous times there must be a head to direct the force of the law, and not two heads, each thinking it represents the law, and actively engaged in butting each other.

LABOR QUESTION IN AUSTRALIA.

The civilized world has been watching with great interest the progress of the experiments in compulsory arbitration and other semi-socialist experiments in New Zealand and Australia. Enthusiasts have hailed the legislation accomplished as the beginning of a higher order of civilization based on a more equitable distribution of wealth. Conservatives have preferred to wait a few years and see the final results. The facts seem to be that the result thus far in New Zealand has been that the laboring man has secured a slightly larger share than elsewhere of what there is now in sight, but that there is a rapid diminution of the total to be divided, and the scale of wages is steadily growing less. Capital is not going to New Zealand (although that country is an earthly paradise), but, on the contrary, is leaving it if it can disengage itself and get away. Many New Zealanders are coming to Canada, and already a lot of them are happily settled in and around Victoria and Vancouver. The colony and the municipalities have borrowed until they find it difficult to borrow more. The colonial debt in 1902 was \$317 per capita, and although much of the indebtedness was incurred for enterprises assumed to be productive, the taxation was \$19.24 per capita as against \$9.33 for British Columbia. Whatever the merits of their methods, the New Zealanders are considered to be going a pace which cannot last.

Some of the Australian colonies have been inclined to follow the example of New Zealand in regard to labor legislation, although none have gone to such extremes in their experiments. In New Zealand—unless the law has been recently changed—the state railroad operatives have not been included in the provisions of the compulsory arbitration law, although the labor leaders have constantly endeavored to have them included. In the new Australian Commonwealth parliament a bill is pending whose details have not come to hand, but which is called in the dispatches "a conciliation bill." It is evidently a bill on the lines of the New Zealand law, but probably not so drastic. As proposed by the Ministry, it evidently excluded state railway servants from its operations, for an amendment to bring them within the purview of the act has been carried in the house of representatives over the heads of the Ministry. The Ministry is reported as "considering its position," which means that they are considering whether to resign or to dissolve parliament and appeal to the country. If the latter course is adopted Australia is likely to have an exceedingly exciting labor controversy to be settled at the polls. The result probably will be a marked increase of immigration from the Antipodes to British Columbia.

THE SITUATION IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

While the European powers are exerting themselves to prevent war between Turkey and Bulgaria, the gravest apprehensions are being expressed of an early collision. The greatest danger seems at present to centre in Constantinople, where a massacre of the Christian population by Mussulmans is feared, in retaliation for the dynamiting of trains and the blowing up of a Turkish steamer and other aggressive measures carried out by the Bulgarians.

If a religious riot breaks out in the Turkish capital no one can clearly foresee its consequences. A slaughter of the Christian inhabitants would doubtless involve all nations. While the majority of the Christian residents are Bulgarians, there are many who belong to other nationalities and they are just as liable as Bulgarians to fall victims to the blind rage of the Mohammedans. The latter will not be inclined to discriminate. The foreign consulates may be sought by some as places of refuge. Those who fail to reach them will surely be put to the sword. Even those who gain these asylums will be in doubtful security, for when the Mussulman's appetite for Christian blood is fully whetted he will not give a thought to the respect due to the flag flying over the premises occupied by the representatives of neutral nations.

These are among the possibilities which may compel the Christian powers to intervene. Turkey will probably attempt to justify the conduct of her people by pointing to the atrocities committed by Bulgarians, although her own soldiers stand accused of crimes equally revolting. It is scarcely credible that the powers will accept such an explanation and co-operate with the Turks to coerce the Bulgarians into submission. It is more reasonable to assume that repressive measures will be applied on the other side. If so, it will probably end in the termination of Turkish rule in Europe and the partition of the sultan's European domain among the powers. It is evident that sooner or later

the Turk will have to be driven across the Bosphorus as the only effective means of preserving European peace. He has been a disturbing element ever since he first occupied European soil, and he never was more of a disturber of the continent's peace than he is now. His expulsion would be hailed as a blessing by the civilized world.

EASTERN INVESTORS AND B. C.

After his recent experience with the financial whipsaw in Montreal, Toronto and New York, the Eastern speculator can well afford to back off for a breathing spell. Before he again breaks into the game it would be well for him to investigate carefully the present industrial and commercial conditions in the West. A glance at the situation shows beyond all question that the opportunities to-day for investment of capital in British Columbia afford better security and greater certainty of profit than any proposition now confronting him on 'change.

There seems to be a stupid and very erroneous impression in the East that British Columbia is a profitless field for investment. In common with any other district or country British Columbia investments can be made unprofitably if ordinary care is not exercised in placing the money, but with ordinary care and reasonable perspicacity various kinds of lands can now be purchased at figures that would easily admit of a ready profit of several hundred per cent in the next year or two. Mineral lands of all descriptions, timber lands, coal lands, farm lands, grazing lands, lands for irrigation schemes and future townships can now be had at prices that will soon be impossible to obtain. The day is near at hand when British Columbia will boom as no country ever boomed before. The immensity of our natural resources in both extent and variety are unequalled the world over. If anybody doubts this sweeping statement let him verify it for himself by applying to the Provincial Bureau of Information at Victoria. From that department he can obtain authentic facts and figures that cannot be produced by any other country on earth. This province is unlike other countries and provinces in still another respect. There are no difficulties and uncertainties about its climate. In this feature alone British Columbia is easily the banner province of the Dominion.

In view of all this, it is an unfathomable mystery to the Miner why the people of Eastern Canada continue to display so much apathy and indifference to the opportunities that await them on the Pacific coast. We feel tolerably certain, however, that our unenterprising brethren of the East will neglect these opportunities here until the cream of the country has been secured by foreigners of greater shrewdness. Then, and only then, will they come to British Columbia as they have recently gone to the Northwest, and pay ten times more for property than would have been necessary were they to invest now.

DEPARTMENTAL CARELESSNESS.

Among its other many shortcomings the British Columbia Department of Lands and Works has earned an unenviable reputation for the inaccuracies in the maps issued therefrom. This is an important matter in a new and wide-spread province.

It is both interesting and instructive to note the thoroughness and accuracy of similar work produced in Great Britain and other European countries. In France, for instance, a complete, minute and exact map of that country was completed half a century ago, after 35 years of incessant labor and at an expense of over 10,000,000 francs, or \$2,000,000. It was executed by officers of the general staff and the engineers of the army. It is the grandest work of this kind ever undertaken by any country in the world.

The French idea is rather too laborious and expensive to suit our provincial requirements, but the cartographers of the Department of Lands and Works can well afford to borrow from the French in the matter of exactitude and display more care in the mapping of well known country.

THE QUESTION OF PASSES.

The Dominion government intends to settle the question of the granting of passes on the railways to members of the senate and house of commons. Up to this time the granting of these passes, although a regular thing, has been a courtesy from the railway companies. Because of this fact there has been great objection to the practice in many quarters, since it was thought the members accepting and using passes would not be unprejudiced when legislation affecting the railway companies over whose lines they travelled free was under discussion. If any members of parliament objected to the principle, they yet could not resist the temptation to travel free. Perhaps, however, the

conflict between principle and profit was troublesome to the consciences of our legislators. Be that as it may, they have now decided to put the whole controversy at rest. Scruples will no longer have a chance to be troublesome. The solution is not, as some might guess, the declaration that the issue and acceptance of passes is illegal, but the declaration that the railway companies must issue such passes. Clause 5, section 275 of the new railway act contains the following:

"The railway company shall furnish free transportation upon any of its trains, for members of the senate and house of commons of Canada."

Every member of parliament will now be able to travel with an easy conscience, for he will have made the pleasant thing legal and therefore quite proper.

It is rather too bad, however, that when he was about it he did not look after the interests of other classes in the community which would appreciate passes no less than he, and probably would no less deserve them. It is true that the Dominion legislator does not absolutely shut the door in the face of all other classes. In another clause of the same section of the new act he concedes so much to generosity and fellow feeling as to declare that nothing in the general provisions of the act shall "prevent railways from giving free carriage or reduced rates to members of the provincial legislatures or to their own officers or employees, or their families" or to "destitute or homeless persons, transported by charitable societies." All these classes can still wrestle with their consciences; for himself, he will henceforth live under the law.

B. C. POLITICS.

The inadequacy of the opinions expressed by the several candidates for legislative honors, not only locally but throughout the length and breadth of the province, produces a sense of puerility that damns each and all. When we come to consider that we as British Columbians enjoy a heritage, "A vaster Empire than has been," an undiscovered country to the extent of three-fourths of its area, it is surprising that candidates for legislative honors should bother with hopes and fears concerning wagon roads and bridges and ignore the vital issues of the day. How is it possible that a province such as British Columbia can thrive and prosper without a proper invitation to the outside world to come and participate in the prosperity that rightfully and eventually will belong to us? Are we extending this invitation? Are we advancing, are we inculcating from the platform and the press ideas that justify confidence and appreciation? No; we are not. And that is the reason why we suffer from the blight of financial depression and drift inconspicuously in a period of stagnation.

British Columbia has had all sorts and conditions to govern her affairs except the true-born statesman. It has gone mad over the dictatorship of Davidism, it has wrecked itself on the shoals of Turnerism, it has sunk itself in the disgraceful depths of Martinism, it has suffered from the stupidity of Semilism, it became a Populistic freak under the plutocratic rule of Dunsmuir and a pitiful farce under the wandering intellect and crass stupidity of the ungallant Colonel Prior. The great trouble with both parties is that they will persist, each in their every sense, in confronting the electorate with issues that do not concern the electorate. To the ordinary thinking man of patriotic ideas it is a comparatively easy matter to see that unless something is done in the near future for the present financial position and future development of the province a hopeless, an appalling state of chaos will surely reign. There is not the slightest reason for this if one or the other of the parties would only rise to the occasion. The occasion is simplicity itself. It only calls for close understanding of conditions that exist and a capacity to deal with the future on practical lines. Both parties have wrestled in a Housatonic or Martineque way with the situation that confronts us, but neither the Housatonic nor the Martins, their followers and their kind, have given the common people a chance to shout approval. The Cheap John, claptrap candidate pops up in every riding. He becomes a turkey gobbler, a strutting peacock if not a buffoon. He seldom rises above the idea of the shepherd, and more often than not views statesmanship from the standpoint of a yokel.

We are blessed with party politics and cursed with partisanship. The rigmarole of the Revelstoke platform, or the claptrap of so-called Liberalism as set forth by the pronouncement of Joseph Martin, is the ground bait to catch the vote of the electoral sucker. Duped by these cheap fallacies, cursed by an adherence to low ideas rather than high ideals, the people of British Columbia are to be benched by one side or the other. We take a gloomy view of the political situation of this province at the present time, because we cannot see a ray of light that might reveal true and proper statesmanship. The view held in

THE POPE'S SIMPLICITY.

The simplicity of the present pope's earlier life is forcibly evidenced by the almost bewildered attitude of his three sisters with whom he lived in Venice. The visit of these women to Rome, or rather their arrival in the Eternal City to take up their permanent residence, and the manner in which we are told they look about them, verges upon pathos. This man, now the head of the greatest religious organization in the world, was to them simply their "Beppi," their brother, whom they had waited upon and served and cared for all the years of their lives. They probably went to Rome expecting to resume that dear service, worried possibly that "Beppi" should have lacked their tender ministrations so long, only to find on their arrival that the old, dear familiarities were never again to be resumed. Their brother was theirs only in the sense of the past and belonged now to the formalities and dignities of the great world. It is just as possible that the simple minded Sarto, for we have had many evidences of his humility, would gladly exchange the "pomp of power," the obsequious service of the men who will surround him till death, for the old tender familiarities of his Venetian home life.

POLITICS AT THE CAPE.

A general election is to take place immediately in Cape Colony, the present parliament having ceased by effluxion of time on September 15. This will be the first election since the war and the contest will be, as in former years, between the Progressives and the Bond. The government of Sir Gordon Sprigg while nominally Progressive has been kept in power by the Bond members against the will of the more radical Progressives, who regard Dr. Smart and Dr. Jameson as their leaders. On the eve of election, however, a reconciliation has been patched up between the two camps and they will go into the fight under the nominal leadership of Sir Gordon who will, however, probably have to make way for Dr. Smart or Dr. Jameson should the elections be favorable to the Progressives. This will be the likely result of the appeal, owing to the heavy disfranchisement of Bond electors in the border constituencies. During the war Rudyard Kipling was wont to refer in sarcastic language to the achievements of "the registered voters of Cape Colony" in shooting down British soldiers. But they are no longer registered voters, convicted rebels to the number of thousands having been punished by disfranchisement. The fight will be largely on race lines. One would think that after the experiences of the recent past the public men of Cape Colony would recognize the criminality of forcing political divisions along the line of nationality; but the parties, ignoring the lessons of the war, have re-formed on the old issues of Dutch versus English and will fight the battle for control of the legislature on the old shibboleths.

MR BALFOUR AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Winnipeg Telegram believes, like The Miner, that the announcement that Mr. Chamberlain has resigned from the British cabinet is a somewhat astonishing piece of news. Probably, few of those who have been closely following the situation in England believed that the colonial secretary would take such a step. It must be supposed that he thinks more will be gained for the cause he has espoused by taking such a step than by remaining with his colleagues. It will certainly tend to make the issue immediately acute. But that is the very thing it would be thought Mr. Chamberlain would not consider necessary. He himself has been many years in making up his own mind on the subject and it is only a few weeks since he put the question to the people. He could hardly expect that the general public would be prepared to give a verdict for his views in so short a time, particularly when the prime minister and some other members of the government are willing to go so far as to favor some changes in policy.

There is an important difference between the stand taken by Mr. Balfour in the pamphlet just published and that supposed to be held by Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Balfour seems to favor a change to a system of tariffs for the purpose of having weapons with which to compel foreign nations to make favorable reciprocity arrangements with Great Britain. Mr. Chamberlain, although he has not yet been very concrete, favors tariffs for the chief purpose of giving the colonies preferential treatment, in return for like treatment, and so benefiting the empire as a whole. Mr. Balfour's view is not necessarily an Imperial view; it may be an exclusively insular as is the present free trade policy if a lowering of British tariffs is to be given to every country that will lower its tariffs on British goods, then the colonies may have no advantage over many other foreign nations. The view held in

Canada is different from other nations, no foreign nation shares this view some conflict of the Balfour and Chamberlain view, ever, are work same reform however differ terward employ to be done is of the people tariff. Mr. C be most anxious, duced, and it if Mr. Balfour his own policy generally under erence, that the work together f The fact the chief opponents also resigned, a situation very which would o It is possible the have thought of from office for relieve the govern sity of either m discussion has also retaining in men of radically on the leading is

POLAR PO

It has been the theory of scientists on this planet began to be a faun branched of the old world man originated sical regions and Now comes Dr. Yale, with facts life originated in prehistoric man of his development get away from th of his successors there. Dr. Wortman Wyoming and Mont vined him that gambaio in the ju sea now spreads i and great serpent by coiling around selves. Professor Wortman fossil monkeys fr posit possibly mill prove it. The theo as a scientific con man's investigation most striking corro duction is that w a tropical climate a there and became t mal life to be found The earth began to monkeys and bo stand it. They we by glaciers and th man emigrated wi life kept pace wi to South America, the pioneer monkey men.

No undesirable monkey immigration plied American sim the Mound Builders noble red men owe na or Europe.

Fossil remains of have been found we circle and it is fa there were men as where that vegeta Wortman does not man was a resident borhood, but he m might have travelled instead of taking th

According to the there is still tropic pole, for it will be proved in some way flattening of the pole depression there. Th the earth at the en many miles near t is anywhere else. Co be very warm, for w you travel towards earth the temperature It would seem th been near enough to found that depression sniff the spice-laden em, paradise, but "Symmes' hole" may valley about the siz district, with inhabi equatorial expeditions and sending relief ex them out of the ice and

THE EMPIR

Writing in the Lon Street takes a sor view of the Chamber its connection with of the empire. After of Mr. Chamberlain and those of his oppo says: "I am tempted in c fer a reflection to c —I count many amon ances—to whom the empire is distasteful.