The Colonist.

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THE DAILY COLONIST.

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UNFAIR TACTICS.

The time of the Legislature was entirely taken up yesterday afternoon with a discussion of Mr. Smith Curtis' proposal to have a committee of the House appointed to investigate certain charges made by him as to the personal probity in office of Premier Dunsmuir, and his colleagues. These charges are to be investigated by a Royal Commission, and we do not wish to deal with the merits of questions which are now to a certain extent sub judice, which have now been placed by the very men whose honor was impugned, in hands where they can expect no favor, but need fear no injustice. We do, however, propose to deal with the merits and demerits of Mr. Smith Curtis himself in this connection. The charges in effect, are, that the members of the present government have been guilty of connivance with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, through the appointment as the agent of the government, the legal adviser of Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, connivance for the purpose of robbing the purse of British Columbia, and that the Premier has made use of his position as Premier to enhance the value of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway through the adoption of a certain public policy, which public policy he adopted for that especial purpose. These are the charges, and we do not propose to enter into them at present. But the manner and method of their introduction are, now, or at any time, legitimate matters of criticism. We do not say that Mr. Curtis does not believe those charges, because no one has ever been able to discover, from his actions or his words, what Mr. Curtis in his inmost heart, does, or does not believe. But we do say, and we say it emphatically, that these charges were not introduced by Mr. Curtis because he believed them to be true, but from a sinister motive, and with an ulterior purpose. The truth of that assertion is abundantly contained in the method of his actions. He knew full well that the members of the House were against him to a man. He knew that they would take the first open opportunity of repudiating his action in formulating and presenting such charges. He knew that the government had but to ask the House to crush him and his charges together, and that the House would do so, not with the normal government majority, but by an overwhelming vote. He was careful, therefore, to bring in his motion for a committee in such a form that it could not be accepted; and his purpose was to insinuate before the country that the government feared investigation, because the ordinary forms of parliamentary procedure prevented the investigation from being granted in the form he demanded. If the form was amended, he was ready then to say that the government had insisted upon a tribunal which its members knew beforehand would whitewash their proceedings. There is his trick, his serpentine policy, as plain as black ink on white paper can make it. Imagine his surprise consternation and chagrin when the members of the government demanded an investigation, and that before the highest and most impartial judicial tribunal obtainable in the country! However, we are not concerned with the chagrin and consternation of Mr. Curtis. We are concerned with his actions and his motives. To gain a political advantage, to make political capital, a man may go far. But he may not, for that purpose, impugn the honesty of his political opponents. It is possible to conceive circumstances under which a public man might find it necessary to impeach—a fellow man of fraud, of malfeasance or of crime. But it is impossible to conceive of circumstances in which any honorable man could do so, inspired only by the purpose of making political capital for himself, and of lowering the political reputation of his opponents. Yet that is exactly the motive which his actions clearly show has inspired Mr. Smith Curtis. There is only one possible apology for his action. That is, that under the dispensation of an all-wise Providence he is not cognisant of the moral significance of his actions, that he has become the victim of the obsession of a fixed idea as to the character of anyone who happens to oppose him. This extenuation or apology for conduct which shows on its face an amazing turpitude, is one of which we hesitate to ask Mr. Curtis to avail himself, and one of which, the abnormal condition in himself which it presupposes, would prevent his conscious recognition. But between that explanation of his conduct and the necessity to stigmatize him as thoroughly unscrupulous in his methods of political warfare there is no choice.

THE KOOTENAY DELEGATION.

The delegation from the Associated Boards of Trade of Kootenay and Yale met the members of the Executive last night, and the delegates expressed themselves as satisfied with the sympathetic attitude displayed towards the mining industry by the present government. A great many subjects affecting the mining industry were taken up at the meeting of the Associated Boards at Kaslo on the 26th of February. Many of these were not such as affected the general policy of the government, but were more in the nature of suggestions and recommendations as to how the regulation of details of administration would benefit the interests of the section of country represented by the delegation. In all such matters the government doubtless welcomes suggestion and advice, and is only too glad to come in contact with men who by reason of their local influence and representative positions are likely to correctly represent the needs and requirements of the districts from which they hail. This is particularly the case where such representations are in harmony with the exertions of the members of the Legislature who represent these districts. After all is said and done, the member who is elected by the ballots of the people of a constituency represents in a special manner the needs of his riding to the government. He must take full responsibility for what he says and does, and will be judged accordingly. Therefore, so far as the special needs of any constituency are concerned, and without prejudice to matters of policy in which the government of the day may be at variance with its representative, that government is bound, under any representative system, to recognize only the authority of which he is the mouthpiece. But that should not, and does not prevent suggestions of various kinds to which such a member is not antagonistic, with which in fact he may be actively in sympathy, from being highly useful to the government in the administration of the country. The main question which the delegation from the Associated Boards of Trade of Kootenay and Yale have advanced is the present tax upon the product of ore from the active mines. It is not held that under this tax the productive mines pay a larger sum to the provincial revenue than they should reasonably be called upon to pay. It is held, however, and with some color of reason, that this tax bears heavily upon such mines as contribute only a small net profit per ton to their owners, whether the smallness of that profit be due to excessive cost of production, or to an excessively low grade of ore. At the same time, is it not only fair to ask for some specific instances where a mine has paid more to the provincial revenue under this system of taxation, than the same mine would have done, under any more presumably equitable system? It is evident that until a very clear case is established, and until a system of mine taxation is devised which will remedy individual discrimination without injury to the gross revenue, the government would be decidedly ill-advised if it gave way to any merely indefinite criticism of the tax. Another recommendation of the board in reference to mine taxation will undoubtedly meet with sympathetic approval and prompt action on the part of the government. We refer to the proposal to levy a higher rate of taxation upon unworked Crown grants, and to promptly dispossess by sale for taxes those who neither work their property nor pay taxes upon it. We do not think that the advantage to the mining industry of British Columbia from action along this line can well be overestimated. In the first place, it will increase the provincial revenue, and enable reductions of taxation in other directions to be contemplated; in the second place, it will enable co-owners who refuse to work, to pay taxes, or to do anything, to be dispossessed by their more active and willing associates; and, in the third place, it will induce a selling disposition on the part of many now holding mineral land at a high speculative price with no expense to themselves. This last consideration will have an important influence upon outside capitalists who have made it a matter of complaint that the property holders of British Columbia would neither work their mineral ground themselves, nor sell out to those who would do so. Of itself, such action on the part of the government will have a tendency to stimulate the investment of outside capital in the province, and we venture to hope that its obvious advantages will not be overlooked, and that legislation will be introduced in accordance with this most practical and valuable suggestion.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

The members of the legislature must have breathed a heartfelt sigh of relief when the debate on the Address was finally concluded yesterday. A more weary, profitless and futile discussion never occupied the time of any representative assembly. There was no attempt on the part of the members of the opposition to legitimately criticize the acts, policy, or programme of the government. They confined themselves to talking politics, and a very cheap variety of politics at that. They showed neither coherence, lucidity, nor common sense. Mr. Richard McBride should either abdicate his leadership of such political nondescripts, or insist upon some sort of discipline, upon some sort of adherence to a generally understood and consistent line of political action. No body knows what this so-called opposition is aiming at, least of all we should think their leader, who appears to have been elected to this unenviable position in order that he might be made to father all the wild vagaries of their individual caprice. The only substantial contributions to the debate, if we except the masterly exposition in which Mr. Martin defined his position toward the government and his attitude on the disallowance of provincial legislation on the question of Mongolian immigration, were the speeches of three ministers, the Hon. D. M. Eberts, the Hon. E. G. Prior and the Hon. J. D. Prentice. These speeches dealt with matters of real moment to the country, the policy of the province towards Mongolian immigration, the prosperity and progress of the mining industry, the advance of agriculture and the question of better terms between the Province and the Dominion. In their speeches the ministers showed, and showed conclusively, that they had a grip upon the questions that concern the peace and prosperity of British Columbia, and that the government is in full sympathy with the real needs and legitimate aspirations of the people. We cannot comment upon all that these ministers had to say. We have endeavored to give every one an opportunity to form a judgment upon their words as they fell from their own lips. But we cannot forbear from commenting on the fact that the case of the province in its relations with the Dominion has never been presented in a more clear, logical and convincing way, or with such a wealth of pertinent illustration, as by Mr. Prentice yesterday. There is no man who listened to what he had to say, be he friend or foe, but must have felt that the case for better terms was absolutely proven beyond dispute, and we hope that the country will not be backward to reflect what an immense debt it owes to the present government in this regard. Subjected to great pressure at the hands of those who made private advantage and individual ambition serve for the motive of their political actions, that government absolutely refused to deflect the policy of British Columbia from these matters of practical moment and real importance upon which its future progress and prosperity depend.

UNEXPECTEDLY HUMOROUS.

Humorous matters continually crop up in the most unexpected places for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear; but one of the last places most people would ever dream of looking for them is in an Auditor-General's Report. Yet we can assure our readers that the Report of the Auditor-General for 1901 is brimful of the most exquisite humor, not certainly in its endless columns of statistics, but in the tone of the correspondence which enlivens its pages. Mr. J. L. McDougall, A.-G., is an official who is responsible to no one, so long as he performs the duties of his office according to the dictates of his conscience. His conscience appears to be exacting. It leads him into hauling the various Departments over the coals in a particularly lively fashion. And, while he is no doubt actuated by a high sense of duty, there may be detected in his letters a very keen relish of his position, and a determination that every one shall fully realize what and who Mr. J. L. McDougall is, and with what authority he is clothed. There is one series of correspondence which is covered by the headline, "Agent overdraws his bank account," a caption sufficiently startling in itself. It begins as follows: "I beg to ask for an explanation of a charge of $1.54 in the July, 1900, Contingent Account of the Agent Marine at Halifax, for protest fees on a cheque for $33.60 issued by him in favor of F. Lawson on June 30, 1900," and so forth. An explanation was furnished Mr. McDougall by the Department of Marine and Fisheries. He promptly replied that in his opinion the explanation was "not at all satisfactory." This drew a letter from the Acting Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, which says, among other things of a deprecatory nature, "I have the honor to inform you that the Department considers that the agent should have watched his bank account as you suggest, and that I have communicated with him in that sense." There are probably about four millions of people in Canada who would like to be able to talk to the Departments of State like that, and to receive in reply the same humble and apologetic answers. But there is only one man who is actually able to do it, Mr. J. L. McDougall, the Auditor-General. He has them all under wholesome discipline. He must be desperately unpopular with the Departments themselves. But his relations with them as depicted in his occasional correspondence reveal a drama which is highly amusing to the uninterested spectator.

THE VALUE OF A MINE.

The letter from Mr. A. C. Galt, of Rossland, which we publish this morning, presents in a very clear and succint fashion the great value which even one large productive mine is to the community at large. We are all more or less impressed with this is a general way, but not through the impact of such figures as are quoted by Mr. Galt. There is no one, we imagine, who will quarrel with Mr. Galt's conclusion—"Is it not time that our government and legislature should cease wrangling over side issues, and devote their attention to the encouragement of an industry which is so fruitful of profit to the whole Province?" Perhaps in Rossland people are under the impression that the government is wrangling over side issues. The government at present is watching the opposition abuse the forms of procedure to obstruct the business of the country. We should think that would be fully apparent to anyone who contrasts the statesmanlike speeches of the Minister of Mines and the Attorney-General on Monday with the extraordinary trivialities and technicalities upon which the opposition are accustomed to waste hours of debate. With Mr. Galt's assertion that the mining industry is at present in a general condition of discouragement, and that there is a general cessation of dividends, we are unable altogether to agree. It is fair to ask the question, "In what particular mines is this cessation?" The amount of money distributed in dividends during 1901 was larger than the sum in any previous year. We know besides that very large sums, which were taken out of profits, were sunk in capital expenditure in the Le Roi, the Granby Consolidation, in the Ymir and in many other properties. The dividends declared during the first three months of the present year have been fairly satisfactory, if the adverse condition of the markets and the financial embarrassment of some large companies through gross mismanagement be considered. The gross return to the provincial revenue from the mining industry is no greater in proportion to the return from other industries in the province, than the production of wealth from the mines is greater than the production of wealth from other industries. British Columbia does not extract as much revenue from her mines as most other countries. Are the mines of British Columbia less rich than those of other countries, that they cannot afford to contribute as much to the treasury? We

Piles To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain, and absolute cure for each and every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles, the manufacturers have guaranteed it. See testimonials in the daily press and ask your neighbors what they think of it. You can use it and get your money back if not cured. 60c a box, at all dealers or EDMANSON, BATES & CO., Toronto.

Dr. Chase's Ointment

CHINESE REBELS.

Defeat General Ma After Two Days' Fight.

Hongkong, March 18.—Gen. Ma has been defeated by the Kwang Si rebels, who have taken possession of Fang Cheng. They have killed or captured all the mandarins and have looted the town. Gen. Ma attacked the rebels' strongholds, but after an engagement lasting two days was forced to retreat. The rebels then established their headquarters at Fang Cheng. The rebellion is spreading rapidly in the provinces of Kwang Si, Kwang Tung and Yun Nan. A letter received here from Tien Pai, 50 miles from Kwang Chou, says all business is suspended there owing to fear of the rebels.

Marshal Su is at Tien Chou and Gen. Ma is at Kao Chou. Both of these commanders are awaiting reinforcements. They wish to join their forces, but the rebels are holding all the intervening passes and prevent a junction of the government troops. Many of the imperial soldiers are joining the rebels, owing to the superior pay offered them and the opportunity for looting. The rebel leader is Hung Min, a relative of the celebrated Hung Sou Chuen, leader of the Tai Ping rebellion.

Soldier's Funeral.—The funeral of the late Sergeant Daley, of company 21, R. G. A., was held from the Work Point barracks on Sunday afternoon. The coffin reposed on a gun carriage, draped with the Union Jack, with limber in front and drawn by two horses. A firing party of 12 gunners marched along side with carbines reversed, and the full strength of the regiment paraded behind the gun carriage, which bore the remains of their late comrade, and marched to the naval and military cemetery at Esquimalt where the dead soldier was laid in the grave. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ensor Sharpe. The late Sergeant Daley was 26 years of age, unmarried and a native of Cork.

A man's wife should always be the same, especially to her husband, but if she is weak and nervous, and uses Carter's Iron Pills, she cannot be, for they make her "feel like a different person," so they all say, and their husbands say so too!

BORN.

DUNLOP—At Lillooet, B. C., on March 8th, the wife of Mr. J. Dunlop, of a daughter

BARRETT—At Golden, B. C., on March 13th, the wife of F. M. Barrett, of a son.

CARTER—At Nelson, B. C., on March 10th, the wife of J. S. Carter, of a son.

FAIRWEATHER—At Nelson, B. C., on March 13th, the wife of G. W. Fairweather, of a son.

FLETCHER—At the Athabasca mine, B. C., on March 12th, the wife of George Fletcher, of a son.

Lavery—At Kamloops, B. C., on March 13th, Mrs. J. A. Lavery, of a son.

ROBINSON—In this city, on February 8th, the wife of Spencer Robinson, of a son.

WICKS—In West Slocan, on March 8th, the wife of Jos. Wicks, mate of the steamer Slocan, of a son.

MARRIED.

STUDEBAKER—GRAY—In this city, on March 6th, by Rev. Percival Jenns, Albert Studebaker, formerly of Cleveland, Ohio, and Miss Annie Gray, formerly of New York.

BREMMEY—BASTMAN—In this city, on February 12th, Peter Bremmey, formerly of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Miss Nena Bastman, formerly of Lyon county, Minnesota.

STRATFORD—MANSON—In this city, on December 30th, 1901, Frank Campbell Stratford, formerly of Auckland, New Zealand, and Miss Helen Manson, formerly of the Shetland Isles.

HEMMINGS—LUSCOMB—In this city, on January 1st, William Henry Luscomb, formerly of Birmingham, England, and Miss Isobel Ann Luscomb, formerly of Montreal, Quebec.

WILSON—LEE—At Fernie, B. C., on March 5th, Dr. W. H. Wilson, surgeon of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., and Miss Ida Lee, daughter of the late John Lee, Carberry, Man.

DIED.

NICHOLL—At Foul Bay, on March 16th Thomas A. Nicholl, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholl, aged 26 years and 5 months.

BEEGAN—At St. Joseph's hospital, Victoria, on March 17th, after a lingering illness, Francis Joseph, eldest son of the late Mr. Frank Beegan, aged 36 years, a native of Victoria.

WAIN—At Cumberland, B. C., on March 12th, Alex. Clinton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wain.

HARRIS—In this city, on March 10th, Emma Harris, relict of the late John M. Harris, aged 76 years.

MUNROE—In this city, on February 8th, the wife of Thomas Munroe, of a daughter.

DODDS—At his residence, Admiral road, Esquimalt, on the 16th instant, Thomas Dodds, a native of Lawrence Law, Scotland, aged 65 years.

FRASER—At Kaslo, B. C., on March 13th, Mrs. May F. Fraser, wife of Captain Fraser, of the Kokanee.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WANTED—Ladies and gentlemen enjoy your evenings at home by making twelve dollars per week. Send your address and two cent stamp to Box 265, London, Ont.

EGGS FOR SALE—From pure bred stock of White Leghorns, White and Barred Rocks and Pekin Ducks, $1.00 per 13. Also Buff Orpingtons at North Dairy Farm. Arthur Stewart, Mt. Tolmie Post Office. Inspection invited.

FOR SALE—One two-seated Democrat wagon, with pole and shafts, and nickel mounted double harness. Both nearly new. Apply to H. W. Cardew, Oak Lodge, Oak Bay avenue. m20

NOTICE.

STAR MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Malahat District, and located on Mount Malahat.

Take notice that I, Mary Palmer, Free Miners' Certificate number B53621, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice, that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 13th day of March, 1902.

MARY PALMER.

By P. J. Pearson, Agent for Applicant.

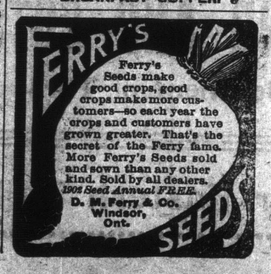
THE MOST NUTRITIOUS.

EPPS'S COCOA

Prepared from the finest selected Cocoa, and distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of flavour, Superior quality, and highly Nutritive properties. Sold in quarter-pound tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.

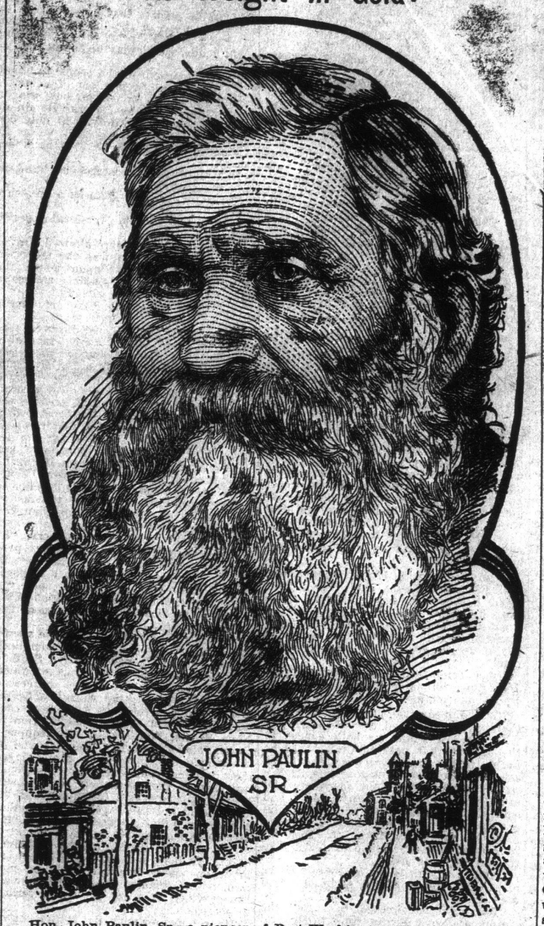
EPPS'S COCOA

BREAKFAST—SUPPER.



A WISCONSIN PIONEER

Recommends Pe-ru-na as Being Worth its Weight in Gold.



Hon. John Paulin, Sr., a pioneer of Port Washington, Wis., is held in high esteem by the residents of that place. He is one of the oldest citizens. In a recent letter he says:

"I have used Peruna with gobd results for coughs and colds. It has also cured my catarrh which always became worse when affected with but a slight cold. I am recommending Peruna because it is worth its weight in gold."—JOHN PAULIN, SR.

Peruna can be obtained for $1.00 a bottle at all first-class drug stores in Canada. "The Ills of Life," which can be secured at all up-to-date drug stores and upon request is sent free to all, gives a short description of all catarrhal diseases. Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio, U. S. A.

Mr. A. Howell, Marietta, Ga., writes: "I have been troubled with catarrh in head, throat and stomach for several years, and from accounts that I have read in several newspapers of the good effects that many had received from Peruna, and whose veracity could not be doubted, caused me to give it a trial, and I bless the day that I did make a trial. It has made a new man of me.

"I was all my life up to about five years ago a very healthy man, and about that time I was troubled with catarrh. I tried a number of prescriptions from different doctors but none seemed to relieve me until I commenced the use of Peruna, and from its use I can truly say that I have been greatly benefited.

"I am now in my eighty-seventh year and can walk and get about as well as many much younger than myself and attribute it greatly to the use of Peruna. I keep some on hand all the time, and consider it the cheapest medicine in the world."—Mr. A. Howell.

J. R. Prince, East Leon, N. Y., writes: "Peruna has saved my life, and made a strong, healthy, jolly old man of me. Peruna is just what every family should not be without. I have taken very few colds since I have used Peruna, but when I do catch cold, Peruna is my medicine.

J. R. Prince.

"A minister came to me last summer and said that he had seen my testimonial in the paper, and began taking Peruna. He said that it straightened him right up—(he was troubled with kidney trouble) and Peruna cured him. I cannot express my thanks for the benefit your medicine has been to me."—J. R. Prince.

Abraham Ziegler, Piedmont, Wayne County, Mo., writes:

"My wife who is now eighty-seven years old, suffered for about sixteen years from severe catarrh of the head, which affected her sight and hearing. I saw Pe-ru-na advertised in your almanac, and testimonials similar to her case attracted my attention. I got one bottle and it helped her so much that she is now using the second bottle and she thinks it is something wonderful. Her hearing and sight are both in part restored."—Abraham Ziegler.

In old age the mucous membranes become thickened and partly lose their function. This leads to partial loss of hearing, smell and taste, as well as digestive disturbances. Pe-ru-na corrects all this by its specific operation on all the mucous membranes of the body. One bottle will convince anyone. Once used and Pe-ru-na becomes a life-long stand-by with old and young.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

The H. B. A. Vogel Commercial College

We teach thorough office methods entirely and use no text books or "system" for bookkeeping. We teach and place our students into positions in six months. Shorthand and typewriting. Send for illustrated prospectus.

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SWEET PEAS FREE.

Seventy varieties in stock. Collections of thirteen named varieties in separate packets given away to customers to the extent of $1.

For further particulars inquire at

Johnston's Seed Store,

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Four doors down from entrance.

Henry's Nurseries and Greenhouses

Now ready for planting out, 13 acres of FRUIT and ORNAMENTAL trees, small fruits, etc., at less than eastern prices; no San Jose scale or borers to contend with; clean certificate from the inspector.

Thousands of BULBS, ROSES, RHODODENDRONS, Azaleas, shade trees, etc. SEEDS, fertilizers, agricultural implements, etc., new catalogue tell you all about it. Call and examine our stock and get our list or send for it; it will save you money. Address

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Jay's Blend

Splendid results are obtained renewing old or laying down new lawns, grass plots, etc, etc.

FERTILIZER FOR LAWNS, at

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Strawberry Plants,

30 Choice English and American Varieties
Write for free descriptive and illustrated catalogue.

TANNER BROS.

YOUNG P. O., SOUTH SAANICH.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PRIVATE BILLS NOTICE.

The time limited by the Rules of the House for receiving Petitions for Private Bills, will expire on the first day of March, 1902.

Bills must be presented to the House not later than the 18th day of March, 1902.

Reports from committees on Private Bills will not be received after the 20th day of March, 1902.

Dated this 20th day of January, 1902.

THORNTON FELL,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

ANOTHER POINT.

It costs no more to finish a good skirt with "Cortecelli Skirt Protector," that will outwear the skirt, than to "rebind" the garment several times with cheap "bindings."

"Cortecelli Protector" is always in place, easily put on, looks well, can be got to match any shade, will not chafe fine shoes, will not shrink, sheds dust and dries quickly when wet.

Sewed on flat, not turned over edge.

Sold everywhere.

Cortecelli

GARDEN TOOLS

Lawn Mowers and Poultry Netting

FOR SALE BY

The Hickman Tye Hardware Co., Ld.

32 and 34 Yates Street, VICTORIA, B.C.

TELEPHONE 59. P. O. DRAWER 613.

California New Grass Butter

55c Large Squares

Fresh Island Eggs

20c a Dozen

DIXI H. ROSS & CO.

Cash Grocers, Where Cash Talks.

Advertise in the Colonist