

The Colonist.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1898.

MAJOR WALSH'S VIEW.

For a year, the Colonist, and not the Colonist alone, but all our Coast contemporaries, have been laboring to secure the construction of a railway from some point on the coast of British Columbia to the Yukon. So far we have all labored in vain. Major Walsh is the latest person to champion the proposition. Presumably his views will have great weight with the Dominion government.

Now that all throw aside political partisanship and sectional jealousies and labor to gain this great boon. This is the opportunity of a generation to the Coast cities of British Columbia. It is a matter of immense importance to Canada.

The discoveries of Atlin render it probable that a gold belt extends along the entire length of the Coast range. There is undoubtedly a great deal of country there that is worth opening up and would give traffic to a railway, so that there would not be a long haul to the Yukon without any local traffic.

We hope to see the Dominion government take this matter up in earnest and have the railway under construction immediately after the spring opens. No government of Canada ever had a chance to do as much for the country, with as little outlay, as the present one has.

PLACER MINES FOR BRITISH SUBJECTS.

Hitherto there has been a general consensus of opinion that the mines of Canada should be thrown open to all nationalities without distinction. At one time this seemed good policy; but conditions have changed. The rules that held good in the Cariboo days are not applicable now. Men can now make Seattle, Portland or San Francisco their headquarters and exploit the mines of British Columbia and the Yukon. We do not even have the satisfaction of "sitting on the fence and seeing them go by." From Beacon Hill we may occasionally catch a glimpse of the smoke of steamers bearing northwards men and supplies bound to our gold fields, or coming south laden with returning miners who will spend their money in the cities to the south of us. The very few of them come to British Columbia cities. We are all very much wiser on this subject than we were a year ago, and it seems time to put the lesson learned at the cost of so much disappointment into practical effect.

British Columbia ought to retain her placer mines for British subjects. If we may judge from present indications, there will be a great rush into the Atlin country next year. Nearly 4,000 claims have been staked there already, and as the district is very large it is probable that fully 10,000 claims will be staked before the end of the season of 1899. If the law is allowed to remain as it is, fully 8,000 of these claims will be staked by aliens, who will buy every dollar's worth of goods they can afford to in foreign cities, and will carry all the gold they take out to foreign countries. British Columbia will have the spectacle of aliens sucking her golden orange dry and leaving the rind and pulp for the enlightenment of future generations of her people as to the effects of an over-generous policy.

In taking this position we are not animated by any feeling of unfriendliness towards our neighbors. What is proposed is simply an act of self-protection. One of the disadvantages of living close to a great country is the large floating population that it is impossible to keep our nature wealth for the benefit of our own people without restrictive legislation. Not only is the population of Canada small, as compared with that of the United States, but the distribution of wealth among the people is more uniform. The very great majority of Canadians are in such circumstances that they have no incentive to rush off to every new field which offers. In the United States there is a class that is "root-located" and it is a very large class. The spirit of speculation is also much more developed there than in Canada. The result is that thousands of people are ready to rush to a gold field that is within any reasonable distance. Northern British Columbia will be overrun with people from that country next year, if the law remains as it is now.

It would perhaps not be desirable to make any restrictions as regards lode mining. It does not make so much difference who develops our lode mines, because what is paid out of the country in such cases is only in the form of dividends. The cost of operating is specifically in the province. Rossland is prosperous, although most of the dividends from its greatest mine have gone to foreigners; but Dawson cannot be called prosperous, any more than you would call a farmer prosperous if his neighbors should come in at night and rob his orchard. There would be no time while the process was going on, but mighty little prosperity for the unfortunate owner.

This matter is wholly within the province of the local legislature. Some may say that the proposed change is not a matter of local concern, but the understanding about to be reached between the Dominion and the United States. Well, we desire to live on the most friendly terms with our neighbors, but if the price of closer friendship than now exists is the surrender of all that makes a large part of British Columbia worth owning, it may be too dearly purchased.

chased. But the proposed change in the law can be defended even to those who urge the plea of international amity against it. British Columbia has probably the most extensive mining field in the world. It has gold, silver, lead, copper and iron in enormous quantities. The province administers the laws which make it possible to exploit this great wealth with safety to life and security to property. It constructs the roads and trails without which miners would be helpless. It bridges the streams, it aids in the construction of railways. It makes the country the safest and best of all the mining regions in the known world. It invites all the world to come and participate in this great natural wealth. It can surely make one exception. It can fairly retain its placers for its own people, and these it ought to retain, because when once a placers has been worked out the province has nothing of value to show for it, if the supplies are bought in a foreign country and the gold spent there. The proposition is wholly a reasonable one and can be defended before any reasonable man.

This matter is certain to be brought before the legislature at the next session, and it is not long before legislation of any kind, and ought to receive the best consideration of members irrespective of party. No one thing can be done by the legislature which will more greatly enhance the prosperity of British Columbia in the immediate future than the passage of an act deciding that after May 1st, 1899, no filings for placer claims will be recognized if made by others than British subjects, and that transfers to aliens of claims acquired after that date should be forbidden on penalty of forfeiture.

THE KHYBER PASS.

In the press of other matters, the formal occupation by the Indian government of the Khyber Pass has been overlooked; yet it is an event of very great importance. This pass is the great northwestern gate of India. Through it successive hordes of conquering races have found their way to the rich country south of the Himalayas. Alexander of Macedon led his army through it last year, and the whole world has been notched with the blood of either an invader or a defender during the last twenty-five centuries. It has hitherto been in possession of the Afghans, that very courageous mountain tribe, which gave so much trouble last year. The Afghans were semi-independent and altogether obstreperous. They could not be depended upon in any capacity except as enemies, in which respect they were a little the toughest nut to crack in all Asia. They are natural-born fighters; but with all their utter unreliability as a race, they are individually perfectly trustworthy. Afghans fought Afghans in the late northwestern troubles.

An agreement has been made with the Afghans by which they are to surrender their independence and the military control of their territory completely to the Indian government, which means that the Khyber Pass becomes a British possession. It is to be fortified in such a manner that hereafter no hostile force can pass through it. But this is not all. The plans include the enrolment of an Afghani militia, armed with the most modern weapons, to whom, under British officers, is to be entrusted the protection of this important position. No other nation would dare attempt such a thing. The men, who last year were performing feats of prowess against British troops, are to be taken in hand and taught to fight side by side with their enemies. The experiment seems a risky one, but no one seems to have any doubt of its success. Nothing conquers decent savages like fair play. They will fight as long as there is a man of them left against an enemy in the field. This is not a very great advantage of anyone who they think is trying to get the better of them. But treat them with what we call British fair play, and they become the most loyal allies. Of course, the new made allies are not to have the whole responsibility of keeping the Pass handed over to them as once. A considerable British force, or at least of tried Indian troops, will be kept on the ground until they can be safely withdrawn, but experience shows that this will not be long.

With the Khyber Pass protected and the Peshawar railway extended through it, Cabul, the capital of Afghanistan, will be practically within British India; that is to say, it will be less than a hundred miles from the outermost British post. This reduces the danger of a Russian invasion of India to a minimum, and renders a very important corner of the Empire no longer a source of weakness.

AN ILLUSION DISPELLED.

The continental powers and the United States have until very recently been satisfied of nothing quite so thoroughly as of Great Britain's unwillingness to fight any of the great nations. An American consul in one of the Asiatic cities was quoted not very long ago as saying that "the British army had not in a generation fought any people who were tougher than the idea which he intended to convey being that although British arms might be successful against savage tribes they would be no match for any of the military nations. The continental press has not been in the habit of sneering at the valor of the British army, but has taken for granted that the British government would under no provocation resort to war. This illusion has been fully dispelled. It began to vanish when the Kaiser sent his telegram to Kruger. It disappeared completely when Salisbury expressed the mind of the nation about Fashoda.

occupation of that post, and declined to order him to retire without a promise of compensation. Great Britain's reply was that there could be no discussion of anything whatever until Marchand had retired. We have grown quite familiar with this tone in regard to savage chiefs; but it was something new to see it taken towards one of the greatest military nations in the world and the second greatest naval power. People in the continental capitals are asking themselves what Great Britain has not been expected to do in regard to a nation, since she has taken such an attitude against the one best able to make an aggressive campaign against her, and likely to be backed up by no less a power than Russia.

Accompanying what was practically an ultimatum to France was a demonstration of readiness such as no other nation in the world could hope to equal. The fleet was ready to strike France in the Channel, in the Mediterranean, in the Orient, in the West Indies, in the South seas, in Madagascar, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and in the Atlantic. There were numerous ships of the line in the Baltic and the Black seas if the necessity arose. The army was in readiness to move to any quarter of the globe and plenty of speedy transports were at hand to carry it. This peaceful and non-combative attitude was supposed to be armed to the teeth and ready to strike wherever a hostile head appeared.

This was exactly what Europe had not expected. The nations were surprised to find Britain.

THAT FINANCIAL SURPRISE.

The people of Victoria had a genuine surprise yesterday morning, when the Colonist told them that the city would have a balance of over \$33,000 on hand at the end of the present year, after providing for all expenditures originally contemplated. It is certainly refreshing to have so fine a balance on the right side of the ledger. It is due in part to the better payment of taxes, and in part to economy in expenditure. The improvement in the payment of taxes is a sign of improvement in the economy in expenditure is a sign of improvement in management. Both of these are very excellent.

Concerning the use to which it is proposed to put the money, some observations seem called for. The waterworks reservoir is to be completed. This is a wise step. We think it would have been wiser to provide for a roof, but this can be added at another time, if found necessary. The circulation in the reservoir will be sufficient to prevent any deterioration in the filtered water. It seems a pity, however, not to have carried out in full the recommendations of the experts on this point. The paving of Fort Street is a legitimate subject for a portion of the unexpected expenditure. Probably the business houses on the street would prefer that, as the work has been deferred so long. It is not a very important matter, but it is a thing which should be done. The city is a beautiful one, and it is a pity that it is not better maintained.

As far as is known Great Britain has only one war on hand at present, namely on the frontier of Sierra Leone, where some native chiefs are giving trouble. They will be duly walloped into obedience now that the rainy season is over. The Ohio Populists want the laws to be made directly by the people. By what process this is to be brought about they do not tell. Probably they do not know. The Populists, like a good many other reformers, think they know what they want, but expect other people to get it for them.

The news that a substantial agreement is likely to be the outcome of the Anglo-American conference is very welcome. There is going to be a tremendous amount of good done during the next five years, and the people of Canada do not want to be embarrassed by any misunderstanding with their neighbors. The News-Advertiser says it did not expect that the Canadian policy as indicated in Mr. Semlin's notice would meet with approval of the opponents of the government. This being the case the surprise is that our contemporary was not prepared to make a better defence.

Everything indicates a decided and very satisfactory advance in mining on the Coast. The outlook in this respect never was anything like as good as at present. The Colonist feels—well, we hardly know how it feels; but it feels just as it ought to be on being told by the Times that opposition to the importation of a deputy attorney-general from Manitoba is parochial. Lord and Lady Minto will receive a cordial welcome from Canada, which has a fashion of liking its governor-generals, and making them feel very much at home. Lord Minto has the advantage of having many friends already in this country. A five-foot lode of gold bearing quartz, running \$20 to the ton, was cut through by railway navvies in the course of construction of the Bowen-Boundary rail way along the shore of Lake Christina. There seems to be gold everywhere in this country.

Current Comment

BLAMES THE BAGPIPES. Those Vancouver Scotchmen who at their Halloween's session, decided to raise a requiem for Britain must have had the bagpipes present.—Ottawa Journal.

THE BOSTOCK PUNCH. Dr. Farrer of Kamloops died in the Jubilee hospital at Victoria on Monday. He was formerly physician to the provincial government's institutions at Kamloops, and while lying ill in the hospital was dismissed by the new government. By his death Dr. Farrer has rebuked the indecent haste shown by the Bostock in this matter of his removal.—Nelson Tribune.

A LIGHTNING MANIPULATOR. The suspension of Police Magistrate Macrae of Victoria by Attorney-General Martin seems to have been a rather dramatic affair. It is not clear what the case is in which the magistrate was suspended, but the fact that he was removed from his duties on the day upon which the complaint was lodged against him is rather good evidence of the energy of the new attorney-general.—Nelson Tribune.

THE SEALING SACRIFICE. If the Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Mail has the thing right, the American commissioners are "making monkeys" of the representatives of the United States in the matter of the seal fisheries. The Yankee commissioners are represented as having said that if Canada would not accept the offer of the United States in the matter of the seal fisheries, the seals would all be killed off the rookeries—the whole herd annihilated—so that there would be no more pelagic fishing for Canadians! And it is related that the Canadian Commissioners swabbed their noses with their hands, and agreed to the offer made by the United States. The arrangement is that the United States shall pay to the Canadian vessels and outfits used in seal fishing, Canada agreeing that Canadian fish will do no more sealing. That is to say, the Canadian vessels are to give up the money they pay, and Canada agree to give up all right and interest in the Pacific seals absolutely for nothing!

If the Americans really intended to kill off the whole herd of seals, they would have agreed to the offer that Canada agreed to the offer of the United States. In one event the Canadian sealers would be left with their seals, and would be able to use them for some other purpose—and no seals. In the other event Canada would have the cash value of their plant in money, and no seals. Thus, it will be seen, there was nothing to be gained by the American offer. The only thing that was to be gained was that the American dollar hunters do not throw away \$5 because somebody else is making the sixth dollar which they would like to have.—Hamilton Spectator.

NO JUSTICE IN IT.

From British Columbia opposition comes to the proposal to sell out our rights to catch seals in the Pacific for the value of the sealing outfits of fisherman. For our part, we cannot quite understand on what principle of justice the fisherman can be bound by a payment to the sealers. Can all Canada be stopped from catching seals by the purchase of all fishing boats now held as private property? The Victoria Colonist suggests that the United States pay a rental to Canada for the sealing monopoly similar to that under the Washington treaty for the Atlantic fisheries, in addition to buying out the fisherman.

Certainly the monopoly is valuable: the Canadian sealing catch this year was 28,895 skins.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

PROHIBITION.

After the overtures of carefully harmonized belittlement which burst from the whole orchestra of the Liberal press during the morning after the plebiscite, and the scorn of its result that has been trumpeted fortissimo ever since, one would hardly have looked for a flat denial from the prohibitionists when they went to ask the government for such legislation as will implement the plebiscite. After the courteous but unanswerable presentation of the matter by Mr. Spence and others, backed by a general consensus of the press, it is not surprising that the government has refused to do so. The prohibitionists, it is not surprising that they were not so ready to do so. The prohibitionists, it is not surprising that they were not so ready to do so.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. To get relief from indigestion, biliousness, constipation or torpid liver without disturbing the stomach or purging the bowels, take a few doses of Carter's Little Liver Pills, they will please you.

FARMING IN COWICHAN

Agricultural Society Consider How to Counteract Effects of Drouth on Pastures. Exhibits at Duncan and Westminster—Tree Planting at the Schools. The annual meeting of the Cowichan Agricultural Society was held at Duncan on November 5, the president, Mr. G. T. Corfield, in the chair. The election of new officers resulted in the choice of the following: President, W. R. Robertson, M.P.E.; vice-president, W. A. Elkington and Henry Bonnell; secretary-treasurer, G. H. Hadwin; executive committee, F. M. Maitland, Dougall, W. C. Duncan, E. Lomas, J. McPherson, A. Bell, A. B. Wilson, A. Drummond, C. T. Gibbons, A. McKinnon and Major Matter. The secretary-treasurer's report contained some very practical suggestions, and was as follows: Mr. President and Gentlemen, in presenting a report on the past season, I think I may say that in spite of one of the driest and hottest summers we have known, the crops generally have been good. The rain in June proved very trying to the strawberry grower and the early harvester, but did good to the timothy and grain. The extremely hot weather following found many of our wheat pastures and the milk records at the creamery show a steady decrease.

The question arises, how can this "driest summer" (which appears to be really of frequent occurrence on Vancouver Island) be overcome. In the first place, the season of many pastures could be lengthened by draining. Secondly, by substituting clover for timothy; thirdly, by feeding green crops. The objections raised to these last are that clover being early is often damaged by rains. I think, however, that this loss is amply compensated by the greater yield and the difference in quality and by the aftermath. This difficulty could be again overcome by the use of the silo, and the feeding from the silo would be less expensive than the cutting of green crops and loading and carting to the farm during the busy season. The question of introducing the silo is one of vital importance to Cowichan dairymen, and its adoption would mean a lessening of the cost of production of butter. Taking twenty tons of green clover for example, this would cost, say, one ton of bran, one-half ton of hay, would make an excellent ration, and the winter's food for the five cows with a total cost of about \$80, or \$16 per cow. I would add that the results would be much better if the cows were not allowed to stand through July and August, and hence would recommend the putting up a sufficiently large silo to allow of feeding during the summer. Clover is a richer food than corn, and need not necessarily be cut. An ordinary horse fork can be used for filling the silo.

In connection with the dairying in Cowichan, I think there is great necessity for adopting some system in breeding. Several herds have been built up from short-horn grades, these were crossed with the Jersey bull; the result is being crossed with the Holstein to obtain increased size and to improve the quality of the milk. In April were imported into the district another cross would be tried. Now, if it were well known that some crosses are successful, and that other breeds do not, as the saying is, hence a great many of these experiments in breeding will, I am afraid, prove failures.

In regard to the attempt made this year to encourage the improvement of our school grounds, I am glad to say that some attempt was made in the Chemainus, Maple Ridge and Cowichan schools, and with some degree of success. To the apathy of some of the trustees, no doubt, is due the fact that the others did not take advantage of the offer made to them of flower seeds, plants, etc. I hope that the matter will not be allowed to drop and will be taken up next year.

The receipts of this year show a slight falling off, due principally, as you know, to the unfortunate weather on the day of the exhibition, while the expenditure was larger than last year, a total of \$475 being awarded in prizes. I have no doubt that had the weather been more propitious that an excellent gate would have been secured and have made a very different showing in the balance sheet. The sending of an exhibit to New Westminster was not so wholly successful. The society secured the first prize for the collection of apples, while the creamery secured two silver cups and two first prizes. The general exhibit, while acknowledged by everybody to be composed of individually first-class articles, was on too small a scale to be a prize winner. I may say, however, that the man who won the largest amount was very well spoken of.

If the society wishes to compete next year, and I think they should, much greater preparation must be made before hand and a quantity of summer dress is collected and preserved. I beg to thank the officers and members for their assistance.

PLUGHING MATCH.

Results of the Annual Contests at Saanich. The Ploughing Association matches came off yesterday afternoon at Mr. Jos. John's farm, North Saanich yesterday and although the ground was too dry for good ploughing the contest went off very successfully, a large number of people being present. The results were as follows: Professionals—1, A. Rose; 2, A. Munro; 3, A. Thompson; best finish, A. Rose. Amateurs—1, J. Black; 2, Hagan; 3, C. McIlroy; 4, J. Bell; 5, D. Stempel; best opening, J. Black. Novices—1, J. Emery; 2, W. McIlroy; 3, A. McLean; 4, George; 5, C. Lidgate; 6, J. Brooks; best opening, J. Emery; best finish, J. Brooks; first finish, D. Lidgate.

How many young men and young women are cut off just as the future seems bright and the future so full of promise? They are taken away by the disease which causes over one-third of all the deaths in the world—the disease which doctors call consumption. There is absolutely no reason why it should be even serious. It is a disease of the blood, and can be cured absolutely and always by purifying and enriching the blood. The only exception to this is where the disease has been neglected and improperly treated until it is stronger than the body—until the body has become so weak as to have lost the ability of recuperating. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will cure 98 per cent. of all cases of consumption if used according to directions. It also cures all lingering coughs, bronchial and throat affections. Send 21 cents in one-cent stamps to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., and receive Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, it will please you.

THE FULL COURT.

Another Adjournment of the Yates Street Fire Hall Case. The appeal of Messrs. Geiger and Wriglesworth, trustees of the old volunteer fire department, against the decision of Mr. Justice Drake that the city was entitled to call upon them for a conveyance of the Yates street fire hall property, was before the Full court yesterday. The Chief Justice remarked that in his opinion the appellants had the right to see that the trust with regard to the land should be continued, and Justice Walkem thought the city had no right to the land.

Mr. Heilmann, who appeared for the members of the old volunteer company, who objected to the transfer, suggested that a settlement might be arrived at, and the case was adjourned until a week from Monday. The judgment of Judge Forin in Lucas vs. Buchanan was set aside by the Full court. Lucas contracted to supply Buchanan with New Westminister, but broke the contract, after fulfilling part of it. He sued Buchanan for \$200 for logs he had supplied, and Buchanan counterclaimed for damages for breach of contract. Judge Forin gave judgment for Lucas for \$200. This judgment was set aside, and the defendant was given two months to elect whether he will go on with his counter claim.

WAR EAGLE STOCK.

Great Block Sold in Toronto at Hand-to-Hand Sale—The Monthly Dividends. The biggest deal in Roseland stock that has ever been put through was completed in Toronto a few days ago, when Oiler & Hammond, brokers, of Toronto, bought 100,000 shares of War Eagle at \$2.70 net. The deal involved \$270,000. The stock was part of the issued capital of the War Eagle company, and the sale was made direct by the corporation. The total issued stock of the War Eagle now amounts to 1,750,000 shares, of which \$250,000 shares remains in the treasury. When money was needed by the company the president, George Gooderham, and the board of directors, decided to issue a loan and to borrow the necessary funds. A loan was accordingly made at a very low rate of interest, six per cent., and the development of the mine went ahead without delay. The phenomenal increase in the price of War Eagle stock over three times that figure has justified Mr. Gooderham's judgment. A short time ago the price of War Eagle was \$2.70 for 100,000 shares of scrip. In order to settle the outstanding loans the directors agreed to the issue of \$2.70 per share. The War Eagle company is now out of debt, and is paying dividends at the monthly rate of a cent and a half per share.

The old War Eagle company paid \$187,500 in dividends, and at the time that the sale to the Gooderham-Black stock company amount to \$235,250. The ore shipments, even on the present basis of about 850 tons per week, are more than sufficient to meet the operating expenses and the regular monthly dividend.

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AT SEA

Columbia's Fishing Expedition Trip. Seams Opened Amidship Theirs. Run For Life to Hill. In Special to the Co. Port Townsend. Ship Centennial, lulu, arrived this morning with details of steamship of the line, which were Seattle-Honolulu at Honolulu she suits. After temporarily started on the 23. From the time were being found of her machinery, neering department fix them. The ing out, one at a misfortune, a steering wheel, was pitched so in the tumbled about in the impossible to walk the cabin. On November 11 was found, while straining badly, being filled with water. It was so thick, water was cemented places of broken loose from the stern. Seven feet of thickness were another stern, pouring into the sea. The water was very critical. Ca officers together it was decided to abandon the vessel. When the vessel was in lat north, 40 miles from the coast, the vessel was in lat north, 40 miles from the coast, the vessel was in lat north, 40 miles from the coast.

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DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY

FOR SALE CHEAP—Leaving the country. For sale, the most beautiful houses on Vancouver Island, on the Quanchan Lake; two miles from railway (Dunbar) or 12 miles from Victoria. The place is cleared; 13-room house (hot and cold water); fine apple barn and other buildings; close to first-class trout and salmon fishing; also to the best of tennis club. Apply to Dr. Dickson, Duncan Station, Vancouver Island, Oct. 30.

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