

A CHEERFUL OUTLOOK.

No man who has the interest of Canada at heart, no true citizen who will look at matters calmly and dispassionately, can fail to discover ample reason for rejoicing at the outlook in the Dominion to-day. The Laurier government has been in office sufficiently long to enable the people to form an accurate idea of its ability to administer the affairs of the country, its earnest endeavor to prove faithful to the trust imposed in it and its determination to follow a wise, statesmanlike course in matters with which it is required to deal.

A SMELTER.

A proposition to erect and operate a complete smelting and refining plant, with a capacity of from three hundred to four hundred tons per day, has been made by Mr. W. Schover, who represents a syndicate of Portland and Utah capitalists, to the mayor and council of Victoria. Briefly stated the proposal is that buildings and plant costing \$450,000 will be established here for a cash bonus of \$150,000, payable as to \$75,000 upon completion of the buildings and as to the balance in six months thereafter.

The smelting industry can be conducted profitably only on a large scale. It can be operated successfully only by those who have large capital. Under such conditions it is generally a profitable business, and its location in the neighborhood of this city is certainly desirable.

The difficulty of transportation of ores from interior mainland points, arising from the necessity of transshipment to vessels at the termini of the railways, is not, we have reason to believe, an insuperable one, and with that obstacle out of the way Victoria becomes one of the best sites for a smelter upon the Pacific coast.

Few industries require the same careful and experienced management or larger floating capital to ensure profitable results; and there are few industries which return higher profits to their owners, or are more beneficial to the communities in which they are located, than the separation of metals from ores when experience and capital are directing its efforts.

ranted in any other proposition that may in the future be submitted to the city? When that is settled the bonus is settled.

IMMIGRATION AGENTS.

The visit of Messrs. Devlin and Jury, the first being immigration agent to Ireland and the latter to the north of England, and especially the address delivered by the latter gentleman to the workmen of the Trades and Labor Council, has impressed us with the good judgment shown by Hon. Mr. Sifton in making appointments. Mr. Devlin is a clever young Irish Canadian, who has already won his spurs as a forcible speaker, and an earnest and sincere advocate of everything that tends to the expansion and progress of his native country.

A workingman who knows the condition of Canadian workingmen, who is intimately acquainted with the country, its needs and the opportunities it offers to the immigrant, ought to be an immigration agent, "the right man in the right place." Such is Mr. A. F. Jury. With his colleague, Mr. Devlin, he is, we feel assured, convinced that his first thought must be the quality rather than the quantity of immigrants he will be instrumental in sending to Canada.

THE ESTIMATES.

The provincial revenue and expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1898, which were presented to the house yesterday, will not be satisfactory reading to those who had been led to expect that an equilibrium would next year be established between the income and the outgo at the provincial treasury. For the year beginning on the 1st of July next Mr. Turner estimates that the receipts will be \$1,288,080.45, and the expenditure \$1,566,765.10, or a deficit of \$278,675.65.

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Mr. Turner, it is true, estimates that he will have a cash balance on hand on the 30th of June, 1897, of \$285,000, which will carry him through the succeeding year, so that if his financial predictions should be verified he will not have to go to the London market on another borrowing mission for twelve months more. But is it a fact, or will it be found to be a fact, that when the end of June comes a balance of any kind will be on hand to begin another financial year with? We have not had time to look carefully into the menu that Mr. Turner has provided; but if his estimates for the current year have proved to be accurate, or nearly so, there is a discrepancy somewhere that has not been taken into consideration.

Last year's estimates gave \$900,000 as the sum in hand in June, 1896, to begin the present financial year with. The expenditure was calculated at \$1,100,000, and the expenditure at \$1,300,000. Both years' estimates cannot be correct, for if the predictions of Mr. Turner for 1897 are verified by the end of June next, he will not have in hand a balance of \$285,000 to begin the next fiscal year. How-

condition of the finances, brought down ever, it will require a statement of the present time to verify the extraordinary prophecies which the finance minister has made. The deficit anticipated for 1897-8 is augmented by an increase all round in the salaries of officials. This increase will amount to about \$20,000. This seems to us to be a most indefensible thing at the present time. Economy and retrenchment would be more in keeping with the financial condition of the province than an unnecessary increase in salaries, which adds just so much more to the debt which the province is yearly piling up. However, Mr. Turner's estimates are but prophecies, which are frequently unfulfilled. Let us hope that, although the expenditures may not be decreased, the revenues of the country, by some occult process, will be largely augmented, and that under brighter auspices and better management the period of deficits will cease forever with the death of the Turner government, which will occur in the year of grace 1898.

THE CROW'S NEST PASS RAILWAY.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously at a recent meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade: "Whereas it is in the interests of Canada that the Crow's Nest Pass railway be constructed with all reasonable dispatch, in order that the great mineral resources of southern British Columbia may be fully developed, that coal in abundance, at low rates, may be furnished for the smelting of ores within the borders of that province, and that the interests of manufacturers and agriculturists may be secured the great and growing trade of that country:

Resolved, That the government of British Columbia should be asked to contribute a certain amount to the cost of the construction of such railway to Nelson or vicinity.

Resolved, That if assistance is granted by the government of Canada to the building of such a railway, the government of the province of British Columbia should be asked to contribute a certain amount to the cost of the construction of such railway to Nelson or vicinity.

Resolved, That the interests of the people should be so considered that both local and through transportation rates will be obtained from time to time which shall be fair to the people and fair to the railway lines for similar distances under similar conditions.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this board the government should not itself build the railroad unless reasonably satisfactory arrangements cannot be made with some railroad company to build the road.

Resolved, That as largely as possible, consistent with the above preamble and resolutions, and consistent with public interests, the arrangements for the construction of the said railway should be such as to preserve to this country the carriage of the freight traffic to and from the mines of British Columbia through Canadian channels.

erosity of this province is prepared to concede. The dissolution of the British Columbia charter, a drastic remedy proposed by Mr. McInnes, would simplify the situation; and if that remedy can be justified on grounds of public policy, British Columbia will be in a position to act generously with a Crow's Nest Pass railway having its terminus at the Pacific Coast.

VANCOUVER SMELTER SCHEME.

The price that Vancouver will pay for a smelter of 500 tons capacity is free water and exemption from taxation for ten years. There is to be no money bonus. The World fears that the city will have to make an expenditure of \$75,000 to provide the facilities for supplying the water, and as the quantity that will be used is not specified, the real cost to the city of the proposed exemption cannot be calculated.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Mr. Helmecken materially assisted in the good work by adding an anti-Japanese clause. The legislature should not get weary in well-doing. Let the members remain unsatisfied until they succeed in inserting anti-Chinese and anti-Japanese clauses in the Water Clauses Act and in the Companies Act.

There could be no mistake about the views of the majority of the members yesterday when the house went into committee to consider Mr. Adams' Alien Labor Bill. The only member who had the temerity to follow the Colonist's advice was Mr. Bryden. He attempted to discuss the bill, but the only argument he could advance against anti-Chinese legislation was that the Chinese and Caucasians were made by the same Being, consequently the former should not be discriminated against.

Mr. H. C. Beeton was treated rather shabbily by his old partner in the house yesterday. Mr. Turner must surely have had some strong personal motives for asking the house to refuse the petition. His sense of public duty would never urge him to take such a course.

Mr. Speaker Higgins very properly took the premier to task for trying to place the responsibility for the delay in transacting public business on the shoulders of those presenting petitions. The speaker pointed out that if the business had been expeditiously conducted the members could have gone home two weeks ago.

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weeks ago. He pointed out that the legislature of Quebec transacted a tremendous amount of business in six weeks. The speaker might have gone further. The legislatures of Ontario, Manitoba and Nova Scotia have been prorogued weeks ago, although they were not opened until after the opening of the British Columbia legislature.

The members were determined that there should be no delay in the passage of the Alien Labor Act, consequently they refused to listen to Mr. Adams yesterday when he suggested to adjourn the consideration of the bill until Monday. The majority of the private members appreciate the fact that the opponents of anti-Chinese legislation also oppose the wishes of the electors.

INCREASE OF SALARIES.

The Colonist being "in on it" with the government distorts the estimates, to make the "sundry small additions to salaries of permanent officials" amount to only \$2,000, and says that it is prepared to believe that this increase is indefensible. Those who take the trouble to examine the estimates will agree that the Colonist's calculations are indefensible because they are purposely inaccurate.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes Civil government, Administration of Justice, Provincial Home, etc.

VICTORIA MARKETS.

No change is noted in the appended price list save potatoes, the price of which is raised to 1 1/2c per pound. Potatoes at present are very scarce, and the present price will no doubt prevail until the new potatoes come in.

It seems that the people have no right to ask questions about the travelling expenses of ministers, since such questions are annoying to the ministers and are provocative of a flow of strong language from the government organ.

Roseland's first council would need to be composed of exceptionally able men, problems to deal with different evils, problems. All visitors to that city, and the residents as well, are agreed that it stands in a serious danger from fire and from a fever epidemic.

It is reported that Hon. C. H. Matthews, who has been appointed as governor of the North Territories. The position will be held by Sir Henry Joly de Lotbiniere, who is inland representative of the British Empire.

Dr. BOBERTZ the old reliable and celebrated Detroit Specialist in all the greatest SKILL AND SUCCESS all Nervous and Chronic Diseases.

that is worth knowing. The Colonist man will never ask the Full Court to tell him the meaning of a phrase so simple and yet so full of meaning, if he understands it better than the Court.

POLITICAL CRISIS ENDED.

London, March 26.—A dispatch to the Times from Berlin says it is believed there that the political crisis brought about by the refusal of the budget committee, of the Reichstag, to meet the financial demands of the government has ended.

RETAIL QUOTATIONS FOR FARMERS' PRODUCE Carefully Corrected.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes Snowflake, XXXX, Lioo, Premier, Three Star, Strong Baker's, Selco, Leitche's Hungarian, Ogilvie's Hungarian, Wheat, Barley, Middlings, Bran, Ground feed, Corn, Corn, cracked, Oatmeal, Rolled oats, Rolled oats, Potatoes per lb., Cabbage, Cauliflower, Hay, Straw, Onions per lb., Fish, Apples, Oranges, Lemons, Apples, Eastern, Butter, Butter, Cheese, Lemons, Hams, Bacon, Bacon, Mutton, Pork, Pork, Chickens.

CANADA WILL STRIKE BA

Cowan's Alien Labor Bill will be reported by Government and Pass as a Private Measure.

Auditor-General's Report—Trans Two Tricky Senators Quite Introduced.

Ottawa, March 29.—The auditor-general's report was distributed to-day. It shows that on the 7th of July, before the late government reported its treasury board overruled the report and paid Davis & Sons their claims on the Cornwall canal.

Senator Adams and McKenney were for first session of the house in the afternoon. Mr. Ward's rejoinder was timely, and for it he will receive the thanks of the fishing interest of the province.

The trade returns for February since January 20th are gazetted. Figures for the month are as follows: 1897—Imports, \$7,710,000; exports, \$7,300,000; duty, \$1,616,000. This shows that imports, having been as high as possible, are being compelled to pay for the month as for 1897—Imports, \$7,710,000; exports, \$7,300,000; duty, \$1,616,000.

A Conservative caucus has been called for Wednesday night at the residence of Sir Richard Cartwright will continue the debate on the address this morning, and Sir Adolphe Caron will read his report on the tariff duties.

It is understood that Hon. C. H. Matthews, who has been appointed as governor of the North Territories. The position will be held by Sir Henry Joly de Lotbiniere, who is inland representative of the British Empire.

There is prospect of trouble in connection with the Hecla Straits fishery. The Americans have a point that the straits are not a round, and deeming it to be such would pursue their avocation. Harry Cooper has been appointed as master at Nanaimo.