The Colonist.

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A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE DAILY COLONIST

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A MATTER IN DISPUTE.

The Colonist stated the other day that Mr. Aulay Morrison was the thirteenth member of the House of Commons whom the Laurier administration had appointed to office. The St. John Sun says it is the twenty-ninth. Probably the Sun is right. We have not been able to keep track of all such appointments, but accepted the statement of a contemporary that is usually reliable. However, whether the thirteenth or twenty-ninth, it must be very provoking to Sir William Mulock to have earnest protestations on the subject of appointing members of Parliament to positions thus persistently and ruthlessly set aside by his own party. If the members of the present Liberal Government were sincere in their former professions they would now be their own most merciless critics. They could not help condemning acts in such flagrant violation of their own precept. Needless to say they were not sincere.

A TREATY OR NO TREATY.

Somebody should explain what the Liberal policy really is in regard to the proposed treaty of reciprocity with Great Britain. Speaking at Montreal the Premier made the following statement:

He had introduced the policy of the preference to Great Britain, and he was ready to defend it. The Liberals had given a preference to England because they wish to have England for a market. The English market was Canada's best market, and common sense told them to develop our commerce with that country. The government were asked would they continue the policy of preference or would they abolish it? The answer was very easy. For two years his answer had been not only before the whole Dominion but before the whole British Empire as given at the Intercolonial conference held in London. There he had declared, and he declared again now that Canada was prepared to make a treaty of commerce with the Mother Country; that they would discuss together the attitude upon which they would give a preference and the articles on which they should obtain a preference. Canada was ready to enter into a treaty of commerce.

The Toronto Globe, on the other hand, which has voiced the sentiments of the Liberals of Canada, outside of Quebec, for the last half a century says:

"For nearly 40 years we have had no entangling traffic engagements with our neighbors. * * * Similarly we will get along more safely if we keep ourselves free from all bargains with the Mother Country. If it suits us to continue and either increase or diminish the preference already granted we are free to do so, and Great Britain is equally free to make us a return in kind or not just as suits her. This is the best kind of relationship to enable the two countries to co-exist in a state of harmony, while anything in the form of a treaty might easily become a chronic source of danger."

THE CHIMNEY CREEK CONTRACT

It was to be assumed that the opposition to Colonel Prior, the Liberal-Conservative candidate, would be concentrated about the Chimney Creek contract, in connection with which he was dismissed by the Lieutenant-Governor. Doubtless Colonel Prior made a mistake; he realizes it as much as any person. No one, however, who read the evidence will impute wilful wrong-doing to the Colonel in connection with the matter. Even the Lieutenant-Governor did not allege dishonesty or dishonorable action on the part of Colonel Prior. He simply could not overlook a fact that, in his view, was a political impropriety on the part of a man occupying the position of Premier. The circumstances rather than the facts were against Colonel Prior. The firm of E. G. Prior & Co., Limited, had a perfect right to tender for supplying cable, or anything else, to the Government. Knowing that it had such right, he instructed the manager of the firm to tender. The tender happened to be the lowest and was accepted. It was done openly and without any attempt at concealment. It was suggested to Colonel Prior that the tender should be put in under some other name. Colonel Prior said, "Certainly not; we have a right to tender and there is nothing to conceal about it." If Colonel Prior had followed the suggestion so made he would probably have been in office today. The action is regarded by many as "stupid," as he should have known that political capital would have been made out of it by some one at some time. The matter was too small, however, to have given much thought to him one way or the other, and we feel sure that no one would imagine that Colonel Prior, however venal he might have been inclined to be, would risk his political future on account of a profit that probably did not exceed $50 or $100. The mere fact that he acted fully in the open is the best proof that he did not act realizing that his position was untenable, or would be questioned. Colonel Prior certainly violated a principle of ethics that a public man should respect. We are not upholding or excusing what would be liable to great abuse under certain circumstances; but he acted in the open, fully believing in his moral as well as legal right in the premises. Whether he merited dismissal depends upon the ethical view of the Lieutenant-Governor. Another Lieutenant-Governor, equally conscientious as Sir Henri, might have taken another view. That is a question we need not discuss. It is the moral intent to do right or wrong which must determine the merits of the present case. If the election is to be decided, in this particular instance, as to whether Colonel Prior acted wisely or foolishly, or did right or wrong, then the whole election may turn upon matters of political conduct, and it is peculiarly distasteful to have a campaign conducted upon personal issues rather than upon the wider questions that are before the country at large.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

It is very pleasant to have expressed such sentiments of appreciation as are conveyed in Mr. Swinerton's letter to the Colonist, published elsewhere. As a rule a newspaper does a great deal of advertising for the public in affairs of this kind, which is taken as a matter of course, and without any thought of recognition. On other hand, if a mistake or omission is made the newspaper is usually the recipient of much criticism and abuse. Such a rare exception to the rule is gratifying when it occurs. No doubt the publicity given to the fair through the press had a good deal to do with its financial success; but we have no desire, so far as the Colonist is concerned, to claim any special credit. The fair is a peculiarly Victorian enterprise, and it is a great pleasure to know of its success and to assist in making it such.

FIELDING'S SURPLUSES.

Mr. Fielding, the present Minister of Finance, is a past master at manipulating figures and proving the existence of a surplus where no surplus really exists. He served a faithful apprenticeship at that sort of thing before coming to his present position. While leader of the Government of Nova Scotia he had charge of the finances of the Province, as there there is no finance minister or treasurer, the finances being in charge of the provincial secretary, which position was held by Mr. Fielding in addition to the Premiership. During the ten years in which he held that position, Mr. Fielding, year after year, brought down financial statements which almost invariably showed large surpluses. These surpluses would have amounted in the aggregate to many hundreds of thousands of dollars if these financial statements had been reliable and had disclosed the true state of affairs the financial condition of the Province would necessarily have been improving year by year. Yet Mr. Fielding began his rule with a total Provincial debt of a few thousand dollars owing to the banks, a small floating debt only, and when he resigned from the local Government of Nova Scotia to become Finance Minister of Canada, he left the Province with a funded debt of between two and three millions. That is to say, in addition to spending all his revenue and his surpluses, he had, year by year, spent several hundred thousand dollars more than the Provincial income, notwithstanding published statements showing large yearly surpluses.

And these feats of juggling with figures he has been since performing as Finance Minister of Canada. If all his pretended surpluses were summed up, they would amount to something like $50,000,000. What has become of the money? We know that the public debt of the Dominion is practically what it was when Mr. Fielding took office. If this is so and it certainly is, what has become or all these surpluses? If they have been used to pay current expenditures, as must have been the case, what nonsense it is to claim these as large yearly surpluses. It is simply a question of making up one's years statement before all his bills are paid instead of after this has been done.

Another glaring instance of the Government's manipulation of figures can be seen in the statements published respecting the Intercolonial Railway. Last year, or rather, in 1902, the question of Government ownership of railways had not been raised. Then the Government was anxious to prove its careful and business-like management of the Intercolonial, so its financial statement of the year's operation of that road proved a small surplus of revenue over expenditure. This year the desire is to discredit Government ownership and to prove that the Grand Trunk Pacific, if built and operated as a Government road, would not pay, so the Intercolonial statement is so juggled as to show a deficit of over $600,000 on the year's operations. In 1902 they published figures showing a surplus of $24,665; in 1904 the question of building the Grand Trunk Pacific as a Government road has been made an issue at the coming election, and forthwith figures are published showing a deficit in the year's operations of the Intercolonial of over $600,000.

This shows how figures can be used in the hands of a skilful manipulator to prove almost anything. Yet there are people in our midst who have unbounded faith in the reality of Mr. Fielding's surpluses, and who believe that one year's surplus will pay Canada's contribution to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme. Barnum was wont to declare that people love to be humbugged, and he was not so far astray as regards a portion of them at least.

THE CANDIDATES.

With the exception of the Conservative candidates in Vancouver and Comox-Atlin constituencies all the nominations for the Province have taken place, and the fight is fairly on. As was expected Colonel Prior received the nomination for Victoria. The convention was a large and a representative one. Although Mr. Bowbwith had been urged to stand and did so, there has been no doubt for some days that Colonel Prior would be selected. There was a very strong and general feeling in his favor, and undoubtedly he is the strongest man that could have been placed in the field. Some feeling existed over his entrance into local politics and the special circumstances connected with the political situation of that time; but harmony has been restored and he will have the undivided support of Liberal-Conservatives as a party. Colonel Prior has won in every election in which he has been a candidate in Victoria, and if Victoria and the Liberal-Conservatives are true to their own interests they will return him again. It is needless to say that the fight will be a hard one. Opposed to him is a strong organization, the prestige of office, the advantages of power, and a plentiful supply of campaign funds. The opposition candidate, Mr. George Riley, whose nomination was also a foregone conclusion, is not strong as a public man, but he is a good campaigner, and understands all the arts of manipulation. He has friends, too, who can give him admirable assistance in that respect. Under such circumstances the election can only be won by hard, conscientious work. The sentiment and convictions of the people are opposed to the present Government. The money power, however, is always a strong factor in elections and it is being and will be used to the very limit during the present campaign.

THE UNLUCKY NUMBER.

Mr. Aulay Morrison, a very estimable gentleman, indeed, has been appointed to the Bench. He is the thirteenth member of the House of Commons to be appointed by the Liberal Government to lucrative positions of one kind and another. Thirteen is supposed to be an unlucky number. We hope it will not be unlucky for Mr. Morrison. It is likely to be, however, for the Liberal Government. When we remember the protests made in the House some years ago by Sir William Mulock it is hard to understand that he consents to remain in a Government that does such things. Circumstances sometimes alter cases. It may be that what once looked so bad to Sir William has taken on a more favorable hue. It depends upon whose glasses you are looking through. This is what he said in the days when he occupied a seat on the opposition benches.

Sir, if the Government of the day can dangle public office before their followers, and induce a few, and, perhaps, an increasing number, to aspire to these positions instead of representing their constituents here, and exercising an unbiased judgment and a wholesome influence upon the administration of the day, they become mere parasites upon the administration and cease to voice the opinion of their constituents. Not only do they do that, sir, but moving about among their colleagues, they become, as it were, corrupting agencies amongst their own ranks. And so a small percentage of persons in that position are likely to impair the independence of the whole body. So it has become now, in my opinion, a crying abuse, and Parliament is cast down from its high position. And not only is the will of the people being interfered with, not only is Parliament being subordinated to the administration, but there is even a worse evil growing out of this abuse. All through the country the electorate, noticing these things, are coming to the conclusion that the highest aim a man can have in seeking public life is that he may, through Parliament, find his way to a comfortable position for life. If that becomes the highest aim of those who seek public life then public life becomes a means, not of advantage to the public, but of private gain. And thus we shall have coming into public life office seekers, place hunters, instead of those ready to make sacrifices for the love of their country, and ready to undertake the labors of public life for the good they can do in the interests of the people.

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC TERMINUS.

An interview with Mr. Hugh Allan, taken from the Toronto Globe, appears in another column. Mr. Allan is one of the owners of the Allan Line of Montreal, and took the trip to Port Simpson along with the Grand Pacific party. His statements are suggestive rather than definite as to the proposed terminus, and certainly do not give the public very much information that would be of use in connection with the locating a townsite for instance. He states that the selection will be made from a land point of view rather than from an ocean standpoint. He covers the whole coast, from Bute inlet north, as lying within the region of possibilities. Having once decided upon the pass in the Rockies through which the railway will come the shortest and most direct land route with the easiest gradient will be selected irrespective of the character of the water facilities at the terminus. At least, the nature of the harbor will not be the determining factor where there are so many available harbors. Mr. Allan's impression of the scenery and the tourist possibilities of the route to Port Simpson from Victoria is certainly very encouraging, and in that respect he speaks with more or less expert knowledge of the subject. He is also very much impressed with the prospects for securing freight for the line when opened in the way of fish, minerals, lumber, etc.

QUEBEC METHODS.

There have been some references to what contemporaries choose to call an appeal to race prejudice, on account of discussion of the way Quebec figures in the Grand Trunk deal. No appeals to electors on purely racial grounds, however, have appeared similar to those in the Quebec Liberal press, which is constantly introducing such matters into political discussion. We have recently called attention to several such articles. Here is another one. Mr. Casgrain, a prominent Conservative member, is taking an active part in the political campaign in the East, and is being very savagely attacked on grounds which will be seen from the following extract from the St. John's Sun:

"But, as a matter of fact, we find these journals reviving the Riel agitation for the purpose of destroying Mr. Casgrain. Government journals in Quebec Province still refer to the Conservatives as 'Pendards,' and the appeal is made to the French-Canadians to punish once more the party of 'hangmen.' This campaign is even more personal against Mr. Casgrain. It is carried on in words and in cartoons. One picture represents Mr. Casgrain with a noose in his hand suggesting that the policy of the rope is a good programme for the Conservative party."

INOCULATION OF THE GROUND.

The other day we had an editorial dealing with the inoculation of the soil. This is a very important matter and is worthy the reproduction of the following from the Portland Oregonian:

To the Century Magazine for October Gilbert H. Grosvenor contributes an article, setting forth in detail a most remarkable discovery in scientific agriculture. It promises to add untold millions to the wealth of our American farmers. Dr. George T. Moore, in charge of the laboratory of plant physiology, United States department of agriculture, following the lead of a German scientist who got on to the wrong road, made the discovery which has now passed far beyond the experimental stage. It is this: By the cultivation of bacteria, there is restored in the soil in extraordinary quantity the essential element of plant food, nitrogen, which all grains require. Drain the soil of its plant food and it becomes barren. These bacteria more than restore the loss, and at a cost of less than one cent an acre.

Here is the basis of the discovery: Free nitrogen forms seven-tenths of the atmosphere. Tap this sea of nitrogen and use it, and you can fertilize the whole earth and keep it rich. Professor Nobbe, of Germany, captured a tiny germ, invisible to the naked eye, which takes the nitrogen from the air and puts it into the earth, and Dr. Moore developed the germ to do service for mankind. The agency which this germ employs is any leguminous plant—peas, beans, clover, alfalfa, lupin, vetch, etc. These germs have been named nitrogen-fixing bacteria.

Examine the roots of a healthy bean or clover plant and you will see a number of rounded bulbs, called nodules, or tubercules, on the roots, which look as if diseased or bitten by worms or insects. All legumes have these tubercles. It was noticed by scientists that plants with good-sized tubercles flourished, while those with very small ones looked starved and withered, and they concluded that there must be a connection between tubercles and vigorous plant life. Examination of a dissected bulb under the microscope revealed it to be packed with bacteria; further investigation showed that these bacteria were incessantly absorbing free nitrogen from the air, and converting it into forms suitable for the plant's digestion.

Professor Nobbe isolated the nitrogen-fixing bacteria, bred and cultivated the germs and put them on the market. Overlooking one factor, he failed to develop a permanent type. Dr. Moore, pursuing the laboratory work in another direction, corrected his predecessor's error and succeeded in developing a permanent type of bacteria with five or ten times more power to fix free nitrogen than the original germs had possessed. Legumes inoculated with the bacteria developed great tubercles and grew to great size even in the poorest soil. This remarkable statement is made by the author of the article: "The nitrogen-fixing power of the bacteria developed by Dr. Moore is so extraordinary that seeds soaked in the solution will sprout and produce luxuriant plants in quartz sand, which has been previously ignited to a red heat in order to drive out all nitrates."

Dr. Moore patented his discovery, but deeded the patent to the Department of Agriculture in trust for the American people. He next experimented with plans for distributing the bacteria and found that by using some absorbent, like cotton, a small piece of which will soak up millions of the organisms, and then by allowing these cultures to dry, the bacteria can be sent to any part of the world and yet arrive in perfect condition. The government mails to applicants the inoculating material free of charge, with instructions for using it, so simple that a boy could hardly go wrong. A cake sufficient to inoculate seeds for one to four acres costs the department four cents. Different cultures are sent for different crops.

And the results. They read like the story of "Jack and the Bean Stalk." The figures which follow are taken from crops on a farm in Maryland, where in exactly the same soil inoculated seeds of the hairy vetch and seeds not inoculated were planted side by side; patch not inoculated, 581 pounds; inoculated patch, 4,501 pounds—an increase of more than eight times. Crimson clover under similar conditions yielded: Uninoculated, 372 pounds; inoculated, 6,292 pounds—an increase of nearly twenty times.

But there are even other wonders. The same bacteria that increase the yield of beans, clover or alfalfa tenfold empower the plant to leave many times more nitrogen in the soil; in other words, make the soil many times more fertile for the next cereal crop in rotation. For example, crimson clover, not inoculated, added to one acre of land 4.3 pounds of nitogen; the same quantity, inoculated, added to one acre of precisely similar land 143.7 pounds of nitrogen, an increase of 33½ times.

The Century's article is well worth universal reading. Its accuracy cannot be questioned. Illustrations of plants cultivated from inoculated seeds furnish competent testimony. If half that is promised shall be realized, the result in dollars to the agriculturists of America can scarcely be computed. If he is a benefactor who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before, what designation is high enough for Dr. Moore?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

SALE OF GAME.

Sir—I noticed in Wednesday's Colonist that the game club at its recent meeting passed a resolution proposing that the sale of game should be prohibited for a term of three years in British Columbia. I beg to suggest that this resolution be taken up by all true sportsmen, in behalf of the game and province, at once, and cause this important motion to be made law. At present I may say that game (especially grouse) is being slaughtered wholesale to supply hotels and fill the pockets of game dealers, at the cost of the extermination of game in our province. Now, game is a great attraction to visitors, as all know; game is said to be plentiful, and foreign sportsmen would come more frequently here to shoot them, if the reports of "plentiful" were correct; but, I am sorry to say, the word "plentiful" with reference to game will soon be a thing of the past, if not already, at least, if the markets keep on as they are. Some say that there are not so many birds killed for the market; but this is indeed incorrect. To those I say: Do you know that all the leading hotels in town are supplied with hundreds of birds a season? Do you know that five hundred brace of grouse came from one district in one week for the market last year? Do you know what makes many men go out hunting before the season opens? (The fact that numbers of parties go out every year weeks before the season opens, to shoot game, is well known.) The reason that they do this (as one of these "poachers" informed me) is that "if we didn't get out ahead of the game other hunters we wouldn't even see a bird." Now, in the face of this, you cannot blame these men so much, perhaps. I do not write this to defend the "poacher" or pot hunter—far from it. In my opinion this illegal shooting would greatly decrease if the market hunter was put out of business. I may also say that a league (such as the League of American Sportsmen in the United States) should be formed by all sportsmen in this province, under the heading of the "League of British Columbia Sportsmen," for the purpose of game protection; the members should all be like "specials," and in this way great benefit would result. With all respect to that estimable body, the game club, I submit that it should look into this matter and form such a league. The League of American Sportsmen is an example of what can be done if the question is taken in hand. Why not start such an organization here? I may also mention that if sportsmen were taxed for the privilege of shooting (as some of the game club advised, I believe) it would be an outrage, unless the markets were closed. In conclusion I say: Pass the bill to prohibit the sale of game! Stop the poaching!

Thanking you in advance for your valuable space.

SPORTSMAN.

A SPORTSMAN'S "LEAGUE."

Sir—The letter by "Sportsman" in your issue of this morning will be read with pleasure by every one who is in any way interested in the preservation of game. The time has come for British Columbia (as it came some years back in the United States) to prohibit the sale of game, or else the supply will in a short time reach a vanishing point. I think "Sportsman's" suggestion re the formation of a British Columbia League of Sportsmen is a good one. The various clubs in this province are doing all they can to protect the game; but a "league" with branches in the various districts and a centre at either Victoria or Vancouver, would, I have no doubt, be more effectual. Everyone knows what the American League of Sportsmen has done for the game in the States, and there is no reason why a similar organization should not do equally good work here. Now a word as to our local club. Why does not every man who goes out hunting nearly every week-end join the club? It is all very well for men to growl about the scarcity of game, and say, "This and that should be done"; what is wanted is solid concerted action. Let the government see that we sportsmen as a body are in earnest over this matter—individual growling will effect nothing—let every man interested in sport join the club, talk matters over at our meetings, decide what is to be done, and insist on having their views carried out by the legislature.

J. MUSGRAVE.

Hon. Sec. V. I. Fish and Game Club.

Victoria, October 8, 1904.

FROM THE BRITISH COLONIST 1859.

Monday, October 10.

J. A. Macrae will sell at his salesroom on Wharf street, on Tuesday, October 11, at 1 o'clock, p. m., a quantity of real estate and a coal mine, the said land lying and being situated on Bainbridge Island, Puget Sound, at a place called Bean's Point, five miles from Seattle.

To the Editor—The attorney-general, Mr. Carey, having publicly assailed my honor as a gentleman, and having refused to retract and apologize for his offence, I am reluctantly compelled to denounce him as a slanderer. And having persisted in refusing my demand, and having also declined to my friend to support his vindictive and malicious imputation, I now further denounce him as a coward.

D. BABINGTON KING.

To the Editor—Will you please stir up the indignation of the public at the shameful state of the crossing over the gully on Government and Johnson streets?

VIATOR.

The legislature has no intention of adding a clause to the franchise bill making it compulsory for the election to take place in every district and town on the same day, commencing and ending at the same hour. The only clauses approximating to simultaneous polling, as we understand it, confines the election in one district, not all, in one day. Towns are even excepted by not being mentioned. The consequence will probably be, except the law is amended, that the whole colony will be kept in a high state of excitement for a week or longer by opening a poll in each district on different days.

THEY CAN'T WAIT.

Ottawa Citizen.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced his Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, nearly eighteen months ago, and proposed to pledge the credit of the country to build a railway estimated to cost $150,000,000 and upwards, without having made any preliminary surveys or having data to guide the judgment, he pressed for the adoption of the measure off-hand and assured the House and country that Canada could not wait—a plea revised by the ex-minister of railways to read, "Cox can't wait." And the matter went through—after a fashion. But when the government's master, Manager Hays, called a halt, it was found that the haste was not quite so urgent as had been represented. The original bargain had to be modified as demanded by the G. T. R.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

Ottawa Citizen.

Two hundred and fourteen members composed the parliament which has just been dissolved. The tenth parliament of Canada will be elected on November 3, will have the same number of members, but the constituencies which they will represent will be different in many cases. The changes have been brought about by the redistribution bill passed during the session of 1903, and known as the Representation Act. The unit of representation in Canada being based upon the ratio which the population of Québec bears to its permanent representation of 65 members, it follows that there are no changes in the constituencies in that province; but Nova Scotia having lost two seats by the redistribution will have 18 members instead of 20 in the last parliament. Prince Edward Island will have four members instead of five and New Brunswick 13 seats instead of 14. The greatest loss of members is suffered by the province of Ontario, whose representation has been cut down from 92 to 86. Some historical names have been dropped in the process of redistribution and reconstruction. Cardwell and Bothwell have both been wiped out, Niagara will no longer appear as a part constituency, while East Bruce, North Hastings and East Durham also disappear. New constituencies in Ontario are Thunder Bay and Rainy River, Parry Sound and North Toronto. Ten additional constituencies have been created in Manitoba and the West. Dauphin, Portage la Prairie and Souris are the names of new-made constituencies in Manitoba, although the province only gains two members by the redistribution. Six members have been added to the Northwest Territories, which will have four members in the new parliament. It will take old hands in the Commons some time to get accustomed to include to new comers from the prairies as "the honorable member" from Calgary, Edmonton, Humboldt, Mackenzie, Qu'Appelle and Strathcona. Comox-Atlin and New Westminster are the two additional constituencies in British Columbia, which heretofore has had but six representatives in the Commons.

[British Columbia receives only one additional member. Victoria loses one member. The Yale-Cariboo district, which included Kootenay, is divided into two, and Comox-Atlin has been carved out of others. —Ed.]

RECIPROCITY IN COAL.

New York Times.

New England manufacturers wish to buy cheap coal, in order to compete successfully with their more favored rivals in the coal districts of the South and West. The Nova Scotia produces qualities of bituminous coal and looks eagerly to shipping it free of duty to New England. The coal operators of Ohio and Western Pennsylvania, on the other hand, desire to sell coal and wish Canada to take her tariff off bituminous coal, which they could then export with advantage to Canada's central manufacturing districts. The duty exacted on either country is 67 cents a ton. Obviously there is need of reciprocity in the coal trade between the United States and Canada.

Under a reciprocity agreement American mine owners would gain practically entire control of the increasing central Canadian trade in coal, while New England and the Pacific States, which are already dependent upon outside sources for fuel supply, would get their fuel cheaper. Benefit would accrue both to the United States and Canada.

NOT AT ALL COMPLIMENTARY.

B. C. Review, London, Eng.

A Belgian manufacturer visiting Canada entered into conversation with an English commercial traveler, and the talk turning upon Mr. Chamberlain's scheme for Tariff Reform and Colonial Preference, the Belgian expressed a pious hope that the scheme would not go through. "Should it do so," he said, "I have already secured land in England to erect our factories. My business is that of a manufacturer of cotton blankets, and I employ 2,700 men. Nine-tenths of my trade is done with India, Australia, Africa and England. Consequently I shall either have to close down or come over to you if Mr. Chamberlain's policy is adopted. Come it must, sooner or later, but I feel confident that for some time British stupidity will hold the field." Whilst this is not very complimentary to our intelligence, it is an honest opinion, and honest opinions, even when they are disagreeable, are worthy of consideration. And what is it but "British stupidity" that permits 2,700 foreign workmen to draw wages which might be enjoyed by our English unemployed? Here is a man who admits that he thrives on our Free Trade, and does a large business with our colonies in goods he would be unable to compete with us in supplying if we had a tariff and reciprocity with our colonies. And he lets the cat out of the bar because of his supreme faith in "British stupidity."

Metal ties, principally cast, have been used on various roads abroad for thirty years. They are not altogether a success and most roads substitute timber again. Not only is cost an objection, but they make construction too light and fail to get a good hold in the ballast, thus rendering it difficult to keep the track in line.

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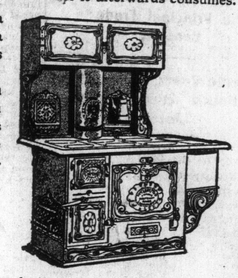

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DIXI H. ROSS & CO.,

The Independent Cash Grocers.

FARMER'S EXCHANGE

ADVERTISEMENTS UNDER THIS HEAD ONE CENT PER WORD EACH ISSUE, NO ADVETISEMENT TAKEN FOR LESS THAN 25 CENTS.

POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK.

WANTED—Pomeranian bitch. State age and price. Box 484 Calgary, Alta. o9

FOR SALE—Jersey cow, price $25. Apply A. Clunk, Lampson street, near railway crossing. o9

FOR SALE—Quiet pony, cart and harness. Apply to Mr. G. Phillips, "Glen Cottage," Esquimalt Road. o9

FOR SALE CHEAP—Roan cob, 14½ hands, 8 years old. F. G. Brock, 165 Douglas street. o9

FOR SALE—Team of strong work horses, wagon and harness, cheap; also useful horse, suitable for buggy or light wagon, $20. J. Watt, Heal's P. O., West Saanich Road. o6

FOR SALE—Some fine Buff Orpington pullets. Apply S. Gunter, Foul Bay Road. o6

FOR SALE—General purpose team, powerful and fast, suitable for express; also 5 dairy cows in milk. For particulars apply 102 Dallas Road. o5

FOR SALE—Several fresh calved cows. Geo. Heatherbell, Colwood. s27

WANTED—200 pullets; state when hatched. Cameron, 19 Catherine street, W.

FOR SALE—Irish setter puppies by Mickey Green; also Irish setter bitch, good hunter. Apply evenings, except Saturday or Sunday, Wm. H. Foster, Harriet road, off Burnside. su24

LOST—Strayed from Colonist hotel, Tuesday, October 4, four English setter puppies, four months old; three are still missing; one dog even marked black and white head, body heavily ticked; one bitch same head markings, black spot on quarters, body ticked; one bitch black patch on right side of head, tan tickings on muzzle, legs and feet. Lost, in Highland district, in September, English setter bitch, two years old, lightly ticked blue Belton; had curb chain collar; has chorea slightly in right shoulder and leg; answers to the name of "Victoria." Strayed or stolen from T. Astles, Esquimalt, October 1, English setter bitch; even marked black, white and tan head, black spot on loin, extending down left hind leg; answers to the name of "Gladys." Reward if returned to Colonist Hotel or 90 Government street. Anyone found detaining any of the above after this notice will be prosecuted. C. W. Minor. o6

LOCAL

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY.

Building Progress.—Architect Thomas D. Sedger is calling for tenders which will be received up to noon of October 12th for the erection of two frame residences on Government street, corner of Bay street, for Messrs. G. C. McKeil and F. N. Costen.

Fall Fair Accounts.—R. H. Swinerton, the secretary of the British Columbia Agricultural Association requests that all those having accounts and who have not already rendered the same should do so before tomorrow, the 8th inst.

Handling Piles.—Piles for use in putting in the foundations for the C. P. R. hotel are being unloaded from scows outside the retaining wall at the southern end, just opposite the parliament buildings. To expedite the work of handling the piles a skidway has been built up the bank and a scow with donkey engine put in.

Promising Property.—H. Cecil, who is superintending the development of a promising mining property in the vicinity of Ladysmith, spent yesterday in the city, returning to the work this morning. Operations have been under way for several months and the ore is constantly improving in quality. Experts who have examined the claim pronounce it a most promising one.

Launch Battleship.—The big battleship Nebraska, built for the United States government in Moran's shipyards, Seattle, will be launched this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Thousands of invitations have been received for the event. A number of Victorians who received invitations went over yesterday evening to take in the event. Seattle is celebrating the occasion on a tremendous scale.

Get Higher Fees.—At Vancouver on Tuesday an important application was made before Mr. Justice Duff, in Supreme court chambers, in the suit of the Centre Star Mining Co., of Rossland against the Miners' Union. This action was tried at Victoria several months ago. Judgment was given at that time for $12,500 damages with costs. On Tuesday an application for increased counsel fees was made and granted, the increase being $2,500. Mr. Galt was counsel for the plaintiff.

Practical Sympathy.—During the last trip from Skagway by the Princess May Captain McLeod and others became interested in the case of Jack McCullen, a four-year-old boy who was being sent by his parents in Dawson to receive medical treatment in Victoria. The child was ascertained to be suffering from spinal trouble and he bore his troubles so bravely that general sympathy was roused. Captain McLeod started a subscription list with the result that $150 was presented to Captain Berry, the boy's guardian to cover the doctor's expenses while the little fellow is at the Jubilee hospital. The recipients of this kindness are very grateful, and heartily thank Captain McLeod and the passengers who contributed.

Sale of Debentures.—City Clerk Bowler is calling for tenders which will be received until Monday, the 31st day of October, at 4 p. m., for the purchase, in whole or in part, of debentures of the corporation of the city of Victoria issued under authority of the "Yates Street (Upper Part) Local Improvement By-Law," amounting in all to $12,528.37, maturing the 10th day of June, 1914, and secured upon the credit of the whole municipality. The denomination of the debentures (with the exception of remainders) is $500.00, and they bear interest at 4 per cent per annum, payable half yearly at the office of the City Treasurer, Victoria. The tenderer must state the net price at Victoria which he will pay. In addition to the net price the purchaser will have to pay the corporation the interest on the said debentures for the period between the 10th day of June last and the date of receipt of the purchase money by the city treasurer.

Yukon Season Closed.—Dawson passengers by the steamer Jefferson, which has just arrived at Seattle, say the Yukon cannot remain open much longer. The steamers White Horse and Selkirk were ready to leave White Horse for Dawson when the steamer Dawson reached that port. Their officers stated that the vessels would probably not attempt to leave Dawson on a return voyage. The Jefferson brought $300,000 in treasure, including a $240,000 consignment for the Canadian Bank of Commerce. As cargo she had 8,000 cases of salmon from the Chilcat cannery.

Wedding at Duncans.—On Wednesday morning, October 5, the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Grassie was the scene of a quiet but pretty wedding, when their youngest daughter, Agnes, was united in marriage to Mr. A. H. Peterson, of the firm of Pitt & Peterson, general merchants. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. W. R. Whiteman, Presbyterian minister, Duncans. Miss Rose Peterson, sister of the groom, very gracefully attended the bride, while Mr. C. Dobson supported the groom. After refreshments were served the happy young couple left on a visit to the home of the groom's parents, amid showers of rice and the good wishes of the many friends in Duncans.

Financial Flurry.—A general decline in foreign exchange rates was reported by the bankers in Seattle on Wednesday and the reason is assigned to the large movement of cotton and grain through export account from the Atlantic ports. The prime cause is declared to be the large quantities of cotton shipped to foreign ports, but the movement of grain, while on a proportionately smaller scale, also contributed somewhat to the easier tendency of exchange, in the opinion of those who follow the market movements closely. The decline was from one to two points on practically every line. The regular rates of the Bank of England still remain unchanged, but otherwise there is a slight weakening influence exhibited. No further declines are anticipated, however, and the chances are that the financial institutions will be doing business at the present figures for the next two or three months.

FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY.

Position on Survey.—A position on the eastern division of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway has been accepted by Frank Moberly, C. E., of this city, and he is now awaiting instructions to proceed East. He will be located in the neighborhood of Lake Abitibi, in New Ontario.

Gruesome Find.—Workmen employed clearing rock of the overlying earth at