

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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A CITY MARKET

Among the matters, mentioned at the meeting of the Executive of the Victoria Branch of the Vancouver Island Development Association yesterday, was the desirability of establishing a City Market, where farmers could sell their produce direct to consumers. No action was suggested and the subject was only treated in a general way. Reasons for and against the suggestion were put forward, and the general opinion seemed to be that such a market, while desirable, could not be established wholly without difficulty. The question has been discussed in the press several times, but it is timely once more to invite attention to it. Several things militate against the success of a market in this city. One of them is the Chinamen, who peddle vegetables from door to door. Another is the general use of the telephone to order farm produce at the grocery store. Another is the practice of many housekeepers of buying vegetables in small quantities as they are needed. Many an Eastern householder will buy a quarter of beef, a carcass of mutton or pork, a dozen turkeys, geese or chickens, enough potatoes to last all winter and other farm produce in the same way. His frost-proof cellar keeps the vegetables safe, and he can store his meat and poultry where it will keep frozen. Not many people here buy vegetables in large quantities and practically no one buys meat or poultry that way. When did one of our readers, who lived at one time in the East, have a chance of buying a 50-pound firkin of A1 farm made butter? Such butter may be made in the vicinity of Victoria, but not much of it gets to consumers. We mention these matters to show that the custom of the community is not wholly favorable to a city market.

These considerations do not dispose of the case by any manner of means; neither is the fact that so much fruit and dairy produce is handled by the co-operative organizations conclusive against a market. Many farmers would like to have an opportunity of selling directly to consumers, and thus have for themselves the profits of the middlemen. This is an aspect of the case which must be considered in connection with the movement to develop farming on small holdings. Markets are matters for regulation. We have in mind one market in the East, in which, up to a certain hour in the morning, only householders may buy. After that hour dealers may buy, and after a later hour the farmers may carry their produce from door to door. The system works out very well. Often by 10 o'clock the farmers' wagons or sleds will be empty, and the farmers will be spending their money at the stores. The retail merchants make just as much money and do a very much more satisfactory business than if they bought the produce, for they are saved the necessity of being overstocked with vegetables. It is more satisfactory to the farmer, because he sells for cash and buys for cash.

These are some of the advantages and disadvantages of the market system; but if it is going to be adopted in Victoria and become a success, it will be necessary to prohibit the peddling of vegetables by Chinamen. We will only add that the housekeeper, who has never gone into a full market to pick out a supply of food stuffs for the home, has missed a very interesting, profitable and satisfactory experience.

THE EMPIRE.

A Montreal correspondent sends us a letter upon the best means of consolidating the Empire, which we print. He thinks the Empire has now got to a very critical stage. "The number of critical stages through which the Empire has passed can hardly be reckoned. Critical stages seem to be features of Imperial development. Those, who have read what was written at the time of the struggle for Responsible Government, need not be told that there were timid folk who thought the Empire could hardly last over night. When the British Trade and Navigation laws were repealed, and foreign ships were given the same privileges as colonial ships in the commerce of the United Kingdom, there were those who foretold the immediate dissolution of the Empire. There is in existence somewhere a petition setting forth this fact and asking that the British North American Provinces might be allowed to annex themselves to the United States. It has not been printed for a good many years; but if it were reproduced there would be a good deal of surprise at some of the names affixed to it. There were those who thought that Confederation was the Empire's answer, and Lord Lorne, when Governor-General, was satisfied that the National Policy would do the trick. Under these circumstances we are not greatly surprised that some excellent people think the grand smash is now at hand. Some of us, however, read our histories and sleep soundly. We have lately heard it said that if Canada retains the right to say

whether or not the fleet, which she may build and pay for, shall be employed in war, that will be equivalent to departure from the Empire. To our way of thinking it will be a step towards Imperial consolidation. It would be very unreasonable to suggest that the Dominion should build, man and pay for a fleet and have nothing to say as to what should be done with it. Hence if we are to have a fleet of our own, just as we have an army of our own, and if we are to remain in the Empire, there must be some directing body in which we will be represented. The same will hold true of Australia and the other self-governing Dominions. Thus will be brought about the very consolidation, which some people are so earnest in demanding. Our correspondent thinks the drift is away from Imperial solidarity; we think it is towards it, and towards it in a very noticeable way.

We do not refer to our correspondent in what we are now about to say, but to a certain class of critics, who lament that nothing is being done to bind the Empire together, and see in each evolution of colonial autonomy a source of danger. These people really injure the cause, which they undoubtedly have at heart. The men, through whose efforts the Empire is what it is today, were practical men, engaged not in dreaming in dressing gown and slippers before a fire, but out in the thick of public life, out in the hurly-burly of business activities. These men are the true Empire-builders. They deal not with theories nor with questions that may arise sometime in the future, but with the actual problems of the present, solving them in the light of experience and with due regard to the British tradition, which is a vague sort of way of expressing a very great deal. Our correspondent thinks that sentiment will not be sufficient to bind the Empire together. We tell him that sentiment is the only thing that will bind it, and that the moment any other tie is substituted the fabric will be weakened. At the same time we are glad to print our correspondent's letter. It is well to think of the matters to which he directs attention. It is by taking thought that useful results are reached.

FRIENDLY COMMENT

The Orange Sentinel deals at considerable length with the British Columbia elections, which it regards chiefly as a personal triumph for Mr. McBride. It attributes the result in part to the excellence of the administration under his leadership; but thinks his strength lies largely in his personality. We quote the following from our contemporary:

A writer in the Toronto World quotes a British Columbian who says it is no mystery why Mr. McBride is so popular in his province. He continues with this story, showing that the Premier has inherited the qualities which have made him such an attractive figure. "When I was a small boy I delivered parcels for a New Westminster grocer, and it was part of my daily task to labor up the big hill to the penitentiary (the Premier's father was then warden), with groceries for the McBrides. If the day was stormy or cold Mrs. McBride would always have me sit up to the fire and eat a piece of pie, some tea cakes or some of her warm biscuits, and often accompany me with a glass of milk. A raw wind blowing up the Fraser and across the penitentiary hill had no effect on me when I was on the way up with parcels for Dick McBride's mother. No, the glad hand didn't art with Dick. He came by it honestly."

To this the Sentinel adds the following observations of its own:

It is evident from the short time that he has been in public life Mr. McBride is a man of courage, of foresight, of statesmanlike qualities. This, added to kindness of heart, geniality of disposition, good-fellowship in its best interpretation, must always carry the judgment and affection of the masses of the people.

Mr. McBride owes his success to himself, to the fact that he has tried to serve the public interest, and that he still remembers those who were his associates in his early years.

We agree with Premier Hazen, of New Brunswick, when he says that Mr. McBride emerges from the campaign a national figure of importance who must be reckoned with in the very near future in the large field of Dominion politics. We do not desire at this time to indicate the eminence to which we believe Mr. McBride will reach, but we make bold to say that there is no position in the public life of Canada that will overtax his abilities or to which he has not a fair right to aspire.

THE NEW SEA LORD

The choice of Sir Arthur Wilson to succeed Admiral Fisher as First Sea Lord of the Admiralty has been received with a chorus of approval. One correspondent says: "Of all the admirals of the world, Sir Arthur Wilson is accepted master of the art of naval war. It is not an extravagant thing to say that as regards tactics the admirals of the world are divided into two classes—in the one is Sir Arthur Wilson, in the other the rest of the admirals." In years gone by he used to be known as "Tag" Wilson, after a famous pugilist of the time. He is described as a hard man, hard on his men; but he is harder on himself than any one else. He shirks no task no matter how irksome or dangerous it may be, and is absolutely without the quality known as "side." When he hauled down his flag he allowed no demonstration, but retired in citizens' clothes he left his ship just as if he had only been a casual visitor. He has no favorites afloat or ashore, but he knows how to give credit to whom it is due and his subordinates have always held him in the highest esteem. He has managed to keep himself out of the limelight. He has only one strong passion, except for work, and that is for flowers, and he is a student of botany in a manner he is cold and taciturn; but at the same time is always courteous. It is said that he has never been known to lose his temper. When it comes to action his decisions are prompt. He consults nobody and tells nothing. He is 64 years of age, but as indefatigable as ever and apparently good for years of hard work. He hates the newspapers because reporters ask him questions.

Speaking at the Lord Mayor's banquet Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, who was careful to say that he no longer had any responsibility and held no brief, pronounced the condition of the navy as "extremely satisfactory." The officers, he continued, were certainly much better trained, and he believed were more zealous, than when he joined the navy; while, on the other hand, the men were undoubtedly more intelligent, and Sir Edward added, "what was even a more important thing, whereas a long time ago the appearance of a ship was considered more than gunnery and fighting, now the contrary was the case."

IS THIS THE REASON?

Nearly everyone wondered why the poet Watson wrote "The Woman With the Serpent Tongue," and wondered even more why he should have taken the unchivalric course of publishing a letter saying that he referred to Miss Violet Asquith, daughter of the Prime Minister. The fact that this lady has determined to enter the political field and to explain the poem and the letter, but the coincidence is remarkable, if it is accidental. Few people will believe that a fierce attack upon the Prime Minister's daughter merely happened to be given to the press at the time her father was about to appeal to the people for the support of the ministry of which he is the head.

Miss Asquith has picked up the gauntlet so ungalantly thrown down and has gone upon the public platform. She is described as a speaker of more than ordinary eloquence, and she handles her subject with clearness and force. Speaking at Hamersmith recently she said: "They have resurrected the army, united South Africa and given the Utopian boom of old-age pensions, which some of us had relegated to the millennium. Now, we are Crusaders outside the walls of the Holy City."

Miss Asquith is an opponent of the suffragist movement and her appearance upon a political platform is therefore all the more significant. Mr. Watson's poem has missed fire.

The Canadian Pacific is going to experiment with wireless signals for the control of its trains. The great Canadian line is determined to be up-to-date in every particular.

It is claimed that the tuberculosis serum of horses is likely to prove one of the greatest benefits to mankind. A Paris veterinary inoculated young cattle with virulent tuberculosis bacilli and after a time killed them and found them full of lesions. Others similarly inoculated were treated with the horse serum and found to be free from all traces of disease. The great thing in this treatment seems to be that the serum is not simply a preventative but a remedy.

The King telegraphed Sir Wilfrid Laurier congratulations on his birthday. It was one of the thousand graceful acts done by His Majesty during every year of his life. One would suppose that the incident might be allowed to pass without a sneer; but it seems that partisanship goes so far as to lead opponents of the government to ridicule the idea that the message meant anything. We venture to guess that if the man, who makes fun of the King's telegram, could by accident get one of the same for himself, the top of his head would burst off because of the pressure of his pride.

IF "HE" SHAVES HIMSELF

The best, most sensible, most attractive Xmas Gift would be either a Gillette Safety Razor (our price from \$5 up) or one of our beautiful new

Shaving Sets

These have handsome wooden or leather cases, beautifully lined with satin of different shades. Priced Very Reasonably.

SEE THEM TODAY

CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST

1228 GOVERNMENT ST. Near Yates.

SHOP EARLY. NOT ONLY EARLY IN THE SEASON, BUT EARLY IN THE DAY. BETTER FOR YOU—BETTER FOR US

LAVISH PROFUSION OF CHRISTMAS CHINA

A Matchless Array of China Gift Pieces at Little Prices

WE can satisfy every fancy in the matter of holiday gifts if something in China, Pottery, Art Glass or Bric-a-Brac is favored in the impulse to buy. Never before has our collection of beautiful wares been so large—because never before have the big factories of Europe turned out such a number of really exquisite styles, and we couldn't resist buying the best of them.

You'll appreciate this when you come to view them, and you will agree with us that while our purchases have been lavish, every piece meets the requirements of good taste. They have been gathered from all over the globe, and represent most painstaking efforts on our part in the selection.

Careful buying enables us to offer you splendid values. When we say that no such excellent china and values are to be found elsewhere in the West, it isn't just "newspaper talk"—we back it with "the goods." Just come in today and see.

Special Values in White and Gold China Suitable for Gifts

OUR latest arrival in China is a big shipment of charming white and gold Prussian China. The shapes and the treatment of gold and the splendid quality of the china are such as to appeal to women who appreciate fine and handsome ware and artistic decorations. Hundreds of ideal gift pieces are shown—pieces that, while being delightful in appearance, serve a useful purpose in the home, two features most desired in Christmas gifts. We are offering special values in these at the prices we have marked them—the only reason being their lateness in arriving. Here are a few of the items shown—

Tete-a-tete Sets	Salad Bowls	Teapots	Candle Sticks
Afternoon Tea Sets	Mayonnaise Dishes	Breakfast Sets	Hair Receivers
Chocolate Sets	Cups and Saucers	Cake Plates	Shaving Mugs
Sugars and Creams	Plates	Hat Pin Holders	Marmalade Jars

AFTERNOON TEA SET—A specially good value in this white and gold decoration. The china is of finest quality, and the decorations of heavy matt gold—a rich set fit for any table. Consists of two cups and saucers, teapot, sugar, cream and tray. The value is extra at \$3.50

Great Values in Trinket Sets, \$2.50. Chocolate Sets, \$7.50

A Trinket Set—such as these—would make an ideal gift for some lady friend. These china sets are among the newest creations in the china way, and are bound to become quickly popular. Decorations are rich floral effects in beautiful colorings. We have a set consisting of pin tray, powder box, ring holders, a cold cream box and tray—9 pieces of china for \$2.50

Here is one of our best offerings in Chocolate Sets—a desirable gift to any homekeeper. One special feature of this set is the fact that a handsome china tray is included in the set, which consists of chocolate pot, six cups and saucers and tray. Priced low at \$7.50

Decoration is a pretty treatment of roses.

It would be impossible to enumerate the hundreds of new china pieces that have arrived during the past few days. The best plan is to come in and spend some time going through the stock. You don't have to buy.

Another set consists of powder box, hair receiver, hat pin holder, ring holder and tray—7 pieces of china for \$2.50

Saxe China—Handpainted Dresden Decoration—Ideal Gifts

The mere mention of "Dresden" is sufficient to the collector of china—he or she is interested at once. We merely mention that we have some magnificent pieces of Saxe China with hand-painted Dresden decorations, that will satisfy the demands of those looking for a specially dainty piece of china for gift giving. Don't miss these.

Plates, at \$2.25, \$1.75, \$1.50 and \$1.35	Preserves, at each	Salad, at
Hot Milk Jugs, at each	Ramkins, at, per dozen	Mayonnaise and Stand, at
Marmalade Jars, at each	Lunch Set, cup and tray	Orange Bowl and Stand, at
Tea Pot, at	Ice Cream Saucers, at each	Pudding Set, at
Cream Jug, at	Jugs, at each, \$3.50, \$3.00 and	Chocolate Set, jug and 6 cups and saucers, per set
Tea Cups and Saucers, at	Cake Plates, at	Covered Bouillon and Scr.
Sugars, at each	Chop Dish, at	Ice-Cream Dish, at
	Compot, at	

Royal Vienna Decorations—Handpainted Saxe China

Another decoration in hand-painted Saxe China is the Royal Vienna pattern. Charming shapes—the newest offered here. We couldn't adequately describe the decoration here, so we suggest that you visit the store and see for yourself this handsome late arrival. But one or two of each piece, in most instances.

Lunch Set, cup and tray	75c	Tete-a-tete Set, consists of teapot, sugar cream, 2 cups and saucers and tray	\$14.00
Ice Cream Dishes, per dozen	\$9.00	Marmalade Jars, at each	\$2.25
Plates, at each, \$1.25, \$1.00	75c	Creams, at each	\$1.50
Compots, at each	\$2.25	Sugars, at each	\$1.75
Cake Plates, at each	\$1.50	Chocolate Set, consists of jug and cups and saucers. Set	\$14.00
Teas and Saucers, at each	\$2.00		

See This Magnificent Showing of Gifts For Men

ON THE MAIN FLOOR—close to the centre Government Street entrance—we have a special table laden with desirable gifts for the men folk. This table should be of special interest to everyone who is planning to purchase a gift for a gentleman. Dozens of suitable things are shown—things Mr. Man can use and WILL use. And when you get a man something that he finds almost daily use for, you have solved the gift problem. Here are some that'll satisfy—

Brass Smokers' Sets	Book Racks	Tobacco Jars	Shaving Brushes
Brass Ash Trays	Brass Pipe Racks	Paper Clips	Earthenware Steins
Liqueur Sets	Shaving Mirrors	Shaving Sets	Ink Wells

Some Charming Xmas Gift Pieces in Sterling Silver

You'll Have to Hurry Though, if You Want to Secure One of These New Pieces

Yesterday we priced some of the most attractive Sterling Silver and Sterling Silver Mounted Glass Gift Pieces it has ever been our pleasure to mark. We shall have these ready for you this morning—that is, those pieces that are left, for they were fast disappearing while the pricing was in progress. We list a few of the pieces received—there are dozens of other interesting gift pieces in our Silverware Department. These are packed in separate cases.

STERLING SILVER MIRRORS, \$16.00, \$15.00, \$12.00	STERLING MOUNTED CUT GLASS VASES, at \$3.50, \$3.00, \$2.50, \$2.00 and	\$1.50
STERLING SILVER HAIR BRUSHES, at \$10.00, \$7.50	STERLING MOUNTED CUT GLASS COLOGNE BOTTLES, at each, \$4.00 and	\$2.50
STERLING MOUNTED COMBS, at	STERLING MOUNTED SALAD SERVERS Pair	\$4.00
STERLING MOUNTED MUSTARD POTS, from \$2.00	STERLING SILVER MEAT FORKS, at	\$4.00
STERLING MOUNTED SALTS AND PEPPERS, Per pair	STERLING SILVER BUTTER KNIVES, at \$4.00 and	\$2.50
SUGAR SHAKERS, cut glass, sterling silver mounted, at each	STERLING SILVER OLIVE FORKS, at	\$1.75
STERLING NAPKIN RINGS, from \$4.00 to	STERLING SILVER GRAVY LADLES, at \$5.00, \$4.50 and	\$4.00
STERLING MOUNTED GLASS HAIRPIN HOLDERS	STERLING SILVER BABY SPOONS, a \$2.50, \$1.50	\$1.50
STERLING MOUNTED GLASS TOOTH BRUSH HOLDERS, at each, \$2.00 and	STERLING SILVER SUGAR TONGS, at	\$1.50
STERLING SILVER SALT SPOONS, at	STERLING SILVER BON BON TONGS, at	\$1.25

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES TODAY, AND WE SHALL DELIVER AT SOME LATER DATE, IF YOU WISH. TRY IT.

WEILER BROS.

HOME FURNISHERS SINCE 1862, AT VICTORIA, B.C.
COR. GOVERNMENT AND BROUGHTON STREETS.

THE HOME OF THE IDEAL XMAS GIFT—THE GIFT THAT SERVES A USEFUL PURPOSE—that pleases



THE HOME

It is a good plan to see the home stretch. This is of horse-racing. Just horse losses because his all the speed out of him way round the course, at the finish so many woman, too, spoils a life energy at the outset, after years. "Rejoice, strength of thy youth; these things God will ment." It was a very and he spoke from an fuller than falls to the very few people. "God judgment." This does indefinite period in the Deity is going to visit who start life at too fast reason to suppose that punishment after death, judgments of this life, more scientifically, he operation of the law.

There was once a man King of Israel, who spea fellows, who had been called a good time, said of your constitutions, but don't forget you get It is right to have the capacity of enjoying mistake to suppose that joyment is exhausted in the home stretch, into the home stretch.

These observations, to young people, but to rearing of young people necessary part of existo be rational enjoyment. ment that will not impa ther enjoyment. There miserable than a man of middle age having left get anything out of life and yet there are hum do that very thing. The strength of their you that there is always a d fortunately in very man has to be paid not by those who come aft the fathers and mother on the children, not by a Creator, but because of of the law of cause and a thing as being well in the case of our dog, and then we have pun withstand the first sh tions, we blame it upo other day there appear some comments upon W the "Serpent Tongue," person referred to in h in high social life, who described by saying th scribed. Possibly this woman in question, b women. They are sa before they have begu healthy condition of m novelists panders, and society in a direction tendency in certain cri both sexes is to seek than for satisfaction ordered lives. Every n the most out of the f left for the home stret

This is an aspect of attention from teacher receives. It is vastly r promulgation of doctr tial than the observat The greatest peril in o fact that we ignore th above. The people continue as they are, with disaster. Let th on this point. A thou less, may point their s sand robed priests, m all the solemn ceremon ship. These things d decay, unless we are strike at the root of i mining the state. Th say that the way to d liquor traffic; but th is not the practice of controversial question therefore the influen upon society will not this place. But the s is working such dead habit of society, but i ciples, which govern and women.

Nearly two thousa dered through the wil cry was: "Repent, y Heaven is at hand." not know just what th meant. Today we th unalloyed happiness, what John could ha preached. Perhaps minds thought that proof that the Holy M But you will search sayings of John for that the Kingdom of peace and happiness with a sword. It ca robed angels singing but with fierce war