

FRUITS OF MONOPOLY.

The Dominion government has appointed a commissioner to inquire into and report upon the question of rates charged upon railways. Complaints have become too numerous to be ignored. It has been freely charged, and apparently irrefutable evidence submitted in proof thereof, that the people who are contributing large sums yearly to meet the interest upon the debt incurred to assist in the construction of railways are being ruthlessly discriminated against and the producers of a foreign country favored to the great loss of Canadians generally. The doctrine which asserts that competition has no effect upon rates are confounded by these facts, for it is the points in the United States which are blessed with competition that benefit under the present system, and it is the points in Canada which are confined to one line of railway for transportation which suffer. Business on the branch lines in Ontario in some instances has been shown to be next to impossible of transaction under present conditions. The whole country is held back by extortion which renders competition with more favored sections impossible. It is not charged that one line is a greater sinner than another in this matter of charges. It is simply contended that they all take the fullest possible advantage of their opportunities, and that not one is as far-seeing as it ought to be considering the favors received from the country which is being pinched. It has been pointed out that one of the great Canadian lines is paying dividends of 25 per cent upon the capital actually invested in it. We hope the commissioner has been endowed with power to probe the question to its utmost depths, having regard to all phases of the subject, with special reference to the relationship between the rates charged and the bona fide profits earned. He will find many anomalies to engage his attention in the West. We have heard the virtues of government regulation of rates extolled most eloquently on the floors of the British Columbia legislature and the futility of competition explained by men who profess to be experts. There is no such thing as competition worthy of the name here, and it is one place in the world where regulation ought to be effective. It was pointed out in the Board of Trade report that the high charges on the White Pass road are overcoming the advantage which the tariff gives Canadians in the Yukon country. American goods are being transported up the Yukon river by steamer at rates with which Canadian merchants cannot compete after paying the railway charges even with the duty in their favor. The letter which we print from Faith Fenton-Brown in another column shows that this is not the only discouraging aspect of the situation which has been created in the north by the excessive charges made possible through a practical transportation monopoly. The development of the country is being retarded and none but claims of great wealth can at present be worked. We hope the commissioner will commence operations in the West and work his way East. There is a fruitful field for him to thrust his inquisitorial sickle into here.

A POSSIBLE RAPPROCHEMENT.

Lord Pauncefoot is a sanguine man. He is confident that all the unsettled questions between Great Britain and the United States can be disposed of in short order with a little earnest effort on the part of those who are conducting negotiations. He is even sure that treaties can be negotiated between the two governments which will be satisfactory to a senate which has hitherto proved that it is not easy to please. If the British Ambassador can satisfy the necessary majority of a legislative body which has up to the present been somewhat extravagant in its demands without giving away his whole case he has not uttered the following, worthy of a Dufferin, in vain:

"They (the Americans) are the most genial people on the face of the earth. At the first grip of the hands they take you to their hearts. So long as you do not assume superiority they treat you as one of their own, and no one could say more than this."

It is a fact that there has been a change in the tone of the United States newspapers lately. It has been brought about, however, by the evidence of hostility to their country which has been given by every European power with the exception of Great Britain. There is a movement on foot on the continent to administer to the United States a dose of the protectionist medicine which that country has been so freely pressing to the lips of all her competitors. Russia was the first nation to shut her gates. Austria is preparing to act, having become alarmed at the inroads the Americans are making upon her boot and shoe trade. Other powers are being pressed to join in the movement, and there are reasons for the belief that they will not refuse. A few months ago it was a common thing to read articles in United States journals lauding Russia as the naturally ally of their country. The massacre of students by Cossacks was even defended upon the plea that the people are ignorant and the only reasoning they can understand is that which is enforced at the edge of the sword or through the persuasive eloquence of the Czar. It was urged that if the Czar and his advisers were given a reasonable opportunity they would succeed in placing the masses of Russia upon as high a plane as the people of the United States now occupy. The tone has

changed, but the question is how long will it remain so? Would the Speaker of the House of Representatives still think it wise and politic to cover up the Union Jack alone of all the foreign flags used for decorative purposes? The New York Times speaks in a semi-apologetic tone of the insistent message of Cleveland and the imperious demands of Olney at the time of Britain's dispute with Venezuela, contending that the ultimatum which may regard as a stock-jobbing bluff was really a peace message, as it removed forever a possible cause of strife between the United States and Great Britain and vindicated the principle of adjusting difficulties by arbitration. Unfortunately for the consistency of the United States politicians, they have given unmistakable proof that they are not willing to be governed by the "decrees" which they issue for the guidance of others. They were urged to submit the dispute with Canada as to the location of the Alaska boundary to an impartial tribunal upon precisely the same terms as they prescribed for Great Britain for the settlement of her difference with Venezuela. They say there is nothing to arbitrate. "We have willed that the boundary shall be where we have placed it, and we should like to behold the nation powerful enough to question our imperial decrees." So the matter stands at the present time. The imperious, not to say bullying, attitude of our neighbors has not tended to cordiality of relationship. If Lord Pauncefoot can persuade the men who are responsible for the policy of the United States in this matter to reconsider their position he will prove himself an ambassador worthy of the name.

GOODBYE TO THE MUD FLATS.

Many Victorians will now be ready to acknowledge that Mr. Tarte is not such a bad fellow after all. It is no doubt bad that he is a Grit, and still worse that he was once a Tory, but it is undeniable that he is a good Canadian and that the charges of disloyalty to Britain which were levelled against him have all come to naught. If a public man be energetic and possesses capacity the public is not likely to concern itself much with charges such as those which have been levelled against the Minister of Public Works. Mr. Tarte has had charge of one of the chief departments of the public service for more than five years now, and the work he has accomplished for Canada speaks for itself. Millions have been expended under his direction, yet it has never been charged that a dollar has been misapplied. Every cent has been put to uses which are now returning, or promise to return, manifold returns. Though far from robust, the Minister, as far as possible, exercises supervision over all the works in his department. A sample of his energy was displayed in Toronto when he and his engineers completed the inspection of the harbor works there before the Mayor had completed his aesthetic slumbers of the indolent Aldermen had breakfasted. Time was thus economized and the Aldermen no doubt saw that the champagne was not wasted. But the characteristic of Mr. Tarte which is of particular interest to Victorians and for which virtue we are thankful at the present time, is his practical manner of doing business. It had to be demonstrated to the Minister that the people of Victoria had set their hearts upon a public work which would be of immense benefit to the city from sanitary, artistic and utilitarian points of view, and were ready to submit to considerable pecuniary sacrifices in order to have the scheme carried out, when he readily consented to co-operate with them. The result is that the James Bay flats will be filled in without a cent of cost to the city for the necessary material and the harbor will be deepened at the same time.

In this case enterprise has brought its own reward. It is now settled that at least the city which at times smelled rather "high" will shortly be the most attractive. A saving of between thirty and forty thousand dollars will leave a considerable sum to be applied in the direction which will do the most good. That is a matter which can be determined after the practical part of the undertaking has been completed. It is of importance that the most artistic effects possible shall be produced; but the chief point at this time is to get the causeway completed and the present bridge, which has become inadequate for the increasing demands upon it, removed.

THE GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION.

On the surface it appears a wise move on the part of the government to ascertain definitely whether it is feasible to build a railway through the Hope Mountains. It is undeniable that there is at present a conflict of opinion upon the point. There is no doubt that engineers in these latter days can accomplish marvellous things. They can take locomotives almost anywhere, but they cannot make them earn dividends for their owners under all circumstances. That is just the point that creates the difference of opinion in regard to the direct line from the coast cities to interior points. One engineering expedition has declared that a way through the fastnesses exists; the government apparently has no confidence in that report. The C. P. R. people say such a line would be so expensive to build and so costly to operate that it would not pay. The V., V. & E. people are willing to construct the line and take chances, and their position is endorsed by so eminent successful a

railway man as James J. Hill. No doubt Mr. Hill expected to make money enough out of the portions of the road which did pay to overcome the extra cost on the difficult parts. The C. P. R. contends that it is capable of attending to all the business which is likely to arise between the coast and the interior when its connections are completed, but if a shorter route is considered essential it will supply it via Spence's Bridge. The government is strongly pro-C. P. R. At least that is the general opinion, based upon the events of the last session and the remarks of the gentlemen on the opposition side who formulate its policy. If it were not for these things it would be unreservedly admitted that Mr. Wells has acted wisely in deciding to send out an expedition to gather data for a foundation upon which to treat with companies asking for a subsidy for the Coast-Kootenay road. As it is, if the engineers report adversely the public will view the finding as another victory for the C. P. R. This is an unfortunate state of affairs both for the government and the community, but for it the government has itself entirely to blame. It is another proof of the necessity of all who have charge of affairs of state being above suspicion. It does not do to let a notion get abroad that there is an alliance between representatives of the people and powerful corporations. The persuasive ways of the latter are considered by the public to be calculated to the welfare of the people whom they ostensibly serve.

SWEET USES OF PROSPERITY.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, who is now in Vancouver, says the Tappens can "paddle their own canoe and he will paddle his." This does not indicate that the relations between the Conservative leaders are very cordial yet. Mr. Foster says politics do not pay, and he probably thinks "not when a man is in opposition." If a cabinet position and eight thousand a year were in sight it would be different. But the prospects are very gloomy indeed. The Liberals are so harmonious. There has not been a single split in the ranks yet. They are all in one canoe instead of each man paddling his own. Even Providence and the elements seem to be arrayed against the Conservatives. The harvest in Canada, unless something unforeseen occurs, promises to be by far the most abundant in the country's history. Already Manitobans are looking for laborers to assist in the reaping of the forty million bushels of wheat and other crops which are expected. Employment is so abundant that a man might find it difficult to get work. The day that there promises to be a dearth of suitable hands for the work which it awaits them. The contrast is so sharp between this condition of affairs and the situation in the latter days of Conservatism when mobs marched through the streets of Toronto and other large cities carrying red flags and demanding employment or bread that it is no wonder so bright and far-seeing a gentleman as the ex-Finance Minister ponders the matter carefully before consenting to stand for Addington. Victory even in a Conservative stronghold without the assistance of a powerful railway corporation is not clear of achievement by an unpopular candidate of a most unpopular party. Then there is Mr. Fisher, the first practical Minister of Agriculture the country has ever had, travelling in Great Britain and adding to the market's heat already created there for the products which formerly found favor in the United States, but which Messrs. McKimley and Dingley decided to exclude. It is said that governments are seldom changed in prosperous times if they be at all worthy of the confidence of the people. The successful gathering of the fast ripening harvest now upon the fields of Canada will mean a season closely approaching a boom. It will gather force, too, as the acreage under cultivation in Manitoba alone is being added to at a tremendous rate. About half a million acres more were opened up this year. The success of the farmers there will greatly encourage the taking up of land, and there is an abundance of it yet left. We are all interested in the affairs of our agricultural neighbors, because we cannot escape from the strong current of business prosperity which flows from abundant harvests. The railways and all industries feel the impetus of the current which arises in the wheat fields of the prairies. But we are indeed sorry that some of our Conservative friends cannot fully enter into the spirit of the occasion. Think of the joys now they would sing if they were in power.

A PROPHECY.

Lord Rosebery has made two significant speeches within a week. He has raised the whole empire and startled the world to attention, but it is doubtful if his words will breathe new life into the dry bones of present day Liberalism. The ex-Premier is awake to the possibilities of the future. He sees that the great mass of the British people put patriotism before party and that the only hope for the forces which Gladstone led in putting aside the petty squabbles of the politician and appealing to the electors on a broad imperial policy. It has become a habit with a certain class of people to sneer at Chamberlain. The Secretary for the Colonies is practically the power which keeps the empire together to-day morning. Mr. Chamberlain perceives that the conditions in the world have changed; that the relative position of the United Kingdom is not what it once was. Other powers with greater natural resources have not only begun to manufacture for themselves, but have entered into competition at home and abroad with the nation which was the workshop of the world. Great Britain has managed to stand alone in the past, but her position was never really one of splendid isolation until the present time with hostile commercial legislation aimed at her from all quarters. The statesmen of the old school who rule the government are not moved by any of these things. "They believe in bunting along in the good old way which has served the army so well, but has proved so costly, and in trusting to luck to make all things right in the end. Lord Salisbury has passed the meridian of life, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is too conservative to think of departing from the paths his predecessors have walked in for years, while Mr. Balfour is not possessed of the energy to even suggest that old things have passed away and that it is time to enter upon a new and higher national career. The appearance of harpies must be kept up. It is noticeable, however, that when the question of the relationship between the Mother Country and the colonies is under discussion and the usual deprecatory remarks are being indulged in by the pessimists on both sides of the House Mr. Chamberlain opens his mouth. He has his own opinion upon these matters, and it is practically identical with that of Lord Rosebery. There is but one interpretation to be put upon the speeches of the Colonial Secretary. He also believes that the time has come for a change in the relationship which exists between the Mother Country and her colonies. Like Rosebery he perceives that the present condition of the most important without danger of apathy, followed by separation. The fires of patriotism have been kindled by recent events, and it is felt that the time to act is near at hand. True Liberals are appealed to to come out from the midst of those who would render the empire into fragments and would rejoice at its downfall.

WHEN THE PRESENT WAR IS AT AN END.

When the present war is at an end a question of still greater dimensions will loom up on the political horizon for contemplation by the British people. The Tories will not face it and the rump of Whiggism will have nothing to do with

in proof of their contention. Foreigners are on hand in great numbers ready to undertake the work which the union men refuse, a condition and which any reasonable person will admit was not calculated to turn discord into harmony. The labor leaders were irreconcilable in spite of all the efforts of Labor Commissioner Bremner to induce them to agree to terms which would be acceptable to the canners. Violence was threatened and illegal acts were committed, although there is no reason to suppose that anything serious has resulted. Superintendent Hussey of the provincial police has performed his part at a critical time with the judgment and coolness for which he has become noted, and there is no doubt that it is largely owing to his rare tact that a matter which at one time looked so serious has had a satisfactory ending. It has been demonstrated that law and order are supreme in British Columbia. The greater number of the Japs may have obtained their naturalization certificates by fraudulent means. The Attorney-General showed that he believed there had been illegal acts in connection with the admission of the men to the rights of British subjects when he cancelled the commission of the one who had been most active in "swearing them in." He rested from his labors when he had performed that arduous task. Perhaps it was not possible for him to do more. But he might have tried. In any case the Japs were in the river and they claimed to be British subjects. It was not the business of the officers of the law to inquire into the why and the wherefore. It was their duty to protect law-abiding people who desired to pursue a lawful calling. They did protect them most effectively, and it is due to a large measure to the lesson inculcated by Superintendent Hussey and his staff that the strike is at an end to-day and there is a reasonable prospect of British Columbia receiving the full benefit of one of its chief industries. There is only one respect in which the conduct of the police is open to adverse criticism. The Japs who have been allowed to go upon the water armed. By doing so they set an example to those who antagonized them and invited attack. There is no necessity for any man to carry arms in this country. It is a mischievous habit and it is the principal cause of the shedding of human blood that is one of the chief blot on the record of the United States.

THE STRIKE OF TRACKMEN.

With men of courage and ability like Rosebery and Chamberlain to lead there is a possibility of the political affiliations of years again being cast aside and a new and greater Unionist party being formed. Some of the altruists of the East have been stricken in a weak spot. The newspapers report that there was considerable curiosity mingled with alarm manifested on account of the arrival of three score Chinese in Toronto. It is almost a pity the head tax was increased. If the tide had been allowed to flow uninterrupted for a little while longer we might have had the East with us in the agitation for restriction, or even prohibition. The Orientals are an enterprising people, as the thrifty Eastern Canadian will find it he is ever brought into active competition with them. But all the virtues of humanity are not summed up in the one word thrift, as some economists seem to think. The Orientals have their virtues too, although it is a trifle difficult to practise them in places where they are not gathered together in large numbers. The report of the royal commission, we doubt not, will open the eyes of some very good but simple people upon that point. Life in China is not altogether lovely nor is the scene so picturesque in the aggregate as it is in the individual. The combination of smells—the robust word used by Capt. Wolley would fit the case better—complexly drives away the charm and dissipates the poetry of the situation.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell has arrived in Vancouver en route to Dawson. To a Province reporter Sir Mackenzie said: "I have not seen Sir Charles Tupper since last election, but as far as I am aware the old trouble between us is completely ended. The Tappens paddle their own canoe and I paddle mine." In reply to an inquiry about the future prospects of the Conservative party, Sir Mackenzie said in effect: "Sir Wilfrid Laurier was in power and was likely to remain so for the present, though he thought that a better showing would be made by the Conservative party at the next election." The old Conservative leader is not, it is evident, too hopeful of success for his party in the immediate future.

Annie Heggett told the Grimby magistrates that her husband, Matthew Heggett, a gauger, "gave her away to the next door neighbor," and to this unusual proceeding she objected, going home to her parents instead. She now made application for a separation and maintenance orders against her husband. They were granted in 1872 but had been living apart for the past 15 years, she supporting the children by "charring." During that time she had heard nothing of her husband. The bench ordered defendant to pay 10s. a week towards his wife's maintenance.

According to statistics prepared for the Home Secretary, 1,700 children are estimated to die yearly in the United Kingdom.

WHAT "FOOT ELM" DOES

Foot Elm eases aching feet, rests tired feet, takes the sting out of a corn and the burn out of a blister, prevents chafing and blistering of the feet and preserves the shoe leather. Don't try an imitation. It may injure you feet and ruin your shoes.



Summer Months are a bad time for Babies and an anxious time for mothers. Fermentation and decomposition in the stomach and bowels are the causes of the many summer complaints of babies and young children; hence more little ones die during the hot weather months than at any other season.

BABY'S OWN TABLETS REGISTERED are a safe and effectual antiseptic, preventing fermentation and decomposition of the food. They remove the cause and prevent disease in the only natural and successful manner.

Smothering the symptoms with opiates and "soothing" mixtures containing opium or other narcotics is a dangerous expedient. Baby's Own Tablets are guaranteed to contain no opiate or poisonous "soothing" stuff. Pleasant to take—no drug taste—and may be safely given to the youngest infant.

Mrs. Wilmot Clare, Thomasburg, Ont., says:—"Baby's Own Tablets have done my baby very much good. I would not be without them."

Sold by druggists or sent post-paid on receipt of price (25 cts. a box) by addressing THE DR. WILLIAMS MEDICINE CO., BROCKVILLE, ONT.

The Strike Of Trackmen

Grievance Committee Sent Out Circular Urging the Men to Stand Firm.

New Master Mechanic For Vancouver—Former Golf Champion of Canada Dead.

Montreal, July 19.—The grievance committee of the Brotherhood of Trackmen held a special meeting at the Grand Union Hotel this morning, when it was decided to address another circular to members of the union still out on strike along the line. In its mention is made of a resolution passed at the meeting of the committee at Montreal, asking that the men be made to settle the strike, as their lives were placed in continual danger owing to unsafe conditions of the road bed. The committee still strongly urges the men to stand firm, telling them that their position is becoming stronger day by day, owing to the fact that the company is beginning to feel the need of experienced men to keep the road in a proper state.

At the office of the general manager of the C. P. R. reports received stated that trains on nearly all sections were running on schedule time. A large gang of Italians was about the station today looking for places left vacant by strikers.

Winipeg, July 19.—Mr. Hall, general foreman of the C. P. R. shops, is to be transferred as master mechanic to Vancouver, and his position is to be filled by Mr. Baird.

Toronto, July 19.—As a result of complaints of the C. P. R. shops, it is to be thought as might be in the suppression of gambling, Toronto is to have an inquiry which promises interesting developments.

Ex-Champion Golfer Dead. Golf players in Canada will learn with regret of the death of Andrew W. Smith, ex-champion golfer of Canada. Mr. Smith died early this morning. He had been in poor health for some time, but on Wednesday he became suddenly worse. He was born in St. Andrews, Scotland, and it was there that he learned the game of which he was one of the founders in Canada.

Sad Accident. Guelph, July 19.—An accident occurred on the farm of Frank Drexler, Guelph township, in which his three-year-old son Eddie lost his life. He wandered into a grain field, where a binder was at work, and as he was not observed by the driver, was caught in the knives. One leg was so badly injured that amputation was necessary, and all the fingers were taken off one hand. The child soon died from his injuries.

Declared Off. Montreal, July 19.—F. X. Ledoux, United States consul at Three Rivers, and the church authorities or Bishop Cloutier, have come into conflict. The consul is a young man of intelligence and vigor, and has taken active interest in matters calculated to benefit citizens, physically and intellectually. Finding the city had nothing that could be called a book store without drawing on imagination that few books were in circulation among the mass of people, and that to

get a book of fiction, poetry, or science by living or recent authors, it was necessary to send to Montreal, Toronto or the United States, he set himself about, and single-handed and at very considerable expense founded the Lavolette Library. The library has been fairly patronized, but the church authorities from the beginning have looked upon it askance. Mr. Ledoux undertook to introduce theatricals, which he considered of good order, and to prepare for them had a show-rink fitted out with a stage, scenes, curtain, rooms and many hundred of chairs at a cost of several hundred dollars. The first play was advertised for last night. Some of the clergy took the matter in hand, remonstrated with the consul (who is a consistent Roman Catholic) and so far that play has been declared off.

Ottawa, July 20.—Hon. Joseph Chamberlain called to Lord Minto to-day stating that the proper party to apply for information concerning the South Africa Constabulary was the chief staff officer, South Africa Constabulary, headquarters, Transvaal.

This cable was sent in reply to a request from the militia department for information on this point, so that parties in Canada, who wanted information regarding Constabulary there, might know with whom to communicate.

HEARTY PRAISE FROM QUEBEC.

A Racine Man Expresses Himself Strongly For Dodd's Kidney Pills.

His Letter is Typical of Hundreds Lately Received From Lower Provinces—Same Work Being Done All Over the Dominion—Dodd's Kidney Pills Stand Alone in the Conquest of Kidney Disease.

Racine, Que., July 19.—(Special)—It is a very strange thing, but lately all through this province, the people have been talking in a straight, downright way about the medicine, Dodd's Kidney Pills. Never before has a remedy made so many warm, outspoken friends for itself. Whatever part of Quebec one chances to be in, the mentioning of Dodd's Kidney Pills is always enough to bring forth the grateful story of an experience with this most remarkable remedy from one of the listeners.

These experiences include nearly all the fatal, non-contagious diseases, Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Bladder and Urinary Disorders, Female Trouble, Heart Trouble, Blood Diseases, Nervous Complaints, etc. All emphatically declared to have been entirely cured by Dodd's Kidney Pills. But more than any other complaint, Backache counts offener.

Emile Couture, of this town, says they cured him of Backache and other Kidney troubles, and writes a letter for publication in this paper to that effect. "I am going to say a word concerning Dodd's Kidney Pills," he writes, "I cannot do otherwise than praise this wonderful medicine heartily, for I am now, owing to Dodd's Kidney Pills, in perfect health. For some time I have not felt the slightest pain in the back. My kidneys are working properly. When I go to bed I find rest, whereas before using Dodd's Kidney Pills I got up more fatigued than the night before. I had pain in the back and headache which broke my sleep. "I have taken only three boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills and cannot help but credit them with my cure. I have been free from my trouble since taking Dodd's Kidney Pills."

Prominent Financier

President of Large Life Insurance Company and Party in City.

Says Most Buoyant and Hopeful Feeling Prevails Throughout the Dominion.

There arrived last evening by the Champlain a party comprising some of the most able financiers in the Dominion, including the president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada. The party consists of President Robt. Melvin and Messrs. Melvin of Guelph, Ont., E. P. Clement and Mrs. Clement, of St. John, Ont., and G. Wegman and Mrs. Wegman, of Waterloo, Ont.

President Melvin is well known in Canadian financial circles. He is a native of Glasgow, and came to this country in his early years, bringing with him a substantial stock of spelling worth and ability, which has placed him in the prominent position he now occupies. He can no longer be included among the young men of the nation, but the efficient and capable man who has placed his in the present position is a striking commentary on his intellectual grasp of the details which come under his supervision.

Mr. Wegman, who accompanies him as the company's general manager, while Mr. Clement is one of the directors. The present tour will have both its pleasure and business aspects. In fact when it is remembered that the great object of all insurance companies, as Mr. Clement pointed out this morning, is the secure investment of its funds, it can readily be seen that every worthy opportunity for investment must be seized. The fact was brought out this morning that conversation with several members of the party that there was a strong possibility of a considerable quantity of capital being invested in the large industrial company represented by the men in the near future.

Despite the fact that owing to the exigencies of their itinerary the party will be able to spend only a day in the city, Mr. Melvin courteously devoted some time to conversation with a Times representative at the Grand Hotel this morning. The president expressed a coin of value, as it were, from which he can obtain a birds-eye view of the condition of the country. He has his fingers on the financial pulse, and is therefore qualified to speak authoritatively on the progress of the Canadian people at large. Canada, he said, was never so buoyant throughout the entire domain as he found a feeling of hopefulness which was justified by the general prosperity in Manitoba he had not heard one complaint. Even last year when adverse climatic conditions had done much to cross the misfortune had been borne with perfect equanimity. The year the crops throughout Ontario, Manitoba and other points were excellent everybody was happy, and everything prosperous. In Ontario there were few signs of employment, and good wages were earned.

Mr. Melvin is a staunch Liberal. He has stood by the Grit standard through failure and success for many generations. He was pleased to say that Guelph, a city in which he resided, had gone Liberal always, with the exception of 1886. This reverse could be attributed to the gloomy predictions of manufacturers, who said that without a protective tariff the iron and steel industry would close down. The same information volunteered by the manufacturers of North Waterloo, now represented by Messrs. Segram, the directors of the Liberal party, however, dissipated these impressions. The manufacturers, both Mr. Melvin and Mr. Clement pointed out, were busier now than ever. They were anxious to increase their staff and work the factories overtime. The Tory candidate, C. Kleopfer, who was defeated by Mr. Goutierre at the last election in one of the Wellington wards, had done more business during the last five years than ever before. In fact he had doubled the capacity of his establishment.

Regarding the proposed re-nomination of Sir Louis Davies, the president heard nothing from which it might be inferred that a successor was under consideration. In fact he had had a long conversation with Mr. Patterson, All Minister of Customs, at Banff, and the gentleman had made no reference to the subject.

Mr. Melvin was formerly mayor of Guelph, and a leading member of a board of trade at that place. He has been identified with the Mutual company since its organization in 1868, and on retirement of Mr. Patterson was immediately selected as the man for the post.

The party spent to-day touring the city, and will leave to-night en route for another city.

ANOTHER STRIKE.

A. F. Gwin Tells of Rich Find on Salt Spring Island.

A. F. Gwin, the well-known mining prospector, who discovered rich copper recently on Richard Mountain in value of that of the gold mine, arrived from Salt Spring island where he has been superintending operations on his claims at Pufford Harbor. He is in the city for the purpose of purchasing an outfit of mining tools which he will send to Salt Spring on his claims.

Speaking of his Richard Mountain claims, he says, "The mine is very good; the men working have reached a depth of 17 feet, and report having the better ore was assayed. He has received that the further down the ore was assayed, the better development work is being pushed, and in the opinion of those who have seen the property, it is as rich as that of the Lenora and other property owned by Mr. Mackenzie. The opinion that in a short time Richard Mountain will be as famed for its ore as the Lenora."