AN OUTRAGE UPON THE LEGIS

It is indeed a deplorable thing that

the caucus and not parliament should determine the fate of measures affecting the interests of all the people. But the caucus may voice the sentiments of measures of which the caucus may anprove and decide to support with unanimity must necessarily be submitted to Parliament before taking on the form of law. We fear in the light of recent developments that a greater menace to parliamentary institutions than the caucus has assumed threatening form in British Columbia. Or what can be overridden and set at defiance by a cabinet of ministers during the period intervening between dissolution and an election, when the ministers are themselves without seats in the legislative chamber, when they have not a majority of popular representatives behind them, and are practically on trial on their record? If it is com petent for a government which has obtained the sanction of a parliament to expend say four thousand dollars in any constituency for public purposes to usurp the functions of that parliament and to expend twenty-six thousand dollars, indubitably for the pur pose of influencing the electing pending, then, we ask again, why go through the form of electing a legisla- people of this magnificently endowed ture at all? Why continue such an ex- province. pensive farce when the functions of a There is scarcely a democratically representative body can be boldly governed country in the world that is ignored at the will of an unscrupulous not seriously considering this old-age or ignorant executive. Multiply twenty- pension problem. Several states have six thousand into hundreds of thou- already adopted measures which will sands, and we arrive approximately ultimately result in the practical appliat the amount of the McBride govern- cation of such a measure. Norway, a ment's unauthorized expenditures. The country in which the liquor trade is in outrageous course of the McBride the hands of the government, has government cannot be defended accumlated a large sum from upon any grounds whatever. The this business, and it is ultimately to be ministry has deliberately set at devoted to the commendable purpose of defiance the fundamental principles of pensioning the aged. Nova Scotia is constitutional government. The legis- moving in the direction of pensions for lature, if it values in the slightest de- coal miners alone. But, as we have gree its prerogative or its reputation, said, no scheme of such a character if it has any reasonable conception of which does not cover the cases of all its dignity or its rights, should hold the deserving persons can be expected to McBride government to account for the prove satisfactory. The day of class outrage put upon it. But we have no distinctions has passed away forever. doubt the caucus has already passed upon the matter, nor that the majority will obediently bow its head to the indignity and unanimously approve of the disposition of the surplus which ought to be done and what ought to be

COLUMBIA.

The public accounts of the province show that a number of retired civil servants are in receipt of pensions, very viduals in countries where the pension against the provision which has been officials, because doubtless they have officials, because doubtless they have rendered the public good service in north, but even in England the raistheir day and generation and ought not ing of the Sunday question has caused to be permitted to suffer from a good deal of disquietude and some poverty now that the time of their recrimination. All thought is not cast activity has passed. But we must con- in the same mould, the wise ones tell fess that we do not believe in class distinctions of any kind whatever. If the humanity they are bound to become bitprinciple of pensioning persons who ter, to the individual conscience. But have outlived their day of vital cap- then conscience is such an impalpable, acity is to be contenanced at all, that not to say capricious, "thing," depenprinciple ought to be applied to all who dent to such an extent upon what it have rendered the state service in any has been fed, that it is not to be trustcondition of life to which they had been | ed too far. According to the manner of called by Providence, or whatever the its cultivation, it makes material life directing force may be called which easy for some and a burden to others. orders all things. Public officials in Consequently, according to the popu-British Columbia are in receipt of good lar dictum in Canada, a certain salaries compared with the earnings of standard must be set up and maintainpeople who have not had the good for- ed, and to this the minority must be tune to be called into the public service. | compelled by law to conform. In Eng-They have better opportunities than land we observe the somewhat curithe average worker to make provision ous paradox that the so-called Con for the day which comes to all. And formists are the class which decline to their duties are not so arduous that conform to the popular will. For exthey should become incapacitated at ample, the Bishop of Carlisle, a learnan earlier stage than their less fortuned man and a godly, for aught we ate fellow-men. Does not the ordinary know to the contrary, holds that reman or the average woman who labors creation is not a sin, and that there unceasingly from the rising of the sun being enough of sin in the world aluntil it begins to sirk low in the horizon of life, raising a family and turn- ment within itself, it would be the ing it into the service of the commun- height of folly to create special sins by ity, perform as useful service for the act of Parliament. When doctors of state as any government employee theology differ so widely in their however talented and industrious? We opinions, as we argue they do when we contend they do-and therefore that compare the opinions of this learned if the principle of old-age pensions man with the opinions of others no less is to be recognized at all, it ought to be learned, what is the poor benighted laymade to apply to all citizens regardless man, whose theological views are of no of occupation. This is the attitude of special account accept to himself, to the commonwealth of Australia and of think? However, in considering this all the states of that commonwealth perplexing Sunday question as it afand of New Zealand. Furthermore, we fects Canada, we must not lose sight believe that if the natural resources of of the real issue. It is not recreation British Columbia-resources that are upon the Sababth day, but unnecessary work upon that day, that the law work upon that day, but unnecessary the properly husbanded this principle could be adopted without adding one mill of the eadopted without adding one mill of the executive of the executive of the executive of the executive of the release placed with the place and the executive of the proposed and the values out of them? Could not a government with a reasonable sense of its responsibilities retain all the values out them? Could not a government with a reasonable sense of its responsibilities retain all the values out the proposed anendment to the propose the property of all the people-were work upon that day, that the law

### Safest Medicine for **Women's Complaints**

Women certainly do neglect themselves. They work too hard-over-tax their strength -and then wonder why they suffer with diseases peculiar to their sex.

Most cases of female trouble start when the bowels become inactive—the kidneys strained -and the skin not cared for. Poisons, which should leave the system by these organs, are taken up by the blood and inflame the delicate female organs.

# Truit-a-tires on (FRUIT LIVER TABLETS.)

remove the CAUSE of these diseases. "Fruit-a-tives" sweeten the stomach-make the bowels move regularly every day — strengthen the kidneys—improve the action of the skin—and thus purify

"Fuita-tives" take away those distressing headaches, backaches and bearingdown pains, and make women well and strong. "Fruita-tives" sre fruit juices, intensified, with tonics and antiseptics added, soc. a-box.—6 for \$z, 50. At all druggists'—or from Fruita-tives Limited,

THEOLOGICAL DIVERGENCE OF

The perplexing problem of what left undone is troubling the minds of OLD AGE PENSIONS IN BRITISH others besides Canadians. France has Scotland has fallen from her high estroversies, as in the very nature of

# RECENT ARRIVALS in NEW GOODS

#### JUST RECEIVED

## New Smartly Tailored Coats

We have received a splendid assortment of new coats in the cleverest modes. Our adeptness in buying has certainly secured for our customers a distinctiveness in smart dress not easy to attain at the prices we are enabled to quote. The coats are without doubt incomparable values. Drop in and see them to-morrow.

Ladies' Check Coat, colors grey and white, double breasted, box back, with stitched straps, outside pockets, 3-4 length; special price...

Ladies' Three-Quarter Length Coat, double breasted, collar and cuffs with inlaid velvet and braid, bias back; special, at...

Ladies' Dark Grey Bias Back Coat, double breasted fancy buttons, full sleeves, with flare cuff, 3-4 length;

Ladies' Bias Back Coat, 3-4 length, color, light grey tweed, double breasted with fancy buttons. and velvet collar and cuffs, special price...

Ladies' Three-Quarter Length Coat in cream canvas cloth, box back, brown velvet collar and cuffs with braid trimming \$8.50 special. Ladies' Black and White Duck Coat, in 3-4

length, box back, outside pockets \$8.50 and buttons, trimmings; special Ladies' Fawn Covert Cloth Coat, hip length, box back, outside pockets, finished with stitching, full sleeve with cuff \$9.50 special price...

# Dainty Sateen Underskirts

(MANTLE DEPARTMENT)

We have opened for to-morrow's selling, a special purchase of Ladies' Sateen Underskirrs that are remarkable in values considering the quality of the goods. The prices we are enabled to attach to them will very quickly clear this special

Ladies' Underskirts, made in good quality of black sateen with deep pleated flounce; \$1.00 special price...

Ladies' Black Sateen Underskirts, made with the new French ripple that gives a set to the overskirt that surpasses all other cuts; \$1.25 special price only.

Ladies' Satin Underskirts, colors, grey, green red and black, cut with the new French ripple and very full at the flounce; special price .

Ladies' Black Underskirt, made in extra good quality of sateen, with deep flounce and finished with two dust frills; special price

Ladies' Dressing Jackets, in while lawn, Kimona style, with wide sleeves; 75c

Ladies' Muslin Dressing Jackets, white with blue or pink spots, deep collar with lace and ribbon trimmings;

Ladies' White Lawn Dressing Jacket, belted in at waist, short sleeves and deep collar with ribbon trimmings;

#### JUST RECEIVED

## A Delivery of English And French Novelty Suitings

(DRESS GOODS DEPT.)

Ladies who have been here have shown their appreciation of the splendid stock we carry by invest-largely when they merely came to inspect. Our ever increasing sales in this Department is a striking testimony of the fact that people realize that our dress fabrics represent the best and most stylish weaves and color effects to be had in the province whilst our prices are correct.

All Wool Fancy Plaids, 42 in. wide 75c at, per yard....

All Wool French Suitings, light plaid designs, brown, blue, green, grey, etc., 44 in. wide, at, per yard.....

Very Pretty All Wool Stripe Suitings, in the new "Pastel" colorings, 44 in. wide, at, per yard.....

Silk and Wool Novelty Suiting, new colorings, indistinct plaid effects, 44 in. wide, \$1.25 \$1.25 at, per yard ...

English Tweed Suitings, exclusive designs, 12 suit lengths, all different, very stylish (1750) goods, each suit length...

Fresh Delivery All Wool Panama Cloth, colors, navy, brown, myrtle, red. grey, cream, and black, 44 in. wide, at, \$1.00 per yard.

# FINE SILK and LAWN BLOUSES in EXQUISITE DESIGNS

Department E, 2nd Floor



Never have we seen real beauty more pronounced than in the present showing of new waists for evening or street wear, and never have we by favorable buying had a better opportunity of impressing you with the superiority of our lines. Every waist is a work of art fresh from the hands of the best and smartest designers. There is a charming originality about them that the discriminating heartily appreciate and value.

pleats of embroidesy down centre, finished with large tucks on either side, 3/4 sleeve with fine tucks finished with insertion, with turnover embroidered collar. Price.....\$1.50

LADIES' FINE LAWN BLOUSE, pointed yoke made of fine Valenciennes insertion, two rows of fine embroidery insertion down front, finished on either side with rows of fine valenciennes lace and tucks, entire back made of fine tucking 3/4 sleeve finished with cuff of embroidery, tucked collar edged with lace. Price.....\$2.00

LADIES' FINE LAWN BLOUSE, front made of hand embroidery and tucks, collar of fine embroidery edged with lace, 3/4 sleeve tucked cuff finished

LADIES' FINE LAWN BLOUSE, with large box | LADIES' FINE MULL BLOUSE, pointed yoke, made of fine tucking, square cut neck finished with insertion edged with lace, lower part of blouse made of handsome eyelet embroidery, entire back made of tucks, 3-4 sleeve with a cuff of fine lace and insertion. Price .......\$2.50

LADIES' FINE MULL BLOUSE, with two rows of wide pin tucking around front, Dutch neck finished with a square yoke of fine embroidery edged with lace, 3-4 sleeve with embroidered cuffs. Price.....\$3.50

LADIES' FINE MULL BLOUSE, entire front made of embroidery medallions and insertion, two rows of insertion edged on either side with fine pin tucks down back, 3-4 sleeve with cuff made of with lace Price ......\$2.00 tucks, and insertion lace collar. Price .....\$3.50



SPRING CLEANING INSPIRATIONS ABOUND EVERYWHERE IN THE HOUSEFURNISHINGS DEPARTMENT, Second Floor.

# CHOICE NEW CURTAINS

Justice cannot be done to a thorough spring cleaning without rejuvenating the appearance of your windows. We are content that in the present showing of new goods in the House furnishings Department our supremacy for high-class draperies at lowest store prices is well maintained. Adept buying has secured for Victorians the most durable qualities and choice patterns obtainable. We are proud of the result, and tender you a most cordial invitation to step in at your convenience to pass judgment upon our grasp of your desires. Remember, we are here to serve, and you are equally welcome whether buying or just looking around. Spencer's store prices will appeal very forcibly to you.

thread with lacy scroll border, a most desirable pattern. At,

No. 829-In both Cream and White, plain cable net body with a neat band insertion, size 3½x50 inches. At, per pair .... ... ... ... \$4.25 Nos, 474, 502 and 511 are new de-

No. 1530-A Biscuit Toned Cable Net Curtain, plain body and with 31/2 yards x 50 inches. At, per

Point Curtains, to be had in white or ecru, in assorted border designs, very effective and extra values. At per pair, \$4, \$4,75 and

signs in the popular make of Bon Femme Curtains and will be found surprisingly good value and x 3 yards. At, per pair, \$5.75, \$5

body, neat border, size 31/2x48 inches, strong and well stitched. At, per pair .. .. .. .. \$3.75

lovers' knots, plain body and linen braid edge, size 50 inches by 31/2 yards. At, per pair .. .. ....\$10.50 In this weave of curtain we show a complete range. At, per pair,

ered all-over design, heavy effect. yards. At, per pair .. .. .. \$7.50

No. 3181-A dainty French Braided Curtain, with light design, size 50 inches x 31/2 yards. Each pair

No. 10463-A Curtain suitable for wide windows, in airy festoon pattern, all-over body, panel border. Per pair .. .. .. .. .. \$14.50

No. 863-White Cable net, very fine Nos. 6539, 6548 and 6303 are Irish No. 407-White and Ercu, plain No. 1459-Foint Brussels, nicely cov- No. 6812-Heavy corded border with light tracery in centre, size 50 inches x 31/2 yards. At per pair

> All lines represented in Point Brussels. At per pair, from \$6.50 up to ..... \$45.00

centre and a medallion border, size 3 yards x 45 inches. A leader at, per pair .. .. .. .. .. .. ......\$1.00

# DAVID SPENCER, Limited.

from \$4 up to.. .. .. .. ..\$25.00

LOCAL

on, who passed
Hospital yesterds
from the Hanna
ternoon at 3 o'clo der of the Eagles

1st of May. Mr. dition a skilful and

-The Northwest pany of Vancouve cine Hat have or Yates street. The in the West make able firm to do h doing business the

-A new firm of known as "The have opened in Yates street. The fine properties of sides other values for sale, and with knowledge of the expects to capture the volume of rea ticipated for Vandally, and Victoria ticular, during the

Friday by two commend that the presented to the co mittee on the req of Alderman stree cided to grade and question of the gra ered, but nothing

the Saanich school in Royal Oak sch nesday evening. Messrs. J. H. Ass Wm. Campbell. various bills for pair work and s duly passed. The school for West S discussed, but act Messenger, teaches school, who has be convalescent and duties next Mond Case has had char berryvale school d ger's illness.

2 p.m. at the resid The large attendar

HOS All Over This Blesse

These people, so have themselves been recommend Dr. Piethat these medicines for more than two definitions of they not medicines of the more than two definitions of the more than two definitions of the more than two definitions of the more than the mo world a full list o pletely confounded his medicines. I increase in sale of greatly increased way of treating h trust in him and He publishes the co all who use them placed in a class of patent medicines. WHAT THEY CURE

Favorite Prescription Briefly, the answe Medical Discovery "iterative, or blood-put invigorator, and acts in a curative way ut in in a curative way ut in ing surfaces, as of throat, bronchial tub and bladder curing a catarrhal cases whether the case in a curative way in a curative way ut in ing surfaces, as of throat, bronchial, sto dayspepsia), bowels (as bladder, uterus or of Even in the chronice of these affections, it ful in affecting cures. Medical Discovery "is most successful constitution and s upon the mucous linir combined local and ge cure a very large passes of chronic na

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