

RALPH SMITH A CANDIDATE.

Our Vancouver correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Ralph Smith, who has just returned from the East, has stated that he will respond to the unanimous resolution of the Trades and Labor Congress and the request of leading citizens of the electoral district of Vancouver Island by at once placing himself in the field as a candidate for the House of Commons as an Independent Labor candidate.

THE ISSUES.

Naturally the Colonist is not satisfied with the present condition of the political atmosphere in Victoria. It is afraid the Liberal candidates do not propose to discuss the issues which it would like prominence given to. We are told the proper course to pursue would be to avoid federal questions altogether and confine ourselves to local matters.

that their judgment was good. The merchants and consumers of the West have derived great benefit from this reduction of the tariff as well as the farmers of the East, therefore we say that it will be the paramount issue in the campaign.

AIM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It is the desire of the present administration that it shall be truly representative of the people. On that account a department of labor has been organized and placed under the charge of Mr. Mulock, the Postmaster-General.

DELUSIONS.

It is well known that the leaders of the Conservative party were stupefied by the result of the elections in 1896. They could not understand it at all. Many of them would not believe they were beaten.

and that any departure from the path of her destiny is one of those inscrutable mysteries which no Tory fellow can understand. But there are others who are more willing to profit by the political lessons of the day.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

The charge made by "Observer," a Revelstoke correspondent, which is published in to-day's Times, is one calling for an answer from the Premier, Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir.

It is not the best policy to close our ears to rumors of this kind, for even though untrue they are apt to increase in importance as they travel.

INTRIGUING.

It is said there is not perfect harmony in the local government. Certain wire-pullers thought the absence of the Premier furnished them with an opportunity to execute a movement which has been in the air for some time but which has been held in abeyance because of misgivings as to the reception which it would receive from the head of the government.

Mr. Wm. McNeill has been appointed secretary in the department of lands and works and assistant to the chief commissioner. Mr. McNeill is highly spoken of by all who have had business with the department since Mr. Wells assumed control of the lands and works, and in the more responsible position to which he has been promoted there is no doubt he will bring the same ability and courtesy, which is not the least qualification in a public official, which he has invariably displayed since joining our provincial "civil service."

Mr. Sifton has ordered the government officials in Dawson to close up all disreputable places of resort. This will give Sir Hibbert another chance. His American friends dearly love a "wide open" town, and we expect to hear of another protest being lodged with their champion against British ways and British laws.

Conservative talent must be scarce in Vancouver. Mayor Garden seems to be the only man who can be depended on to carry anything at the polls. What has become of the leader of the party in British Columbia? Of what good is a leader anyway without a seat on something?

Divorce must be more difficult to secure in Arizona than in the majority of American States. A rancher lately informed all whom it concerned by means of a notice posted on a cottonwood tree that:

"My wife Sarah has left my ranch when I didn't do a thing too her, and I want it distinctly understood that any man as takes her in and Keers for her on my account will get himself Pumped on so Full of Led that some tenderfoot will locate him for a mineral claim. A word to the wise is sufficient and orker work on fools."

The Colonist remarks in an aggrieved tone that Ralph Smith was nominated at Ottawa by the Trades and Labor Congress. Perhaps the election of Mr. Smith as the representative of the Vancouver Island district will be a salve to our disconsolate neighbor's woe.

With the Liberals and the labor men united on a candidate with the strength and abilities of Mr. Maxwell, the cause of the government is quite safe in Vancouver.

Great numbers of very desirable settlers are arriving at Ladysmith. They will have votes next year, and voters from Lanark are always on the right side.

Has Decided to Contest Vancouver District For the Dominion House.

President of the Congress in the Field as an Independent Labor Candidate.

London, Sept. 29.—The election campaign is developing unexpectedly, but chiefly due to the vigorous efforts of the Liberals to show a united front.

"I have definitely decided to run," he said. "I received the unanimous endorsement of the Congress, asking me to run, and I have finally decided. Some time ago Mr. Sloan came to me in Nanaimo and wanted my support, and I believe now he has many names, of friends of mine, on his requisition paper. Of course, he will desert him when they find how they have been deceived."

Speaking of the report that the charge was made against him at Nanaimo that he had consulted Mr. Robins and not Mr. Dunsmuir regarding the possibility of his contesting the district of Vancouver, he replied that he had never spoken to Mr. Robins about it, and had not even been in Nanaimo to consult him had he wished to do so.

Norwegian Steamer Sank in Collision With a Japanese Vessel—Forty-Five Persons Drowned.

Nagasaki, Sept. 29.—The Norwegian steamer Calanda, 965 tons, and Japanese steamer Ise Maru are reported to have been in collision off Iwo Shima. The Calanda was sunk, and 45 of the passengers and crew were drowned.

NOTES FROM OTTAWA. Civil Service Examinations at Victoria and Vancouver—Nominations of Liberal Candidates.

Ottawa, Sept. 29.—Civil service examinations will be held at Victoria and Vancouver on November 13th. At a meeting of the executives of the Liberal Association it was decided to call a convention to nominate candidates for the city on October 16th.

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 29.—United States Consul W. W. Mills, at Chihuahua, Mex., has sent a note to the Federal authorities here and also to the state department at Washington detailing an insult to the American flag over his consulate on September 16th, the anniversary of Mexican independence, by a mob of Mexicans. He had hoisted the United States and Mexican flags in honor of the day, and the mob tore down the United States colors.

NEVER WORRY.—Take them and go about your business—they do their work whilst you are doing yours. Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are system renovators, blood purifiers and builders; every gland and tissue in the whole anatomy is benefited and stimulated in the use of them. 40 doses in a vial, 10 cents. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co., 21.



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A Lively Campaign

As Polling Day Approaches, British Politicians Warm to Their Work.

Personalities Are Introduced, and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain Is Bitterly Attacked.

Rewards For Service—Lord Kitchener, It Is Said, Will Be Promoted.

London, Sept. 29.—The election campaign is developing unexpectedly, but chiefly due to the vigorous efforts of the Liberals to show a united front.

Winston Churchill, in Oldham, has been so vigorously attacked that General Sir Evelyn Wood, the adjutant-general, has had to come to his assistance with a letter declaring there was nothing dishonorable connected with his resignation from the army, and vouching for the correctness of Churchill's recent dual role of Officer and Correspondent.

Some of the Liberals of Oldham apparently make more serious insinuations against the young candidate. But, like his father, Churchill seems to revel in a fight, and is said to stand a good chance of being elected.

Church associations are figuring actively in the campaign. The Imperial Protestant Federation has received promises from thirty-two candidates to oppose to the utmost any movement tending to bring England and the Vatican in closer touch, or towards "Romanizing" the Established Church.

The spectacle of Mr. John Kennis, anti-Ritualist agitator, speaking good humoredly before Ritualists upon the effect of the Reformation, suggested to a writer the lion lying down with the lamb.

Dr. DeWitt Talmage has returned to London after an extended trip through Europe. The Queen now has a long list of names submitted to her as those of persons worthy of honors for service in South Africa. The identity of those who figure in the list is already causing keen speculation in certain circles.

Will Be Made an Earl, and be appointed viceroy of Ireland, to succeed Earl Cadogan, whose resignation seems impending.

Two new weeklies are about to appear. The first is Clements Scott's Free Lance, which will be published next week with an article by Marie Corelli as chief attraction. The second is a new society paper which Mrs. Williamson is about to bring out.

She brought out the celebrated Book of Beauty four years ago, and has lately been editing the society column of the Daily Mail and writing for it under the signature of "The Onlooker," which will be the name of her paper.

James Smith, motorman of the Toronto street railway, accidentally shot himself while shooting ducks. He died at the general hospital.

ENGINEER FOUND DEAD. Is Believed to Have Committed Suicide, As Gas Jet Was Turned On.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—W. T. Casgrain, a civil and contracting engineer, a man of distinguished Canadian family, was found dead in his room yesterday. A gas jet was turned on, and it is believed death was wittingly sought.

Returned Unopposed. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain Among Those Whose Election Was Not Contested.

London, Sept. 29.—One hundred and sixty-seven constituencies, returning one-fourth of the membership of the House of Commons, made their nomination today. Up to 1 o'clock this afternoon's members had been elected unopposed, comprising 43 Conservatives, 8 Unionists, 5 Liberals and 2 Nationalists.

Among the interesting personalities on the government side returned today without opposition were Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, West Birmingham; Mr. G. W. Wyndham, the parliamentary secretary for the war office, Dover; Mr. Chas. Y. Ritchie, the presiding magistrate of the trade, Croydron; Sir John O. Colman, Great Yarmouth; Mr. Jesse Collings, under secretary for the home department, Bordesley division of Birmingham; Mr. Francis Sharp Powell, Wigan; Mr. Jas. P. Williams, the financial secretary of the war office, South Birmingham; Mr. Sir Chas. E. H. Vincent, the founder of the United Empire Trade League, Central Sheffield; Mr. John Henniker Horton, Canterbury; Mr. Chas. Bally Stuart Wortley, formerly secretary of state for the home department, Hallam division of Sheffield; and Sir Edward Albert Sassoon, Hythe.

The five Liberals returned unopposed include Mr. Wm. Court Gully, Speaker of the House of Commons, Carlisle, and Sir Henry Hartley Fowler, former under secretary of state for the home department, and secretary for India, East Wolverhampton.

An interesting feature of the elections is the intervention of the colonies for the first time in the elections of the Motherland. A dispatch from Hobart, Tasmania, this morning, announces the adoption of a resolution by the Tasmanian assembly proposing a joint Australian cablegram of congratulations to Mr. Chamberlain on the British successes in South Africa, and hoping the electors of Great Britain will emphatically insist on the fruits of victory being effectually secured.

JAPANESE TEA CROP. Shortage May Result in the Price Being Raised.

New York, Sept. 29.—Owing to the shortage in the season's crop of Japanese tea, the price will be higher than usual this fall. It is estimated that the shortage at the end of the season will be four million pounds, or ten per cent. of the entire crop. It is thought among tea importers that the Boxers' outbreak may decrease the supply of Oolong tea by one million five hundred pounds. About twenty million pounds of Oolong and forty million pounds of Japan tea are exported from China and Japan.

NOMINATIONS. (Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Sept. 29.—Pontiac Conservatives have chosen G. H. Brabazon, of Portage La Fort, to contest the riding in their interest at the general elections.

Waterloo, Que., Sept. 29.—The Liberals of Compton County have chosen A. Galt, of this place, to oppose R. H. Pope, M.P., at the general elections.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.



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