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Mining in The Northwest.

Review of Development and Conditions on Both Sides of Border.

How Harsh Treatment Provoked Wrath of Dynamite Mob in Idaho.

Seattle, May 1.—Seattle and Victoria have received more benefit from the Klondike boom than all other cities of the continent. The benefit accruing therefrom is still apparent, for the Klondike boom is by no means spent. Indeed I am credibly informed that this season's clean-up will not be less than fifteen and may reach twenty million dollars. It is true there is a vast amount of disappointment. Among the majority of adventurers to the frozen North, many golden prospects have proved barren and worthless, and there are claims even on Eldorado that do not pay to work. But the good prospects on Eldorado and Bonanza have justified the fabulous promise of two years ago, and Klondike will accordingly produce double the quantity of gold this year that it produced in 1898.

There is great distress among the unemployed at Dawson City, and I believe the United States government will eventually have to aid many of these people back to the States. But that is not due to the worthlessness of the Klondike, but the unfitness of that class of people for Arctic life, or else due to the fact that the multitudes of laborers were too great for the harvest. Enough is known to prove to conservative men that Alaska and the Northwest Territories will from now on add fully $20,000,000 yearly to the world's supply of gold, and that the trade and commerce of the Pacific coast will long continue to flourish on account of the gold mining in the Klondike.

I find, moreover, that Seattle is ambitious to become a mining centre as well as a commercial metropolis. Every Seattle man will tell you about the great copper mines in Western Washington, and every Seattle boomer will show you rich ore specimens from mines tributary to Seattle. I have been under considerable pains to find out whether there are any such copper mines, or whether all this talk is "the baseless fabric of a vision."

A copper mine west of the Cascades and adjacent to Puget Sound would indeed be a bonanza. The smelting and refining of copper could be carried on more economically at Seattle, Tacoma or Everett than at any point west of Lake Superior. I am so informed by expert smelting men like Mr. F. A. Heinze and Mr. James Breen, and copper produced at reduction works here could be shipped to the world's markets at less cost than from any copper camp west of the Mississippi. If there are copper mines west of the Cascade range of mountains, they will yet attract universal attention. There is no doubt but that there are multitudes of fine copper prospects all over the spurs and slopes of the Cascades. They are east and west of the mountains. These prospects show immense ledges of good copper ore, and they all carry gold and silver besides. But not in a single instance has sufficient work been done to make a copper mine. In fact hardly in one instance have these prospects got into the hands of experienced mining men. They have remained in the hands of men without experience and without capital, with the natural result—that both the promoter and the capitalist are exceedingly skeptical of the so-called copper mines of Western Washington.

The Van Anda is an excellent copper prospect between the Island of Vancouver and the Mainland. The Monte Cristo is another very promising mine that carries but little copper values. The "45" is a rich mine, 20 miles nearer Seattle than the Monte Cristo, but its copper values are insignificant. The Great Northern and the Jim Hill afford big promise, but no work is being done on them. In fact while there are a dozen prospects that look more promising than the Le Roi or Anaconda in their earlier stages, there is hardly an effort being made to exploit or develop them.

I have seen finer prospects here than any to be seen in the Boundary country five years ago. But while the Boundary prospects are being rapidly developed, and railroads are being built there, and smelters being rapidly erected, there is comparative stagnation in Western Washington. Messrs. Mann and Mackenzie, the well-known railroad contractors of Eastern Canada, have acquired very fine copper prospects at the Greenwood camp in Boundary and, I understand they are about to erect a smelter and refining plant at the cost of $1,000,000. They are spending money generously developing their properties, and other Eastern Canadian capitalists are vieing with them in the development of other Boundary mines. Old Ironsides, Knob Hill, the Winnipeg, and the B. C. are developing in a wonderful manner, and Boston and New York capital is being richly rewarded in the development of the Mother Lode at the Deadwood camp. Indeed, the Boundary country will soon be heard from in the copper markets of the world. It will be heard from as a gold producer too, for all the Boundary copper ore carries good gold values. It is curious that in all this activity of copper mining all over the continent, there should be such utter neglect of the excellent copper prospects of Western Washington.

Their development has, of course, been retarded by the difficulty of prospecting in those immense forests, which are the pride and glory of the Puget Sound country, and it is most probable that as time goes on far finer prospects than any yet discovered will be chanced upon. But I am absolutely convinced, from my own observation, that this Puget Sound country will become far more famous for its great copper mines than for its dense and vast forests of fir and cedar.

The destruction of the plant of the Bunker Hill by a mob last Saturday caused a very painful shock in Seattle. It was felt that organized labor had passed the bounds of reason and justice and that the majesty of the republic has been grossly outraged. At the same time from private sources I learn that the Bunker Hill management has been greatly lacking in tact and judgment. It was known days before what would happen. The management had yielded to the scale of wages which the union demanded, but while doing so, it protested loudly that the Bunker Hill company wanted no union men working at the Bunker Hill and Sullivan. Mr. Sewerney of the Last Chance, on the other hand, yielded with a good grace and told the leaders of the union that he did not want to know whether the men employed in the Last Chance were union men or not, and the result has been friendship and harmony between the union and the Last Chance management, and war to the bitter end between the Bunker Hill and the union. I cannot but think that the uncompromising spirit manifested by the Bunker Hill people is somewhat to blame for the mad crime of blowing the Bunker Hill mill to atoms.

There has been many a vicissitude connected with the Bunker Hill and its discoveries. Judge Norman Buck, a legal luminary of early Coeur d'Alene days, delivered a decision about the discovery which must continue a historia record. "From the evidence of the witnesses, this court is of the opinion that the Bunker Hill was discovered by the Jackass, Phil O'Rouke and N. S. Kellog, and, as the Jackass is the property of the plaintiff, Cooper and Peck, they are entitled to half interest in the Bunker Hill and a quarter interest in the Sullivan."

The suit of Peck and Cooper against O'Rouke and Kellog for the interest acquired through their Jackass was finally compromised and they received $76,000. When the mine was sold to Sims Reed of Portland, Phil O'Rouke and his partners received some $300,000.

Phil's share was about $100,000, but it did not take O'Rouke more than two years to get rid of his money, and he is now in the Klondike hunting for another fortune. Kellog received a fortune for his interest and he bought the donkey who was his partner who, according to Judge Buck, is the discovered. He sent him to Forest Grove, Oregon, and he paid a man $50 a month to attend to his wants. The donkey lived five years in luxury and ease and dying was buried with honor as became a historic jackass.

Jim Wardner, another world-renowned mining promoter of those early days, made $100,000 by the sale of the mine to Mr. Reed. Subsequently Mr. Reed sold the mine to D. O. Mills, who now controls it. It is a great mine, but not any greater than a dozen others in the famous Coeur d'Alene. That district is now producing about $12,000,000 a year in lead and silver, and there is really no better mineral field for capital and labor in all the world than it. Its labor troubles have, however, given it a most unenviable notoriety, and the last act in the chapter will blast its good name for many a long day.

In spite of adverse rumors I look for a great stampede to the Buffalo Hump country. But it will be well to keep away from there until July. In the Rossland camp development in the lower levels of the War Eagle are of a most satisfactory kind, and the mine is greater and richer than ever. The Le Roi has a like story of excellent development to tell and the outlook there is most promising. The Republic camp is keeping up its golden promise and Insurgent, Princess Maud, Morning Glory and others exhibit signs of being bonanza gold mines.

P. A. O'FARRELL.

WILLIAMS AND AGNEW.

Account of the "Go" Between the Two Clever Lightweights at Dawson.

By far the prettiest fight seen in Dawson this winter was that Tuesday night at the Tivoli, between Dick Agnew and "Kid" Williams, in which the first named had all the best of it, but was forced to accept a draw. For some unaccountable reason, Corporal Wilson stopped the fight at the very moment when the "Kid" was practically a dead cock in the pit.

Before the fight Williams was pretty generally tipped as a good thing, his admirers laying the odds of $100 to $80, Agnew's friends taking everything offered. When Referee Tozier called the two men together, it was seen there was not much difference in weight or condition. The "Kid" appeared the most confident of the two, "Agnew" looking serious, but determined. After the first exchange of blows it became apparent that Williams had met his master, Agnew's cleaverness and strength proving a revelation even to his admirers. The fight by rounds was as follows:

1. The men came rapidly to the centre. They fiddle for a few seconds, when the "Kid" feints with his right, and Agnew lands a stiff left on the jaw, following it up with hard right and left. The men fall in a clinch, Williams underneath. Agnew becomes the aggressor, showing up to great advantage. He leads a left, and is cleverly blocked; then lands a left on the back of Williams' head. Agnew again lands on the face of his opponent, following with a right on the body and two hard punches with his useful left on face and neck, Williams going down. It was Agnew's round, and he was lustily cheered.

2. Williams came up strong, fresh and aggressive. Leads his right on the face, but is blocked, Agnew retaliating with a hard left on the jaw, but missing with his right. In a mix-up following, Williams lands half a dozen hard jabs, and Agnew is apparently in distress. He ducks cleverly, clinches and recovers himself. Williams hits below the belt and is warned. Agnew lands his left three times in rapid succession and the men are so interested that they do not hear the gong.

Rounds 3 and 4 were not nearly so fast as the first two. There is some clever in-fighting, and the honors are about evenly divided.

5. Agnew had appeared tired in the last round, but it was soon apparent that he had merely played "foxy." He feints with his right and lands a hard on the "Kid's" jaw, and the two men indulged in some hot in-fighting, Agnew having a shade the best of it. The pace was furious, Williams trying to save himself by side-stepping, but his agile antagonist gave him no rest. Blow after blow Agnew sent to some vulnerable spot, when the "Kid" fell to the floor. He arose dazed and helpless, and for a second time went down under a shower of blows. It is alleged that while Williams was still on the floor Agnew struck him fairly in the head. His seconds claimed a foul, but it was not allowed. Williams came up again slowly and clinched to avoid punishment. They were parted and ordered to their seats, Referee Tozier announcing that the fight had been called off by Corporal Wilson. The fight was declared a draw.

There were loud cries of "Agnew, Agnew," but the referee's word had been given, and that settled it. Agnew is certainly entitled to the honors of the evening, and should have been given the contest.

PACIFIC CABLE CONTROL.

Canadian and Australian Governments Should Appoint Manager and Small Governing Board.

London, May 4.—The report of the Pacific cable committee, which was issued to-day, shows that the committee has recommended that the proposed cable be owned and operated by the governments interested, Canada and Australia, and the general direction should be in the hands of a manager in London, under the control of a small board, upon which the associated governments should be represented.

MEAT FOR KLONDIKE.

Refrigerator Steamer to Ply Between St. Michael and the Upper Yukon.

Seattle, May 2.—(Special)—The Alaska Meat Company, recently organized here, with Frank Waterhouse of the British-American Steamship Company as president, is having the meat steamer Lotta Talbot fitted up at Reed's shipyard at Ballard. Moran Bros. have lately completed a complete insulating plant.

Absolutely no expense was spared in fitting out the boat. She has been fitted with six storage compartments. Some are cooling compartments; others are for freezing meat. She has a carrying capacity of 160 tons and will ply between St. Michael and Circle City. Of course if the population of the American camps is not large enough to use the Talbot's supply of meat she will continue up the river to Dawson. The Garonne leaving Victoria June 5 will carry 160 tons of mutton, beef, pork, tripe, poultry, butter, eggs, etc., which will be transferred to the meat steamer at St. Michael.

"DANTE AND HIS TIMES."

Rev. H. H. Gowen Delivers the Second of His Highly Interesting and Instructive Lectures.

One of the limited audience who last evening had the pleasure of listening to Rev. H. H. Gowen's second lecture at St. Andrew's Presbyterian school room, put the general verdict not inaptly when she said: "It's as good as a course in classic literature to hear these scholarly talks."

Unhappily too few thus far have realized the richness of the opportunity. Those who have listened to the addresses have reason to congratulate themselves.

In his introductory lecture on Tuesday evening, the visitor showed himself thoroughly capable of holding the closest attention of a most critical audience, and it was to be noted that practically all of those who then heard him, made it a point to again be present last evening.

"Dante and His Times" was the subject of this second lecture in the course, Rev. Mr. Gowen dividing the literature of Italy into three periods, and speaking of the first as being the history of the development of a literature as well as of a language. He described the development of the Italian tongue and the part played in it by Dante and his great poem.

He then proceeded to describe the Florence of Dante's time and the poet's birth in 1265—the love-story of Dante and Beatrice—the latter's death and Dante's anguish—his political work until his exile by Pope Boniface VIII—his wanderings through Europe, with glimpses of Verona, Ravenna and elsewhere—and his death in 1321.

Next the lecturer entered upon the consideration of the poem, its meaning and its philosophy, with a brief resume of the scope and meaning of the Inferno, Purgatorio and Paradiso.

To-day at 3 o'clock Rev. Mr. Gowen will be present at the "at home" to be given at the Jubilee hospital, and will deliver an address at the hour named, upon the obligations of motherhood. The ladies will receive all friends of the hospital work from 4 until 6, more particularly those who are interested in the projected maternity wards.

To-morrow evening Rev. Mr. Gowen lectures again at St. Andrew's, his theme being Spencer's "Fairie Queene," and Saturday evening on "Hamlet"—his stay in Victoria coming to an end with the special exercises at the hospital already announced for Sunday afternoon.

RAILWAY CONNECTION.

Sub-Committee of the Committee of Fifty Will Interview Mr. Dunsmuir.

The railway committee of the Committee of Fifty met last evening to consider the proposition received from Mr. James Dunsmuir to give Victoria railway connection with the Mainland by means of a ferry from Vancouver to Osborne Bay, and thence to Victoria by the E. & N. railway. It was decided by the committee not to make the proposition public until they have had an interview with Mr. Dunsmuir. After that they will hold a second meeting and then give Mr. Dunsmuir's letter to the public.

The committee have also received a further report from the promoters of the Port Angeles Eastern railway, but this also they decided not to make public for the present.

The next meeting of the central committee does not take place until a week from this evening.

CHANGE OF PASTORS.

Presbyterian Congregations Bid Goodbye to Mr. Forster and Welcome His Successor.

The new pastor of the Presbyterian suburban churches, Rev. Mr. Knowles, was formerly introduced to his congregation and inducted into his sacred office on Wednesday evening at Knox church, Oak Bay avenue, Revs. Dr. Campbell, W. Leslie Clay, J. D. P. Knox, A. Payne and Mr. John McKenzie taking part in the interesting exercises. In connection with the welcome of the new pastor and the farewell to the retiring minister, Rev. J. C. Forster, an excellent programme was furnished by Mesdames Cogswell, Hunt and Gregson, Misses Lawrence and Nicholas, and Messrs. Kinnaird, Wilson and J. G. Brown. Mr. R. G. Howell was chairman, and the ladies of the church served refreshments. The new minister can hope for no more signal success than that of his predecessor, Rev. Mr. Forster, who leaves with the best wishes of every one who has had the pleasure of knowing him, and an enviable record of much good work accomplished.

LIFE.

Here is thy life for thee!
'Tis thine to make or mar.
It flows for thee; in haste is flows,
To reach the distant bar.
In haste, for all along
It hears the eternal song.

Thy growing sense hath stored
A little separate world;
The whispering hum of other life
Thy character hath unfurled
That citadel hold fast,
Till storm and stress be past.

Through all thy myr'ad leaves,
Thou claimest sun and air,
Thirsting to know both good and ill,
Thou tree of life so fair!
Choose well thine heart's desire,
Nor tempt the avenging fire.

Through darkness and in pain,
Thou weavest a mortal shroud.
Lo! Fate obscures the mystery
To offend the weak, the proud.
True be thy works and whole
For the raising of a soul!

—R. J. B.

Sir Wilfrid's Blunder.

Offered Preference for Canadian Goods in England But Declined It.

Visionary Idealist Proves Unequal to Grasping a Substantial Advantage.

Ottawa, April 26.—The most important issue before the people of Canada during the last seven days is Mr. McNeil's notice of motion of a resolution which reads as follows: "That in March, 1896, the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the colonies, suggested that duties favoring the colonies should be imposed by the United Kingdom upon her imported foreign produce, provided the colonies would in return make large preferential concessions in favor of the United Kingdom; and he asked the colonies to better the offer they had previously made.

That in June, 1896, Mr. Chamberlain said he found the germs of a satisfactory proposal for such preferential trade within the empire, in a resolution passed that year by the Toronto Board of Trade

That, on the 13th of June, 1897, in the presence of the prime minister of Canada the Duke of Devonshire, a former leader of the liberal party in England, said (while declaring himself still a free trader) that "virtues were given to free trade which it did not possess, and results were predicted which have not followed: that "its speedy universal adoption all over the world was prophesied, and that prophesy has been falsified;" that "the thick and thin admirers and believers in the Manchester school seek to persuade us that although that prophesy has not been fulfilled, it was the best thing for us that we should be the only free trading country in the world." that "very few disciples of free trade of fifty years ago, would have believed that France and Germany would have been carrying on enormous trade under strictly protective conditions"; that "the world has not become the commercial paradise that was predicted in the early days of free trade opinion;" that "we have since learned by painful experience that no old or new markets are being thrown open to us by the influence of free trade alone;" that "if we want to provide for the increasing commerce which is necessary for the support of our increasing population, we must find these markets for ourselves;" and that "colonial expansion and consolidation are essential to the maintenance of our continued prosperity."

That the speech in which the Duke of Devonshire gave utterance to these views was regarded in England as a foreshadowing of the adoption by Lord Salisbury's government of the proposals above referred to, made by Mr. Chamberlain in March, 1896.

That, in his interview with the colonial premiers during the jubilee celebration in 1897, the colonial secretary said: "In the meanwhile however I may say that I note a resolution that appears to have been passed unanimously at a meeting of the premiers in Hobart, in which the desire was expressed for a closer commercial arrangements with the empire and I think it was suggested that a commission of inquiry should be created in order to see in what way practical effect might be given to the aspiration. If that be the case, and if it were thought that at the present time you were not prepared to go beyond inquiry if it were the wish of the other colonies, of Canada and of the South African colonies, to join in such an inquiry, Her Majesty's government would be delighted to make arrangements for the purpose, and to accept any suggestion as to the form of the reference and the character and constitution of the commission, and would very gladly take part in it.

That, in March, 1898, Mr. Chamberlain once more returned to the subject of this great British policy, and said he thought he had convinced the colonies that the imperial authorities were ready to meet them more than half way in any proposal they might make for closer union; that the imperial authorities would not be deterred either by economic pedantries of selfishness from giving favorable consideration to any such proposals and that he did not think the English people would keep a strict account of profit and loss, or wish to be assured of present pecuniary gain, but would look and look wisely, to the future for their reward.'

And this house regrets that the government has not (in response to these repeated advances by the imperial authorities) made any attempt to secure for the produce of Canada, that preferential treatment in the markets of the United Kingdom which would be of such inestimable value to the farmers, and other producers of Canada (competing against foreign rivals in the markets of the United Kingdom) would set in motion a great tide of immigration to our shores, people the vast wheat areas of the Canadian Northwest, enhance farm values in the older provinces, promote the unity of the empire, and specially deliver it from dangerous dependence upon a foreign food supply."

This resolution is no new thing, but it is the great policy of the future, the first plank in the platform of the Conservative party of Canada, the substantive policy of the present opposition. The Liberal party has become notorious for a want of definite policy. The Liberals are wearers of other people's clothes, which they adopt an alter to suit the exigencies of their own figures and of the times, but the original measures, the new departures, have always come since Sir John Macdonald's day, from Sir John Macdonald's party, and never in the history of Canada, or the colonies has a more broadminded statesman-like policy been evolved than the one foreshadowed in Mr. McNeil's resolution.

It is what Sir Wilfrid Laurier led us to believe that he had in view; it is exactly what he had not in view; it is the policy for which the Mother Country is prepared to sacrifice present financial interests for the sake of greater financial and imperial interests in the future, and it is above all the only policy under which the Dominion can hope to people its vast areas with Anglo-Saxons, and develop its resources as only Anglo-Saxons can develop them.

The present writer had an opportunity upon the 24th instant of testing in some measure the feeling of the people upon this question. On that date, a banquet was given by the St. George's Society and the Sons of England united, at which certain prominent politicians including Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Mr. Dobell were present.

By the courtesy of our eastern brethren, your correspondent was invited to respond to the toast of the evening, and in the course of his speech, pointed out, that if Englishmen had the widening of England at heart, if they were indeed anxious to assist in building up a greater British nation in Canada, it was essential that they should support to the utmost any measure which would make Canada supremely attractive to men of Anglo-Saxon race, a country in which all produce raised would find a sale upon preferential terms in the greatest market of the world, their own national home market.

There can have been no doubt as to the meaning of the response to this sentiment.

We have recently been importing into Manitoba, especially, men of many nationalites; Mennonites, (imported under the last government) Doukhobors, Gallicians, Finns, and it is said we are now to have Huns.

Mr. Dobell in answering in some measure your correspondent's contention said that Canada was large enough to absorb all the strange nations we could bring into her, that the stock would be improved by the new strains, and that the produce would be Anglo-Saxon, that element would so predominate as to prevail, and that moreover England had been built up in the same way of all manner of men.

This may sound all right when men have well dined, but it won't bear examination. The larger may absorb the smaller, and if the proportion of English to foreigners be very large, it is likely enough that in a few generations the foreigners will disappear and leave no trace, but in Manitoba to-day it is alleged that fifty per cent. of the population is foreign. It can hardly be expected that one half will disappear and leave no trace, neither can it be contended that anything remotely approaching this state of things ever existed in the Old Country.

The English breed was drawn from nations neighboring and akin to each other, and since the English became a race, no large body of foreigners has ever been incorporated with it. Waifs and strays here and there are sucked in, and disappear; the army has its contingents of Indians and Soudanese (as General Hutton pointed out) and these are in every sense British soldiers, but they do not mingle blood with, nor are they an integral part of, the English race.

To make a nation you want certain unities, unity of color, of creed, of speech, of history, and of customs, and without these it is doubtful if a great nation can be made.

I will not dwell too long on this subject, but I must point out that already there is a distinct murmur against the Siftonian importations. It is alleged against the Chinese that living at far less cost than the whites, they can ruin the white laborer, by under-bidding him in the labor market, and live. The same allegation is made against the Doukhobors. Dirt is charged against the Chinese. In common honesty does anyone think that a Gallician will compare for cleanliness with a Chinaman? We want, especially just now, to increase the military strength of Canada in order that she may bear her just proportion in the responsibilities of empire, and both parties are unanimous in their desire to vote public moneys for that end.

The estimates this week contain an appropriation of $100,000 for the better equipment and training of our militia, and at the same moment the minister of the interior is filling up our country with men who have been driven from their own countries because they refuse to bear arms for their defence.

The Mennonites are, I believe, thrifty settlers but they were kicked out of Prussia first, and then out of Russia, because they would not fight. The leading tenet of the Doukhobors is "Thou shalt not kill" and though they keep arms apparently to protect their own private property, they flatly refuse to bear arms for their country, and besides teach that the highest virtue is so to abstain, that their women may not bear children for the mother land. Does our young country want people who will bear neither arms nor children?

Again, look at the papers and see what proportion the crime of the new settler bears to the crime of the other inhabitants. Murders by Doukhobors and Finns are becoming as familiar as negro lynching in the Southern States, and a short time ago an action was brought by one of some importations against a fellow foreigner for obtaining money under false pretences, the false pretences being that Ivan would sell his wife to Stepan, but when the money had been paid he failed to make delivery of the lady.

Of different stock, of different creed, of different history, of different traditions, different from us on the surface, and core through, these men never can, and never will make a British nation, and the question for Canada is, does she want to become the Mixen of the world, the mother of a mongrel litter, or the nursery for a Greater Britain?

On the answer to this question will depend largely the support which she gives to Mr. McNeil's resolution for creating a condition of affairs which will draw to her, her own kin, instead of those people which no other country will have at any price.

The debasing of the whites, and the murder of the negroes in the South of the States, should be some warning to our people, of the dangers attendant upon hotch potch nationalities. We don't want a black stripe in our flag.

But perhaps, some one will ask where is the difference between the present preferential tariff of the Liberal party, and that proposed by the Conservatives?

I might wander off here, and show you what a flimsy pretence the whole Liberal tariff is, what a juggling with figures, what a failure as to results? But I believe in giving to the people who have the votes, a plain answer, so definite that it can be understood at a glance, and can have only one meaning. I believe in plain statements and hate quibbling. For this reason I give you Mr. McNeil's own definition written expressly for me, for this purpose.

Liberal preferential trade professes to give a preference to produce of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, in Canadian markets, without obtaining any preference in the markets of the United Kingdom for Canadian produce.

Conservative preferential trade gives a preference to produce of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, in Canadian markets, in return for a preference for Canadian produce in the markets of the United Kingdom.

By the Liberal system, we profess to give, and get nothing. By the Conservative system, we promise to give, and get as good as we give; and in doing so make our country the most profitable, and attractive place on earth, to English settlers, and bind by the strongest ties of sentiment and self interest the greatest colony to the mother country.

Is not that a policy, worthy of the party of dear old Sir John; is it not a policy worth living to promote, worth dying to establish?

To the young men of the West I say unhesitatingly that if they wish well of Canada, if they would see her become great, and grow great with her, if they love England and are proud of their race, this policy foreshadowed by Mr. McNeil's resolution should be adopted by them as their gospel.

We have had enough in Canada of party politics, of petty jealousies amongst self seeking little men, of bribery and corruption, and coercion, of a civil service debauched and debilitated, by such iniquities as the spoils system, and the manipulation of "statutory increases," condemned by Messrs. Foster and Borden on April 26.

Let us have an end to these things and welcome as it deserves a great policy worthy of a great nation, which will give to Canada the settlers she needs, the prosperity she deserves and the everlasting honor of having been the colony which laid the foundation stone of that greatness of Greater Britain which will some day fill the world.

We are not all Conservatives. There are some of us who would like to say in the words of one of the great dames of the Dominion "that our party is composed of the best men on both sides of the house," and to men of this way of thinking I would say that this policy of preferential trade is in the spirit of those promises which Sir Wilfrid Laurier made, to obtain power, and broke, as soon as he had obtained it.

When the silver-tongued Premier has fallen and a country which loves his graces has written over his ruins "Built by Tarte, A.D. 1896, ruined by Sifton, A.D. 1899, and buried by Maxwell at Deadman's island, Vancouver, in the same year," it will remember with regret that his weaknesses marred his charm from the very first; that whereas he pledged himself on platform after platform in 1896 to do this utmost to secure for Canada a preference over foreign produce, in the markets of the United Kingdom; that whereas he vowed that he was "as much in favor of preferential trade as Sir Charles Tupper," and, that "he had jumped at it as soon as he had heard of it," he nevertheless no sooner stood face to face with England in a white heat of love, ready to give anything to her children, than he turned round and threw the whole weight of the Dominion against that very policy which the Dominion had sent him there to represent.

It is rubbish of course to talk of Sir Wilfrid having been bought by a Cobden medal. He is not as small a man as that- but he is a Frenchman, and that means a fickle lover, with as many mistresses as he has graces, and perhaps there was a lady nearer home than England who said in his ear, "such a fool policy as that, Wilfrid, would hurt me some. Don't forget what you owe me. I can buy your way for you in the political world as no one but a Yankee bride could do. If you don't quit this fooling, there won't be any more of my greenbacks for you, and don't you forget it." And he didn't.

This resolution of McNeil's is of such importance that I might well be forgiven if I said nothing of any other in this letter, but I must refer, however briefly, to a debate on the statutory increases, which painfully illustrates the gross unfairness of the political system under which we live, and the improper use of power by those in office.

Under the Civil Service act, clerks entering the service are entitled to a statutory increase of $50 per annum. That was the legal contract which they made with the government when they sold their services to the public. Without any misconduct proved or alleged in the part of the clerks the government has chosen to break this contract, and tell the clerks in plain words "we won't give you the annual increase which was one of the terms of your hiring, and if you dare even to try to bring influence to bear to obtain it, we will kick you out."

If this were all this would be bad enough. What would the courts say if I hired a gardener on similar terms and treated him as the government has treated the sons of a large number of excellent native born Canadians? But it is not all.

The inquisitor Foster had been burrowing into the estimates for some time, when his sharp voice suddenly called "halt. I want some explanations," and the next moment he was on his legs wanting to know why amongst eighteen clerks in one department, three got the increase (or getting four times that increase) and the others did not. The information was that the government considered that the three had "faithfully discharged their duties and deserved it." The government would not say that the others had not faithfully discharged their duties or explain why they did not deserve it, but the net outcome of the whole matter was this: The late government considered these increases obligatory, and gave them to all who faithfully did their duty. The present government considers it has a right to break its contract with those who are at its mercy, but reserves to itself a right to use its discretion and grant these increases to its special favorites, without condescending to explain to the country why it does this.

A searching inquiry into the history of the favored one would be interesting, but in any case this abrogation of the law of the land and substitution for it of the autocratic will of a political party is undoubtedly as Mr. McNeil said, "a crying scandal' 'and one which must do much to further weaken that greatest of the machines of state, the civil service.

We are becoming as rotten with party politics as the United States.

OLIVE PHILLIPPS-WOLLEY.

Dr. Gauthier Endorses

The Statement that Mr. Major owes his life to

DR. CHASE'S KIDNEY LIVER PILLS.

Dr. J. T. A. Gauthier, of Valleyfield, Quebec, writes: "I, the undersigned, certify that the contents of this letter, in regard to the cure of Mr. Isadore Major, by the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, is correct:

Here is Mr. Major's letter: "After 20 years of suffering from backache and kidney disease, I owe my life to Dr. A. W. Chase. I had tried an endless variety of remedies to no avail, and on the recommendation of a friend began the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. Two pills that night and two next morning gave great relief, and I continued their use until now I am completely cured. My friends are surprised and pleased to see me well again, for I spent hundreds of dollars in vain trying to get cured. Before using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills my back ached so I could not put on my shoes, and couldn't lift 20 lbs. My shoulders were sore, I had headaches and a bad taste in the month. These troubles are now entirely gone, and what I say I am ready to prove. I have told my friends of my wonderful cure, and many have been greatly benefited by using these pills."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are the greatest kidney cure the world has ever known. One pill a dose; 25c. a box at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

Low Rates To Dawson.

Combination Formed by Northern Steamboat and Railway Companys.

Land Passengers in Dawson in Ten Days and at Low Rates.

It is to be war to the death between the companies catering for the Klondike business via St. Michael and the lower river, and those which aim to control this trade by way of the White Pass railway and the river steamers—the latter combination being favorite in the betting. Numerous conferences preliminary to a determination of through freight and passenger rates have been held by the four companies controlling the rail and river system, and as a result it is announced that the rates by the all-water route will be met in every particular—while the four-sided combination has the advantage in being able to land passengers or consignments in Dawson in ten days or less from Victoria, the round-about sea and river journey requiring the better part of two months—with a chance that shallows may prevent freight sent in that way from ever reaching its destination.

The four companies named in the combination are the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co., the Alaska Steamship Co., the Canadian Development Co. (in connection with which Capt. Irving's lake and river steamers will be operated), and the White Pass & Yukon Railway Co., covering the land link from Skagway to Bennett. The railway is now graded between Log Cabin and Bennett, and the line from the Summit to Log Cabin is all completed with the exception of perhaps six weeks' rock work, which is being pushed forward as rapidly as spring conditions will permit. It is confidently anticipated that the first through train from Skagway will pull into Bennett on the 15th June.

So soon as the railway is completed to the new mid-north metropolis, the adopted rate scale goes into force and operation. This has been mutually agreed to by all the companies interested, and provides for a first-class fare from any Puget Sound or British Columbia port to Dawson, of $135—or $127.50 second-class. Half rate tickets will also be sold for children of from five to twelve years. On the full ticket 150 pounds of baggage will be carried free—and on the half-ticket 75 pounds. From Dawson to British Columbia or Puget Sound ports the rate of the upper river combination is $185 first-class or $177.50 second-class—these rates paralleling closely the rates announced by the round-about all-water route.

The latter involves a journey of almost as many weeks as the former requires days. Besides, the connections will be so perfected with the completion of the railway link that one will not require to walk a foot of the way—there will be no more difficulty in taking a trip to Dawson than in going to Montreal; less, indeed, for the train comes nearer to the landing dock at Skagway than it does at Vancouver.

The adopted freight tariff for Atlin, on all commodities, regardless of class, is $100 per ton from Victoria or any other lower British Columbia or Puget Sound point, on less than 10-ton lots; for 10 tons or more, a cut of $10 on the ton is made.

A classification scale is made for the Klondike freights, third-class merchandise including provisions such as beans, bacon, flour, sugar, etc., for which the through rate is $136 per ton. Second-class freight embraces dry-goods, general supplies, etc., with a rate thereon of $155 a ton; and first-class freight, consisting of perishable and breakable goods, commands a transportation charge of $160. Live stock for Dawson will be accepted in carload lots of 14 or more at $82 per head.

These rates stand out in marked contrast with the figures prevailing one year ago, when Chief Engineer E. C. Hawkins, of the new railway, first visited Skagway. The freight rate then was 60 cents per pound, or $1,200 per ton from Skagway to Bennett, and 20 to 30 cents more for the haul to Dawson—a total of at least $1,600 a ton through to the Klondike capital—a month or six weeks being at that time required for the carriage of merchandise even as far as Bennett. Ten days is now—or will be, with the railway in operation—the limit of the journey.

TO SAVE THEIR STEAMERS.

Ice Bound River Boats Being Cut Out and Placed on Ways.

Seattle, May 2.—(Special)—Desperate measures are being used by the skippers of some of the frozen-in Yukon steamers to save their vessels from destruction when the break-up comes. The Alaska Exploration Company's steamer Herman is now on the bank above Dawson. She was successfully taken out of the ice without removing a pound of machinery. The moving was done with skids.

The captain of the river steamer Arnold imprisoned below Dawson in Canadian waters has planned a gigantic feat of engineering to save his vessel from destruction. He would make the first overflow float the vessel ashore. He is near a friendly stream which will thaw out much quicker than the Yukon itself. It is a well know fact that these tributaries pour out a great amount of water on top of the Yukon's icy surface before the break-up actually comes. A dam has been built around the steamer and the water will be allowed to rise until the Arnold is afloat. She has already been cut out of the ice. Her fires were started on April 15 according to Dawson advices received yesterday. She will be kept in readiness until the water comes.

The steamer Rock Island has been stripped of machinery and the hull moved from a dangerous position in midstream to a friendly slough on Forty-Mile river. She will probably be used for a barge in the future. An attempt was made to take her boiler and machinery up to Forty-Mile to use in hydraulic mining but the pieces were too heavy.

The Craigflower road question is said to surpass in difficulty the Schleswig-Holstien problem, of which it is alleged that only one man ever solved it, and he went crazy.