

ber seining operations for Chum Salmon commence, and last season about a million fish were caught in Barclay Sound alone.

In October the Herring fishing commences and continues until the end of February. Last season nearly fifty thousand tons were caught, cured and exported from the Barclay Sound district.

Halibut, Cod, Haike, Sable fish, Pilchards are also abundant in this district and quite recently Mackerel have been showing up in goodly numbers.

Finally, fishing in British Columbia is chiefly in sheltered waters and the British fishermen, after coming from North Sea experiences, would consider work here like a pic-nic.

The Wayside Philosopher

ABRACADABRA

A moment or so ago the Wayside Philosopher laid down his pen. Thus it seems! Lo! weeks have passed into months. Again, pen in hand, he salutes you. Let us wander on, he and his friends, where impulse leads him and, perhaps it will not be in vain. This is the Philosopher's wish and hope. Let us away then as fancy calls.

THE PRESENT SITUATION

The Great War rolls farther back into history. Nerve-racked Nations slowly regain their accustomed poise. The strident calls of the champions of this or that World-nostrum grow more infrequent, receive less regard. The frenzied shrieks of even "intellectuals" over "the hopeless condition of things," "the impending wreck" or "doom of civilization," die slowly away. Man's common sense reasserts itself. Nerves become quieter. Thought and speech become more rational. Amid the turmoil, even the dullest brain can perceive the slow settling down of international and national life to a realization of the great truth "That God's in His Heaven all's right with the World," that "Underneath are the Everlasting Arms," GOD, Omniscient and Omnipresent expressing Himself in His own way to His own ends. Let us remember this and march on to meet the future undaunted.

A NOTABLE CAREER ENDED

That transformation which we so mistakenly call "Death" has come to one of our really great British Columbians. Charles Wilson, K. C., has had the veil of mortality lifted from his eyes and walks no more as man with men.

In his profession an eminent Counsel, in Political circles a man of mark, he was well known and justly admired. As such the community mourns him. These, great as they are, did not constitute his chief merit. The sterling qualities of gentle manhood; an outstanding integrity of purpose, an unimpeachable standard of honour; a kindly, sympathetic, yet acute, mind; a heart full of charity towards all men; these qualities made him the really great man the people loved and mourn.

The tribute paid him by all classes must have been highly pleasing to his friends and relatives. It seemed regrettable that the Court of Appeal and other sitting Courts did not, by adjourning, recognize the passing of a Benchman of the Law Society. The legal mind may understand such an event but certainly not the layman.

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

A COMMISSION?—A HYPOTHESIS—SOME RESULTS.

With three great political parties wishing, each, to hold the mantle of Government when it falls from the shoulders

of the Hon. John Oliver and his colleagues, great interest centred in the Royal Commission asked for by the political Clan Macrae to investigate certain charges made by some of its members.

The first few of these charging that the Hon. W. J. Bowser and the Hon. W. Sloan had received from the P. G. E. Railway Co., or its promoters \$50,000, or thereabouts each, and rendered certain services therefor, have been heard, and, while no decision thereon has been given, have to the outside viewpoint, failed.

At the time of this writing to discuss what the finding should be—or is likely to be—is not correct journalism, but to seek an explanation of the fiasco is quite legitimate.

Apparently, then, the leaders of the Clan Macrae took their stand mainly, if not entirely, on the loose, idle talk that has been current since 1916 in some quarters, coupled with information supplied them by one, R. T. Elliott K. C.

In support of this supposition, we note that R. T. Elliott, K. C., was the Solicitor for Messrs. Foley, Welch and Stewart at a time when such payments, if made, would have been either made or a matter of the immediate past. Again Elliott is one of the earliest witnesses summoned by the Macrae Counsel. His plea of privilege was indubitably a surprise to McPhillips, K. C., and, would seem to account, in part at least, for the latter's statement that he had been "trapped." The complete refutation of the information, supposedly so given, as far as it related to the charges heard and the parties supposed to have made the payments caused an immediate collapse of the charges accepted, under disguise of some quarrel with the scope of the Commission, by Macrae Counsel themselves.

Such is our reading of the causes of these particular charges. No other explanation seems to provide a suitable excuse for the Macrae Party's procedure therein. It is still lame and weak. Only by supposing that Counsel for Macrae relied trustingly, but mistakenly, on such an apparently reliable source, could they escape the severest of censure for their all-too-apparent muddle. They accomplished only their own political downfall and the discrediting of their source of information.

The rest of the Commission may affect somewhat the fortunes of the various political parties. Who will benefit by what now eventuates will be an absorbing question. It is possible, not probable, that the Clan Macrae can rehabilitate itself. More probably it will simply lose the impending election for one of the remaining parties. So far, the outstanding losers are the Clan Macrae and its informant.

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