

PERSONAL POLITICS.

"The greatest obstacle to the progress of British Columbia is personal politics." That is the Colonist's opinion, repeated many times. It is quite true, but there may be a difference of opinion over the definition of personal politics. We are not at all disposed to question the reluctance with which Mr. Dunsinuir took office nor the assertion that his one object in remaining at the head of the government is a desire to promote the welfare of the province. But is it not a fact that he was called to power as a result of personal politics; that his government is a compromise government? He did not appeal to the people on any particular policy, and it is possible that his views as to what measures are necessary to advance the interests of the province as a whole differ entirely from those of the majority of the electors. Up to the time of his undertaking to form a government he had never taken an active part in public affairs nor in the debates in the House. Few people had ever thought of him as the possible head of a government or as having any ambition to mould public opinion for the public good. He was placed upon the eminence through upheavals produced by the schemings and bickerings of men who were ambitious to advance their own political fortunes rather than the welfare of the community. The Times believes it would be a good thing for the province if those who aspire to the honor of guiding her affairs were bound together or linked asunder by something other than mere personal feelings, such as ambition, regard, spite or envy. The division into party lines, Liberal and Conservative, would be most convenient and natural. The issues raised need not be federal any more than in other provinces. If leaders were selected and policies adopted there would be something tangible to appeal to the country upon and members would not be constantly changing sides as a result of influences which, rightly or wrongly, have been regarded with suspicion. Ambition for place or power is not in itself reprehensible; but tactics have been resorted to in British Columbia, with the object of securing office, which were not by any means commendable. It is time to put an end to that sort of thing, and the only way to do it is to drive out the personal politicians or the them down to certain fixed principles. The time may not yet be ripe for such a consummation, but it will come.

A BLIND CRITIC.

The Toronto Telegram is a paper which can see no good in any public men save one or two whom it has set on a pedestal and bows down before as regularly as the heathen does to its idols of clay, wood or stone. It knows little about the public affairs of British Columbia, but it assumes that Mr. Dunsinuir is Premier by the grace of Mr. Martin, and that to it is sufficient reason why he should remain in power for all time. The Telegram cites as a reason why the government should not resign the fact that Sir Oliver Mowat passed through one session of the Ontario House with two cabinet positions vacant. There was the difference between the positions of the then Premier of Ontario and the present head of the British Columbia government that the former had an assured majority behind him. It is generally agreed that Mr. Dunsinuir's followers are in a minority. If the members when the House meets adhere to the opinions they expressed when the result of the New Westminster election was made known, the government will certainly be voted out if it clings to office until that time. But curious combinations have been formed and unexpected things have happened in British Columbia politics. A less scrupulous man than Mr. Dunsinuir—a professional politician, for example, one who valued power for other reasons than the mere desire to advance the interests of the province—might continue in office and bring pressure, wiles and various forces to bear to secure a majority. We are convinced that the desire of the Premier is to resign without delay, but his advisers may persuade him that he has now, or will have, a majority sufficient for the occasion, and he may remain in power until the House meets.

A PATRIOTIC GOVERNMENT.

The conclusions drawn by the Times from an article published in the Colonist about a week ago, in which there were hints at the possibilities of Victoria's trade with the Orient, a vigorous railway policy, etc., were, correct, notwithstanding the vehemence with which our contemporary asserted that the article in question meant merely what it said. We inferred from the tone of that optimistic essay that the Premier had been persuaded to cling to power and confound the personal politicians. A policy which will carry the seat vacated by Mr. Turner is now being prepared by the patriots who have made up their minds to serve the province to the last moment with a single eye to the benefit of the people it contains. We infer that Mr. Dunsinuir is about to resign and admit that there is some virtue in railway competition after all and that tin pan ferries are worthy of encouragement, for has not his organ told us that goods can be transported over them cheaper than over the rails laid upon land? We are actually at an advantage, so the writer argued, compared with our neighbors on the

Mainland. Our experience has hardly confirmed that theory, and because we hinted that there was something more to follow, we were reproached because we were of little faith as compared with our neighbor. We were called upon for an explanation of our position, and we said there was no doubt as to the future of Victoria, but that she owed little to many of those who were prominently identified with her politically or in a business way. We repeat that Victoria is naturally the centre of the Island, and if the industries which belong here by right—and would establish themselves here if natural laws were not suspended—were not diverted to other places by those who seem to have almost absolute control of the resources of Vancouver Island, her progress would have been much more rapid. Transportation companies are very powerful on this monopoly-cursed coast, but there are certain forces they cannot overcome. Business laws, like those which govern the universe and all it contains, will have their way in the end—after the builders have made their little pile. Perhaps the exigencies of the present case may result in a change of policy. We may shortly behold efforts being made to attract business instead of to drive it away from this "residential city." We await the publication of the details of the new progressive policy with considerable curiosity, not unmixed with impatience. We have no doubt the public share our feelings.

THE TWO BIG FAIRS.

Mr. Keary, the manager of the New Westminster fair, seems to have somewhat forgotten himself in his remarks at the meeting of the directors of that institution. His attacks on gentlemen who are quite incapable of the bias he attributes to them are surely not calculated to advance the true interests of the fair he has managed so successfully. According to his own statement, the show was even more successful than on any previous year and the time ought to have been one of congratulation all round. The people who were so vulgarly abused and unjustly accused were not responsible for the programme which governed the movements of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. Mr. Keary would have been well-advised if he had been counselled not to give way to his wrath because the Royal couple were not available as an attraction at his worthy institution. The Victoria exhibition had proved a failure in the past because of the undeveloped state of agriculture coupled with indiscreet management. The great progress that has been made in the one during the past few years as well as the growth of the city convinced certain public-spirited gentlemen that the time had come for a revival of the fall fair. Their judgment was to be put to a crucial test. Failure would have been disastrous indeed; success meant the permanent establishment of the show. The promoters were right in taking advantage of everything calculated to insure a large attendance. All concerned turned out and worked with a will, many of them without any remuneration. They have justified the confidence placed in them by those who assisted the enterprise financially. It was very unfortunate for both exhibitions that there was a clash of dates; but the Westminster people have no vested right in any particular season, nor have they any reason to complain if the Lieut.-Governor or any of the officials under him gave advice which was useful to the management of the Victoria exhibition. They would have been quite ready to come to the assistance of the Westminster people, or even of Mr. Keary, if his long experience and past successes had not placed him beyond the necessity of any outside assistance. The best thing we can all do now is to forget what is behind and look to the future. There is plenty of room for both shows. They are now, and will become more so every year, a necessity. Farmers and manufacturers are all the better for the stimulus of competition and knowledge of what their neighbors are doing. "The world do move," and those who do not move with it soon drop out of sight. We hope to see the most cordial co-operation between Victoria and Westminster as to dates and everything else, and may the "elements" always prove as kind as they were this year.

PROPOSED LIBERAL CONVENTION.

A slight typographical error in our dispatch from Vancouver on Saturday made the resolution adopted by the executive of the British Columbia Liberal Association declare that a convention of the party would be held immediately, whereas its being held immediately is contingent on a dissolution of the Legislature and an appeal to the constituencies. The resolution reads as follows:

Moved by Dr. McKee, seconded by Harry Scott, the secretary, and to the advice of the president, the convention be called to a convention of the Liberal party immediately it is intimated that a general election is about to be held; that the convention be held in Vancouver; that provincial electoral districts be constituted by three delegates per member elected; that all Liberal provincial and Dominion members be ex-officio members of the convention; that the proxies be allowed.

The committee gave the subject very careful consideration and came to the conclusion that it would be absolutely necessary to hold a convention before any questions affecting the welfare of the party could be decided. On the other

hand, if a general election is not going to take place in the immediate future, it was felt that a convention held now would be premature, inasmuch as the decisions arrived at—as for instance on the party line question—could not be enforced until the opportunity of a general election arrived. It was thought, and we believe rightly, that the present chaotic condition of politics in British Columbia will not be improved until an appeal be made to the people on a fair and equitable readjustment of representation, and that when that time arrives the Liberals of the province will be prepared to act unitedly and effectively in behalf of stable and progressive government and for the general welfare of the province.

The political situation changes so quickly that the comments of newspapers or individuals a couple of days' journey from the capital are generally out of date when they arrive. The Nelson Tribune is an exception to this rule. Its moods are as variable as those of the member for Nelson, but there is something irresistibly attractive about its candor as well as in trying to find out who is fit to be a political leader except Mr. John Houston, M.P.P. This is very good as showing that possibly Mr. Eberts may have the support of John if he should be called upon, as was at one time rumored would be replaced by Mr. Dunsinuir, to form a government.

"Had James Dunsinuir taken the advice of the Tribune, he would not be a discredited premier, and he would have had advisers all the men except one (Helmcken) that will advise his successor. Assuming that the rumored state will not be broken, the changes in the heads of departments will be for the better. Captain Taylor has ability coupled with a great deal of independence; R. F. Green, through long residence in Kootenay, is well equipped to administer the department of mines and metallurgy; H. D. Helmcken is certainly an able man than J. D. Prentice, which isn't saying much; Richard McBride cannot possibly make a worse blunder in running the department of lands and works than W. C. Wells has; and D. M. Eberts can surely count to date as he has in the past."

The Toronto Star gives some advice to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy which is of interest to British Columbians. The North-west is filling up rapidly now, and the growth of population there will be greatly accelerated by the bountiful harvest of the present year. There will soon be the finest market in the world there for fruit. British Columbia in time to be one of the most prolific fruit producing sections of the earth. The remarks of the Star should wake us up. The markets of the Northwest should be ours. The Star thus advises the C. P. R. knight: "Sir Thomas Shaughnessy can show himself a statesman as well as a railroad manager of renown by devising a plan for carrying fruit from the coast to the west at reasonable rates. The people of the Northwest sigh for fruit, and the fruit-growers of Ontario sigh for a market. It rests with the C. P. R. to bring the fruit and the fruit-eaters into touch. This will make the West a pleasant country to live in, and that will be a good thing for the big railway."

Here are a few extracts from Emma Goldman's speeches. She seems to be rather fiery when in good condition: "There is no God. Religion is a superstition to which fools bow down. Government is a hydra-headed monster in Ages Past." On Wednesday, 2nd, Rev. F. G. Christmas and his family left South Saanich for Sidney where, after spending the night, they embarked on board the steamer for Victoria. Before leaving South Saanich Rev. F. G. Christmas was presented with a purse and an address by his parishioners.

The matron of Chemainus General hospital, acknowledged with thanks the following donations for September: Apples, T. Porter; hen, Mrs. Ehr; flowers, Mrs. H. and Mrs. Bonnell; grapes and apples, Mrs. Roberts; cucumbers, Mr. Nixon; apples and cucumbers, Mr. Conway; grouse, Capt. Gibson and R. Roberts; jam, pickles, apples and flowers, Mrs. Hald; box of plums, Mrs. Palmer; cabbage, Mrs. Tomatoes; Rev. Father Doucette; old linen, Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. Whidden; two trays cloths and hydrangea, Mrs. Hattie Evans; ten dollars (complete fees), Capt. Barclay; reading matter, Miss White, Mr. Helme, Victoria Daily Times and Colonist, Nanaimo Daily Herald and Free Press, and Ladysmith Leader.

This is what the New York Sun says of the New York Journal: "So far as it can be said to think, Mr. Hearst's bunch of Bellarmites think in red ink. The ink has to get redder and redder or the readers will not be stimulated sufficiently."

On Thursday evening at the Queen's hotel Rev. Elliott S. Love officiated in marriage Chas. H. Scott and Mattie E. Long, both of Seattle. The happy couple left for their home in Seattle immediately after the ceremony and a banquet.

The contractor for the High school building, the corner stone of which was laid two days ago, is now in the act of superintending the laying of the stone, which was afterwards squared and plumed by the Masonic grand master.

The fund for the relief of the sufferers from the loss of the steamer Lillooet received a very substantial contribution this morning in the sum of \$500 presented by George McL. Brown, executive officer of the C. P. R. Company, on behalf of that corporation.

The Victoria Lumber & Manufacturing Co. are making several large improvements to their plant at Chemainus, extending their mill out a distance of 80 feet. The frame is now under way and it is expected to have the work completed in the course of a couple of weeks. The company is also enlarging its lumber yard, clearing the land back of the store

Local News.

CLEANING OF CITY AND PROVINCIAL NEWS IN A CONDENSED FORM.

(From Friday's Daily.)

—About six thousand dollars' worth of Yukon gold were assayed yesterday at the government office.

—It has been decided that the regular examination of the students of the stenography academy of St. Ann's Convent will be held on the 22nd of this month.

—Mr. Geo. Steres, of this city, and Mrs. Bertha J. Whitney, of San Francisco, were united in marriage last evening by Rev. J. F. Vichet at his residence.

—The vacancy on the provincial medical council caused by the death of Dr. John D. Prentice, was filled by the election of Dr. Walker, of New Westminster. Dr. Walker secured an overwhelming vote over the other candidate.

—The issue of the Provincial Gazette last evening was a very small one, the only new matters chronicled being the appointment of Hon. J. D. Prentice as acting provincial secretary and minister of the Interior, and the fact that the Vancouver Poultry Association will place claims in the Fort Steele mining division from October 1st, 1901, to June 1st, 1902.

—Information was received to-day from Mount Sicker that the Tyee people are in a thirty-foot ledge of the finest ore. It is also stated, on authority, that an engineer already on the site, has been ordered to select a site for the company's smelter, for which a subscription of \$50,000 has been raised. It is believed that the site of the Tyee smelter will be at Ladysmith.

—Hon. J. D. Prentice, minister of finance, was waited on the other day by a deputation consisting of J. C. Dixon, of the Vancouver Poultry Association, W. Jarvis, of the Nanaimo Poultry Association, and H. P. Johnson, of the Victoria Poultry Association, asking that an additional allowance for the poultry show be made by the government. Mr. Prentice promised that the subject would be laid before the government.

—Lt.-Col. A. Grant, commanding the troops at Esquimalt, is advertising for tenders, which will be received up to Wednesday, 16th of October, for the supply of tents and accoutrements, etc., for military purposes at Esquimalt, for a period from date of acceptance until 30th September, 1902. Tenders must be properly completed, signed and dated, and posted early yesterday morning, and must be accompanied by a cash or bank order for the full amount of the tender, or they will not be considered.

J. H. Turner, who accompanied by Mrs. Turner, left for Victoria yesterday to take up his new duties as agent-general last evening, was given a hearty farewell by his many friends in Victoria, a large number of whom went aboard the steamer to express their sorrow and wish the ex-finance minister and his wife health and good fortune in their new home. Mr. Turner's connection with the public life of the province has been of such length that his removal leaves a great void. The good wishes of citizens of all shades of politics go with him and Mrs. Turner to London.

—Rev. F. G. Christmas and Mrs. Christmas entertained the parishioners of South Saanich at the rectory on Monday evening. Gratitude for many kind wishes and Christmas gifts was expressed, and hope for their welfare in their new home in the Cedar district of Nanaimo was expressed by the guests. Before leaving, all the guests joined in singing the grand hymn, "God Our Help in Ages Past." On Wednesday, 2nd, Rev. F. G. Christmas and his family left South Saanich for Sidney where, after spending the night, they embarked on board the steamer for Victoria. Before leaving South Saanich Rev. F. G. Christmas was presented with a purse and an address by his parishioners.

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(From Saturday's Daily.)

—The contract for the construction of a two-room school house at Enderby has been awarded to Thos. Crowell, of Vernon, by the department of lands and work.

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CANCER CURED.

No knife, no plaster, no pain. Send 6 cents in stamps for new booklet, "Cancer Cured," by Dr. J. C. Stott & J. W. Bowmanville, Ont.

building grading roads through it, and putting in substantial foundations on the exhibition grounds. The camps are running full time, with a full crew, and from thirty to forty cars of logs per day are being put in.

—Owing to the chief justice being confined to his room by illness, the civil sittings appointed for Victoria for the 8th inst. are adjourned until the 16th, as Mr. Justice Drake, who was assigned to take the Victoria sittings, will have to go to Vancouver for the purpose of holding the criminal sittings on that day.

—On Tuesday A. J. Dallan was the victim of a very painful accident on the exhibition grounds. He was riding around the track when his mount and another horse bolted for a gate which had been left open. The gate was not large enough for the two horses to pass through, and Mr. Dallan was thrown against the post with great force. He was picked up in a unconscious state, but is now around, looking none the worse for his fall.

—The fire department turned out about 11 o'clock last evening in answer to a telephone message from the Dallas hotel stating that there was a fire in Mrs. M. R. Smith's residence, at the corner of Niagara and Dallas roads. The firemen had a very hard fight, but succeeded in getting the flames under control after twenty minutes' work. It is believed that the dining-room wall caught fire from the stove or the chimney. The family was out at the time. The damage, it is thought, will amount from \$800 to \$900, which is covered by insurance.

(From Monday's Daily.)

—On Saturday afternoon Corner Hart held an inquest into the circumstances surrounding the death of Mrs. McEachern. The jury, after the hearing of the evidence, returned a verdict of death resulting from the administering of poison under temporary insanity by herself. No one was blamed.

—Thos. Dobson, a well known contractor of 20 years' experience in the city, has perfected a scheme of extinguishing fire after many years of study. Mr. Dobson's new extinguisher was tried upon what at first was an apparent disaster and proved effective to a degree. Patents have been applied for.

—In the confusion of removing the exhibits from the hall at the Victoria exhibition this morning, C. J. Soule, the architect, was the victim of a somewhat serious accident. He was helping in the work of removing the display in the art department when a scuffling fell from one of the structures which struck him on the scalp, inflicting a nasty wound. Mr. Soule was removed to the Jubilee hospital.

—Miss Walkem's double first prize pedigree fox terrier "John Storm" died of poison early yesterday morning, notwithstanding Dr. Hamilton's unremitting and skillful attention for nine hours or so. The dog was an inoffensive animal, and was much prized by its owner. Several valuable dogs have recently been poisoned in the city, and the malicious perpetrators have not as yet been punished.

—The funeral of the late Mrs. McEachern took place yesterday afternoon from the family residence, "Blanchard street," at 2 o'clock. The Rev. Dr. Wilson conducted the services. A large number attended, contributing the most beautiful floral emblems and tokens of sympathy. The following gentlemen acted as pallbearers: Messrs. F. Smith, G. Grimison, J. Braydon and E. Holdness.

—The race at the agricultural exhibition last Saturday have roused a strong spirit of rivalry among local horse fanciers. A trotting event has been arranged between B. George's Lady Mint, one of the competitors on Saturday, and One-Eyed Johnny, another reputable animal, to take place on Monday next. On the conclusion of the race W. J. Lindsay, who has been the owner of the winning horse, Considerable money is up on the former event.

—The staff correspondent of the Winnipeg Free Press, who was here with the Royal party, has this to say of Victoria's demonstration: "At the point where the far west meets the far east, Victoria, the beautiful capital of one of Canada's richest provinces, the heir to the world's greatest throne received a welcome second to none accorded to him since he first set foot on Canadian soil. The reception given the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York in Victoria to-day was perhaps the most spontaneous one ever witnessed in Canada. From the moment of landing to the close of the reception at the legislative buildings their Royal Highnesses have been greeted by enthusiastic crowds of people. The landing was a beautiful sight. The stately White Empress of India, escorted by the North Pacific squadron, moved slowly up the channel to the outer wharf, while the guns roared forth a Royal salute."

(From Saturday's Daily.)

—At the conclusion of the city council meeting on Tuesday night, the mayor made a short speech, with reference to the visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. Before leaving the city His Royal Highness had requested him to convey to the citizens an expression of the very great pleasure and delight he had experienced in the reception tendered him in Vancouver. His Worship added that he might also say that His Royal Highness's remarks were fully endorsed by the Duchess. His Worship stated that the Duke and Duchess had graciously presented him with an autograph photograph. In the business session of the council the matter disposed of was that of proclaiming a civic holiday in Vancouver to enable its citizens to participate with those of New Westminster in witnessing the next Y. M. C. A. Pacific Coast's Champion lacrosse match and the Royal City exhibition. This was decided upon by motion, it being moved by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Palmer. "That Thursday afternoon be declared a half holiday to enable the citizens to attend the New Westminster exhibition."

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EMPRESS OF INDIA FOR THE ORIENT

PASSENGERS ON THE OUTGOING STEAMER

Well Known Vancouver Ship Sold—Cargo of Largo Law—Sealers Pass Carmanah.

But one Oriental liner is due this week from Adasite-ports. The Duke of Eife, of the Dowdell fleet, should arrive to-day from Japan and China and the next to follow is not looked for until Tuesday, a week from to-morrow, when the Empress of Japan will be due. The Empress of India, which carried the Royal party down to Victoria last Tuesday, will be here tonight again. It can make connections with the Imperial Limited at the Terminal City to-day. There have been booked for her a very large number of passengers, several of whom will embark at the outer wharf, in addition to twenty Chinese also from this city. The saloon list will be as follows: Hon. Cecil Edwards and wife, J. K. Titwell, J. D. Hutchingson, F. Barclay, E. D. Mans, Mr. Arnold, J. Bishop, A. L. MacFie, Hy. Bonar, W. Hurdley, Osborne Middleton, Mr. Jordan, H. H. Hussey and wife, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Chase, Hon. W. J. Pope, L. Wellbourn, Mary, R. Loden, W. H. Alley and wife, Mrs. Patterson, wife and children, Miss H. E. Brown, A. F. Holmes, Captain Blaxland, Rev. Mr. Whitman, wife and child, J. W. Lloyd, wife and children, Mr. Jukes, wife and children, Miss Heaton, Miss L. Ridwell, Miss Spencer, Mr. Pearce, A. L. Pearce, J. Loudon, Rev. J. Barlin, Mrs. Young, Captain Moore, P. Arnold, J. Bishop, A. L. MacFie, Hy. Bonar, W. Hurdley, Osborne Middleton, Mr. Jordan, H. H. Hussey and wife, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Chase, Hon. W. J. Pope, L. Wellbourn, Mary, R. Loden, W. H. Alley and wife, Mrs. Patterson, wife and children, Miss H. E. Brown, A. F. Holmes, Captain Blaxland, Rev. Mr. Whitman, wife and child, J. W. Lloyd, wife and children, Mr. Jukes, wife and children, Miss Heaton, Miss L. Ridwell, Miss Spencer, Mr. Pearce, A. L. Pearce, J. Loudon, Rev. J. Barlin, Mrs. Young, Captain Moore, P. Arnold, J. Bishop, A. L. MacFie, Hy. Bonar, W. Hurdley, Osborne Middleton, Mr. Jordan, H. H. Hussey and wife, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Chase, Hon. W. J. Pope, L. Wellbourn, Mary, R. Loden, W. H. 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