INADEQUATE SERVICE.

The attention of the Colonist has of both countries. been called to the inadequacy of the mail service to and from Cumber land, Vancouver Island. The complaint made has special reference to route once a week. At present there is a mail by the Queen City on Tuesnesday and Friday and by the land route on Saturday. The steamer and known to be an advocate of the done what the Premier has not done; Cowichan reaches Union Bay on Sat-highest tariff that the country can, be he had advocated a direct contribution urday, but does not carry mail. It is persuaded to stand. Under the system to the Admiralty. Granting that Sir said that there is a possibility of the followed in the House of Representa-Queen City being taken off the run tives the Speaker is virtually the ground on this subject, and it and of the overland mail being aban- leader of his party, and in the hands must be conceded that he does, the doned, in which case that part of the province would be reduced to two been no fiction. He has both led and mails a week. Cumberland is a town driven his party, until a number of with a payroll of between \$70,000 and prominent men refuse to stand him but would have a more efficient one \$80,000 monthly, and surrounding it are any longer. These men are called "In-

The importance of the district is punish them for their independence. such that the people have a right to The indications are that Mr. Cannon ask for and receive a daily mail by will be set aside. The Chicago Tribland. In a few months the E. & N. une recently said: sak for and receive a daily mail by land. In a few months the E. & N. will be at Englishman's river, which is not much more than 40 miles from Cumberland and there is a good road between the two points. It seems very absurd that a daily mail service should not be put on over this distance. We draw the attention of the representative of the district, Mr. Templeman to this really important matter. We think if he will inquire he will find that there is no place in the eastern provinces of similar population and vicinity which has not the advantage of a daily mail.

A NAVAL BASE.

The Admiralty is about to convert Scapa Flow, in the Orkney Islands, into the great strategic naval base. The Orkneys, as every one knows or ought to know, lies just north of Scotland from which they are separated by the Pentland Firth. Scapa Flow is a landlocked bay ten miles from the properties of the party the Scotland from which they are separated by the Pentland Firth. Scapa Flow is a landlocked bay ten miles from the party will spread to stand by the mint this matter. Presumably Mr. Monk, does not feel able to stand by him in this matter. Presumably Mr. Monk those not feel able to stand by him in this matter. Presumably Mr. Monk those shot feel able to stand by him in this matter. Presumably Mr. Monk those not feel able to stand by him in this matter. Presumably Mr. Monk these story sendinger:

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Mr. Cannon, in maintaining his present unyielding attitude, is recently said senging a fighting because "in respect to present the seculty in refer to possible and exceedingly unjust. In nothing has a public man in Canada the present the seast may be made and exceedingly unjust and ever s

Flow is a landlocked bay ten miles long by eight miles wide and is sheltered from the open sea by Pomona. which is called the mainland of the Orkneys. Here one division of the Home fleet is to be stationed for the greater part of the year, and it is contemplated that at times the majority of the ships in the waters of the United Kingdom shall rendezvous there. The Scapa Flow has numerous branches with safe anchorfleet could lie in safety, while the approach to it could be readily defended. Pentland Firth is one of the great waterways of Europe. Through it pass many German and Scandinavian vessels, which fact will make the new station of great importance. This in favor of such a step and will parproject is not in any sense to supplant the great station now rapidly being equipped at Rosyth in the Firth of Forth but is supplementary to it. and is a part of a general plan to make the eastern coast of Great Britlan safe from an attack by a navy

SOUTH AMERICA

An unusual degree of interest is being taken at the present time in South America. That vast continent is probably richer in natural wealth than any other part of the world. Its area is 6,820,000 square miles, but its population is not much in excess of 40,000,000. It has every description of climate from the hottest to the coldest. Consequently it can produce everything needed by mankind. Its greatest breadth lies just south of the Equator. The greatest breadth of Africa lies in a corresponding position north of the Equator. in the case of the latter the rainfall is limited, while in the case of the former it is very rivers and covered with exceedingly danse veretation. The great trade Atlantic, carry their burden of moisture members of Parliament on both sides. and around Victoria who needs it. far inland until it is precipitated on the slopes of the Andes and Guiana. In the southern part of the contine somewhat different conditions prevail yet even there the precipitation is sufficient to secure productiveness. The mineral resources of South America are known to be great, but great ranges of mountains remain wholly unexplored. Indeed, there are hundreds of thousands of square miles about which little more is known than was known when the continent was first

Political conditions in South America have been so unsettled until within a comparatively few years, that there was little incentive to developm but the improvement in this respechas been marked and at present there is a general impression that the time has come when investments can be made in most of the republics with a reasonable prospect of security. The two nations that have up to the present

exhibited the greatest interest in the in view of the very pronounced opinexhibited the greatest interest in the continent are Great Britain and Germany. The United States comes third, but is yet a considerable distance in the rear. British investments are every where but the greatest volume of them is in Argentine, which may be said to be owned by British capital. German interests are chiefly in southern Brazil. interests are chiefly in southern Brazil, and a number of German colonists have secured a certain degree of pop-Canada and the Canada paraiso, Chile, is connected with Buenos ada of naval defence as a matter of Ayres, Argentine, is expected to have a permanent policy, and come out great influence upon the development

U. S. POLICIES

There are signs of trouble in the extensive and prosperous farming dis- surgents" and every means possible has been and is being employed to

derstand that he is ready to serve in successful. the House of Representatives, and it is even said that Representative Cocks, of the First Congressional Dis-trict of New York; has declared his readiness to resign in order that the of the United States may as well unex-President may secure a seat. In that event he would be a strong candi- specifically directed against that coundate for the Speakership, which it is said is the only position in public life and Canada with Britain assisting, to which he aspires. It is further will make war upon the United States. stated that President Taft is heartily ticipate in a reception to Mr. Roosevelt, could Canada wish to aid in an at-

UNREASONABLE TACTICS.

be inaugurated.

It is easy to understand why the Liberal press should attack Mr. Monk for his opposition to any expenditure on the part of Canada for haval defence. The government has determined upon such an expenditure as a matter of its general policy, and consequently the newspapers supporting the govern. ment might naturally be expected to criticise any, one who opposes such a only a few years ago that doubts were ment might naturally be expected to policy. But wherein is Mr. Borden blameable because Mr. Monk, who usually is in political sympathy with him, except at a great loss. The experience this issue? The course of the Liberal of two seasons has shown that it is press toward Mr. Borden on this question is wholly unreasonable. The Conservative leader has never given any wing is completed, the building will be one the least reason to have any doubt where he stands. He has made no demands upon it. At the same time claim to be more loyal to the flag than the other hotels seem to be all doing heavy, we suppose perhaps the heaviest others; he has raised no question as a better business than ever. It is true in the world when the extent of the to the loyalty of anyone else. He has that such a house as the Empress area is considered. Hence whereas we taken a plain and courageous posi- creates a good deal of its own business find in Africa, across its widest part tion. It cannot be said of him that he but the fact is that the whole Pacific a region which is to a very great ex- has been playing for popularity. If Coast of Canada has taken such a fortent, barren, we have in the corre- this had been his aim, if he were act- ward step that far greater hotel acsponding part of South America a vast ing the part of a mere politician, he expanse of territory abounding in great | might easily have found an excuse for | The letting of the contract for the new opposing the government plan of pro- wing is only the first of a series of conwinds, that blow westward across the the attitude taken by some of the give employment to every person in viding a Canadian navy. In view of tracts to be let this year, which will

> Cod Liver Oil IN THIS CLIMATE Is essential to many, especially in the winter months.

We prepare an unrivalled for mula:

Cod Liver Oil, with Extract of Malt and Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda, Quinine and Strychnine.

This preparation is invaluable in the cure of all wasting discases, coughs, colds, consumption, etc.

PER BOTTLE, \$1.00

CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST

1228 GOVERNMENT ST.

strongly for the gift of battleships. as occasion seemed to demand. But Mr. Borden is too good a Canadian to take any such course; he is too pawell the duty of the Dominion; he is ranks of the Republican party in the too statesmanlike in his ideas. He has tives, is the storm centre. Mr. Cannon navy, that is, so far as the principle is an unusual personality. He has of independent ownership and mainmuch ability, and is exceedingly reso-tenance is concerned; he has gone lute. He is understood to be very further as to what the first step in much in sympathy with the Trusts, that direction ought to be; and he has Wilfrid Laurier occupies an advanced vore the policy of a Canadian navy, provided than the government proposes, and he would have the Dominion participate in the maintenance of the strength of the navy of Great Britain. Surely, it is unreasonable to assail him because his supporter, Mr. Monk, does not feel able to stand by

The San Francisco Call says that After a time our contemporary will be every one, except the Speaker him- content to be independent, for it will self, recognizes that he "is down and find that the "independent people" are out," and it adds that his friends are too scarce to be a profitable clientele, advising him to get out of the way and it will be an independent paper for quietly and thus save his reputation. every one: There is a lot of good read-In this connection it is stated that Mr. ing in the Sunday Mail and very many Roosevelt has given his friends to un- good pictures. It ought to be very

An absurd person writes to the new York Herald to say that the people derstand that the Canadian navy is, try. He foresees a time when Japan What species of mid-winter madness is this? For what possible purpose when he returns in June, at which tack upon the United States? There time the Speakership campaign will is much greater likelihood that the Canadian navy may one day co-operate with the United States navy in defending this coast against Japan.

than of any such thing as the Herald's

ndent suggests occurring.

Construction of the new wing of the Empress Hotel is to be begun immediately. Nothing can be suggested that bears more eloquent testimony to the progress and future prosperity of Vicexpressed as to whether such a hotel as the Empress could be run in Victoria, not nearly big enough, and we venture found to be still too small to meet the commodation is needed than formerly.

"Best in the West"

These Warm Days Suggest Approach of Spring Cleaning

These mild days remind us that Winter is quickly slipping past and the season of Spring-cleaning is drawing near. The wise homekeeper plans ahead—makes her selections of carpets, curtains, etc., early, when choice is best

New things are daily arriving here, and the store is already taking on the Springtime air—especially in the Drapery Department. Let frequent visits be the rule from now on-keep in touch with the new things as they arrive.



Never a Better Choice of Dinner Sets Choose from Dozens of Patterns

WE question if any other establishment in Canada offers such a choice of dinnerware patterns as you'll find here. Imagine being able to choose from over 70 different and beautiful patterns-such is the choice This range includes the best productions of such World-famous names

as Haviland, Wedgwood, Ahrenteldt, Limoges, etc. The choice of patterns-over 70-offers you much choice; better than you will get anywhere for many a day. Prices range from \$7.50 to \$230.

On a table in the China Store we display 27 different patterns in popular priced dinner services. Come in and let us show you some very stylish services in superior semi-porcelain and in china—97 and more pieces from, per set, \$30.00 to \$7.50.

See This Beautiful Haviland China "Open Stock"

The leading pattern among the "Open Stocks" is a beaut ful white and gold Haviland china creation. We are fortunate, indeed, to be able to offer you this beautiful pattern in Genuine Haviland China. Haviland china is World-famous, and, like all good things, has a host of imitations. We offer you in this the genuine. The pattern is a very pleasing treatment of gold on pure white body, which you must see to appriate.

Then, too, remember this is an "open stock." You don't need to buy numerous pieces you may not use for months.

Just get a few pieces now and add to the list as your purse permits. Soon you'll have a complete service. FLAT

	break a piece you can instantly replace it from our stock.	John Mave a complete service. Should you
	FLAT PLATES per dozen, \$8.50 to\$5.00	
	SOUP PLATES, per dozen \$8.50	SAUCE TUREENS, each
	FRUIT SAUCERS for dozen	SAUCE DUAIS, each
	FRUIT SAUCERS, per dozen \$4.00	COVERED BUTTERS, each
	FLAT DISHES, each, \$7.50 to \$1.75	CARE FLATES, nandled, each
	TEAS AND SAUCERS, per dozen, \$0.50 to \$10.00	INDIVIDUAL BUITERS, per dozen\$2.00
	DOULLEON COLD AND SALILERS per dozen 219 00	PICKLE DISHES, each
	A. D. CUFFEES AND SALLERS per dozen	SUGARS, each, \$2.25 to
38	CHOCOLATE CUPS AND SAUCERS dozen &10 00	CREAMS, each, \$1.50 to
	CHOCOLATE POIS, each, \$3.50 and	LOBSTER SALAD POWLS and Communication
	COVERDIBILES, Oval. each	LOBSTER SALAD BOWLS, each, \$2.00 to
	CASSERULES, round each	MAYONAISE BOWLS, each
	MAMINING AND STANDS, plain per dozen	Title D, Cacil
	Billians, each	DOWLD, Cacii
	SOUP TUREENS, each	MOUSTACHE CUPS AND SALICEDS and
	Many other "open stock" patterns are shown—come in n	
	patterns are snown—come in n	id see them.

You'll Like These Drapery Materials Some New "Art Craft" Creations That Are Delightful

One of the most conspicuous fines received in the Drapery Department during the past few days is the shipment of new "Art Craft" drapery materials. For casement windows these materials are especially desirable. Pleasing Colonial effects—and a choice of colorings that permit of much choice. Come in and inspect these pieces and let us suggest new "treatments" for your windows.

Some wonderfully attractive effects can be produced with the proper materials—and we believe we have the right stock. These new patterns, together with our other magnificent stock gives you the broadest choice in the West. Some new Arabian Curtain Net also received last week.

perts-there's no charge for advice, and you may learn something of value.

Buffets Smart, New Styles

Of course you want to have the dining-room correctly furnished-it is the one room where the whole family most often assembles. And one enjoys a meal more if this room is daintily furnished.

We show every needlinen, silver, china, cutlery, glassware, furniture, carpets, curtains, etc. No such assortment of all these lines is shown in any other western store, and nowhere else in this West will you find such a latitude in the matter

Just at present our show ng of buffets is worthy of special comment. Especially in dainty, small styles are we well supplied. Come in and let us show you what we consider the finest exhibition of buffets we have ever shown.

If you fancy a diningroom in the popular Mission style you'll find us grandly prepared to execute your commands—we have splendid assortment of Mission furniture for the dining-



A Real Easy Chair Nothing to Surpass a Good "Morris" Chair



Peer of all easy chairs is the Morris. And more especially if it is a leather-upholstered Morris chair. You won't find a more comfortable chair than a Morris, and if it is upholstered in leather you have a chair that is practically everlasting.

Come in any time and let us show you how really comfortable some chairs can be made and at the same time notice the striking beauty of the late additions to this stock of ours. . We have recently added some very pleasing Mission designed Morris chairs with leather cushions. Send one home and enjoy in comfort your favorite book.

Many prices-here are three late ones: One is especially inviting. The frame is of solid oak finished in the popular Early English finish. Cushions are made of selected leather of an attractive olive shade. This is a great, large, roomy chair. Priced at \$50.00.

We have another, slightly smaller, at \$40.00. And still another excellent Morris Chair, in either

olive or maroon leather, at \$30.00. Come up to the Third Floor and see our magnificent display of leather furniture.

Send for Our Big Catalogue

If you haven't already received a copy of our big catalogue of home-furnishing goods, send us your name and address by return mail, and we shall forward you a copy. It is a big book, full of valuable information for

This Stock Bedrooms are best fur-

Bedrooms

Best Furnished from

nished from this stock of ours-easiest because you'll find here the most comprehensive and complete assortment of every necessary item, most artistically be cause the very newest and best ideas are shown, economically because our prices represent the very best values in quality merchandise.

Recent additions in furniture for the bedroom show some unusually pleasing pieces. The creations in mahogany and in Circassian Walnut are worthy of special mention. It is impossible to do justice to these handsome pieces here. Come in and inspect them you won't regret the time thus spent.

Carpets, curtains, beding, etc., in great abundance-everything you need under this one roof.



Use the New Ladies' Restroom

Ladies should remember that our rest room is theirs to use any time, whether a customer of this establishment or not. It's a convenience, planned for ALL Victorian women folk. A convenient place to read, write, rest or meet your friends. Use it-Second Floor,

WELLER BROS

Five Floors of Home Comforts

WEILER BROS

Provincial Government the Body to Consider th tire Question as It A This Province.

At a special meeting of the ex of the Provincial government yes of the Provincial government morning value of the St. Lennie of St. Lennie of D. H. MacDow of Victoria, Erskine of Van dwer, to cor special commission on fire matters, of which Mr. Lennie as chairman, one of his fellow sloners, in all probability assu secretarial duties.

sioners, in all probability assumin secretarial duties.

The scope and instruction of the mission is to inquire generally in business of fire insurance carried the province of British Columbia cluding the placing of insurance in ish Columbia with companies or a ations in the United States or jurisdictions, and to report upo results of such investigaton; and cially as to the advisability and method of government supervisithe of all companies or associations of all companies or associations of all companies or fire insurand this province, and as to compelling to obtain licenses from the proating province, and as to compelling to obtain licenses from the proating the transaction of such ness and to furnish adequate sec to British Columbia policy holders all valid claims which they may against such companies or associal will be promptly paid.

P. E. Island Service. OTTAWA, Jan. 24.—Marine Der ment officials believe that the ice breaker Earl Grey will be ab maintain service between the m land and Prince Edward Island this winter. This has not been sible before with any of the other breakers.

PROPOSES BRINGING SETTLERS TO ISLAN

Commissioner Coombe, of Sa vation Army, Arrived Ye terday and Tells of Proje for Populating This Island

In the course of a special tour of it spection of the different Canadias stations and for the purpose of maling a special investigation into several colonization schemes the Salvation Army has under consideration a fecting British Columbia, Vancouvisland in particular, Commissions Coombe, officer commanding in the Dominion with headquarters at Toror to, accompanied by a staff of official arrived last evening. It is his interto, accompanied by a staff of official arrived last evening. It is his inter-tion to remain several days deliverin an address tonight on "The Making of Canada" at St. Andrew's Presbyteria

church.

For some months Commissione Coombe has had under consideration a project for the direction of a larg number of British settlers to the isl and, his idea teing to place them on the lands being cleared by the E. & N. railway company along its line. Already an understanding has been reached with the railway managemen and, while the commissioner would and, while the commissioner would make no definite statement of just what the effect of the agreement between the two parties to the contract are when approached by the Colonist yesterday he did not deny that his wight to this section at the present time is accounted for to an extent by its existence. It is possible that, with those here in his company, he will make a tour of the road in order to ascertain the progress being made in the clearing of land.

the clearing of land.

"Our object," he said "is to direct a stream of emigrants to these parts." The amount of land we can secure is practically unimited and the Salvation Army will have no difficulty in obtaining almost any number of suitable settlers. For the most part the newcomers will be from Great Britain but the scope of our work is such, and its thoroughness is so generally recognized that we are innundated with inquirias from the four corners of the world. Tillers of the land of excellent character have asked us for homesteads in Canada, not only from the British Isles but from other parts of Europe and even from parts of the United States. Our chief task is to assure ourselves that the land we send them to is suitable for profitable cultivation.

Commissioner Coombe is a man poscommissioner Coombe is a man pos-sessing a striking personality and as a speaker, is one of the most magnetic ir. Canada. When he delivered the lec-ture on the "Making of Canada," which he is to give here tonight at Vancouver he was confronted with a crowded house. As he is not unknown to Victorians having made a number to Victorians, having made a number of visits to this point, it is expected that there will be a large number out

ALARM FOR FARALLON

SEWARD. Jan. 24.—Considerable fear is felt here regarding the safety of the steamer Farallon, which has been on the westward run in place of the Dora while the latter vessel was in Seattle for repairs. The Portland which reached here from Kodiak this afternoon, brings word that the Farallon has not yet touched at Kodiak, where she was due January 6 or 7, on the voyage west from here to Dutch Harbor. Severe storms prevailed about that date, and shipping men are inclined to believe that the Farallon was driven ashore in one of the gales. The officers of the Portland concur in this belief. The latter vessel had a tempestuous voyage, er reaching here from Kodiak two days overdue, on account of blinding snow-storms.

The Alaska Steamship company, of Seattle, states that it is not alarmed for the Farallon, which left Valdes January 2 and was not due back until Negative 20