

The Colonist.

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IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

While the proceedings of the conference on naval defence are being conducted in camera, the London Times intimates that three principles have been accepted, which it thus defines:

1. That each Dominion must develop naval resources of its own.

2. Training material for this naval force must be as far as possible, the same.

3. All individual efforts must be coordinated to common end.

At the British Club banquet Mr. Haldane proposed the toast of "The Imperial Defence Conference," and in the course of his remarks said the Empire is "one and indivisible" on the question of defence, and placed the navy in the first place. Sir Frederick Borden, who is one of the Canadian representatives at the conference, replied. He said the several dominions recognized their imperial responsibility, and that the people of Canada were prepared to pay their share of the cost. He looked upon thorough preparations for local defence as the best preparation for imperial defence. Referring to the military policy of Canada, he said that it ought to be so carried out that if it were desired to send a force to any part of Europe it could be done. He asked why the same thing cannot be done in the case of the navy. Sir Frederick's remarks seem to warrant the opinion that the policy of the Canadian government is the establishment of an effective navy under Canadian control primarily, but affiliated with the Royal navy, and in case of war under the same general command. A system of imperial defence based upon such a principle would, if honestly carried out, prove very effective. It would provide for at least four auxiliary navies ready to act in cooperation with that of the United Kingdom. As asked why the governing dominions increase in wealth and population there would be built up under such a plan a remarkable combination of fleets, which would be a potent factor in preserving the peace of the world. Under the British naval supremacy, which has been maintained, for no European power could hope to create anything corresponding to the Overseas Fleet, and the United Kingdom can always be trusted to hold her own in European waters.

The Imperial Defence Conference seems likely to be an epoch-making gathering. We quote with hearty approval Sir Frederick Borden's statement that "Canada would be prepared to spend its last dollar to assist in maintaining the integrity of the Empire."

SPAIN.

"At this time Spain was unable to interfere because she was marching headlong to utter ruin." So wrote a historian speaking of the invasion of Austria by the Turks in the latter part of the Seventeenth Century. Historically, we suppose the march was then in progress but the stage of utter ruin has not yet been reached. The first blow at the prestige of Spain was struck by Francis Drake, when he sacked the town of Nombre de Dios, which was in 1572. The nation has therefore been a long time dying. The record is a pitiful one. The question of today is not if Spain will continue to exist as a nation, but under what conditions will it exist. Its present regime dates from its war with the Moors in Europe. Will it be ended by war with the Moors in Africa?

The present disturbances are more acute at Barcelona than elsewhere. This city is on the shores of the Mediterranean near the northwestern corner of the kingdom. It is a city of about 300,000 people, a manufacturing centre of considerable importance and the headquarters of a large, coasting trade. Four lines of railway centre there. It is a very ancient city, having been founded, probably, by a colony from Carthage, even before Rome was built. In a direct line it is about 350 miles from Madrid, but considerably further by the railway lines. Being accessible from the sea, the government can easily throw a force of men into the city provided the army and navy remain loyal.

A dispatch which needs confirmation, says that rioting has begun in Madrid and that King Alfonso was hissed by the mob, when he appeared at a window of the palace. A despatch of the same date said that the royal family was returning to Madrid from San Sebastian which is a long way from the capital. We may look for a good many exaggerated reports of various accounts. The most serious feature of yesterday's news was the disastrous defeat of the Spaniards by the Moors at Melilla. This city is on the African coast. It has belonged to Spain for some time and has been used as a penal settlement and a depot of military stores. The population is less than 3000; but a strong garrison has been maintained there. The cause of the outbreak of hostilities with the Moors is not very well understood. It is said to have arisen out of a dispute over mining lands; but its real cause is centuries old.

Political conditions in Spain have

been greatly unsettled for a long time. About thirty years ago a strong republican movement was rampant, but it collapsed for want of a leader. There was one man in Spain at that time who could have abolished the monarchy, Signor Castellar; but he refused to take the lead in such a revolution, for he said the people were not fit for republican institutions. Barcelona has always been a troublesome part of the Spanish monarchy.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

The World's Work says that British Columbia is essentially American—by which it means United States—except Victoria, which city is very English, even more so than many cities in England itself. This observation is that of a superficial observer. British Columbia is essentially Canadian. Victoria is not more English than some other towns in Canada. The reason for thinking British Columbia "American" is that the methods of "booming" real estate in Vancouver are similar to those adopted in Seattle. We join issue upon the point that the methods of other real estate men in Canada. But we let that pass. Vancouver can look after itself without our assistance. No reason is given for thinking that Victoria is more English than many places in England, possibly because the writer of the article did not know any. The readiness with which people who have never been in England recognize the likeness between Victoria and English cities is remarkable. The cause of this is in part to be found in some of our tourist literature, wherein the city is described as "a little bit of England." It is not a good idea to get abroad. The expression was used to catch the eye of the casual tourist, whose means did not permit him to see the real England, and who consequently came here to see something "just as good," as the vendors of patent medicines are alleged to say on all occasions. Doubtless there are parts of Victoria where, because of the luxuriance of the trees, shrub, and flower growth, something resembling to a greater or less degree some parts of England is to be found. Perhaps the hedges and high board fences, now not so common as they were, suggest what is called English exclusiveness. Perhaps the fact that there are a good many English people in town, and country makes it unlike most other Canadian towns. Perhaps the fondness of the ladies for five o'clock tea suggests England to tourists, whose literary food is the novel of alleged English life. Perhaps the fact that our people are not, as the Boston man said of the New Yorkers, "eagerly in a hurry to get nowhere and do nothing," suggests England to a visitor who thinks he is not doing justice to himself and his city if he is not eternally at high pressure. For all these things, except the high board fences, we trust that we are duly thankful; but they do not make Victoria more English than some cities in England. They are attractive features of the city. They are, among other things, what makes everybody who has stayed here any length of time wish in the bottom of their hearts that Providence would so order matters that they could remain here the rest of their natural lives. But there is another Victoria, which has kept itself somewhat in the background, but is making its influence felt. It is a Victoria which refuses to regard itself as simply a residential port; that is determined to take advantage of its splendid opportunities; that, while British to the core in all that pertains to loyalty to the Crown, to British institutions, and to the Empire, is thoroughly Canadian in its confidence in the future of the country and in its determination to share fully in its growth and prosperity. The real Victoria is not simply "a little bit of England," but a Canadian city full of hope for the future.

Madame Nordica has married a banker. Madame Nordica's own notes were fairly valuable.

In regard to young girls instructing young Chinamen, how would the following do? Permit no intercourse with young Chinamen that would not be permitted with young white men.

The Princess Alexandra of Fife has concluded that a matrimonial alliance with the King of Portugal is a little too risky; and has concluded not to contract it. Most people will think her wise. It would not have been a love match any way, although she is apparently a nice little girl and he is a nice enough boy.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller has given \$52,000,000 to the General Education

Board of the United States. He could not have given it if he had not first got it. Here there is question for debate. Would it have been better that he should never have got it than that he should have got it and given it? When that question is answered correctly, a grave problem in social and political economy will have been solved.

A correspondent of a contemporary asks whether the Lord's Day Alliance base their Sunday legislation on religious or political grounds. The Secretary of the Alliance answered such a question when the Colonist proposed it to him by saying that it was not based on religious grounds, but intended solely to secure the people one day of rest in seven.

The proposed compromise of the E. & N. bridge question would really be better than no right of crossing at all. If the city loses in the proceeding before the Railway Commissioners, it may be impossible to get what the company is now willing to grant. We have, however, a good deal of faith in the good sense of the Commission, and perhaps it can find a way out of what now seems to be an impasse.

It does not matter much to any one what becomes of that dirty little wretch Thaw, who would have been dead and buried long ago if his mother was not a millionaire, but it does matter a good deal to the people of the United States how the farce now on the boards in White Plains, N. Y., is played out. The murderer on examination claims to be perfectly sane, although he admits that he may have been insane when he killed his victim. If he is sane, a premium will be put upon murder in the United States, for his escape from the consequences of his crime will inspire others to similar deeds, and the president of his acquittal will influence juries in other cases. Law and justice are themselves on trial in New York.

A very interesting decision has just been given by the Supreme Court of California. It is that "the goodwill of an undertaking forms no part of the valuation of a public service corporation in fixing rates." The Contra Costa Water Company supplied the city of Oakland, and under the law the City Council had the right to fix the rate to consumers. With this object they investigated the affairs of the company and found its plant to be worth \$4,500,000 and fixed a rate that would return 5.53 per cent. on this amount. The company, being dissatisfied, applied to a judge, who doubled the valuation, the additional amount representing the goodwill. The company then elected a city council that was subservient to its will, and that council fixed the water rate so as to return 7 per cent. on \$7,000,000. Fortunately the citizens of the council, which had had the valuation made in the first instance, appealed. Pending the decision of the appeal, the Contra Costa Company sold to the People's Water Company for \$10,000,000. The decision in the case is that the valuation of the property at \$3,500,000 and the rate of 5.53 per cent. on that amount shall stand. The decision is a binding upon any court outside of the State of California; but the reasons which led the judges to the decision are worthy of consideration, for they appear to be greatly in the public interest.

The London Morning Post thinks the "sanest and most hopeful method of dealing with pauper children is to board them out to Canada, and the other Dominions as early as possible." This is one of a class of observations which sound wiser than they are, because they are expressions of opinion from those who would not know how to carry them into effect. It is probably not a matured opinion, formed after examining the case from every point of view, but the hasty judgment of one who felt called upon to say something. We can well believe that the problem presented by the pauper children of England is a very serious one. We also are ready to admit it to be the duty of Canada and the other Dominions to assist in the regeneration of our own race. To say these things is to utter the merest commonplace observations. What would be of value would be the suggestion of some practical means whereby the desired regeneration can be brought about. We saw the other day that a pauper Canadian child in Toronto sought relief from his troubles in the kindly waters of Lake Ontario. Canada has not yet learned how to take care of her own pauper children, and to send a lot of pauper children from England to our shores might, except under a well devised and well administered system, be worse than a failure. The Morning Post seems to think that the practice of shipping "ne'er-do-wells" to the Colonies might be extended a little further with advantage. We do not say it might not be; but we do say that if our London contemporary thinks so, it ought to tell us how the selection is to be made in England and how the children are to be placed in Canada.

"LORNA" PERFUMES

EXTRACT FROM WILD FLOWERS OF EXMOOR

Bids fair to become the most popular odor in Victoria. Deliciously fragrant and refreshing.

HAVE YOU EVER TRIED IT?

Above all it is lasting and it is the odor of nothing but Devonshire Wildflowers. You can buy as much or as little as you please. 50c per ounce.

CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST

1228 GOVERNMENT STREET, NEAR YATES

WEILER BROS.

Home Furnishers Since '62

VICTORIA'S FAIREST PRICES—ALWAYS AT THE

"FIRST FURNITURE STORE OF THE LAST WEST"

WEILER BROS.

Home Furnishers Since '62

Newest in Axminster Hearth Rugs

AN EXCELLENT ASSORTMENT OF NEW ARRIVALS SHOWN HERE TODAY

HEAVY, wool-back Axminster Hearth Rugs that won't curl at the edges to trip you, have just been priced in the carpet store. Fresh from the famous Templeton looms, they show the latest ideas from the carpet fashion centres. Nothing better in quality or style than these.

There is a nice assortment of colorings in both floral and oriental patterns and some decidedly attractive rugs in the lot. Several sizes, averaging about 33 x 70 inches, shown. Ideal for the hall, parlor, private office or most any room. Priced from, each—\$9 to \$66

We have lately added some new carpets and drapery materials to this floor's stock and a visit at the present time would be "worth while."

See the Aynsley China Tea Sets in Our Window

YOU MUSTN'T miss seeing the dainty china tea sets shown in the Government Street windows. These are Aynsley creations—the handsomest little-priced china tea sets we have shown. New arrivals, too, just priced during the past week.

You'll look far and wide before you'll find 40-piece tea sets of such superior ware and fascinating decorations priced at these figures. There is a big choice of patterns and shapes and many, YOU'LL like. Pleased to have you come in and inspect at closer range. Prices range at, per set—

\$10 \$12 \$12.50 \$15 \$18 \$22.50 \$25 \$27.50 \$30 and \$35

WHY NOT HUSTLE AND GET SOME OF THESE DAINTY CHINA PIECES?

IF YOU have not already chosen some of these dainty china pieces just received from the Aynsley potteries you should hustle in today and get one or more. But it'll be a case of hurry for they are fast disappearing. Tourists and residents appreciate real daintiness in china and doubly so when the price is so fair as you'll find on these pieces. Let us show you some of these today—there won't be a complete assortment tomorrow.

ROUND BOXES, at 75c to 50¢
OVAL BOXES, at \$1.00 to 50¢
HEART BOXES, at 75c to 50¢
"AT HOMES" each 75¢
DESSERT PLATES, at each 75¢
JUGS, each \$1.00 to 75¢
A. D. CUPS AND SAUCERS, each 50¢
CRUETS, with salt, pepper and mustard, each \$1.75

EGG STANDS—4 egg cups and stand, at each \$2.00
SQUARE SHELLS, at each 60c to 35¢
HONEY POTS, at each \$1.00
TEA CADDIES, at each \$1.00
HAIR TIDIES, at each \$1.00
MARMALADE POTS, at each \$1.50
BISCUIT JARS, at each \$2.00
FERN POTS, at each 75¢

Three Minutes

This is all the time required to make from one to eight loaves of light, fine-grained, wholesome bread with the

Manning-Bowman "ECLIPSE" Bread Maker

It does the work quickly and easily—requires no kneading—no experience—good bread the first time. The only bread maker in the world actually heading the list of comparison. Breads are cut in a few bakings.

Priced at Each \$3.00

Cake Stands—Special \$2.50

A Handy Item for Summer Teas

Here is a special value in an item of great service to those who delight in verandah or lawn teas—a special pricing on some English Cake Stands.

These stands are made of reed and straw. They are made to hold three plates. The convenience of such an item is at once apparent to the hostess who has had the experience of such a tea.

We have a few of these which we wish to clear at once, so offer this special pricing—

Regular Values \$3.50, to Clear at \$2.50

—First Floor Balcony

New Dinnerware Here Today

New dinnerware unpacked yesterday and before you have finished reading these lines we shall have it priced and ready for you on the first floor. Some interesting new patterns shown and at prices that'll do much to popularize this department of the big store. Come in and see them.

SEE THE CHARMING NEW FURNITURE IN WINDOWS

—A Hint to the Many Good Things Shown On the Floors Above

IF YOU'LL glance at our Broughton Street windows you'll get a hint of the good things in store for those who visit the furniture floors above. We are showing today some late additions to the furniture stock, picked at random from the many new things we have lately received.

In one window you will see some interesting pieces for the hall—the one room in the home that should be properly furnished. The addition of one of these pieces will improve your hall. Another window shows many interesting pieces in Mission furniture.

But don't be satisfied with looking in the windows. Costs no more to come inside and there is so much more to see in here, too. Make it a point to visit our furniture store today.

DINING ROOM FURNITURE

Smart Early English Finished Styles

A DINING ROOM finished in Mission furniture in the Early English finish and fitted with carpets and hangings to match is pleasing and decidedly popular with many of late. We anticipated this demand and bought for it. The result is that our collection of personally selected pieces in this class of furniture isn't excelled anywhere.

If you have a new dining room to furnish or an old one you desire to transform, give us an opportunity to show you these furniture pieces and suitable other furnishings and discuss the matter with you. Don't imagine that the cost of any such change is prohibitive, for such is not the case. It's surprising what little prices prevail here.

Let us show you the charming styles in Buffets with prices ranging at \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45, \$60 to \$100. IN CHINA CABINETS we show a big range. Prices are easy, ranging at \$22.50, \$25, \$30, \$35 up to \$75. EXTENSION TABLES in several styles are shown. Round and square designs, priced from \$15 to \$45.

Tourists' Headquarters Here

A Broad Choice Is Offered Here

A SET of souvenir spoons is much prized by the lucky folk. Souvenir spoons from the many corners of the world make an interesting collection of souvenirs. Take home one from Victoria for some friend of yours.

Tourists will find in our offerings one of the most complete collections to be found anywhere. Guaranteed sterling silver spoons of new and unusually artistic designs are shown. The values—well, come in and see the delightful spoons and then you'll understand what these prices mean. We have spoons from \$2.50 to \$1.25.

Special attention is called to a new line of Souvenir Spoons called the Emblem spoon. This spoon is of sterling silver in French grey finish, maple leaf design on handle and a verse of the Canadian national anthem on bowl. Priced at \$2.

Another interesting line is the Totem Pole Spoon. This spoon has a handle made to represent a totem pole making an attractive spoon. Priced at \$2.

Hundreds of other interesting items for tourists are to be found in this store. Some of the daintiest British and European china, the finest draperies, etc., are here—items you won't find at home.

FURNISHERS OF CHURCHES SCHOOLS BOATS

WEILER BROS. HOME FURNISHERS SINCE 1862.

FURNISHERS OF HOMES CLUBS HOTELS

BEAR HUNTING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From the Brin River Valley

with a favourable slant in the beautiful inlet on the western in the latest Admiralty charts the Indians as the Inlet of Gilt we found slides extending over try, a well-known haunt for bear son of the year, but still covered with green strips of grass along the ravines. We left camp at noon of our arrival at this glorious inlet, in plenty of time for a evening stalk, nor had we to than half an hour under the trees on the side facing the bear a large black bear stepped into a knoll 500 feet above the w three-quarters of a mile away saw him, and looked immense him walk down to a narrow brook, where he drank eagerly sent the canoe flying across the four pairs of arms could make her heel grated on the rocks and off uphill after him. The away, and it became intensely we stood on the plateau, within where we had last seen our bear downwards to the canoe, could vertically in the direction of that our bear was ahead of though still invisible to us. V ready we carefully approached trees indicated, and were act teen yards of the bear, when cough he was gone. Regrets w rushed to the highest point ne follow his track through the swaying of the branches, but the slightest chance of a shot. eral days at Gilt-tu-yes, but o weather our chances were ruin der of continual avalanches, k the move and bears in the rec est. Day and night one heard roar as thousands of tons of sno ly in all directions.

From Gilt-tu-yes we move miles to Kitlope, at the head of proper, in the hope that the fval might have brought fairer took up our abode in a deserte the mouth of the Kitlope river, noon of our arrival we separat nent hunt, my companion wat celled slides at the junction and an unnamed river that e the country to the northward e the Kitlope, while I took the l chance to watch all the country the west side of the inlet. We and had not rowed a furlong sighted a bear on some narrow mile away. He was feeding c so we had to use the utmost c came nearer he would stop fee ly, looking anxiously in our though a bear's eyesight is his we rested on our oars until he work munching great mouthfu the openings among the tree the wind there was favoured u soon ashore, immediately bel covert in which he was feeding.

The avalanches in this part the mountains had cut the fore five strips of covert, leaving t between each section, just as cle of timber or undergrowth as e English game cover. Frank i up the slide where the bear h ing in case he broke back. Day the next one where we imagin emerge. Five minutes, ten, twi cracked, and out he cam light less than forty yards a spectacle of a wild animal at s saw us, as we crouched beside shone straight into his eyes an daze him, so I drew a bead on der and let him have it. It c chance imaginable, and no du failed to take advantage of i bear, had a coat every bit as f cessors, and in size ranked a li our second.

Rowing home in the twiligh Kemano Indian stalking a sma the hill above us, and were g to see the stalk end in the dis Indian and the bear galloping over the distant snowfields. V vicinity of the mouth of the K at least ten days, and saw dur least a dozen bears, some of w were seen twice over. With t Kemano Indians May 14 is de day of bear shooting from the erage spring is so timed that t tion is accepted as approximate.

Our fourth bear came to h unsuccessful stalks in the Kitlo camped at the mouth of the B five miles from Kitlope, and some slides in the vicinity, w away, a big black bear sudden the top of a withered pine tree the canoe. We were at a loss this extraordinary behaviour w herself down again, and we The hillside at this point p precipitous, choked with fal dense underbrush, so thick th ing could be seen until we cl hundred feet on to the rocky p had first seen the bear, when breath. Below us lay the cano companions; above us a steep