

## THE PROVINCIAL SITUATION.

The decision of the Executive of the Provincial Liberal Association, that it would not be opportune at the present time to call a convention to deal with the question of introducing party lines in our provincial affairs will, we think, be admitted to be the only course open to them. In the first place there would not be time before the provincial campaign is on to get together a convention thoroughly representative of the Liberals of the province, and in the second if the meeting did decide on entering the contest as representing the Federal Liberal party, it would be desirable that the choice of leader should be an open one and that every name brought forward should go before the meeting on perfect equality. The situation at the present time does not admit of this. Mr. Martin has been called on by the Lieut.-Governor to form a government, and it is not probable that in the event of the choice of the convention falling on other shoulders he would withdraw from the Premiership and recommend His Honor to select the choice of the convention as his successor. The time seems to be approaching when the parties in this province will naturally divide themselves on Federal party lines, but that time has not yet arrived. When it does come, however, the Liberals in convention will adopt the platform on which they will appeal to the electors. We believe the great majority of the Liberals of British Columbia are not in favor of Mr. Martin as Premier, and that the only course is to leave the question of supporting or opposing his administration to the judgment of the individual electors. The one great desideratum at the present time is to secure a stable, progressive government, while we are certain that the introduction of party lines just now would be likely to result in a more chaotic state of affairs than now confronts us.

## THE ISLAND ROAD.

While what has been said in connection with the matter of the Great Northern extending its line to the northwestern end of Vancouver Island is so far merely rumor, we see no reason why discreditable should be cast upon it. Were the project merely one for the purpose of opening up a district of great wealth such as the West Coast is known to be, serious doubt might be entertained in regard to it, but when its construction means the saving of at least two days in the race for the Orient, a flavor of glamour and probability is lent to it which it would not otherwise have.

At the present time there is no one who is devoting more attention to the study of the question of Eastern trade than James Hill. He it is who is making the most ambitious efforts to secure the commerce of the Orient, one form of which is revealed in his projected trans-Pacific liners. Any move which will give him an advantage over his rivals for that trade, he is enlarged carriers or extended lines of railroad, is sure to engage his attention. Once convinced of the effectiveness of any line of action he is not likely to be stopped by obstacles, however great.

The direct advantage to this city of the carrying out of any such scheme would be small compared to its general advantage to the Island. This city would benefit indirectly by this development, but in a matter of this kind no narrow view should be taken, and whatever involves the opening up of this Island should meet with the cordial approbation of Victoria's citizens.

The operation of the island line in connection with a great transcontinental system, would make it a revenue producer to an extent that it could never be as an isolated line. The same remark is true of the car ferry, be it to Point Roberts or to Port Angeles.

## CABINET REPRESENTATION.

By right of its present position and its future prospects the demand of British Columbia for representation in the Dominion cabinet cannot be ignored. The Minister of the Interior is no doubt a man of ability, with a strong conception of the needs of the immense territory over which he has jurisdiction and inestimable energy in looking into all the details of his important department, but no man hampered with ordinary human limitations can possibly undertake the work entrusted to Mr. Sifton and do justice to it. Manitoba and the Northwest Territories constitute the proper field for the Minister of the Interior, to exercise his talents upon, and if he successfully administers that important department he does his duty to his country. We have been told that sectionalism should be discontinued; that it is not where a man comes from, but what he is, that should be the chief consideration in determining his fitness for a cabinet position. That is a very plausible theory, but it is only a theory. The members of the present administration, and in fact of almost every administration since Confederation, have been selected because they represented certain parts of the country or particular classes of people. There is no possibility of successfully refuting this statement. There is nothing inherently wrong in this method of selecting a government, for in a country with the extent of territory of the Dominion of Canada the only possible way of securing justice to the more remote sections is to have them represented in the councils of the nation. British Columbia, with no one directly delegated

to look after her interests, has a greater extent of territory than some combined sections of the East represented by half a dozen cabinet ministers. We are a long way from the central government here, and we are convinced that the only way in which justice can be done is to have a man in the cabinet who is thoroughly aware of the conditions in British Columbia and can place our requirements before the members of the government. We candidly admit that there is a certain amount of dissatisfaction in this province with the treatment we have received at the hands of the Liberal government. There is a feeling that the ministers to whom our affairs are supposed to have been committed has not visited the province as frequently as the magnitude of the interests in his keeping demanded, although he has no doubt done his best to attend to his multifarious duties, and we are assured that the only way in which this dissatisfaction can be allayed is by doing British Columbia justice and giving her the representation to which she is entitled by right and which no government can long or reasonably deny.

## THE QUEEN.

The enthusiasm of the people of London at the appearance of the aged sovereign in the streets yesterday and today was no doubt stimulated to a certain extent by the recent success of British arms in South Africa. The Queen personifies the nation, and on such great occasions the presence of Her Majesty adds to the strength of the patriotic outburst. In the case of our Queen, however, the manifest interest which she now takes and has always taken in the personal welfare of her people has drawn forth the deep love of all hearts. The many instances that are related of her gentle, kindly and womanly attention to those of her subjects with whom she has been brought personally in contact, who from age or illness were in need of assistance, show that although a sovereign she is none the less a true woman. These things were no doubt in the minds of those who took part in yesterday's great demonstration. The mere sentiment of loyalty between sovereign and subject could never have called forth the heartfelt exchange of good wishes which we are told occurred in the streets of London. There was a large personal element discernible in the situation. On the part of the people no doubt there was the feeling that one who had for so many years lived in the "fierce light that beats upon a throne" and exemplified the ideal of a true gentleman could not be by all the laws of nature take part in many more such demonstrations; on the part of the sovereign tears of gratitude for the evidences of love and affection such as no ruler in the history of the world has been the object of. Who can estimate the effect for good of such a truly noble life on the population not only of the British Empire, but upon the life of all the people of the world. It would be a fitting thing if in her declining years her decision to visit Ireland as a mark of appreciation of the devotion of the sons of the Green Isle to the British flag should result in at least an amelioration of the bitter feeling which some of that brave race mistakenly entertain towards the sister kingdom.

## THE BOERS' WEAKNESS.

It is admitted now by military men that if the Boers had been skillfully led and the rank and file of their army had been possessed of the qualities which distinguish the British soldiers, the garrison which so gallantly defended Ladysmith must have capitulated or been annihilated. What was long suspected is now perfectly clear, that the farmer soldiers of South Africa, while fairly good and stubborn fighters behind earthenworks or protection of any kind, have not the dash and headlong bravery which are necessary for an aggressive campaign against a courageous enemy. If Ladysmith had been attacked with the persistency with which Buller and his army launched themselves against the besiegers of that place in spite of repeated repulses, White and his men would long ago either have been destroyed or among the British now resident in the race-course of Pretoria. We are informed that at the time of its relief the garrison was in dire extremities, not so much for food as for lack of ammunition of heavy calibre. The naval guns, the only instruments capable of keeping the Boers at a safe distance, had only forty rounds of shell left, and if the commanders of the besiegers had any gift of deduction, or even of intuition, they must surely have detected the position of affairs. As no attempt was made to take advantage of the great weakness of Gen. White and his men, the only inference is that either the Boer commanders were incapable or their followers got such a dose in their only attempt to carry the position by assault that they had no desire to repeat the experiment.

The reputation which the Boer generals gained in the first few engagements has also suffered somewhat by recent events. Their strategic knowledge seems to have been confined to the simple move of fighting for a time behind an advanced entrenched position and then retreating to a stronger one in the rear, thus luring the enemy into a trap. This proved successful a couple of times when the British were not in large enough force to execute any intricate manoeuvres and were eager to take ad-

vantage of apparent successes, but, as we now see, when matched against a master of strategy, their whole system simply goes to pieces. Cronje remained in his entrenchments until completely surrounded and entrapped, instead of retreating and joining forces with his friends when he might have done so, while Joubert failed to take full advantage of his opportunities at Ladysmith, and thus the reputations for military genius which were gained at the beginning of the war by two untutored Boer farmers shattered.

## CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDE.

The clouds still hang low in the political atmosphere, and it cannot be said that the meetings being held daily in the interests of the various factions or parties are tending to dissipate the haze. The action of the Conservatives at all the meetings which they have held cannot but rouse suspicion that the advancement of party interests rather than the good of the province is the ruling passion with them. The tone of the meeting held here last night indicates that those who favor sinking all party aspirations for the general welfare of the province may be in a minority, and that it may be decided, as far as Victoria is concerned, to put into Conservative candidates in the field. Matters political are complicated enough at present, but the result of such action at the Victoria Conservatives, who have hitherto been at least nominally neutral as regards provincial questions, could not be other than "confusion, worse confounded." The Conservatives of Vancouver, of New Westminster, and of several smaller constituencies, favor Federal divisions, although not unanimously, it is true, and it is not improbable that if the Victoria meeting decides to adopt the same course, other provincial constituencies may be induced to follow their example and place straight party candidates in the field. Mr. Turner may sink his leadership and decide to follow the chieftain chosen by the straight Conservatives, but it is hardly probable that Mr. Cotton will prove so complaisant, and he will certainly, as far as indications count for anything, have a considerable following. We commend these considerations to our Conservative friends, and would advise them to carefully measure the depths of the pool before they take the irrevocable plunge.

## COEUR D'ALENA TROUBLES.

(Associated Press.)  
Washington, March 10.—The cross-examination of Frederick A. Martin, a miner, was continued at the Coeur d'Alene investigation to-day. He was closely questioned by Representatives Mondell and Clark as to his presence on the train which carried the riotous party to Wardner. He maintained that he was there by chance and had no knowledge of, or took part in, the attack on the mill. He saw some armed and masked men, but the seriousness of the situation did not appear to him until after the mill was blown up. At one time he said, an unknown man pinned a ribbon on his coat, but there was no explanation of its meaning. From a distance he saw the explosions and afterwards saw one of the men, Shayne, lying shot on the roadside.

## SUSPENSION OF STINSON'S BANK.

Hamilton, March 9.—The depositors of the defunct Stinson Bank have appointed a committee to take immediate steps toward obtaining a full and correct record of all properties held by Stinson, and look into all mortgages, their amounts and date on which they were registered, with a view to recovering the loss sustained through the suspension of the bank.

## DESPONDENT MEN

Find New Hope and Fresh Energy in Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills.

The care and worry, the anxiety and activity of business life constitute a serious drain on the nervous system. The business of this work-a-day world goes with such a rush that iron nerves even break down under the strain.



Men who want their brains bright and clear, and all their energies alive should take Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills on the first approach of a nerve break down. The reconstructive power of these pills on the nerve centres is simply marvellous. They induce sleep, restore vitality and vigor, and give new life to the mental and physical forces.

Middle aged men and men advanced in years are specially benefited by this remedy. Mr. H. Hancock, of Hancock & Sadler, of the popular Ingham Hotel, Galt, Ont., made the following statement: "I heartily recommend Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills to anyone needing a tonic for the nerves or requiring a medicine to build up the system when it becomes weakened and run down by the close application to business. I found the pills were just the medicine for my trouble. In fact, after taking three boxes I felt so much better that now I would not be without them. 'When I feel tired and worn out I take these valuable pills and find they reconstitute my nervous and physical strength. They seem to furnish just the elements required for reconstructing nerve tissue.'

## The Premier Endorsed

Liberal Meeting in Vancouver Decides in Favor of Mr. Martin's Platform.

The Question of Party Lines Will Be Considered at Another Meeting.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, March 10.—About three hundred people were at the Liberal meeting held last night. The resolution of the executive of the association passed last Saturday favoring Mr. Martin's platform was endorsed, but there was a strong division of feeling on the party lines question, and this indeed threatened at one time to break up the meeting. There was little new in Mr. Martin's statement of the political situation. He referred to the statement that he had received from the late government on account of reasons of government. The Deadman's Island matter was the sole cause of his break with the government. Semlin, he refuted the statement that he had disclosed cabinet secrets, and that the unfortunate incident that took place at Rossland was one that might happen to any man at any time. Then he went into a long discussion of the features of the platform of his party already published. Referring to the short line from the coast to Kootenay, Mr. Martin said they would see the road built before next spring, and concluded with a broad statement that the government proposed to put a regular network of railways over the province.

A resolution was then passed endorsing Mr. Martin's platform.

Mr. McLagan spoke of the great and glorious principles of Mr. Martin, while D. G. Macdonald promised his support to Mr. Martin, but opposed considering the question on party lines.

A resolution was proposed censuring the Province newspaper for stirring up strife in the party, but it was withdrawn.

J. H. Senkler made a strong speech against party lines, and said that this was a question that should have been discussed at the last meeting of the executive, instead of any subject being allowed to be taken up. He moved that it was not in the interests of the Liberal party that this election should be conducted on party lines.

Col. Warren in seconding the motion said that in the language of Mr. McLagan, a small and unimportant body of Liberals in Victoria opposed party lines.

An amendment was, however, passed to have the question dealt with by a convention, but no time was fixed for this. Mr. Martin said he was in favor of party lines, but it was quite open to the party to choose their course.

## UNITED STATES FINANCE BILL.

Washington, March 9.—Secretary Gage, at the cabinet meeting to-day, outlined his plan for carrying into effect the new finance bill expected to pass the House next Tuesday and approved by the President soon thereafter. The secretary explained that in all probability from 35 to 40 per cent of the outstanding bonds, which might be refunded under the new law, would be presented for exchange within a comparatively short time. This would involve cash payments as premiums to the holders of the old bonds amounting to from \$35,000,000 to \$40,000,000. The bonds would be dated April 1 and the amount of premiums to be paid on old bonds would be calculated from that date, the rate in all cases being the same, which, according to the terms of the new act, are such as shall yield a return of 2 1/2 per cent. per annum.

The plan and purposes of the secretary met with the general approval of the cabinet.

## QUEEN TO REVIEW TROOPS.

London, March 9.—The Queen drove through the West End this afternoon and everywhere was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Her Majesty was visibly affected and manifested extreme gratification at the warmth of her reception. The Queen's evident desire to sacrifice herself in order to please her people was manifested to-night by the announcement of her intention to review 2,000 Guardsmen to-morrow. These troops comprise the Buffs, the Grenadier Guards, and the Scots Grenadier Guards, who are proceeding to South Africa. The review will occur in the yard of Buckingham Palace in the afternoon.

The Court Circular says: "Her Majesty was to-day received everywhere with the same joy as yesterday, which has greatly gratified the Queen."

Dublin, March 10.—At a private meeting to-day of Nationalist members of the corporation of Dublin, which was attended by more than two-thirds of the entire council, a resolution was adopted by unanimous vote to present the Queen with an address of welcome on her visit.

## MCGOVERN DEFEATS GARDINER.

(Associated Press.)  
New York, March 9.—Terry McGovern, of Brooklyn, now holds the bantam and featherweight championships. To-night at the Broadway Athletic Club he more than proved his title by a signal defeat of Oscar Gardiner.

## FINCUE KNOCKS OUT DOYLE.

San Francisco, March 9.—In the welterweight boxing final, 145 pounds, H. W. Fincue, Olympic, knocked out Al. Doyle, Olympic. This makes Fincue the amateur champion of the United States in the welterweight class.

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Will last as long as the skirt  
No row edges

There is no gum or rubber or anything in Corticelli Skirt Protector that will chafe your shoes. It is made of specially grown specially spun and specially woven wool.

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Sewed on flat—not turned over—one or two rows of stitching—every dress goods shade.

Sold everywhere 4 cts. a yard.

Labeled thus **Corticelli**

## Queen's Trip to Dublin

Why Her Majesty Decided Not to Visit the Continent.

Italian Government Feared Anarchist Demonstrations During Her Stay in Italy.

(Associated Press.)

London, March 10.—Queen Victoria's decision to stay in her own dominions instead of going to Italy, and all jubilation in England in consequence, are not entirely due to the causes attributed by the press.

It is learned that the Italian government had daily been growing more nervous as the date of the Queen's visit approached, and finally notified Her Majesty's government that it would not care to accept the responsibility for the sovereign's safety owing to the strong anarchy movement throughout Europe. Reports from other powers confirmed the Italian impression.

This apparently was the chief factor in the Queen's sudden change of plans, and since that time the vessel and crew have been held at the station and the strictest watch kept on both.

Shortly after the vessel was sent to quarantine numerous cases of beriberi developed, three of which showing more serious symptoms were isolated. Each case proving fatal, led to a thorough investigation on the part of Quarantine Officer Foster, who took out the glands of the dead and forwarded them to the government specialist at San Francisco, who is a noted bacteriologist, for examination, while in one case, revealed positive evidence of bubonic plague, while the other two showed no traces of that disease.

This information was sent to Dr. Foster, who immediately began the use of anti-septic measures, and the result was a complete isolation of the crew of the Nanyo Maru with most satisfactory results, judging from the fact that no new cases have developed during the past thirty days since its use was commenced.

The ship will be released at 6 o'clock this evening, with the entire crew, except nine, who are afflicted with beriberi, but are convalescent, and they will be held until their systems are thoroughly purified.

Extra precautions were taken with the steamship which, when she arrived at the station, rocked with fever. Every movable article aboard was moved and scrupulously washed from stem to stern with strong disinfectants, and when she leaves the station to-day she will be in as perfect sanitary condition as she was when first launched.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.  
Premier Introduces a Bill Placing the Mounted Police on Same Footing as the Volunteers.

Ottawa, March 9.—Col. Downville introduced a bill to-day respecting the Northern Commercial Telegraph Co. Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced a bill to amend the Northwest Mounted Police Act. He explained that the bill provided that the provisions of the act should apply to all members of the force who were absent in South Africa.

Sir Charles Tupper thought the time had arrived when the government should make a statement as to what arrangements had been made for the representation of Canada at the Paris Exposition. This was all the more necessary because it was said the Minister of Public Works was going to represent Canada, and already an important member of the civil service had left his work here and gone there.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that he would make a statement in a few days. The House went into committee on Mr. Laurier's bill, appropriating two million dollars for sending the contingents to South Africa.

## Plague on Nanyo Maru

But One of the Crew Died From the Bubonic Plague.

The Steamer Released From Quarantine at Port Townsend.

A dispatch from Washington says: "Surgeon-General Wyman, of the marine hospital service, upon being shown a dispatch stating that it was denied that members of the crew of the Japanese steamer Nanyo Maru, which has been detained at Diamond Point, Wash., were suffering from the plague, said the facts are that the steamer arrived at Port Townsend quarantine January 30th, having had two cases of sickness on board en route. There was one death at the quarantine, and it was found to have resulted from the bubonic plague. There were also a number of cases of beriberi. The steamer has been thoroughly disinfected and released. The passengers and crew, who have been held in quarantine, will be released, but those who have been in the hospital will still be held."

A Port Townsend message says: "Notwithstanding the vigilance of the quarantine officers the fact has leaked out that one case of bubonic plague made its appearance at the Diamond Point quarantine station, the victim being a member of the crew of the Japanese steamer Nanyo Maru.

The case developed five weeks ago, and since that time the vessel and crew have been held at the station and the strictest watch kept on both.

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