

## NOTE AND COMMENT

There is an old saying to the effect that "There is no hope for him who falls to embrace his opportunity." If this is true, it is doubly applicable to nations as well as individuals, and we are reminded of its applicability to the present position of Canada by the fact that there is universal agreement that the Dominion is facing a magnificent opportunity because of the extreme favor in which it stands in the eyes of British investors. The Fire and Insurance Chronicle, in its issue of April 16, has a very instructive and interesting article on the question of "British Capital in Canada and Railroad Development." We quote the concluding paragraph:

The fact seems established that Canada's credit in London has risen to a position higher than that of any other part of the overseas Empire. Contributory to this have been not only the extent of the country's natural resources and its generally liberal and fair treatment of railroad and other enterprises making for their development, but its business and banking methods. The greater reason exists therefore for seeing to it that the good name of Canada is maintained in every particular. In some respects the Dominion has just now an unusual opportunity for interesting not only British but—recently pointed out in these columns—French capital as well. The hull in trade activity, and the training of speculative enterprises are steadily increasing Europe's available funds for high class investments. Financial, industrial and political uncertainty in the United States and South America are not attractive features to old country investors. And there are those who, with or without reason, sufficiently feel the ferment of socialism in Great Britain itself, to be somewhat deterred from domestic investments which would otherwise appeal to them. This then is Canada's opportunity.

It is probably correct to say that there is no similar area within the boundaries of the Dominion of Canada which promises to more richly reward the prospector than Vancouver Island. By far the greater portion of the surface is a virtual terra incognita, though the conviction is universal that it is rich in all the prime mineral resources. Apropos of this, we notice an article in the April issue of the Canadian Mining Journal, under the caption "The Need of Prospecting," which we reproduce, believing that it will appeal with special force to readers of the Colonist and all who are interested in the question of island development:

Mr. Leach, in his paper read before the Canadian Mining Institute, refers to the small amount of systematic exploration that has been done upon the Moose Mountain range. If this is true of Moose Mountain range, it is even more true of the other Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia iron ore districts. Mr. A. B. Williams, in his excellent monograph on "The Iron Ores of Ontario," makes a striking and effective comparison. He refers thus to the work done in one small section of the United States side of the Lake Superior country and contrasts it with what has been attempted in Northern Ontario: "The amount spent on exploration in the Verilion range alone, between Tower and Section 30, a distance of say thirty miles, probably surpasses all the money spent in actual exploration of the hundreds of miles of similar ranges in Northern Ontario." This fact is eloquent. One of the conditions that hamper the development of Canadian iron deposits is the fact that capitalists have a habit of over-estimating the value and extent of their holdings. Another cause is the apparent unwillingness of Canadian consumers to grant reasonable terms to possible shippers. In other words, with one or two exceptions, there appears to be a decided diffidence on the part of Canadians in embarking on the development of our iron ore deposits. The situation is a complicated one. But of this we are sure, namely, that Federal and Provincial bounties should be so adjusted as to encourage directly the use of Canadian ores.

We had not known that anybody particularly cared to know why fat men walk with a heavy stride, and the thin man, but it appears that some of the scientists in Paris have been interesting themselves in the question, with the result that the following "special cable dispatch" appears in a recent issue of the Toronto Globe:

Paris, April 17.—"Why do fat men walk with a proud carriage and, despite their joviality, often have a fierce look in the eye?" was the question discussed at length today before the French Academy of Science by Prof. Robinson, the eminent savant.

He expounded a complicated and highly technical explanation, showing that the reptilian of the stomach has the effect of drawing up the diaphragm and shortening the base of the thorax, thus lengthening the waist. The mechanical effect of this is that the stout, well-fed man is forced to strut. "At the same time," he said, "a very stout person is inclined to have a fierce look in his eye because the socket in which the eyeball moves is encumbered with adipose tissue."

"Toronto put forward a claim the other day of having as a citizen a third cousin of the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, the new British Premier, and now Ottawa goes Toronto one better by claiming possession of a first cousin to the distinguished statesman. A press dispatch from the federal capital says:

Mr. T. Bernard Williams, who for many years has been engaged in farming in the Canadian west, is now a resident of the capital, and a member of the Ottawa Reform Association. Premier Asquith's mother was an aunt of Mr. Williams on the paternal side, and as a youth the latter was a frequent visitor at Asquith's home in Yorkshire. Mr. Williams came to Canada twenty years ago, and spent two years at the Ontario Agricultural College prior to going into farming in the west. Last year, in the company of farmers' delegates sent to Great Britain by the Immigration Department, he toured England, and delivered some fifty lectures on agricultural resources of the Dominion.

Eden Raiment on Carey Road. Saturday afternoon the provincial police were notified that a man, absolutely naked, was haunting the vicinity of Carey road in the neighborhood of the old creamery building. Investigation failed to locate the western apostle of the Doukhobor tenets and a close search through the entire section no trace of the individual could be found.

## FORTY YEARS AGO

The British Colonist, Monday, April 27, 1868.

The bark Oakland, consigned to Mr. R. Broderick, arrived yesterday from San Francisco. She will load at Burrard Inlet with lumber for San Francisco.

Mails Coming at Last.—The steamship John L. Stephens sailed from San Francisco on Saturday last for Portland and the Victoria mails. She will connect with the Active at Astoria for Victoria.

A Noted Character Shot.—Samuel Brannan, a California millionaire, was shot and dangerously wounded in Napa county in that state on the 17th inst. by a squatter on his land who lay in ambush. After being shot Brannan was robbed of his watch by his assailant.

On Saturday afternoon no less than three steamers arrived at the same moment, the Isabel from Burrard Inlet, the George S. Wright from Portland and the Douglas from Nanaimo. They gave the bay an animated appearance and caused a large number of persons to collect on the wharves.

The Enterprise arrived at 10 o'clock yesterday morning from New Westminster, having been detained by the sitting of the council on Saturday night. Among the passengers were the Hon. Smith, Walkem, Stamp and Pemberton. A Cariboo express and mail also arrived.

The steamer Sir James Douglas came down from Nanaimo on Saturday evening. She reports the steamer Oriflamme taking on coal on Saturday afternoon. She had 130 U. S. troops on board and was filled with munition of war and stores. It was expected she would sail for the north on Sunday. The ship Eldorado would complete her cargo of stores on Sunday for San Francisco on Tuesday. The Douglas brought down a few passengers and a small cargo of barley and oats.

## ABOUT PEOPLE

The Rev. Dr. Rutherford Waddell, of Dunedin, who has recently published a volume of sermons under the title of "The Voyage of Life," is a County Down man, and was born near Banbridge, his uncle having been Captain Mayne Reid, the famous novelist. Of the book referred to the Melbourne Messenger says: "Dr. Waddell, of Dunedin, the post-preacher of New Zealand, has, at the urgent request of his people, published a little volume of sermons under the title 'The Voyage of Life.' The little book has all the winsomeness of its author, and that is saying something. Imagination, scholarship, sympathy and spiritual power are all here. The preacher who can find a sermon—and such a sermon—in 'Coaling' deserves that we do our best to him. Readers will remember that the Rev. Dr. Waddell, from his sermon, 'Behold the Lamb of God!' and if they will possess themselves of the smaller book they will find food for brain and heart and mind and soul for life. Preachers especially would do well to ponder the sermons and attempt an analysis of their power."

It need hardly be said, says the Westminster Gazette, that Mrs. Asquith is entirely at home in the world where her husband will now occupy the commanding position. She has a host of friends in her country home, many gifts and vivid personality have made her a place of her own apart from that which she fills as the wife of a distinguished man. She has unfortunately suffered much from ill-health during the last eighteen months, and this has necessarily withdrawn her from society in London; but she is now the way to recovery, and may be relied upon to play her part with distinction and success. It may be interesting to recall the friendship that long existed between Mr. Gladstone and Mrs. Asquith's family. It was to Mr. Gladstone that Sir Charles Tennant owed the baronetcy bestowed upon him in 1885 in recognition of his services to the Liberal party. The veteran statesman, who not only took the warmest interest in the projected marriage between the then Home Secretary, of his appointment, and Mrs. Tennant, in the spring of 1884, but himself attended their wedding, at St. George's Hanover Square. Conspicuous among the presents on that occasion was a book from Mr. Gladstone, inscribed in his own handwriting on the flyleaf "To Margaret Tennant, as she is and is to be." Mrs. Asquith was for many years as well known in the East End as in the West End of London. Her grand sisters, Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton and Lady Ribblesdale, started a creche for babies at Wapping, which they visited regularly, going down by penny steamboat. Mrs. Asquith visited the hospitals, and had a district in Aldersgate where a large number of factory girls were her devoted friends. She took them away to the country for their holidays, and devoted to helping them in every way possible. One of Mrs. Asquith's sisters, Mrs. Graham Smith, is a very successful amateur artist.

While in England the lawyer premier is the exception, in America the lawyer president is the rule. Of the twenty-five presidents since the first of the Republic all but seven have been lawyers. The exceptions are Washington, Monroe, the elder Jackson, Taylor, Johnson, Grant and Roosevelt. The next president will probably be a lawyer, for the most likely names are those of Taft, Hughes and Bryan. The predominance of the lawyer in American cabinets is no less conspicuous. Today, if the attorney-general, Mr. Bonaparte, should happen to be absent from Washington, Mr. Bonaparte could obtain competent legal advice from the secretary of state, Mr. Root, or the secretary of war, Mr. Taft, or the secretary of the interior, Mr. Garfield. In an emergency he might even consult the secretary of the treasury, Mr. Cortelyou, who is a law graduate, or the secretary of commerce and labor, Mr. Straus, who was a member of a law firm for nine years before entering mercantile life. In fact, only two members of the present cabinet—the postmaster-general, Mr. Meyer, and the secretary of agriculture, Mr. Wilson—are without some tincture of legal training or experience.

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## BRITISH OPINION

London Times.—Mr. Redmond's resolution in favor of Home Rule was carried with Mr. Simon's amendment saving the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament by a majority of 186 after a decidedly instructive debate. Though the present Government came into office pledged the hit not to bring forward a Home Rule Bill during the session, they did not bind themselves to refrain from giving Irish separatism all the indirect support in their power. They said it would be political dishonesty and a fraud upon the electors to introduce the Bill, but they reserved to themselves liberty to build a halfway house in the shape of "Devolution" and "partial administrative Home Rule" in the discharge of their administrative functions. They have exercised this liberty in both respects, and we know the results. The Irish Councils Bill of last year represents their endeavors to "lead up to the larger policy" in the field of legislation; cattle-driving, futile prosecutions, and an increase of the Irish police force are the fruits of Mr. Birrell's policy of "partial Home Rule" according to Irish ideas. The attitude which they adopted towards Mr. Redmond's thoroughgoing Home Rule resolution is a further illustration of the same policy. Their declarations to the British constituencies are to be interpreted. Before the elections they jeered at their political opponents and charged them with political dishonesty for parading the Home Rule "bogey" and "bugbear," and Mr. Birrell, who was then the head of the publications department of the Liberal party, declared that "Home Rule was not the issue, and though it would be positively deplorable to the people, the issue which the House of Lords would reject—they are justified in giving the Home Rule movement all the countenance they can, and in calling upon their supporters to advocate it, provided it is garnished with some verbal reserves. It is a pity that they did not bring all this plainly and prominently before the country at the time of the last election. Mr. Redmond has, at all events, taken care that they shall not be able to keep Home Rule in a judicious half-light when next they appeal to the people. The issue which he raises is perfectly clear, though it does not cover the whole problem, and his Liberal allies will not easily contrive to make light of it, or to shrink in the future. He twisted them with the strange and anomalous position in which, by their pre-election pledges, they have placed the question. They are at the head of a great majority which largely consists of professed Home Rulers. They are professed Home Rulers themselves. Yet by their electioneering speeches they have bound themselves not to pass a Home Rule Bill. Mr. Redmond is resolved to prevent them from fettering themselves by any such self-denying ordinance against Home Rule, he insists, must be a self-imposed when the next Parliament is chosen.

Mr. Redmond is quite clear what is the kind of Home Rule which he demands. He wants an Irish Parliament and an Irish Government, and he wants complete control of all purely Irish affairs. To do him justice, that has been his claim all along. When he helped the Government to draft the Devolution Bill, the greatest of American naval writers has warned us that from a naval point of view we could not safely trust a Parliament, even of avowed friends, to govern Ireland and independently of this country. Mr. Redmond and his followers avowed friends? Are the men behind them? Mr. Balfour, who made a brilliant and powerful speech on a subject that Mr. Birrell had told the House nothing on the great question before it. Mr. Birrell jeered at this problem in the airy and unconcerned fashion which we have become accustomed to expect from him, and he begged the Nationalists to give the British electors explanations upon certain points if they wanted Home Rule to be the chief issue at the next contest. They ought to state, he told them, what they would accept and what safeguards they would extend to the minorities. It is satisfactory to see that even Mr. Birrell feels that some safeguards would be necessary, though he holds, as we know, that "minorities must suffer," and he has looked upon their sufferings in Ireland without much effort to remedy them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, who wound up the debate on behalf of the Government, affirmed that he was as strongly in favor of self-government in regard to purely local matters as ever. That seems to be an announcement which other Nationalists besides Mr. Healy must not receive with unmitigated enthusiasm. But Mr. Redmond's motion went further than he is ready to go. He stated that he could not vote for it without Mr. Simon's amendment, because it did not explicitly recognize the supremacy of the House of Commons over the House of Lords. He held, moreover, that no House of Commons would be justified in sanctioning so vast a constitutional change as the resolution proposed. He held, moreover, that this Parliament has not got the powers, Mr. Asquith declared, are exhausted with regard to the problem of Irish government. That statement is satisfactory so far as it goes. What the Nationalists may think of it is another and an interesting question.

## COASTING CAPTAIN'S ENTITLED TO NOTICE

Judge Holds He Cannot Be Discharged or Leave Without Due Notification

A decision of interest to seafaring men has been handed down by Mr. Justice Martin, in which he holds that masters of coasting vessels cannot be discharged without notice, and that neither are they entitled to throw up their positions without similar notice to their employers. It was endeavored during the progress of the case to prove that such a custom prevailed in British Columbia. The custom, however, was not established to his lordship's satisfaction. The text of the judgment follows.

This action raises a question of importance to mariners of the port of Victoria, namely, is it the custom of that port that masters of tug-boats

## Dainty, Distinctive Waist Designs

Prettier far than those of last summer, lovely New York models that Gotham is going into ecstasies over just now:

- WHITE LAWN WAISTS, with Iris and lace trimming, others plainly tucked, all very newest fashion, long and short sleeves. Price \$1.25, \$1.40 to ..... \$1.65
- WHITE LAWN BLOUSES, beautifully embroidered with attachable collars and lace trimming at cuff. Price ..... \$1.85
- WHITE LAWN BLOUSES, very charmingly trimmed with lace insertion and embroidered fronts, short sleeves. Price ..... \$2.25
- WHITE BLOUSES, exceedingly dainty models, with embroidery trimming and lace insertion at back and front, long sleeves, button at front. Price ..... \$3.25
- SPOTTED MERCERIZED LAWN WAISTS, very latest style, plain tucked fronts with white linen embroidered collars and plain cuffs. Price ..... \$3.85
- WHITE CHECKED LAWN WAISTS, with neat spot design, newest embroidered linen collars, buttoned at front. Price ..... \$4.25
- WHITE BLOUSES, very chic and stylish models, material very sheer lawn with lace let in sleeves and fronts charmingly embroidered. Price ..... \$5.25
- WHITE LAWN WAISTS, fronts elegantly embroidered, tucked in most exclusive styles, buttoned at back, price, .... \$3.85

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Latest Ideas in High-Class Exclusive Millinery

## A Few Facts About Clothes

A WOMAN shops around—she examines and compares and, when she is satisfied, she buys.

A MAN, as a rule, doesn't shop. He goes almost mechanically to one store from force of habit, or because his friends buy there. But each year Men get more wide awake and appreciate the fact that there's something more to the Clothes question than attractive outside appearance.

We see increasing numbers of Men each season who know more and more about the "unseen" parts of the Suit.

When a Store Says—"Suits \$10, \$20 or \$35"

What does it signify until you have examined the Suit? It's what you get for your money and not what you pay that makes good value. We ask comparison.

That's the Test We Welcome!

We're Strong on it!

FIT-REFORM

Allen & Co. 1201 Gov't St., Victoria, B.C.

had definitely informed their master of that fact beforehand, otherwise it would not be fair to him to seek to make him liable.

The result is that judgment will be entered in favor of the plaintiff for \$125 wages and \$100 damages, total \$225.

As to the costs, Mr. Reid asks that they should not be awarded to the plaintiff because the amount was there, namely, the amount of the charter of the vessel, which was held over for further consideration.

Turning then to the set-off. The first item, for merchandise, has been abandoned, and the second one, for washing, the owners have not established. The third does not found any claim against the plaintiff. It is true that he, as master, increased the mate's wages on the pay sheet sent to the owners, but they were not asked by it, and if they chose to pay the additional amount, which there was no legal obligation to do, they cannot recover the sum from the plaintiff.

The two last items in the set-off amount to \$30.75 and are sought to be deducted from the plaintiff's wages because the owners objected to his taking a friend with him on the tug on one of her trips, and so they charged the fare up against him—\$3, together with his friend's board for twenty-eight days at 75c, \$21.75. But do not think it would be just to allow this deduction in view of the fact that one of the defendant's own witnesses admitted that owners in general did not object to captains of tug-boats taking their friends on such trips, even for longer periods than twenty-eight days, and that it would not be customary to object to the captain extending, in this way the courtesy of his vessel to his guests, to a friend who no doubt would reciprocate. Such being the fact it would, I think, have been better, in case the owners herein objected to such a recognized practice, if they

ARCHER MARTIN.

April 14th, 1909.

RAILWAY CHARTERS

Ottawa, April 23.—The mayor of Sudbury, with representatives of people of Manitoulin island, protested to the Commons railway committee

## FIT-REFORM CLOTHING

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## LEONARD LOCAL

Has Accepted Victoria

Leonard T. alpal of the take over the Victoria Transp. Mr. Tail's re- mitted to the be considered which, in place on Tues

Although M indelibly fixed the most effe teaching at the perience in th he will be in Having spent younger days followed up h has not forgot ways more u practical lea whenever pos him. This be considered a happy medium of knowledge him a most local compan with the loca past twelve years, say, the scho has decided to Mr. T. Bar of on active some trading occupy his l

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