

"LEST WE FORGET."

"The tumult and the shouting" has died and the guests have departed. The people of Victoria have responded to the appeal of Premier McBride and extended to Sir Wilfrid Laurier a greeting which was as creditable to them as to the distinguished gentleman who was the recipient of it. It was remarked by many persons at the night of the reception in the Parliament Buildings that Mr. McBride almost completely effaced himself. He had made the function possible, and then with rare good taste abstained from taking any part in it, so that no one could claim any part of the enthusiasm of the occasion was brought out by his presence. But after all there can only be one opinion and that is that the reception was a moving picture in living characters of Mr. McBride's thought. Let this not be forgotten. It was given to Sir Wilfrid Laurier since the day he entered this province until the present hour, to stand before the people, not as a party leader, not even chiefly as the first statesman in the Dominion, but as the personification of Canadianism. He and more particularly those who are with him, have not been slow to take advantage of the opportunity to spread the political gospel of which they are the exponents, but the outstanding result of it all is the profound impression produced upon the public mind, that whether we are Liberals or Conservatives, or whatever else we may be in politics, we are first of all Canadians. And we are not claiming too much when we say that this has been rendered so conspicuous largely by the fact that Mr. McBride rose above the limits of the partisan politics and called upon the people of British Columbia to accept in good faith what Sir Wilfrid had said was the prime object of his western mission and do what in them lay to make it as complete a success as possible.

We do not detract in the least from what is due to Sir Wilfrid Laurier when we say that the "crowning of the edifice" was due to the broad-mindedness and sincere patriotism of Mr. McBride. We suppose that we shall all fall back again into the old party lines; it is perhaps best that we should, but things can never be quite the same again. If the history of British politics teaches one thing more than another it is that, when men labor with honest and patriotic motives, they always build wiser than they know. When we say that in our judgment the events of the past two days will mark an era in Canadian politics we do not wish to be understood as having anything definite in mind. We only know that in the history of nations seed sown in loyalty and good-will has ever brought forth good fruit. And we shall only add that Mr. McBride has risen to the occasion, which presented itself, in a manner that few men would have had the courage to attempt and fewer yet would have had the tact and skill to carry out successfully.

RAIL TO THE MAINLAND.

"There is no definite proposal before us at the present time; but I recognize the great importance of making a direct rail connection with Vancouver Island, and the matter is one that shall receive our consideration at the earliest possible day." In these words, substantially, Sir Wilfrid Laurier referred to the representations made by the Board of Trade and the Vancouver Island Development League in regard to the long hoped-for rail connection between this island and the continental railway system by way of Seymour Narrows. We think we are right in saying that this is the first occasion upon which this project has had an unqualified official endorsement, yet a distinct step has been taken towards the accomplishment of this great undertaking. What remains now to be done is to present some definite and feasible plan whereby this great project may be realized. There has always been a difficulty when this project was urged upon capitalists because of uncertainty as to how it would be regarded by the Dominion government. The Colonist in its treatment of it has always been embarrassed because it was not able to say that the government would look favorably upon it, and the public will bear us out in the statement that the burden of agitation has fallen chiefly upon this paper. No matter what other projects were urged upon the consideration of governments, we have never allowed a suitable occasion for presenting it to pass unimproved. We think we see success in sight. At least we find our courage renewed and our determination strengthened to keep on working for this great end.

The persistence with which the Board of Trade has pressed this project upon the attention of governments has been notable, and since the Development League has been organized one of its chief aims has been to keep it to the front. There is much work yet to be done, but at

present it is more in the way of enlisting capitalists in the project than in public agitation.

THE ORIENTAL QUESTION

While we may admit all that Sir Wilfrid Laurier claims in respect to the imperial aspect of the Oriental question, we venture to submit that he does not fully appreciate the underlying motive of the policy favored by the majority of the people living upon this Coast. His opinion seems to be that white labor is hostile to Oriental competition because it will have a tendency to reduce wages. We do not say that this does not influence many people, for it does. What we do say is that behind this aspect of the case there is the racial issue, call it racial antagonism if you like, which forces home upon men's mind the conviction that if the white race will be crowded to the wall. We are charged with having enacted legislation in this province of such a character that it was an insult to the race pride of Orientals; but it was necessary to do something. The opinions of the people had to be expressed in some way. There was no sign of relief from Ottawa, and we were forced to act. We do not believe Sir Wilfrid Laurier will claim that he was not driven to action by the course taken by the legislature of this province.

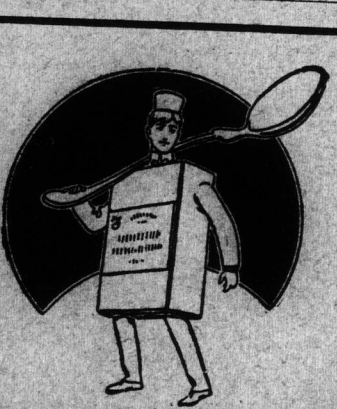
The question is, in our judgment, a much larger, much more far-reaching. Laurier seems to think it is possibly as a temporary expedient the course pursued by him is better than that taken by the provincial government, but it is to be remembered that the latter did it could do. The methods available to the Dominion government were not open to it. But whether the plan is better or worse than the provincial plan, it is only a temporary and superficial way of disposing of a question so vast in its potential importance that any public man might well hesitate before attempting to solve it.

THE INDIAN RESERVES.

In replying to the representations of the Board of Trade in respect to the Indian Reservations, Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not say very much, but what few observations he made show that his views and those of the Provincial government are substantially identical. It has been well understood that the progress of negotiations for the settlement of the Songhees Reserve has been rendered more difficult than it otherwise would have been because of a divergence of view between the provincial authorities and the Department of the Interior as to the legal status of the reservation generally, and it was understood that the Minister of Justice supported Mr. Oliver in his opinion. It was very clear from the few words said by the Prime Minister that he is very nearly, if not wholly, in accordance with the position taken by Mr. McBride. That being the case, we are more hopeful than ever that a solution of this vexed question may not be very remote. We do not wish to be misunderstood in the matter or construction upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier's language that it will not bear; but it must have been a surprise to those who have been so accustomed to hear those who might be assumed to speak for the federal government here and who have claimed that the provincial government had nothing to say in the premises, to find Sir Wilfrid Laurier declaring that the Dominion authorities had only a fiduciary interest in the reservation and that the title to the land was vested in the province.

WISHES TO DIE

TACOMA, AUG. 18.—"Dear mother, I am going to die. God bless you, I will meet you in Heaven, but I am dying in a cold, cold place. Good bye, Clyde. To 1113, 29th street, Indianapolis." After penciling the above message on a scrap of paper on Tuesday night, Clyde Hitchcock, a dependent young man, intimated that he was going to suicide. A police officer was notified, with the result that Hitchcock was taken to police headquarters, a bottle of carbolic acid was taken from the bosom of his shirt and he was locked up for safe keeping. That the unfortunate man is dangerous is evident by his rambling and incoherent statements of his antecedents. He is in the hands of the police for two years and that he has run several races with passenger trains. All day yesterday he stood at the grating of his cell staring into space with a vacant expression and making no effort to communicate with his mother.



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CHIEFTAIN ON ISSUES OF DAY

Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Heard by Thousands at Meeting Under Auspices of Liberal Association

ORIENTAL IMMIGRATION AND NAVAL POLICY

Dominion's Premier Claims His Policies Are the Best for Canada—The Other Speakers

A fitting termination to the cordial reception of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, premier of Canada, was given last night when nearly 4,500 Victorians, without regard to affiliations, assembled to hear the prime minister speak on some of the issues of the day, and speed his guest on the continuation of his trip to the North.

The building was thronged as it has never before been and it is doubtful if ever a larger audience has assembled on any previous occasion in this city. It was a tribute not to the politician but to the man, the head of the Dominion, and regardless of party the reception was unanimous and entirely wholehearted.

When at 8:30 o'clock Sir Wilfrid entered the building and proceeded along the aisle towards the platform he was high, headed, cheerful, and waving his hand to the cheering throng. The music of the Fifth Regiment band was drowned in the sound of the cheering. Laurier, who was to officiate as chairman, was followed by Hon. George A. Graham, minister of railways and canals; Hon. William Templeman, M.P.; Nanaimo, Mr. E. M. McDonald, M.P.; Pictou, Mr. F. F. Pardee, M.P.; West Laramie, Senator W. L. Riley, Mr. John Jardine, M.P.P., Mr. W. L. Brewster, M.P.E., and Lieut.-Col. Currie, mounted the stairway leading to the platform with agility and as he bowed to the large audience the cheers were renewed.

The arrangements for accommodating the large crowd had been excellently carried out. The building transformed with an array of flags, bunting, streamers and lights presented a pretty picture. The benches along both sides were packed and on the floor stood the quines of the province, some 3,000 persons found comfortable seats. The platform which was located about the middle of the eastern side of the building was a provision of the band of the band-stand whence the band of the Fifth Regiment discoursed music at added to the program. The excellent rendering of the "Maple Leaf" song sung immediately after the Prime Minister was seated.

The car service provided by the B. C. Electric railway was good and the large audience were enabled to make Sir Wilfrid was in good voice and his every utterance was heard in every corner of the building. He dealt with the Asiatic question, the navy question and paid a graceful tribute to Premier McBride and members of the Provincial government for the "royal" welcome which he had received and he also thanked the city of Victoria for its real hospitality and hearty welcome.

Basket of Flowers. Before speaking Sir Wilfrid was the recipient at the hands of pretty Miss Agnes Kingham of a basket of beautiful sweet peas, presented on behalf of the children of Vancouver Island. The gray-haired premier and the little picture which was enthusiastically applauded by the audience.

Mr. Pauline introduced Sir Wilfrid and said: "On behalf of the Liberals of Vancouver Island I have the utmost pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, one of the greatest statesmen of our time. This is an expression of thankfulness that they have come so far on their long journey practically unharmed. I wish on behalf of the people of Vancouver Island to express the hope that Sir Wilfrid and his fellow travelers will continue their trip and back to the capital in safety and the best of health. The committee has chosen the motto, 'Peace, Progress and Prosperity.' It is not necessary to enlarge on the prosperity of the country as the speakers will embody in their remarks something of the sentiment of the motto, sentiment which lies close to the heart of our great leader."

Mr. Pauline called upon Hon. William Templeman to address the audience. The minister of mines was heartily received as he arose to speak.

Hon. William Templeman
Hon. William Templeman, minister of mines, was greeted with hearty applause.

"WHERE THE MOST CARPETS ARE SHOWN AND SOLD"



AUTUMN CARPETS

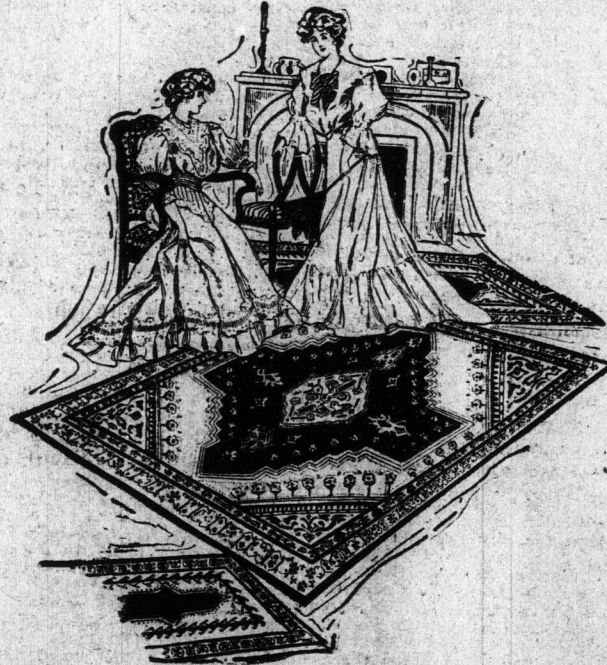
WITH the Autumn season close by, your thoughts are probably of Winter carpets. It'll soon be time to make the Fall changes in the home's decorations, and now is an excellent time to do the carpet choosing.

For Fall and Winter service something of good quality is necessary—the carpets get a harder "deal" during these seasons. Don't let a few cents difference in price influence you into buying carpets of an inferior quality—it's not economy—not much!

We offer you the best in quality, the newest in design and the broadest assortments, at prices that represent splendid values. Try a Weiler carpet this Fall.

Tapestry Carpets from, per yard	75¢	Velvet Carpets from, per yard	\$1.50
Ingrain Carpets from, per yard	85¢	Axminster Carpets from, per yard	\$1.90
Brussels Carpets from, per yard	85¢	Wilton Carpets from, per yard	\$1.90

These prices are for carpets made and laid by experienced men



Hundreds of Squares and Rugs

To those who favor the square or rug as the ideal floor covering, we commend this showing of rugs and squares. Hundreds are on display here and wonderful choice of patterns, colorings and prices offered you. As in the carpets, we maintain a high standard of quality, and when comparing prices, please remember that these are of a superior grade. If you consider quality at all, you'll find the values we offer are best. Come and see them.

Ingrain Squares from \$29.00 to	\$5.00	Wilton Squares from \$48.50 to	\$27.00
Tapestry Squares from \$26.00 to	\$9.00	Velvet Squares from \$42.00 to	\$24.00
Brussels Squares from \$22.00 to	\$16.00	Smyrna Rugs from \$55.00 to	\$30.00
Axminster Squares from \$65.00 to	\$18.75	Genuine Oriental Rugs—All prices.	



Oriental Rugs and Furnishings

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ENGLISH SOVEREIGNS

England has had few English days when Harold lost the well-fought field of Senlac. There Normans, Angevins and Scots upon but few individuals, who could English. The Tudors came more that classification than most of the in their case there was a strong strain of blood. George I. was a German. His father was a Stuart, and had very much of the English in his lineage. George was a German that he was unable to speak English, a seeming disqualification, but, as we shall see by very valuable factor in the evolution of the British Constitution have them today. There can be no doubt that the offer of the Crown in pursuance of the provisions of the Act of Settlement, the diplomatic genius of William III. and the crown of such a kingdom might even to a man of so unambitious mind as George; and yet it is easy to recall that sovereign's son. The would much have preferred to live as his duchy of Hanover. He knew the existing there, and was very law unto himself. He did not know whose institutions he understood at his language. The tendency towards government was something which the rulers could not understand which they were not in sympathy to be assumed that George knew the people over whom he was called to reign. Here was a people, who could cut off the heads of one sovereign and to get along without another until the recall that sovereign's son. The missed another sovereign, solemnly that the throne had become vacant, and another to accept the crown and had the succession in a manner to suit him and in utter disregard of the principle every European ruler regarded as such a people he was invited to reign by right of descent, and a power seemed to be formed in the kingdom his rights. We seem to recall that George, while in no sense a brilliant had a great deal of courage and a great sound, commonsense, or he would not have accepted the crown with all the implied in that acceptance. Fortunately, Queen Anne died suddenly, although we now know as Premier. To Bolingbroke, who was intriguing for the Stuarts could perfect his plans. Whig leaders were very prompt in the Hanoverian entitled to the king Fortune had "bantered" Bolingbroke his own term, and he fled from the king. George was obliged from very necessity leave the affairs of the kingdom in the hands of his ministers. His First Lord of the Treasury was Lord Townshend, with whom associated Robert Walpole. A Tory drove this ministry from power, but time, and when the Whigs came back to power, the positions of these two leaders reversed. As Walpole said, "The Townshend and Walpole; it has become pole and Townshend." Walpole held thirty-six years, and he may be said to have been the first person to hold the which we now know as Premier. To did not quite attain to that eminence, he very nearly approached it. To us what is meant by this, it must be explained the sovereigns had been in the habit of their own ministers without consulting anyone except they might do. Hence it came about that, while the First Lord of the Treasury was usually one of the most confidential and the confidential majority of the House of Commons, ministers were generally persons whom King personally wished to advance, were often not in political sympathy with the First Lord. George, knowing very little of the details of English politics, was content to leave the selection of a ministry to the hands of Townshend, and this, a compromise for the convenience of the King, assisted upon by Walpole, when he came to a ministry, as a matter of right, and established the principle in force in countries today, by virtue of which the reign or his representative selects the Minister, and the latter selects his colleagues. In the United Kingdom the First Lord of the Treasury is called either Prime Minister simply for convenience. In the seas Dominions the title of First Lord of the Treasury is not employed. The matter by what title it is called, has no status, in other words the Premier is head of any department of the government, the head of the government as a representative in a special manner.

Up to the reign of George it was the of the sovereigns to preside at meetings Privy Council, and take what part they in its deliberations. At the beginning reign, George followed this practice, very soon grew tired of listening to that he did not understand, and of attempting to decide upon lines of policy which he was unable to grasp, except by the unsatisfactory process of interpretation into German, he soon ceased to attend the meetings of Council, and the practice was adopted