The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVI. NO. 16. VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1904. FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.

On The Roof Of The World

Explorer Crosby Returns From Expedition Across the Plateau of the Pamirs.

Interesting Account of An Approach to the Back Door of Thibet.

Local Russian Consul General The Real Power In All The Region.

Paris, Jan. 30.—Oscar T. Crosby, the American explorer, has returned to Paris from a trip to Central Asia, where he explored parts of Turkestan and Thibet never before visited by a white man. On his way to Thibet Mr. Crosby skirted Afghanistan, visited Chinese Turkestan, and, later traversed Kashimir and the Karakoram caravan route, probably one of the most difficult used by human beings, to India. His investigation developed that China was threatened from another quarter, by her rear door, and that an advance by Russia and Great Britain in this direction may become as important in its possible results to the United States as a move of the European powers from the sea.

Mr. Crosby said: "I left the United States last May, stopping at St. Petersburg to obtain permission to pass through Russian Turkestan. The Russian authorities were courteous, and gave me a letter of introduction to Gen. Petrovsky, Russian consul at Kashgar, in Chinese Turkestan. I took the trans-Caspian road to Andijan, meeting on the way Capt. Agincourt, of the French army, who joined me in my journey. From Andijan we went by caravan to Kashgar, reorganized the caravan and started for Thibet, eventually arriving at Ladak, at the base of the Puentun mountains. Here we began to ascend the Thibetan plateau elevations, which range from 15,000 to 18,000 feet high. We traveled at this height for eight weeks, suffering from the rarified air and cold. As we could only carry supplies for twenty days we endeavored to make Rudek, in Tuibet, whence we intended to strike toward Lhassa.

"Unfortunately I lost my chronometer and nautical almanac, and was unable to take observations. We consequently took a more southerly course than desired. It was impossible to correct the mistake because the country was trackless and uninhabited for hundreds of miles. We could find no openings in the mountains leading to Redek, but recrossed an unexplored region known as the White desert.

"Our horses died rapidly, and we had but a few days' supplies left when two of our most trusted men were sent on the last animals to travel in search of aid. They rode 100 miles before they found anyone. At the end of eleven days they returned with camels and provisions. The Nomads, who are like our Indians, refused to go to Thibet, so there was nothing for us except to return by them to an uninhabited region known as Little Thibet, which forms part of British Kashmir.

"My purpose in visiting Central Asia was to study the past political and radical questions connected with that region. I did not believe it possible to reach Lhassa, except by force or in disguise, and, therefore, proposed merely to go as far as I could.

"The British expedition under Colonel Younghusband will be about to enter Lhassa. The Thibetans cannot resist. Those I saw were mild and peaceful people governed by priests, who, so far as we knew, do not inculcate the military spirit, which is contrary to the precepts of Buddhism and Lamaism. The result of the expedition will be some form of British control. Russia is doing nothing to prevent success and I do not think anything can be done. I do not believe Russia seriously contemplates acquiring the country, for if a natural frontier ever existed to their empire, it certainly lies north of the vast deserts and tremendous mountains which must be crossed before the inhabited part in Thibet can be reached. Russia can stand British control of Thibet because she will take Chinese Turkestan as a set-off. The inhabited part of the latter territory is rich and populous. The oases contain 500,000 people, who live on irrigated land. The Russians can, and will, control the commercial situation of all this region because of its proximity to their railway. Chinese Turkestan is still Chinese to outward appearance, having officials appointed from Pekin, but the Russian consul-general at Kashgar, who is guarded by sixty Cossacks, is the real power. Even if the people wished to do so, which I doubt, they would be powerless to resist the Russians. Consul-General Petrovsky, while courteous to us, seemed to discourage the appearance of any other than Russians and Chinese in Turkestan, taking the ground that the question of Chinese Turkestan is of no great importance to the world at large, and that it concerns merely Russia and India.

"The importance of the question lies in the fact that the taking of that territory or Thibet, which is under Chinese suzerainty, will be dismembering China. The object of the British is to make it impossible for the Russians to establish themselves in Thibet, and to do this effectively they will have to institute some kind of control. Nevertheless the United States, which is interested in the integrity of China, must turn her attention to the back of the empire and keep an eye there while watching the sea coast.

"With respect to Afghanistan, both the Russians and British recognize its value as a 'buffer' state, and do not desire to disturb this situation, though each fears the other may gain the ascendency over the Ameer."

Crosby will return to New York in February.

STILL HARPING ON CANADA.

Boston, Jan. 30.—Among the measures introduced in the legislature today was a resolution in favor of reciprocity with Canada.

AUTOMOBILE TOURNEY.

Willie Vanderbilt Wins First Mile Race in Florida.

Ormonde, Fla., Jan. 30.—W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., won the first mile automobile race today. The time was 40:49 4-5.

TO RAISE FREIGHT RATES.

Montreal, Jan. 30.—The Canadian Pacific general manager announced today that they had entered into an agreement with the American transcontinental railways to advance freight rates on a large number of commodities. The agreement is the first of the kind made between the C. P. R. and Mr. Hill's lines, the Great Northern and Northern Pacific. The agreement, which is one for mutual advantage, can be broken, if the advantage does not materialize.

Conference Is Proposed

London Statist Proposes Meeting on Lines of Berlin Congress.

The American State Department Notified Russia's Note Is Unsatisfactory.

Importance of the Matter Given as Reason For Tardy Reply.

London, Jan. 30.—The Statist today in a long article on the Russo-Japanese situation makes a striking suggestion for the solution of the difficulty which seems to meet the claims and contentions of both Russia and Japan.

After commenting on the advantages of the Chino-American treaty, which it says if carried out would assure an open door in Manchuria for the rest of the world, the Statist continues as follows:

"When Russia was at the gates of Constantinople, and practically had dictated peace to Turkey, Great Britain interfered and the result was the Berlin congress. Is there any good reason why the world should wait for the conclusion of war to summon a similar council. Would it not be more statesmanlike and certainly more humane to summon such a council now in order to prevent war? Would it not be possible for the Russian government to sell its railways in Chinese territory to an international syndicate, all the powers guaranteeing the safety and the interest of this syndicate. In that way it seems to us the real rights of Russia in Manchuria would be safeguarded, while the apprehensions entertained by Japan that Russian extension threatens her very existence would be permanently removed."

Washington, Jan. 29.—The Associated Press has the authority of the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg for the announcement that the Russian reply, which it is expected will be delivered tomorrow, is unsatisfactory. Although no further details are obtainable, it is assumed, if the information of the ambassador is correct, that Russia has made certain concessions and that Great Britain will prevail on Japan to accept them as satisfactory.

The statement of the British ambassador went from St. Petersburg to the British legation in Tokio, where Mr. Leiscom, the American minister heard of it and cabled the news to the American state department.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 29.—The authorities here now say that Russia's reply to Japan will not be transmitted until next week.

It is said that the delay was necessary in consequence of the extreme care taken in drafting the document.

Viceroy Alexieff's views are also awaited before its transmission to the Czar.

It is fully realized here that the forwarding of the answer will mark another critical stage in the negotiations, everything depending on Japan's attitude. It is feared that despite pacific influences the hands of the authorities may be forced on account of the excitement of the press and people.

A high official said: "Of course, we cannot prevent war. Russia will do her utmost to offer Japan a basis for a durable peace, but there are limits beyond which we cannot go.

"In Korea we grant practically everything and in Manchuria we already recognize all the treaty rights of Japan and all the other powers. Should Japan reject our conciliatory propositions the world must place the responsibility on Japan."

The important fact has been learned by the Associated Press that within a fortnight both Russia and Japan have officially communicated to the United States and to the European powers their views, their positions regarding some of the points at issue. This course was considered necessary in view of the wild rumors now being disseminated.

Foreign Minister Lamsdorf in his interview with the Japanese Minister Kurino last night, indicated that Russia's reply would be despatched next week.

It is known that the strategic situation was discussed by the military authorities present at today's and yesterday's meetings of the council of state.

An admiral who is influential in the councils of the empire, interviewed today by the Associated Press, said: "The enormous loss which the commerce of Japan is sustaining as a result of the mobilization of steamships for transport service probably accounts for the impatience the Japanese are displaying over the delay in the Russian reply, but this reply will go to Tokio next week. It will be so conciliatory that I do not see any other than a peaceful settlement, although it is difficult to feel certain in this respect because of the erratic course of the Japanese government during the later stages of the negotiations. Japan has increased her demands, while the negotiations were in still in progress, by insisting upon treaty recognition of Chinese sovereignty in Manchuria. Russia has declared her intention not to annex Manchuria, therefore, why comply with a demand that is tantamount to a humiliating reiteration of a former voluntary declaration. It is undeniable that the attitude of Japan is causing irritation in St. Petersburg and that a feeling of impatience is growing throughout Russia. It is hard to account for Japanese persistant aggression, and this must be attributable to the influence of the Japanese press, which is acting under foreign inspiration. The Japanese government must know it stands no chance of defeating Russia, while Japan has much to lose if Russia forced back against her will.

"Should Japan proceed to hostilities, her first objective point probably would be the cutting of the Siberian railroad, for which purpose she would land troops in Korea. She could not, however, land more than 100,000 men, and Russia has an equal number of men in Manchuria to meet this attack, which I think would be quickly repulsed. I do not believe in a naval war. Russian warships would make it impossible for the Japanese to endanger Port Arthur; but let me repeat, war is improbable."

KING CHARLES' EXECUTION.

Two Hundred and Fifty-fifth Anniversary Celebrated in London.

London, Jan. 30.—Wreaths and floral tributes today bedecked the statue of Charles I. in Trafalgar square in commemoration of the two hundred and fifty-fifth anniversary of his execution. The Royal Oak Club of Edinburgh and the White Cockade Club and other Jacobite societies sent their usual wreaths. The statue was visited by large crowds during the day.

MRS. MAYBRICK RELEASED

Celebrated Case Terminated Yesterday by the Liberation of the Prisoner After Having Served Fifteen Years Imprisonment for the Alleged Poisoning of Her Husband.

Mr. Frank Richards, of Vancouver, who is in town, has received a cable from London announcing the release from prison on Saturday afternoon of Mrs. Maybrick. Notwithstanding the statements in the press to the contrary and the statements reported as emanating from the American embassy in London, Mr. Richards, who was connected with the case, had assurances that she would be liberated before the end of the present month. It will be remembered that Mrs. Maybrick was condemned to death for the alleged murder of her husband, but the home secretary, after the most careful consideration, found there was a reasonable doubt whether in fact James Maybrick's death was caused by poison, and he commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life. Mr. Frank Richard's recent articles on the case have been widely reprinted throughout England, France and America, and the assertions therein were supported entirely from the official papers which are in his possession. He was lately informed that such a presentation of the case should have been made before, but that the release might be expected during the present month. Mr. Richards was associated in the case with Lord Russel (then Sir Charles Russell), H. Fletcher Moulton, K. C., Sir Alexander MacDougall, K. C., Reginald Smith, K. C., all leading counsel and was sent by Minister Lincoln, the American ambassador at that time to properly put the case before the American people which he did at the convention in Chicago, of 1892, before Americans from every state in the Union.

Lord Russell, before his death, wrote a letter to the secretary of state, in which he stated that the continued imprisonment of Mrs. Maybrick was a disgrace to the administration of the criminal law in England. This letter he wrote as the Lord Chief Justice of England, and it is printed in full in Barry's Life of Lord Russell of Kilowen.

Mr. Richard's recent presentations of the case were printed extensively by the Vancouver and Eastern press, and dealt with the medical evidence. He proved by the admissions made by Dr. Humphreys, who attended James Maybrick, before the coroner, that he had administered over eighty doses of arsenic within six days of the death, and mixed the arsenic in a careless manner at the bedside of the patient. He afterwards confessed to having thrown away the remaining doses when Maybrick complained that it hurt his throat. The analysts only found one-twentieth of a fatal dose in the body, and which was more than accounted for by the arsenic administered by Dr. Humphreys. The coroner was very severe on this point, but it was completely lost sight of at the trial, which is one more of the mysteries incident in the case. The arsenic thrown away by Dr. Humphreys was sufficient to account for the trace found in the gastric basin. Besides, Dr. Humphreys mixed it in the only glass there was in the sick room, which was afterwards used for the food and which was also said to contain a trace of arsenic, but as the nurses were in complete control of the patient this portion of the case was not pressed.

The judge commented upon the peculiar fact that there was only one glass used for food and medicine, but stated that such appeared to be a fact.

Doctor Humphreys administered over twenty poisonous drugs within ten days of the man's death, among which were prussic acid and strychnine.

MRS. FLORENCE MAYBRICK
At the Time of Her Trial.

Nanaimo City Happenings

Plant of the Electric Light Company About to Be Greatly Extended.

Vast Shoals of Herrings Result In Choking of Coal Washer Pumps.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Jan. 30.—An important extension of their plant is contemplated by the Nanaimo Electric Light Company. The dynamos are at present run by steam generated by furnaces fed with coal and the bills for fuel have been heavier than usual this winter owing to the extraordinarily large proportion of gloomy days. Now it happens that just when the demand for light and the expense for power are at their heaviest, force is running away without doing any service at the falls of the Millstone river scarcely half a mile from the power house. This fact has not been taken advantage of before because the stream is not available all the year round and the patronage of the company was scarcely so extensive as to justify a double plant. The extension of the system has been so rapid of late years that the company is seriously considering the advisability of putting in a turbine at the falls and transferring the plant to that point. Surveys are now being made, and although the question has not yet been definitely decided, notices have been posted announcing the intention of the company to apply for water rights. Should the estimates now being made give promise of success in the application of water power to the production of electricity here it is believed that the rates to consumers will be reduced.

A most curious effect has been produced by the enormous inrush of herring into the harbor here, this being the stopping of the new coal washer erected by the Western Fuel Company. This huge machine into which water is pumped from the harbor and by means of which the incombustible matter is separated from the finer coal. Large quantities of herring a day or two ago found their way into the suction pipe and down into the washer where they got into the coal in such quantities and became entangled in the machinery to such an extent that the apparatus had to be stopped more than once while the fish were removed. Nothing like the shoals at present crowding these waters has ever been seen here, but as the smell from the heaps of dead herring on the beaches testifies, it is possible to have too much of a good thing.

WIRINGS FROM WINNIPEG CITY

B. C. Lumbermen En Route to Ottawa—Cashel is Writing Story of His Life.

Winnipeg, Jan. 30.—(Special.)—A party of British Columbia lumbermen passed through Winnipeg today, en route to Ottawa to interview the Dominion government on the question of increased protection against the invasions of the United States lumbermen.

Joseph Sheppard, aged 81 years, an old-timer who came to Winnipeg in 1880, and who in early days operated as a mill contractor, died today.

Ernest Cashel, the condemned man at Calgary, is writing the story of his life. The manuscript is in the hands of Colonel Saunders, superintendent of the Northwest Mounted Police force at Regina. The manuscript is to be held in trust for John Cashel, and in all probability will not be published until he has served his term of one year's imprisonment.

BRYAN'S SISTER DEAD.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 30.—Miss Nannie Bryan, sister of William J. Bryan, died here at 1:30 this afternoon. Her brother is on his way from Chicago and has been making a race against time in order to reach his sister's beside before the end came.

MOLYNEUX ST JOHN DEAD AT OTTAWA

The Well Known Journalist and Blackrod of Commons Passes Away.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—The latest report is that a relative of one of the ministers will get the secretaryship of the railway committee.

An application is to be made for a railway charter to build from Crawford Bay, on Kootenay Lake, to Fort Steele. Molyneux St. John, Blackrod of parliament, died tonight after a brief illness. He was sheriff of the Territories in the early seventies, and later a member of the Toronto Globe and Winnipeg Free Press staffs.

The city postal staff moved from the Parliament buildings tonight to the old office, which is temporarily repaired.

PILGRIM'S DINNER A HAPPY AUGURY

Banquets In London and New York Most Significant Demonstrations.

London, Jan. 30.—The Daily Telegraph, in an editorial on the Pilgrims' Club dinners in New York and London last night, remarks: "While the threats of war is lowering on the world's horizon, it is a physical relief to turn this morning to one of the most significant demonstrations ever given in the service of science to the growth of international good-will. Last night England and America, to all effects and purposes, dined together for the first time in their history. We question whether there has been anything in our time of better augury for the future relations of the two English-speaking people or more suggestive of the pacific process of civilization at large than the sympathetic and simultaneous banquets in London and New York at the opposite ends of the same telegraph wire."

DEAD KING'S TREASURE.

Belgrade, Servia, Jan. 28.—Miloch Petronievitch, former chief of the late King Alexander's cabinet, is implicated in the misappropriation of $30,000 belonging to the estate of a natural son of Prince Michaio Obrenovich, with Former Minister of the Interior Todorvics, who was wounded in the palace during the assassination on June 11 of King Alexander and Queen Draga. He was arrested January 17th. Petronievitch admits that he remitted the money to certain persons in England, and claims he obeyed a direct order of King Alexander and refuses to furnish further details. He has been arrested pending an examination of the statements made.

TO RECONSTRUCT THE SOUTH.

Wilmington, Del., Jan. 28.—Negro disfranchisement was suggested as one of the slogans for the next Democratic campaign, and Judge George Gray was lauded as a candidate for the presidential nomination tonight at the eighth anniversary dinner of the Democratic League of Delaware, the pioneer Bryan organization of the state. Josiah Marvel declared that the only remedy for bartering in votes was to disfranchise a greater part of the venal colored voters, who hold the balance of power between the two great political parties.

STORMS SPOIL TRADE.

London, Ont., Jan. 28.—The stormy weather of the past three weeks has had a serious effect on the business of the retail merchants of this city. The roads leading to the city are almost impassable, and this has kept the farmers at home. Some storekeeper state that business has dropped 50 per cent owing to the storm. Wholesalers and retailers have found it impossible to get goods over the railways and many lines of merchandise are exhausted. The coal supply of a number of the leading factories is running short and unless conditions improve on the railways and a large supply can be obtained they will be compelled to close down. Already rolling mills are at a standstill and will have to remain idle until the supply of coal is received.

Provincial Legislature

The House Completes Consideration of the Supplementary Estimates.

Criticism By the Opposition Is Well-answered By the Government.

Debate on the Provincial Elections Bill Occupies Considerable Time.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock p.m.

Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Barber.

COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY.

The House went into adjourned committee on supply, Mr. Clifford in the chair, when the passage of the estimates was continued. The vote of $10,000 for the agent-general's office, London, England, was held over for subsequent consideration.

THE SUPPLEMENTARIES.

The committee then took up the supplementary estimates.

Mr. Brown (Greenwood), said that the need of an additional metalliferous mines inspector in the Kootenays was much felt in that region.

The Premier said the government were well aware of the fact, and were looking into the matter. When in possession of all the data connected with this question, they would decide upon what should be done.

Mr. Drury asked serious consideration of the proposition of jurors summoned to serve at coroner's inquests. It was a very serious matter for those men, and they had just as much right to be paid as jurors in the other courts. The case of the inquest into the Clallam disaster had shown the injustice and hardship of the case.

Hon. Mr. Wilson said this matter should certainly receive the government's most earnest attention, and thanked Mr. Drury for calling attention to it.

Mr. Oliver made inquiry of the government regarding the charges for extras relating to the Government House.

The Premier said that, on enquiry, he had found that extras had been incurred during the progress of the building. The government ascertained, however, that goods never ordered had been delivered, such as planking, cement, paintings and pictures. In asking the House to pass this vote the government merely asked to be given the machinery to do justice to those contractors and workmen, and to enable the government to keep faith with them. Although the government was in no manner responsible for those extras to which reference had been made.

Mr. Wells objected to the extra payment of $6,000 on the Ladner's road (Delta municipality). Had Mr. Killeen been retained as foreman of that road the road could have been built within the estimated cost.

Mr. Oliver vehemently denounced this expenditure on Ladner's road as money had already been spent. Not two miles of that road, on which $15,000 had been spent, was passable.

Mr. Munro expressed disappointment that nothing appeared in the supplementary estimates for the alleged relief to Chilliwack riding.

Hon. Mr. Green said in regard to the Delta road that Mr. Sproat, a thoroughly capable road builder, had always reported that the road could never be built for the original estimated cost.

Mr. Oliver vigorously denounced the government for its alleged failure to provide for the completion of the road to the Westminster bridge.

Mr. Wells again eulogized Mr. Killeen in very glowing terms.

The chief commissioner said he could not understand why there should be so much laudation of this man, whose estimate of cost for the road had been found to be almost one-half what was needed. The department's road-building Killeen's services were not required and dismissed him.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow, speaking to the supplementary vote 224 (a, commission on finances and taxation, $5,000), said there should not be too much haste in appointing this commission and setting it to work. He submitted to the House the printed report of Mr. Cross, of Hellwell & Cross, Toronto, who enquired into the finances and taxation of Ontario.

Mr. Macdonald (Rossland), said the true solution of the taxation question in this province was an enquiry into the various classes of taxable property to determine definitely the taxable limits of the province.

Mr. Cotton advocated giving time to the government to ascertain whether the new taxation were suited or not to the requirements of the province. It would be very unwise to press upon the government for details as to the personnel or scope of the proposed commission. No harm could be done by waiting awhile, perhaps until next session, when all the facts would be available, and the matter could be much more clearly understood.

Mr. Macdonald charged the government with experimentation with the taxation question, and that the hon. member for Richmond had practically admitted the same.

Mr. Cotton retorted that that was surely wrong, because the hon. members of the opposition had clearly indicated in their criticisms of the Assessment Act that it was no experiment! it was so wholly bad, in their estimation, that there could be no experimentation about it.

Mr. Houston moved that the vote be struck out, because it was available only up to June 30th, 1904, by which time, according to the government speakers, sufficient time would not have been had to determine the efficacy, or otherwise, of this new act.

Mr. Cotton, in reply to Mr. Macdonald, predicted that within twelve months the truth of his diagnosis of the case.

Mr. Oliver then spoke at considerable length on the Assessment Act, and said the effects of the act could not be known until December, 31st.

Mr. Cotton said that by June 30th next the government would have very good information as to the full working of the act. If Mr. Oliver would go back to his farm and rest easy, leaving the financial affairs of the country in the hands of the government, where they rightfully belonged, he would come back after abundant harvests, as Mr. Cotton hoped, ready to admit that the government was right and that the financial affairs of British Columbia were all right.

Mr. Houston, in support of his abrogating motion, said this vote should be in the main, and not in the supplementary estimates.

The Premier was satisfied that if it were found necessary to get additional funds to liquidate this commission, the House would ratify it at next session.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Sheriff Seizes Steamer Hamlin

Under a Writ of Fi Fa Takes Charge of Ship Ordered Sold By Admiralty Court.

Young Lady Recognizes Her Assailants In Recent Robbery Case.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Jan. 30.—Two peddlers, Crow and Glenn, were identified by Miss Susie Clarke, the victim of the outrage and robbery, as the men who assaulted her. When taken to the bedside she cried: "Take them away; I never want to see them again." Miss Clarke is still very ill.

Mr. Justice Martin, Thursday, at Victoria, as judge in Admiralty, ordered Marshal Siddall to sell the steamer Hamlin lying at Vancouver; in the meantime Sheriff Hall attached the steamer under writ of fi fa. He is ordering the sale to take place Thursday in the court house.

ECHO OF IROQUOIS FIRE.

Young Lady Burnt in Theatre Submits to Skin Grafting.

Chicago, Jan. 30.—Miss Edna Shunter, 17 years old, one of the last to escape from the top gallery of the Iroquois theatre on the afternoon of the horror, was the subject of a skin-grafting operation today. Burnt places on the top of her scalp, her chest and back, the right side of her neck and beneath her chin were supplied with seven square inches of skin taken from the arms of volunteers, one of whom was her brother. One month's treatment, preparation and consultation among those from whom the skin was grafted preceded the operation.

AS TO TEACHER'S CRAVATS.

Berlin, Jan. 30.—A prolonged litigation wherein the propriety of an upper teacher in the High school wearing a red necktie was the issue, came to an end today at Blauen, Saxony, by the court deciding taht such a cravat is at least undignified even if not intended by the wearer as a socialistic emblem. Dr. Weaver, the wearer, a red necktie, and he was criticized severely as an improper person to teach the youth of the city. He sued for damages and the court, in deciding against Weaver, said the editor was quite within his functions when he disapproved of red neckties, which in Germany is considered to indicate revolutionary principles on the part of the wearer.

THE FISCAL POLICY STILL UPPERMOST

Mr. Chamberlain and Claude Lowther Address Audiences on the Great Issue.

London, Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham on the occasion of the unveiling of a memorial commemorating the services to the empire, said he believed that only by visiting the great colonies could he produce the feeling he desired to see felt. That by seeing them at work he would understand their sympathies and aspirations.

Claude Lowther, Conservative member for Eskale, speaking at Brompton, said: "If Mr. Chamberlain's proposals are rejected nothing could save the empire from disruption. The colonies will never tolerate commercial alliance with other nations."

Among the questions manufacturers are being asked by tariff commissioners is, "What is your experience in respect to foreign competition in the colonies in your line?"

A SPANISH DUEL.

Madrid, Jan. 28.—As an outcome of a heated altercation in the Chamber of Deputies today concerning the appointment of Monsignor Nozaleda to the Archbishopric of Valencia, Minister of War Linarez and Deputy Soriano are to fight a duel and have appointed their seconds.

Opening Of Parliament

Session to Be Opened Tuesday By King Edward Fraught With Great Events.

Altered Conditions Developed During Recess Puzzles the Most Knowing.

Schisms In Two Parties Will Render Home Rulers Masters of Situation.

London, Jan. 30.—On Tuesday, February 2nd King Edward will open in full state what promises to be one of the most interesting and important sessions in the history of the British parliament. Every nation in the world is materially concerned in the divisions that will shortly occur in the House of Commons, but upon their result the future policy of the British Empire must largely depend. No government of recent times has ever refaced the legislature under such altered conditions. Since parliament adjourned in June last not only has the cabinet been entirely reconstructed but the party lines have been completely broken.

Seven distinct factions will take seats in the House of Commons on Tuesday, namely the followers of Premier Balfour who favors a policy of tariff retaliation, but who objects to protection; the Chamberlainites, who insist that protection is necessary to the unity of the Empire; the out-and-out free traders, who are opposed to any tinkering with this fiscal system. The foregoing were all formerly known as Unionists. The Liberals, though they were almost to a man free traders, are split up into two definite factions, one following Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and insisting on home rule, and the other regarding Lord Rosebry as their logical leader and refusing to make home rule a plank in their platform. The Labor party completes the triple division of the Liberal free trade ranks. John Redmond and the Irish party make the seventh faction.

In view of this complex state of affairs, the most astute politicians frankly confess themselves to be at sea, so many cabinet ministers, including Joseph Chamberlain, Charles T. Ritchie and Lord George Hamilton will be absent from their accustomed places on the front benches Tuesday. The oldest parliament hands will scarcely be able to distinguish between the supporters and the opponents of the government on the fiscal question. The Duke of Devonshire, Lord Ashbury, Mr. Goschen, Sir John Gorst, Lord George Hamilton, Lord Hugh Cecil, Winston Spencer Churchill and many others identified with the present party in power, will be Mr. Balfour's most bitter opponents the moment the fiscal question is raised. That will come quickly, for John Morley intends introducing an amendment to the address in reply to the speech on this point. It is possible though it is improbable that Mr. Morley may turn out the government. The debates are likely to take several days. Strenuous efforts are now making to get the free trade Unionist members, not only to abstain from voting, but to openly join the Liberal forces in opposition to the bill. However, if this is accomplished and the Duke of Devonshire's followers make common cause with the Liberals who regard Lord Rosebery as their leader, it would not constitute a solution of the difficulty of opinion which exists between Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and the Liberal ex-premier.

The best informed persons say that even in the event of a temporary coalition of all the free trade forces, the Irish party has the deciding vote, and all indications point to John Redmond keeping Mr. Balfour in power. But as Mr. Redmond does not make definite promises the Irish party throughout the session is likely to be an uncertain factor. That will heighten the interest, and any day may make it possible for Mr. Balfour to be deposed. The Irish party's tentative support of the government is understood to be due to the assurances of George Wyndham, the chief secretary for Ireland, that he will establish a Catholic university at Dublin and will amend the Irish land purchase act. Despite this, however, Mr. Redmond intends attacking the King's speech with a home rule amendment. It is not likely to be attended by any serious results, but the schisms of the English parties, swept by a storm of conflicting fiscal convictions, are generally admitted to constitute Ireland's opportunity and Mr. Redmond is now the only leader in the House who can rely on the continued solid support of all his followers.

The King's speech is likely to deal with British neutrality in the Far Eastern crisis and to then outline the proposed domestic legislation, the chief item of which will be the prohibition of the immigration of the destitute aliens on the lines now in force in the United States.

Besides the amendments of Messrs. Morley and Redmond the government will be attacked on the war commission. The will be taken up by William S. Robison, Liberal. Another amendment will be moved by David Lloyd George, Liberal, denouncing the government's education act, while the employment of Chinese labor in the Transvaal is likely to come in for severe criticism. A few months ago these topics would create great interest, and might have driven the government into a corner. Now they are almost forgotten in the question of the hour, free trade versus protection.

Many members of the House of Commons scarcely know their own minds on the vital topic, and several are undecided as to which side of the house to sit when the King convenes parliament Tuesday.

PETER'S REPENTANCE.

Belgrade, Jan. 30.—King Peter's chief aide de camp, Col. Popovics, one of the leading regicides, will be replaced by an officer who was not concerned in the assassination of King Alexander and Queen Draga. It is hoped thus to satisfy the powers, who have withdrawn their representative from Servia.

SHORTAGE OF PAPER.

Boston, Jan. 30.—Reports received here indicate a shortage in newspaper, book, writing and white paper because of the freezing up of the streams which run mills. The paper manufacturing districts of New England have never experienced such a hard winter, and the sources of water power are frozen. The supply of wood pulp is short. The International Paper Company for the first time has been importing wood pulp from Norway.