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#### A CLOSE DIVISION.

occasion he brought forward a motion | coal producing industry. In coal mining resolving that there should be a disso- there is one labor disturbance affecting lution, and an appeal to the country one mine producing domestic coal very do not say that in this instance it is, standpoint, a most profound and hearty merely that it might be) that the coming | contempt. Except in lumber and sugar, summer would be a good time for an | and a few other less important respects appeal to the country. But even if it | Vancouver is emphatically not a manu were, a government could not accept facturing town. It is a distributing censuch a resolution, because it would be tre. Some day it will be a manufactura mandate from the legislature inter- ing town no doubt. That is not our fering with a prerogative of the minis- point. Our point is that the trades try, and of the ministry alone, to give unionists, among whom the labor trouadvice to the Crown upon such a sub- ble in Vancouver has been going on, ject. Hence such a resolution, if car- represent industries which ried, could only have one meaning, wealth, not industries which produce it namely, that upon this point, the govern- They may benefit themselves by striking motion of want of confidence, pure and town to which they cling. But they do simple. On the other hand, it placed so only by sending the business elsedifficult position. These members have production of any sort whatever. Labor been outspoken in their expression of troubles of deep economic significance opinion that the country should be ap- deal with the roots of society, the basic pealed to this year. If they voted industries, not the fruits and flowers against the resolution they would be of society. If trouble such as has existaccused of talking one way at home, and ed in Vancouver checks Vancouver's voting another way at Victoria. The growth, and sends business away from resolution was a drag-net to catch the Vancouver never to return, that is a vote of such members. How ingenious matter between employer and employee, it was may be judged by the result, and and their consciences as citizens of the how unscrupulous by the fact that there town. There is no need of investigation are a number of members of the opposi- of such a phenomenon as that. There tion who desire nothing less in the wide are scores of historical instances in world than an appeal to the country. which its minutest consequences have These voted for the resolution because been laid bare. Labor trouble in mining, it was a vote of want of confidence, the manufacturing, or lumbering is an enothers because it was in line with opin- tirely different matter, and from serious ions they had publicly expressed, and disturbance in these industries British quite entitled to hold and express if they earned freedom through sad experience. so choose. Probably they felt that they We do not know whether our attitude could not explain to their constituents towards this Labor Commission will be the very vast, but somewhat technical generally appreciated in or outside of distinction between a vote of want of British Columbia, and we do not care confidence and a vote expressing their just now. We see as its main conseopinion on the subject of a future disso- quence a terrible injury to the credit lution. It was through this parliamen- and reputation of the province through tary distinction that Mr. Curtis proposed the very fact of its appointment, and tary distinction that Mr. Curtis proposed to its appointment, and to impale the government like an entomological specimen on a piece of paste
the very fact of its appointment, and know full well that it cannot be long and without the Scotch accent of the Canada? Does the Dominion government propose to put British Columbia in board. Mr. Curtis failed. It is aston- shadowed in this Montreal Gazette aroften he does fail, and with what unwearied persistency he begins Columbia is the finest province in the to think up mischief again in that fertile Dominion of Canada, both in its natural brain of his. This session he has begun resources and in the character of its with a resolution which secured the sym- people. So long as either are maligned pathy of seventeen members of the legis- unjustly, either in action of by word of lature. He will probably go on propos- mouth, we propose to fight while there ing resolutions until his support reaches, is a spark of fight left in us. If we canits normal proportions, himself and Mr. not give as good as we get, if the inky Hawthornthwaite. The debate was of stream of misrepresentation of this unusual interest, and produced speeches province is now let loose in an overof a high order of merit as oratorical whelming stream, we will nevertheless displays. But what a pity it is that do the best we can. the talents evinced are always brought out by some point of politics, and so seldom used in the practical discussion

#### RESULTS BEGINNING.

of legislation!

The results of the Ralph Smith-Templeman Labor Commission are already it begins as follows:

ince to recover from the effect. It has to be added, also, that such speeches as Mr. Smith and others made will do nothing to help the situation. Mr. Smith's object was to make it appear that the employers were alone to blame for what is amiss. This is the gospel of the labor representative; it is the gospel that the humbug Bureau of Labor at Ottawa by spreading its half-baked ideas helps to propagate where

And concludes as follows:

And concludes as follows:

It is unfortunate, but there does not seem to be any cure for the evils of the British Columbia industrial situation, which is but a duplication of the situation elsewhere, than that of fighting out the issue on the old lines. During the process industry will suffer, and business with it; and while the employers will dose much the employees will lose more. In England the greater coal miners' strike and the greater engineers' strike were followed by a period of comparative quiet in the affected trades. The two parties had learned to know, if not to respect each others' strength. When this situation is repeated in British Columbia the province may begin to

untry's progress.

There is a nice superstructive built up on a foundation of false allegation.

The spot anywhere on the usually ragged garments. Most of them were collars, We do not blame the Montreal Gazette. and even those who did not, had clean rom the sources of its information and shirts. They were a very nice looking from its point of view, it could not well lot of boys. They held their heads high adopt another tone from the one it has and the hangdog expression was gone. adopt ahother tone from the one of and the nanguog expression and sadopted. We notice that it finds a dif-Twenty-five human beings saved in six ficulty in reconciling the prosperity and progress of British Columbia with a condition of affairs under which, if it that were all. But it is by no means existed, prosperity and progress would all. Here we have a system which disstealing "The Co'onist" from a subscribe be impossible. But that has not put it covers the youthful offenders who have er's door. Subscribers missing their upon the track of doubting whether such the seed of reformation in them, and paper, or where paper is not delivered on a condition of affairs does exist or not. helps it to sprout and bear fruit in social time, are requested to notify the business Look at the facts. There is not a sympeffice. In case of non-delivery a second tom of labor disturbance in our lumber industry, and those engaged in it are all making money. There is not a symptom of labor trouble in our copper min ing industry and, with better prices, those engaged in it are making money.

Mr. Smith Curtis was successful in In our gold mining industry there is placing the government in an awkward not a symptom of labor trouble, and predicament yesterday. It is Mr. Cur- those engaged in it are making as much tis' forte to place people in awkward money as they usually do. The same predicaments, even himself, and he is with our silver-lead mining industry, the never so happy as when exercising him- same with our smelting industry, the self in this direction. On the present same with our coke burning and steam after the present session. Now it might largely for export. For the labor trouble be the opinion of the government (we in Vancouver we have, from an economic

ment did not possess the confidence of the legislature. It was, therefore, a motion of want of confidence, pure and town to which they cling. But they do dirtying their own fingers, to allow it town to which they cling. But they do certain members of the House in a very where. They do not destroy nor check which supporters of a government are Columbia is wonderfully free, and has by educating public opinion, than by ermment has touched upon the

ticle, are apparent to everybody. British

### YOUTHFUL DELINQUENTS.

In certain parts of the United States, particularly in New York City, the reformatory system of dealing with youthful delinquents has been largely done away with. Reformatories are about the most singularly ill-named institubeginning. The Montreal Gazette de- tions we have in society. Whatever else votes a column to the labor situation in they accomplish, they seldom accom-British Columbia, under the pleasing plish any reformation, Often they must caption; "An Afflicted Province." The have precisely the opposite effect. We article is too long to quote in full, but should think that among youthful offenders crimes are committed sometimes from a wayward impulse, acting The account of the labor situation in British Columbia given in the House of against the general trend of the educa-Commons the other day by Mr. Ralph smith and other Western members is a degenerated impulse acting in content the worst advertisement the worst advertisement the members is Smith and other Western memoers is the worst advertisement the province has had since the collapse of the mining boom. Strikes have paralyzed the coal industry, and by cutting short the fuel supply have checked or stopped other mining enterprises. The example of the miners has been followed by other the miners has been followed by other workers, and altogether the industrial situation is about as unpromising as it attempted cure are the former, and the without mutual isolators. The state has in its to the Sultan. But they cannot interfere to make these representations effectual deal with conditions in British Columbia apart from other places, even if it found workers, and altogether the industrial situation is about as unpromising as it can be. Moreover, these conditions are not new. They have been injuring business and discouraging investors for limit their evil effects upon society, the latter. The reformatory system how ness and discouraging investors for years. It will take years for the province to recover from the effect. It has ever, does not discriminate, and it

baked ideas helps to propagate where it will do most harm. It is not a gospel, however, that can be accepted without justification from outside of itwhich is but a duplication of the situate a duplication of the situate of dighting out on the whole, than that of dighting out the control of the process industry will suffice, the process industry will suffice the employers will be sufficient to the process industry will suffice the employers will be sufficient to the process industry will suffice the employers will be sufficient to the process industry will suffice the employers will be sufficient to the process will be sufficient to the process industry will suffice the employers will be sufficient to the process will be suf

bearing of the paroled youngsters, it is said, presented marked contrast to their appearance when they were found guilty of various offences in the same court a short time before. Their hair had been combed and brushed, and so very clean combed and brushed, and so very clean whole expanding very rapidly. Timber conclusion cannot be avoided that the productive and revenue producing resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber conclusion cannot be avoided that the productive and revenue producing resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber resources of the country are on the whole expanding very rapidly. Timber revalles and licences are estimated to yield \$250,000, as compared with \$80,-000, amagnificant increase even if counterbalanced by a decline of \$60,000 degraments. Most of them wore collars, and even those who did not, had clean shirts. They were a very nice looking lot of boys. They held their heads high and the hangdog expression was gone. Twenty-five human beings saved in six months from absorption into the criminal classes would be a tremendous gain if that were all. But it is by, no means all. Here we have a system which distovers the youthful offenders who have the seed of reformation in them, and helps it to sprout and bear fruit in social rehabilitation, a system which may not work perfectly, but, at any rate, does not doom all alike to the brand of criminals from casual youthful offenders. We may well echo the words of a judge of the Supreme Court of New 3 York in discussing this departure: "It is years since I have been so deeply in terested and impressed with the good courts may do in the way of reasonable in the production of the mineral tax. Mining, the country and learned to the country are on the whole expanding the coun these people suffer, they may profit by thinking wherein it is they have failed in their duty when called on to select men for their legislatures. The labor situation in the province is only on a par with its financial and its general political situation. That as a whole the province is doing so well, and promising so much better, is proof of how little government, good or bad, can do for a country's progress. terested and impressed with the good courts may do in the way of reasonable mercy. The Children's Court is doing a tremendous work for the good of the A REMEDY

forms of political corruption would be put an end to if a public prosecutor were appointed, as independent of the government of the day as the Anditor-General, whose duty it would be to investigate suspicious cases upon representation, and prosecute them to the bitter end. It would then become impossible to promise protection to the corruptionist tools unless that protection took the form of pardon after conbesmirching to the characters of pure done minded politicians, who take advantage to be resorted to except in very extreme cumstances exist to justify.

3. Something which is bound to give cases. Mr. Borden's suggestion for one, but it makes a melancholy admisthis province are in some special sense members are themselves not corruptioncorruption have not the same popular cumbering the statute books with penal

laws. without the robustious humor of the one eral

When the late General Macdonald last visited his relatives in Scotland he wore does it propose to make laws applica a very curious watch. The curiosity did not lie in the watch itself, which was of large size, but in the glass, which place, that there are no spe was rough and thick, but served its purcial circumstances in British Colum pose as well as another. Macdonald was very proud of this glass and told its story with much circumstance. One Dominion Trades and Labor Congress day during the Sudan campaign he had broken the original glass, and was puzzled to find a substitute for it in the desert. At last, however, he smashed a tumbler. The bettern hotter than the canada Atlantic, and the threat of the tumbler. tumbler. The bottom he ground on a stone until it was fine enough, and the size he shaped until it fitted tightly into the setting. And so good was the handital canada Atlantic, and the threat of the Montreal people to import 1,000 laborers to head off a strike on the wharves there. We should think that the conditions in Montreal, involving as they do the operation of the Alien Labor Law

inextricably involved. But what part is taken by them, where they stand towards one another, and what they are wards one another, and what they are wards one another, and what they are aiming at, it would take a wise man to unravel. There are also certain European powers who are more or less responsible for the authority Turkey continues to wield in Europe. If Turkish authority is upheld by these powers for reasons of their own, then Turkish oppression should be prevented by them in the interests of ordinary humanity. in the interests of ordinary humanity.

They have recognized this responsibility

The recognized this responsibility the recognized this responsibility that the recognized this responsibility that the recognized the recognized this responsibility that the recognized the recog by the representations they have made we consider that this action has been without mutual jealousy stirring a Eurocases for segregation and punishment to pean war. Hence massacre and bloody reprisal go on unchecked, and the Eastern question grows in complexity every

purposes of the mineral tax. Mining, however, is a somewhat mercurial industry, easily depressed, but easily revived again, and the outlook that its revenue-producing qualities will rather exceed than fall behind the very conservative estimates made of them, is bright. When we turn to the estimates of expanditions were that including the control of When we turn to the estimates of expenditure, we see that a tight rein has been kept upon extravagance. The increases are all upon lines which are incaproached in their demands as the province grows, and have obviously been kept within the closest limits. The estimates very clearly show that revenue is rapidly growing to meet expenditure, and that, with the expansion of our provincial industries and population now going on, the province can face the fu-Mr. R. L. Borden believes that many going on, the province can face the future, so far as finances are con

#### LABOR CONDITIONS.

We have expressed the opinion that viction before the sentence was fully the government of Canada in having sincarried out. Such a course is too besmirching to the characters of pure vestigations of a Labor Commission has

cases. Mr. Borden's suggestion for excuse for an opinion outside British dealing with corruption is a valuable Columbia that the labor conditions in

sion, namely, that a government whose prejudicial to the interests of organized society. We remain of this opinion and still ists are sometimes unable to resist pres-sure not to prosecute political heelers of their own party, who are corruptionists. It is also a melancholy fact, but province and this city can imagine that it is a fact, that laws against political the applied this epithet to Sir Wilfrid Lawrie in a province of the door. Laurier in a personal sense if it does them any good, although we did not, or sanction behind them for their enforce- they may apply it to any unelected cab ment, as laws directed against a crime inet minister or discarded labor leader, like stealing, for instance. That crimes whom they fancy. Far be it from us of this kind are so rife and so seldom to interfere with them. We applied it punished, shows how difficult it is to to the government under the governenforce any law without a strong public ment leader's name, as the context very opinion in its favor. It should also make the charge of bungling folly hold afford a lesson to reformers of all by a consideration of the consequences kinds that they can accomplish more of the government's action. The gov the province because while it has spe cialized the labor conditions of British Columbia for investigation, On the subject of his preaching, the specialize them for remedial legislation. If the government does not expect lalate Dean Farrar used to quote with bor conditions to be found in British much amusement the judgment of one Columbia different from those existent of his critics that he was "a poor mix-ture of Spurgeon and Dr. Cumming, without the robustious humor of the on-

tutelage and make laws for us not applicable to the rest of Canada? Or

work that it lasted until he returned home. He never had it removed.

In the troubles now anneting the Balkan States, there are Bulgarians, Servians, Albanians and Macedonians all inavvicebly involved.

But what nert the operation of the Alien Labor Law and other delicate matters, were more suited to investigation at the hands of the Dominion government than any conditions existent or likely to exist in British Columbia. In the third place, a special commission appointed by the Dominion government to deal with the lainavticebly involved. the operation of the Alien Labor Law

the ground of inadequacy.

circumstances requiring special treat-ment; the epithet of "bungling folly" applied to it can only be objected to on

ern question grows in complexity every day.

The reformatory system, howeright say accidental crime in contact with those whose criminal actions are the normal outcome of their inheritance of degeneracy. It is apt to bring spas-modic and unessentially evil characters in contact with characters essentially and determinately depraved at the very time of life when such association is likely to determine the course of their lives until they die. The New York system on the other hand, is based upon the very discrimination which the reformatory system neglects. This discrimination which the reformation is worked out by means of a "Children's Court," the judge in which has large discretionary power. Youfful defining the political right can possibly in the contention of the Maritime Provinces would in all probable the work of the work of the work of the other hand, is based upon the very discrimination which the reformatory system neglects. This discrimination which the second prize pens 8. C. White Wyandotte Cock of the Work of the



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W. C. WELLS, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Lands and Works Department, Victoria B. C., 26th March, 1903.

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