

of sectional strife between the Island and Mainland of this Province. I do not know this will be the line which the Mainlander will adopt, but I trust not. What is needed is a paper that will put forth every honest endeavor to bridge the chasm now existing between the two sections of this Province.

A Mainland paper makes the statement that the people of New Denver sent a petition to Premier Davie asking that a subsidy be granted to the Nakusp & Slocan Railway to build a spur into that town. Hon. Theodore replied, referring the petitioners to the resolution passed by the Opposition convention in Nelson, in April last, which laid down as a plank in their political platform that railway building and operation should be left to private enterprise.

A short time ago, a resident of Toronto sent his two children to an "American" city to visit their grandmother for a year. When application was made to admit the children to a public school, they were refused admission on the ground that as they were from Canada, they were non-residents. Doubtless the authorities had right upon their side, but the incident shows to what length ill feeling for Canada can go in the States.

Great poverty is still reported as existing in Melbourne. The distress is acute among the laboring classes, as the Government has refused to start any relief works. Thousands of men who have gone to the gold fields have left their families behind in abject poverty, and are remitting nothing to them. Food has never been cheaper in Australia, so that the charitably disposed can make a little out of their means to go a long way. Close observers declare that a strong Government would find the opportunity in the present situation to restore the industries of the people, but the present Government is annoyed and hampered by organized factions of voters.

The following on fake advertising schemes is recommended to the attention of several Victoria merchants. The remarks were made by one of Canada's most successful merchants: "When I was young and verdant, and thought I knew it all," he says, I went into hotel registers, circulars, posters, write-ups, and similar things. Many of them were nice in theory, but I could get no results. I then tried newspaper advertising. That paid me, and I have used it ever since."

A correspondent evidently an educated gentleman, writes: "The attention of 'the editor the Province,' who is really the only authority on English on Broad street, is respectfully called to the fol-

lowing sentence which appeared in a legal advertisement in Friday morning's *Colonist*. 'Payments made to others are no discharge of liability.' Surely the author of the above quoted elegant expression cannot be the same captious individual who makes it his business at all times and in all places to correct the errors of the vulgar crowd of 'Colonials?' And now we await a dissertation on murdering English, bah jove!"

I was rather pleased with the remarks of the *Colonist*, Friday morning relative to native Canadians. I agree with the morning paper that "Canada is producing a race of men who compare favorably with the natives of any other country—morally, intellectually and physically." I also agree with the statement that "there are still far too many curs and cads among Canadians." I cannot imagine a more detestable creature than the native born Canadian who attempts to ape the Englishman. John Bull has many peculiarities which are natural and become him. No sensible man holds it a fault in an Englishman to drop his h's, drawl, and stammer. I was going to say he was born that way; but perhaps it would be nearer the mark to say that he came by the habit honestly, for it is a peculiarity of the land in which he was reared. On the other hand, when we see a Canadian, attempt to imitate an Englishman in these things, it rather disgusts us. I have in my mind at this moment a loud-mouthed, ill-bred Canadian, who has just one ambition in life and that is to be mistaken for an Englishman by an Englishman. John Bull in all his pristine loveliness I rather esteem, but the Canadian parrot I despise.

SPORTING GOSSIP.

THE TURF.

THE Victoria Jockey Club were singularly unfortunate in having bad weather for their fall meeting, but, with true sportsmanlike zeal, they went through with their programme though it involved considerable personal loss to the members of the club. With the exception of the 2:30 class list, there was not even a suspicion of crookedness in any of the events, and the judges, who seem at last to have grasped the duties of the position, most effectually killed what was a most flagrant job to rob the public. Of the true inwardness of the deal whereby Storm was to be permitted to win, no one will probably ever give the exact story to the public, but inasmuch as every one connected with Innocentia had played Storm in the poolbox, it could hardly be expected that the mare would make very strenuous efforts to win. The judges, however, put down their feet very strongly on this combination, and the public

cheered them to the echo. The running races were excellent, but the presence of the Calgary filly, "All Smoke," scared away opposition in the chief events, only Doncaster throwing down the gauntlet to the daughter of Silk Gown. Doncaster ran very well both times, but he could not give the weight to the year old, whose owner backed her extensively, and she landed his money rather easy. Lyme Long the winner of the half mile and repeat is a likely looking customer and will be heard of again. The Jockey Club must be congratulated on the manner in which the meeting was conducted, every detail being attended to by the proper officials, and nothing of the usual *laissez-faire* manner of allowing things to run themselves coming to the surface. Now that a race meeting has been held in Victoria, at which owners, riders and public were taught that racing will be conducted according to the recognized rules, we may see a revival here of the sport of kings, and though the club are losers financially they have inaugurated an era of prosperity for the turf which will bear its own fruits.

FOOTBALL.

The Rugby Football Club holds its first meeting next week. It is probable that the opening game will be with the Hornets of the Mainland, and not with the Royal Arthur team, as announced in our last issue. There has been some talk of playing under the rules adopted by the Rugby Association of Eastern Canada, but it is very improbable that any change will be made. The game played here is English Rugby to the letter. The Ontario men, whilst following the English rules in the main, have introduced a few innovations in the placing of the men. They have, with the object of getting the ball into play, lessened the number of players in the scrimmage, and put the extra men on the wings. Many in Ontario claim that the wing players are perfectly useless, indulging in senseless scrapping and body checking, the ball being their last consideration. It is undoubtedly true that the play is freer under the eastern rules, the result being more attention to passing and combination work, and a very prominent Rugby man in Toronto last season after specially studying the American college game, advocated reducing the number of players to eleven; involving, of course, the doing away with the four wing men. The game played on the Sound is the college Rugby of the States. There is as much difference between the American and English game as there is between Association and Rugby. One side under the American game is given possession of the ball. The field is marked with equi-distant lines, running at right angles to touch. The side having the