



THE ATTACK UPON PRESIDENT McKINLEY.

President McKinley is a noble man. Since taking office he has with a comings of the whole world for his display of statesmanlike qualities; and nothing but the keenest regret will be felt at the sad news of yesterday. It is generally believed that the awful affair will prove such a tremendous blow to Mrs. McKinley that she will not long survive. It is well known that she has been in a very delicate state of health for some time, and the event of yesterday might reasonably be expected to prove a fatal shock.

It would not be at all surprising if we were to be told that the incident of the attack upon President McKinley would interfere very seriously with the programme outlined by the Duke of York for his Canadian tour. If it be true, as is alleged, that this latest outrage is due to the work of anarchists, it would seem the part of wisdom for all in high places to be very cautious in their movements; therefore it may easily be supposed that the tour of the royal party will be interrupted.

## MINING DIVIDENDS.

It is noteworthy that although only 52 companies engaged in the mineral industry of the United States reported to the "Engineering and Mining Journal," the total dividends in August were \$14,746,255, or 16 per cent greater than in the previous month. This increase was due mostly to the heavy disbursements by the iron and steel and the copper companies. Of the \$3,418,544 paid by 39 metal mines, four copper properties alone reported over 73 per cent, or \$2,520,275. This group was led by the Boston & Montana, in Montana, which made its third quarterly payment of \$1,500,000, being at the rate of 100 per cent per annum on a share capital of \$3,750,000, thus placing it in the front rank of profitable mines. The greater part of this dividend goes into the treasury of the Amalgamated Copper company, which is the largest stockholder. Such revenue is used by the Amalgamated company to pay 8 per cent annually in dividends on its outstanding capital stock of \$150,038,900, since it operates no mines directly. Of the 33 gold, silver and lead companies making disbursements, some have changed their monthly declarations to quarterly. This is especially the case where the list of stockholders is very large and the monthly payments have been small, as in the Cripple Creek district, Colorado, where mines are paying from 6 to 36 per cent annually on capitalizations that range from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000. Of all the gold mines paying this month, the Consolidated Mercur, in Utah, leads with \$126,000 on a \$5,000,000 capital. Next in order is the great Homestake property in the Black Hills, S. Dak., which announced its usual monthly dividend of \$105,000, being at the rate of 6 per cent per annum on a \$21,000,000 capitalization. The Silver King mine in Utah follows closely with a regular monthly payment of \$100,000, equal to 40 per cent annually on \$300,000 capital. Daly-West, in the same state, has surprised its stockholders with an increase in its monthly dividend from \$45,500 to \$52,000, putting its \$3,000,000 capital on a 21 per cent annual basis, whereas last year it yielded a little over 16 per cent. The Union Gold Mining company of Cripple Creek, Colo., distributed among its stockholders \$25,000, or 2 per cent per share, as the balance of the proceeds of the sale of the Orpha May property. Since its incorporation the Union company has disbursed \$420,244 in dividends, which is equal to 33.6 per cent on a share capital of \$1,230,000. The zinc properties are not paying as well as formerly, and little is heard of the companies that were formed a few years ago with such large capitals, upon which regular monthly dividends were promised indefinitely. Several of these companies have gone into liquidation, or have been reorganized with smaller capitalizations. In August only two companies reported \$22,477 in dividends. The industrial companies are endeavoring to pay regular dividends on their common stock, especially the combinations that are so heavily capitalized. Thus the great United States Steel Corporation, after paying its first quarterly dividend of 13.4 per cent (\$3,897,510) on the issued preferred stock, has declared a 1 per cent quarterly dividend on the common stock, to be paid in September. In the petroleum section it is noticeable that some of the California companies have withdrawn from the dividend list and are levying assessments to meet expenses of developing their territory more profitably. Of course there are some "wild cat" companies that publish dividends broadcast, especially in large-sized advertisements in the eastern papers; but since these payments are usually made from the sale of stock and not from profits of operating an oil well, we have ignored them entirely. In all five petroleum and natural gas companies, located in California, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, paid \$271,356 in dividends during the month. There were three coal and coke companies that reported \$191,782. The National Salt company also paid its regular quarterly dividend of 11.2 per cent (\$105,900) on its common stock, and 13.4 per cent (\$87,500) on the preferred, making the total disbursements since incorporation \$1,297,500, or nearly 11 per cent, on its combined capital of \$12,000,000. The Pacific Coast Borax company in California paid its regular monthly dividend of \$19,000, which is at the rate of 12 per cent per annum on an issued capital of \$1,900,000. Since organization it has distributed \$914,500, or over 48 per cent, on its capital. Already there have been some heavy quarterly dividend declarations for September, and from all accounts the closing months of this year will show very effectively the profitable operations of the mineral and metallurgical industries of the United States in 1901.

**MR. MARTIN'S STATEMENTS.**

Mr. Joseph Martin is quoted as saying: "Last session the political opponents of the government had 19 votes, sufficient to overthrow them. Most of us felt no possible object in turning the Dunsmuir government out. If it had not been for our action in refusing to join the conspiracy the Dunsmuir government would have been beaten. We therefore approve of Brown joining the government and intend supporting the change." Mr. Martin has apparently been so pains to illustrate his most prominent characteristic. His quoted statement is tantamount to a confession that he would rather see the Dunsmuir government remain in power than see it defeated by anybody but himself, particularly when the opportunity was presented to him of securing partial control of the administration from behind a screen. But "Joe" may in this instance have overreached himself. There are others to reckon with besides his few immediate henchmen. It is problematical whether he will be able to throw more than four votes to the new combination, and there is no certainty that Mr. Dunsmuir can secure the other necessary fifteen from his old following. The fact there are many who hold the theory that "Joe" has but devised a Machiavellian plan for the undoing of Dunsmuir, by which the latter was to alienate his own supporters and at the same time fail to secure new ones, is darkly hinted, in other words, that "Joe" has coaxed the premier to try the dangerous feat of sitting on two stools, well foreseeing the result. This is possibly the correct theory, but in any case the people of British Columbia do not relish the idea of having a Martinite administration, either with or without disguise.

## THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

We have already given expression to our astonishment and dissatisfaction at the recent turn in events at Victoria which indicates a reversion to Martinism in our political affairs; and we think we cannot do better this morning than to give over a large portion of our editorial space to the reproduction of opinions on the crisis expressed by the various newspapers throughout the

Under the caption "The Cabinet Muddle," the Victoria Times, in its issue of the 10th inst., has published a paper, says: In British Columbia political history there have been, no doubt, many rapid political changes and strange admixtures of discordant elements, but the present pot pourri surpasses them all. In recent years the Martin cabinet was unique in its way, but could claim at least the merit of possessing a common bond of union. Mr. Brown, who seems to have been projected into the present government by Mr. Martin, was a member of the Martin government, which went to the people on a policy and platform and was overwhelmingly defeated. From that moment, apparently, Mr. Brown commenced to amend his political creed, and at last session of the legislature he had brought himself to believe that he had been mistaken in his political views all his life and that his proper place was in the ranks of the premier's followers. It will require more acquaintance than Mr. Brown possesses, we are afraid, to successfully explain his conversion. The Colonist tells us that in selecting Mr. Brown, Mr. Dunsmuir "has been true to his avowed desire to have both of the federal parties represented in his cabinet." The selection of Mr. Brown is not criticized by the Times because he claims to be a Liberal, nor can it be justified by Liberals on that ground. When the time comes to place Liberals as such in the government Mr. Dunsmuir will be asked to define his own position in party politics, and the Liberal colleagues he summons to his cabinet will need be the nominees of the Liberal party and not a small clique whose leader has publicly expressed himself as hostile to the Liberal government at Ottawa. If Mr. Dunsmuir imagines that he is doing something to placate the Liberals in opposition to his government because he makes minorities of one or two followers of Mr. Joseph Martin he is greatly mistaken. The Liberal party and not Mr. Martin, must be considered when a deal of that kind is proposed. Mr. Dunsmuir would have pleased the Liberals much more had he invited either Mr. Speaker Booth, Mr. Dennis Murphy, Mr. C. W. Munro or Mr. Richard Hall to fill the vacancy, and any one of these Liberals would have been justified in accepting the invitation on the ground that he had been elected on the premier's platform. He, at least, would not be guilty of deserting the office and its emoluments.

The Kamloops Standard remarks: The extraordinary action of the premier in taking Mr. J. C. Brown into the cabinet and ignoring his supporters is altogether astounding. At the general elections of 1900 the Martin government suffered a complete defeat and the popular verdict of the country was overwhelming anti-Martin. Yet now we find Mr. Dunsmuir calling into his cabinet Mr. Martin's chief supporter. There has never been any failure on the part of the government members to support the government since Mr. Dunsmuir's advent, and amongst the ranks are many capable and clever men, suitable and entitled to fill any vacancy occurring in the ministry. The worst part of the whole business is the fear that the action of the premier will result in an abandonment of anything in accepting the Unionist support.

The Vernon News is equally as emphatic in denunciation of the latest deal. It says: Of course everyone knows that behind Mr. Brown is Joe Martin. Brown was his foremost lieutenant in the last election. He upheld his banner in several constituencies, and supported Martin's platform on many a platform. His accession to the cabinet virtually means that Martinism is again a factor in our provincial affairs. His radical policy regarding railroad matters and other questions of a like nature will find an exponent in Mr. Brown. He, no doubt, on his part, has agreed to swing the following which he commands into line, and deliver them over to Mr. Martin. It cannot be denied that between them Mr. Dunsmuir and Mr. Martin have practically the control of the house. Any deal that they may agree upon will stand for the present. But behind all these politicians there always remains the might of the people. What the people of the province will have to say regarding this shuffle is yet uncertain. We have not at present sufficient information at our disposal to give an opinion as to the possible outcome; but we venture to predict that in case of trouble ahead for Mr. Dunsmuir and his party.

The Vancouver News-Advertiser, ex-Finance Minister Cotton's paper, is equally outspoken. It says: "We care very little about the personnel of the government, so long as the administration is well managed. But the extraordinary step taken by the premier in selecting a colleague requires an explanation. Men of all shades of opinion regard it as a bit of political trickery and will expect Mr. Dunsmuir to justify his conduct. As to whether one or the other of the supporters of the government was appointed to the vacant cabinet position, the electors generally are indifferent, as long as the appointee is capable. But when they see those who did their best to overthrow the government and who were responsible for much of the confusion which existed for several months last year, honored and trusted in place of those who supported the administration against these attacks, common people are apt to suspect that there is something behind the scenes which will not bear the light. Further, they fear that Mr. Dunsmuir's action may result in another period of unrest and injury to the provincial interests. Mr. Brown will doubtless explain his political somersault when he goes before the electors. There is a feeling among many of the most thoughtful people of this province that the attainment of personal ambitions and political preferment has, during the past eighteen months, been the aim of some members of the legislature rather than the desire to work for the interests of their constituents. But nothing has startled the public as much as the extraordinary action of the premier in ignoring his supporters.

**PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.**

All over the civilized world there will be great rejoicing at the news which comes from the bedside of President McKinley. It would be nothing short of a universal calamity were the chief executive of the United States to succumb to the blow dealt by the cowardly assassin the other day. Once we can remove our minds from contemplation of the immediate horror which is inevitable in connection with the damnable incident, we think of what possible remedy there can be for such abominable occurrences. We are very glad indeed to note that the Association of the Chiefs of Police of America has taken the matter up so promptly and that there is a likelihood of there being united action on the part of all civilized governments in dealing with the human vermin which are such a menace to society in general and law and order. In a despatch dated Washington since the attempt upon the life of the president, it is reported that the following course of action was decided upon by the head of the police department of the United States of America:

The National Association of Chiefs of Police of the United States and Canada at the last annual meeting adopted a resolution inviting the heads of the foreign police departments to participate in our annual discussions, and the distressing calamity which has recently befallen Berlin has recently experienced through the assault by an unknown assassin confirms the belief that the importance of the resolution should be impressed on foreign officials, with a view to having such of our members present at our next annual meeting as are able to come. It is the hope that a closer relationship may be established between us personally, and that there may be an interchange of opinions and methods to be pursued to eliminate from society the organizations and persons who are the enemies of the government and those

charged with their conduct. This is a most vital question, and if the laws are inadequate to crush such organizations and banish such characters, there should be recommendations from a police standpoint which would forever prevent the like in this country and aid the authorities abroad. I trust the members will give this matter closer and careful consideration and offer such suggestions as may aid in accomplishing the desired end, and that the secretary will be authorized to adopt such measures as will bring about a thorough understanding with our foreign friends and to secure their present and future cooperation. In the meantime, there should be active efforts made in looking to the eradication of these evils, and in information gathered and disseminated through the national bureau of criminal identification with a view of accomplishing such results."

The action which is proposed in the foregoing is quite in line with what was suggested in the Miner of Friday last. We then contended and we contend now that a determined effort ought to be immediately made by every government on earth to exterminate the anarchist breed wherever it is found. And, further, all newspapers of a crazy character—and there are many of them who are responsible for these damnable doctrines—ought to be suppressed.

But we ought to find no time at the present moment for a discussion as to what ought to be done to prevent the recurrence of such horrible incidents as the attempt upon the life of the president—it ought to be enough for us to know that there is every probability of Mr. McKinley recovering from his wound; and that he may do so will be the earnest wish of all who have learned to value and appreciate the advantages of civilization.

**THE EXTRAORDINARY POLITICAL SITUATION.**

Referring to the extraordinary political situation which prevails in the province at the present time, it is very significant that almost every newspaper in the province has felt called upon to express disapproval of the action of Premier Dunsmuir in making the cabinet changes which he did. It seems almost superfluous to remark that Mr. Joseph Martin has for months past—indeed ever since Mr. Dunsmuir assumed the reins of government—dictated what was to be the policy of that government; and that this was a circumstance which was likely to meet with the entire disapproval of the whole of the people is easily seen when one remembers the repeated votes of want of confidence which were recorded against that gentleman at the time of his several attempts to establish a government. We are not at all taking an unwarranted view of the situation when we declare that there could be no condition of affairs which would militate more disastrously against the province than the return to power of Mr. Joseph Martin. That gentleman came to British Columbia with considerable reputation for political sagacity and ability, and when given an opportunity to display his powers made a most dismal failure of his task, and did much to bring the province into disrepute and bad odor throughout the entire world. We had not entirely recovered from the evil done by Mr. Martin when this latest extraordinary political crisis arrives; and it seems calculated to complete the disaster which was bound to follow such political jugglery. What the outcome may be no one can tell; but one thing is absolutely certain—the people of British Columbia will not tolerate Martinism. They have had a taste of it; they have sampled it; it is not to them an unknown quantity; and Mr. Martin, with all his political astuteness, will not be able to have things his own way to a very great extent, or for any length of time. Beyond this it is hard to prognosticate what will be the outcome of events.

### THE SITUATION IN RESPECT TO THE MINES.

It is important that some reference should be made each day to the strike situation. The one thing which seems most to be engaging the attention of the public is speculation as to what length of time must elapse before there will be a general return to work on the part of the members of the Miners' Union. It seems to be admitted that a factor which is to be considered when this phase of the subject is discussed is that of the anticipated "visit of the "investigating committee" from England. The most careful attempts have been made to create the impression that this "investigating committee" is sent out by the directorate with the object of inquiring into the situation as it may exist on their arrival, with the ultimate expulsion from office of those who at present are opposing the policy dictated by the Miners' Union. If those who are inclined to dispute the contentions which we have made previously upon this point are prepared to listen to a little argument, we would like to present certain statements to them for their consideration. In the first place, it would but be a reasonable act for the new directorate to suggest the appointment of a committee of investigation—if that term be proper—in order to demonstrate completely that the management at this end of the line was a good one. In other words, when it was decided by the new directorate that the policy of the old directorate in regard to the attitude of the company in respect to the strike should be endorsed, it would seem the most natural thing in the world for an opportunity to be provided for investigation to be made into all the circumstances, which would result in a finding which would justify the old directorate in every way, in so far as the labor controversies are concerned. Now it is, of course, a matter for considerable speculation what may be attempted or accomplished when the "investigating committee" arrives. But it is a matter which can be discussed candidly by all parties concerned. We assume that the gentlemen who will soon be here are business men. They will be, we imagine, given an opportunity to inspect the properties in which they are interested, and to attempt an estimate of the situation in all its phases. We hardly think that there is any one in the community so biased as to suggest that an investigating committee of that sort will result in the condemnation of the present management. It seems to be universally conceded that the managers of the properties which are concerned in this fight—which is now hardly drawing to a conclusion—have performed their duties in a most satisfactory fashion, and that the properties under their charge could not be in more competent hands. With that knowledge in mind, it is rather difficult to suppose that any question of stock-jobbing or speculation will prevent the investigating committee from arriving at a decision which will result in the sustinment of that management. However, let it be supposed, for the sake of argument, that there may be a change in the personnel of the management of the important properties which are affected by the present situation. Does any intelligent man believe that there would, in that even, be a change of policy on the part of the directorate in respect to the conduct of the strike? We do not think so. The conduct of a large property, such as the Le Roi, is such a huge proposition that there will never be any trifling with issues so large as that which is now being contended for. And we think it the height of folly for the members of the Miners' Union to entertain the hope that under any circumstances or under any conditions there can be a reversal of the policy which is now being advocated by the London directorate.

Once the clear situation is understood, we anticipate that many men who now find themselves out of employment because of the action of the agitators, and against their own will, will return to work. But perhaps we are too optimistic in hoping that such a move will be accomplished before the visit of the celebrated "investigating committee," and perhaps even after that there will be more ridiculous suggestions of compromise being made. In any event the Miner will have the satisfaction of knowing it has done its duty in the matter, and that it has left nothing unsaid which might be calculated to provide a remedy for a condition of affairs which was most wretched.

## WHY HESITATE?

A pathetic circumstance in connection with the strike situation is the fact that there is a possibility of numerous men who for no fault of their own find themselves in an unpleasant situation, suffering material damage because of the continuance of the strike. It is a matter of common knowledge to everybody in Roseland that a very great number of the miners had homes here, houses and lots, and were making an effort to establish themselves as permanent residents of the community. A majority of the miners who were permanently employed had, we are informed, secured lots and houses upon terms which required that they should make certain payments at certain dates. It must be a very unsatisfactory position for them to be placed in to contemplate the possibility of the forfeiture of their holdings in this camp because of the situation created through the efforts of agitators who have everything to gain and nothing to lose by the continuance of the strike. We hope to be able to reason with those in this community who are likely to be the most disastrously affected by the strike. There is only one duty for a newspaper to perform in this connection, which is to continually repeat the warning that it is quite conceivable the time may arrive when the honest miners may find themselves out of employment and in a position where it will be impossible for them to retain the homes which they have established in this city. In all seriousness we suggest that they should attempt in their own minds to arrive at a conclusion as to what is likely to occur in the near future.

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In view of the foregoing, we are disposed to accept what is said by the Le Rois. They should not longer be the agitators' mouthpiece. Frecheville was due to arrive in London, but will not leave England before the 15th. He will be presented from time to time with interesting work. In all earnestness, we say hesitate no longer to make a report of conditions in the Le Roi Mining company, with special reference to which the affairs of that company are of the greatest importance to the mining engineer of every old world, and we ask the old world, and we ask the old world, and we ask the old world, has possibly extended over the last few years. The mine better equipped with modern machinery, and scientifically developed than any other mine in the world. It is to be Mr. Frecheville's opportunity to show that when Mr. Frecheville's impression in the Le Roi is not a business and business man conversing with a Le Roi will acknowledge the Le Roi's position in the foreground in mind, what many of the Le Rois in London? Since the Le Rois in all friendliness

A characteristic criticism which serves to indicate that the criticism comes from the per-

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Without any exaggeration throughout the province enormous. Everywhere the same terms. Although there be a peculiar "deal" was in persons who had exceptional appears to have had and such stupendous folly—and the trust confided to him in British Columbia.

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We trust that both different constituencies. Last year Mr. Martin was months. I has now such. These things are most only make matters worse constitutional, yet was passing through a period methods will be amply terminated without reelected by some. A delay more serious than a some embrace a large majority tricties of our legislators

Whatever may be the case, it exists for a few weeks only. The government, possessing no real permanency, can be passed and the people can change means of a fair and equitable exigencies of the situation necessitate the formation of a new bill and carrying on the work of the Dunsmuir-Martin government settle down until the next election.

## THE CIVIC B

NEW REGULATIONS  
OFFICES AND  
CLALS.

THAT AND OTHER  
DEALT WITH AT  
MEETING

Several improvements in connection with the A. bylaw will be introduced by the council in the hours during which the meeting is to be kept open to the public. The hours will be from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. on Saturday, and from 10 a. m. to the time during which the council may transact business on Sunday in the hall, but does not delimit the hours. The various officers will be on hand while the meeting is in progress, of course, and after the adjournment of the day's business the officers will be on hand if they are required. Heretofore the meeting has been set for the purpose of the corporation in the hall, but this fact is a weakness in the law, and it is now provided that it is as probable that the meeting will be held in the hall as it is probable that it will be held in the hall. The officers will be on hand at all times, and the officers will be on hand at all times, and the officers will be on hand at all times.

In addition the city improved by the inscreens with properly. In this way citizens transact will be enable the official who can function desired and condu