The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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A RAILWAY POLICY

The construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway will open the north central part of this province and lead to the building of a new city some four hundred miles north of the present settled parts of the province, and so that city the trade of a very wide and valuable area will naturally, to a very large degree, be attracted. The Colonist is not so insular in its ideas as to object to this. On the contrary, it will hail with great satisfaction the development which will follow the construction of this railway and the establishment of its Pacific terminus. At the same time, we are not unmindful of the fact that the part of the province to be developed thereby is practically without population, and is separated from the settled portions by a broad belt of country, which, though abounding in resources, is only very sparsely peopled. These southern parts of the province has paid vast sums of money into the Dominion treasury, which have never been repaid in public works or otherwise, and they will have to bear a large share of whatever charge the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific may be upon the finances of the Dominion. We are not seeking to make any political point out of these facts, because such conditions are probably inseparable from the opening up of a new country. We are only stating them for the sake of bringing forward one of the grounds upon which, in our humble judgment, it is desirable that something additional should be attempted in the way of railway construction to what is now immediately in sight. The Colonist has always taken the position that the people, who are now living in the province and have invested their labor and capital in it, should be given an opportunity to enjoy as good a share as possible of the benefits to be derived from the opening of new areas. It has steadily urged that steps ought to be taken whereby the existing coast cities can participate in the vast business that is certain to be developed in the great northeastern portion of the province and in that part of Alberta of which Edmonton is the centre. It has also contended for the adoption of a policy whereby the great area lying between the main line of the Canadian Pacific on the south and the proposed route of the Grand Trunk Pacific on the north can be opened for settlement and the development of its great mineral resources. In pursuance of this policy it has persistently urged both upon the Dominion and Provincial governments, and especially upon the former, that every reasonable means ought to be adopted to facilitate the immediate construction of a railway across the south central part of the province with connection with Victoria and Vancouver. We hold that this work should proceed simultaneously with the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific if possible, for it would be unwise policy from a provincial point of view not to provide that the older settled portions of British Columbia shall be put in such a position as will enable them to share upon equal terms with the newer commercial centre to be established in the north in the great business development certain to take place in the parts of British Columbia and Alberta above referred to.

We hope, therefore, that the Provincial government will be able to see its way clear to adopt a policy which will secure the early undertaking of such an enterprise as is above outlined, and we feel satisfied that any well considered plan will meet with the hearty approval of the public. It would be unreasonable to expect any railway company to undertake such a work without substantial assistance of some kind. By far the greater part of the area which the proposed railway would open up is in a state of nature. It contains all the elements of a great potential traffic, but it would be unreasonable to expect unaided private enterprise to build a road between the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Pacific, seeing that both these lines were heavily subsidized. It is not wholly the question of building a competing line. It is a railway which the people of the southern part of the province have a moral right to have constructed. In this province settlement will not go in advance of transportation and the great country lying between the two roads mentioned will long lie dormant unless it is opened by a railway. We submit these views to the serious consideration of the members of the Provincial government, with the hope that they will be able to devise some plan which will bring about this much to be desired object above advanced.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Most of the banks of the United States are doing business on clearing house certificates. A clearing house certificate is a promise by the clearing house association to pay a certain sum of money. All the banks, which are members of the clearing house are security for the certificates. Within limitations these certificates are just as good as money. Merchants and others accept them, and the banks take them as cash. Seattle has been obliged to get upon this basis. It is very nearly impossible to draw coin or currency from the banks there, although an agreement has been reached whereby the pay rolls of the various industrial establishments will be met with money, if needed. Said a well known Seattle business man: "If you go to the bank with a check for $500 they will perhaps give you $20 in coin, if you would make out a good case for it; but usually you will have to be content with certificates." This is illegal we all know, but we are going to stand together until cash becomes available." This is really an admirable spirit and is the sort that breeds prosperity.

Referring especially to the case of Seattle the banks of that city have $12,000,000 loan on call in Chicago and New York, but just now it cannot be called. If the money were out where it belongs there would be no financial stringency. This is the trouble with all the banks. They want to make big profits, so they send their money to New York for Wall street to gamble with. We may feel very sure that this thing is not likely to happen again to as great an extent as formerly. Yesterday's despatches told of what New York was doing to relieve the stringency in other parts of the country. If New York would pay back what it has borrowed from other parts of the country there would be no necessity for western banks to resort to the use of clearing house certificates.

TEMPERANCE IN UNITED STATES

The progress made by the temperance movement in the United States is amazing. There are very few states in which the principle of local option has not been adopted by many counties, and in some instance the whole state has "gone dry" as the phrase is. The movement is especially marked in the South, which was once supposed to be the great stronghold of whiskey. Even Kentucky, which has always been associated in the popular mind with colonels in frock coats engaged in the consumption or discussion of their favorite beverage, has gone for prohibition. It is easy both to overrate and underrate the effect of this remarkable movement. If any one should claim that the people of the "dry" states were about to abandon drinking habits absolutely, he would be absurd; on the other hand, should he say that prohibition will not prohibit and there will be as much drinking as ever, only the liquor will be worse, he would be greatly mistaken. In the dryest town in the United States, a man, who knows how, can probably get a drink of intoxicating liquor. General Neal Dow, the father of the prohibition movement in the United States, used to say to those who claimed that this was the case: "We have a law against murder, both human and divine law, and it is backed up by united public opinion, but some people commit murder just the same." Gen. Dow's chief claim for prohibition was that it was educative in its effects. He contended that if young people grew up to look upon the liquor traffic as illegal, it would lose all claim to respectability and become unpopular. He claimed also that if the sale of intoxicants were prohibited, the young would have temptation removed from their path, and those persons who were endeavoring to escape from drinking habits would find their task less difficult. Notwithstanding all that has been alleged to the contrary, this has been the effect of prohibition in Maine, where it has the longest trial. The good results have not been as marked as was hoped, but any one who has mingled with crowds of State of Maine people will bear out the assertion that intoxicated men are very rare. Yet no man, who wants a drink when in a Maine city, need go thirsty.

The effect of this widespread movement for the prohibition of the liquor traffic cannot fail to have an exceedingly important effect upon the future of the United States. The people will be the stronger for it; they will be better fitted for the tremendous struggle that is imminent between the Occident and the Orient. We do not now mean a struggle at arms, but one in industrial rivalry. Friends of temperance must not expect too much. Above all they must not expect a law to enforce itself. If there is not behind the prohibitory movement a strong public opinion to compel the observance of the statutes, while some good will be accomplished, enough harm will be done to offset it. But if what is taking place in the Republic is sustained by the same degree of energy that was necessary to bring it about, the results will be profoundly beneficial. In this connection it may be mentioned that a commission appointed by the New Brunswick government to investigate the working of the Prince Edward's Island system of prohibition is likely to make a very favorable report.

EXIT HEARST

Apparently William Randolph Hearst is out of politics for the time being. Some of the New York papers say that he is politically dead beyond the chance of resurrection, but politicians are not unlike cats in the multiplicity of their lives. Hearst is probably out of the way for a considerable period, but no one need be surprised if he bobs up serenely in the future. His complete overthrow is eloquent testimony to the good sense of the people of New York. We find a good deal of fault with the course pursued by the people of the United States, and often with excellent reason, but every now and then they assert themselves, and would-be leaders of public opinion find that they are much smaller figures in the public eye than they supposed. Hearst is a dangerous man. He possesses ability, and one of the strongest feature of it is his skill in selecting able lieutenants. But he himself is an impossible quantity, otherwise with the wealth at his command, the influence of his papers and the tactful assistants with whom he had surrounded himself, he would have met a different fate. His complete extinguishment settles that he will not have to be reckoned with in the presidential campaign, except so far as he is able to influence votes through his new papers. That he is likely to be seriously considered as a possible candidate has been improbable for a long time and now it is impossible. Yet it would be a mistake to write his political obituary. He is a young man yet, and he is not above learning things. Some day he may be before the public again and more successfully than he has been in the past. He has certainly been playing in pretty bad luck, so far as his aspirations for preferment at the hands of his fellow citizens goes, or as the establishment of any considerable amount of prestige. The people of the United States have very little use for an unlucky politician, and Mr. Hearst will have to wait until his record has been in part forgotten before he can try again with any hope of succeeding.

A NOTABLE TRIUMPH

Mr. Lloyd-George has scored a notable triumph by his settlement of the impending railway strike in England. The value of his work can only be appreciated by those who realize the part which railway transportation plays in the affairs of the United Kingdom. The Daily Chronicle says that the real question at issue was the right of the men to approach the directors through their trade societies, and we gather from the summary of the terms of settlement that this point has been substantially conceded.

Mr. Lloyd-George's success will be very welcome to his colleagues in the cabinet, who have not very many triumphs to congratuate themselves upon. The basis upon which the settlement has been reached involves, first, conciliation, and, second, in default of conciliation, arbitration. This is very sound in principle, and, if it is carried out in good faith, will do much to establish the relations of employers to employed upon a permanently satisfactory basis. As a general proposition employees are disposed to be reasonable, but they very naturally resent anything like oppression, or what the Chronicle calls "the pride and obstinacy of mastership." They insist and properly so that there shall be equality between employers and employed, not necessarily social equality, about which they do not concern themselves at all and which in the very nature of things must always be an impossibility, but business equality. The workingman and his family have neither the time, money nor tastes to live on the same social plane with their employers. It is not a question of superiority or inferiority, but only one of individual convenience. But on the business side of their relations employers and employed ought to stand exactly upon the same footing. The latter ought to be ready to do their best for reasonable pay; the former ought to be willing to pay reasonably for good work. The workingman has an equal right with his employer to have a voice in the decision of the conditions under which he labors, and when he approaches the employer asking that his claims may be considered, he approaches him as an equal. This is generally recognized in Canada, and it will evidenty be hereafter generally recognized in the United Kingdom. One group of workingmen cannot occupy long a position more favorable than other groups, and what the railway employees secure, other wage-earners will enjoy. As it looks to us at a distance, Mr. Lloyd-George has done the country a signal service.

NEWSPAPERS AND PARTIES

In all parts of Canada there is a protest on the part of leading papers against their being regarded as party hacks. A great change is coming about in this respect. The time was not very long ago when it could be truthfully said the political parties supported newspapers, now in the majority of cases the newspapers support the party. The distinction is worth keeping in mind. Let us give an illustration. The other day a correspondent brought a letter to the Colonist, which he wished to have printed. It was grossly personal and he was told that it would not be given a place in our columns. It had no reference to politics in any way. When he was refused he grew quite indignant, said that he had always been a Conservative and that things had come to a pretty pass "if I am not allowed to print a letter in our paper." He was under the impression that in some mysterious way he was a part proprietor of the Colonist, which he seemed to suppose existed for no other purpose than to enable Conservatives to express their opinions upon people and things in general, no matter how bitterly. The Winnipeg Free Press says "it is not the business of a paper, however outspoken it may be in its advocacy of political opinions, to act as a whipper-in for a party. It is its duty to advocate the principles and policies it believes to be right, without regard to the doleful timorousness of time-servers, conscious that in the long run it can thus best serve the party to which it is allied and the state at large." The Free Press is a Liberal paper, and the St. John Telegraph, which claims to be independent but has a decided Conservative bias, declares the opinions of its Winnipeg contemporary to be a hopeful sign of the times.

We have in Canada newspapers which are not conducted in this principle and they are not all on one side of politics. They can see nothing good in their opponents; they can find nothing wrong in their friends. They dare not applaud a judicious act on the part of those whom they oppose, lest they might possibly influence some one in their favor; they dare not urge their own friends to take any course lest by so doing they might embarrass them. Such papers have very little influence. Still less influence have those dealing with personalities. Now, there are personal references to which objections cannot be taken. A public man makes certain statements; it is proper for his friends to applaud him and for his opponents to criticize him, provided the truth is adhered to; but it is not proper to indulge in innuendoes reflecting upon the motives of public men or to make covert charges of dishonesty against them. Such things can be left by the papers supporting a party to those papers which the party supports, and it would be very much better for all concerned if the work were not done at all.

A very great responsibility rests upon the newspapers of Canada, a responsibility far greater and more lasting than that of seeing that this or particular set of public men with whom the newspapers happen to be associated get or remain in power. It is the responsibility for elevating the tone of public opinion. Too often this duty is disregarded for the sake of making an appearance of smartness, or perhaps of winning the approval of some public man, whose favor seems worth catering for. Charges of corruption are bad enough, when they are specific and supported by evidence, but unfounded insinuations of corruption are infinitely worse. Yet it is becoming the fashion in some newspaper quarters to talk incessantly of corruption in connection with every phase of public life. This sort of thing lowers the tone of public sentiment. We hold that, when corruption can be established, it ought to be, and it should be pressed home upon the guilty parties without mercy; but when it cannot be established it ought not to be insinuated. We do not believe an election was ever gained by that sort of thing; but we do know that the tone of public sentiment has been lowered and wrong impressions of life in the Dominion have been spread abroad.

What an excellent thing it would be for the United States if the President could pattern by the Governor of Oregon and close up Wall street indefinitely.

By electing almost the entire reform ticket with good majorities, San Francisco has demonstrated that it is sincere in its professions of a desire to purge the city of the corrupt class. So far, so good. Now that it has put its hand to the plow let it not deviate from its course until the city has been restored to its former proud position.

King Edward has passed another milestone in life's journey; and as the years roll on he commands the ever-increasing affection and esteem of the millions of his loyal subjects throughout the greatest Empire which the world has ever seen.

Victoria seems likely to have a thorough cleaning-up. Well, it was time. The Seattle papers did good service when they "played up" the bubonic plague story for a little more than it was worth. They set their own people and all their neighbors to work to remove unsanitary things. A little scare is a wholesome thing occasionally.

Only the most unsophisticated will entertain any doubt as to which party will be victorious in the controversy which has arisen between Japan and China in respect to postal and telegraphic rights in Manchuria. But then, China has had large experience in the "protesting" business for many years, and will therefore not be unduly surprised at what will be the outcome in this particular case.

There will be general agreement that the Vancouver Exclusion League is asking a most reasonable thing when it requests the Federal government to arrange that no Asiatics shall be members of the crews of vessels in the public service. On some ships it has been found expedient to employ Chinese and Japanes as cooks and waiters, and, while to replace them with white men may cause some slight temporary inconvenience, in ought to be done in deference to public opinion.

The people who raise second crop strawberries, second crop raspberries, second crop pears and second crop plums, will have to hide their diminished heads. Mrs. William Emory, of North Pembroke street this city—of course it is this city, for it could not be anywhere else,—has sent us a luscious sample of third crop raspberries. They are rather better than the berries picked in the good old summer time.

During the course of an address at Fulham, England, the other day, the Bishop of London gave utterance to some remarks which are of special interest to Canadians in general, and, in a measure, an endorsement of the immigration policy which the government of this province has recently embarked upon. What had most impressed him on his recent tour was the wonderful loyalty of Canada. The Dominion was the granary of the world and great were the possibilities of this wonderful new nation, which was bound to Great Britain by ties of blood and religion that nothing ought to be able to break. "There was room for a hundred millions in Canada," His Lordship was reported as saying, "If we did not take care, we would lose our chance—Canada would be filled by others. We ought to be sending out from this over-crowded land more and more loyal Englishmen. Emigration was largely a cure for our ills. It was a God-given cure, and both clergy and laity might give their brains to see it properly carried out."

A sturdy champion of President Roosevelt's reform policy has appeared in the person of Mr. Henry Clews, the noted financial expert, who, addressing the Economic Club, at New Haven, Conn., the other day, said: "Whatever President Roosevelt has done, he has done to promote the public good, whether his speeches have helped to cause distrust or not. I contend that he had no intention of menacing the prosperity of the country in denouncing and instigating the prosecution of law-breaking railway corporations and industrial trusts. While he was instrumental in turning on the light, he was not responsible for the abuse of power which the light revealed, and it is the revelation of graft and illegal methods on the part of certain railway and other corporations, through the acts of their responsible managers and controlling capitalists, that has undermined public confidence in many of them. The fact that in nearly every instance of Government prosecution the guilt of the parties accused has been proved on their trial, justifies President Roosevelt in his action."

General Booth, the venerable head of the Salvation Army, has said farewell to the people of America in what must be set down as one of the most remarkabe and unique demonstrations of the kind in history. The spectacle of this old man, now, unfortunately, enfeebled with the weight of advancing years, addressing an audience of many thousands of people in the open air by the glare of electric light, would form a fit subject for the brush of a painter wishing to place on canvas the crowning triumph of the remarkable personage who initiated one of the most wonderful human movements for the uplifting of mankind which history has yet recorded. The hope will be universal that he may be spared for a long time yet to "go forward," as he says, on the path to which the beckoning finger of my duty invites." But, as General Booth is now a very old man, and as his health is failing, this expectation is hardly justified. In his case, the good for which he is world-famed will not "be interred with his bones" but will live after him. He has already had the happiness to see the tiny seeds of Christian effort which he planted over a quarter of a century ago in soil the most unfavorable grow into a mighty and vigorous tree, under whose sheltering branches millions have been shielded from the blasts of sin and found hope for future refuge in God's kingdom. When he goes to his last rest, it can truthfully be said that he left the world better than he found it; and when this has been said all has been said to describe the high place he occupies in the esteem and affection of the people of the earth.

The Harp Restrung

A PAGE OF INTERESTING IRISH ENDEAVOR

WHEN some of Britain's Fair Sex, headed by Lady Aberdeen, inaugurated a movement having for its object the revival of Rug Making by Irish Peasant Girls, a broken string of Ireland's harp was mended. Away up in the North of Ireland peasant girls, under the direction of textile artists of the highest standing, are weaving so much goodness into rugs that Donegal Rugs are now world famous.

Donegal Rugs resemble the heavier Oriental weaves in their splendid wearing qualities, but unlike Eastern rugs we can have them made to order in any shape, any size, any design, and any color combination. You can have the rug made to suit your own particular fancies to your architect's designs—advantages worth much. These rugs are made entirely by hand. The materials used are the very finest obtainable, and the dyes absolutely fast. We have a number of rarely beautiful designs on show now and many samples, and should be pleased to show and explain to you their many superior qualities.

Shown on our Second Floor—Come in To-morrow

BUY ORIENTAL RUGS FROM REPUTABLE DEALERS

Buy them from a house that guarantees their Genuineness

There are so many imitations of Oriental Rugs made and sold as the genuine article that care must be exercised in selecting these rugs. The safest and sanest plan is to purchase them from some reliable firm, with a reputation for reliability; from a firm that will guarantee their genuineness and goodness, and be here to back up that guarantee should occasion arise.

Some of the choicest Oriental Rugs were unpacked Saturday, and on Monday we shall be ready for you with an Oriental Rug section that would do credit to a much larger establishment. These are a direct importation, and this means much to you. By going direct we can save the middleman's profit, giving you a great advantage on this side. Then, too, we can offer you a better selection of designs and qualities, because our choice is greater. The Middleman, too, often gets what's left after those who buy direct have chosen. Pleased to show you any time.

New Arrivals

The new arrivals for the first floor (the first of the Christmas Stock) are intensely interesting. China, Cut Glass and Silver newness has been pouring in during the past week and we start this coming week with a much augmented stock of these lines. You'll find these new arrivals delightful. The prettiest creations of several continents are here. No better day than tomorrow to see the show.

First Floor

Decided Savings on Rugs

To stimulate our carpet business, to make new friends, and to meet old ones once again, to demonstrate to all the largest and most interesting carpet showing the city has ever known, we placed on sale Saturday a shipment of finest quality Axminster Bedroom or Hearth Rugs, priced at a figure that ought to arouse the keenest interest of anyone in need of a rug. Rug values that will stand the severest comparisons, none such are offered in these parts.

These Rugs come in pleasing Solid Greens and in Mottled effects of various colorings, with a heavy rich pile of excellent quality. They make a very suitable rug for Bedside, Bureau and Hearth. We advise an early visit for they aren't going to stay long in our showrooms.

Sizes 2 ft. 3 in. by 4 ft., each

$2.50

Cleaning Helps

There is a host of cleaning and kitchen helps at this store, and a few cents expended here for some of our offerings will purchase some labor-savers that will save the busy housewife much worry and unnecessary labor. Just jot down a few articles you would like to have, then come in here and see how little they will cost. You'll be surprised at how far a dollar will stretch here.

First Floor

Some Reed Furniture Offerings of Merit

New Arrivals Marked Fair

These new arrivals in Reed Furniture elicited much favorable comment yesterday, and judging from the favorable introduction the display will be considerably reduced in short order. We have tried to make the prices exceptionally interesting with just such end in view, and we are going to realize our expectations of a quick clearance.

The shipment comprises some unusually pretty pieces in Rockers, Arm Chairs, Reception Chairs and Children's Chairs. These new goods are extra strong, the frames being especially well put together. The reed is first quality and the finish superior. Reed furniture is very popular and deservedly so, for it is both comfortable and attractive, and harmonizes with almost any furnishings.

Prices range from $3.50 to $18.00

Quality Blankets priced Unusually Low

SUPERIOR WOOL BLANKETS

6-pound, at, per pair	$5.75
7-pound, at, per pair	$6.75
8-pound, at, per pair	$7.50

AYRSHIRE BLANKETS

8-pound, at, per pair	$8.00
8½-pound, at, per pair	$8.50

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A special weave, SOFT FINE WOOL BLANKET. A brand you cannot beat, per pair ... $12.00

ENGLISH BLANKETS

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8-pound, at, per pair	$8.50
9-pound, at, per pair	$9.50
10-pound, at, per pair	$10.50

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