The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1903.

PUBLISHED BY

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability.

No. 27 Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.

A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE DAILY COLONIST

Delivered by carrier at 20 cents per week, or mailed, postpaid, to any part of Canada (except the city) United Kingdom and the United States, at the following rates:

One year	$5 00
Six months	2 50
Three months	1 25

SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year	$1 00
Six months	50
Three months	25

Sent postpaid to Canada, United Kingdom and United States.

THE FAR EAST.

Victoria is the first English speaking city to receive all that kind of news from the Far East which does not go out over the telegraph wires. Telegraphic advices chronicle events, but it requires news of a more extended character to render us able to judge of the causes of events, and the movements that are making history in China, Japan and Manchuria. The Colonist has always recognized the importance from an Oriental news point of view of our position, and has endeavored to develop its sources of information, and we have the satisfaction of seeing our articles on the Manchurian situation widely reproduced and commented upon throughout the continent. As things become more critical in the Orient, Victoria's position as the first port of call will increase its importance in this respect, and in other and more material respects the position of British Columbia will be emphasized. When the eyes and efforts of civilization are directed upon Manchuria, it will be shown how much more closely the Orient comes in touch with the continent of America than it does with the continent of Europe. In the news we are receiving from the Far East now, there is the confusion of many voices, but there is no confusion as to Russia's real designs nor as to the ineradicable hostility of Japan to those designs. The two things taken together mean war. The war may be delayed by elusive and apparent avoidances of her ultimate end by Russia. But it cannot be prevented because there is no doubt as to what that end is, and no possibility of concealing it from Japan. Manchuria confines Russia to the north, and Russia does not propose to be confined to the north. For the rounding off of her Empire the province of Manchuria is absolutely necessary. The incorporation of Manchuria in the Russian Empire means its closing to the rest of the world. But to Japan it means more than that, an ever present menace to the independence of Japan itself. At the first blush it would seem as though China were the more affected of the two. But China is threatened with internal disintegration and China's rulers set up an ever weakening opposition to the modern influences which have already revolutionized Japan. It would not be remarkable, therefore, if the Chinese dynasty preferred a Russian entente to the autonomy of their own country. We have seen the same thing in British history when Charles the Second preferred an arrangement with France to the independence of Great Britain, for the reason that Great Britain did not greatly approve of himself and still less of his brother and heir. The result was that the arch-enemy of France was placed on the British throne, and a struggle initiated which cannot be said to have really terminated for over a hundred years. We should think that a Russo-Chinese entente was more than likely to hasten the disintegration of China, and that if it is recemented into an intelligible unity the cementing element will be the spirit of progress as exemplified in Japanese civilization. Such a disturbance as that would be a magnificent thing for the trade and commerce of the continent of America with the Orient. We do not refer to the temporary stimulus to trade from the outbreak of war, but to the eventual results which the war would bring about. China, revivified by resistance to Russia, would be compelled to rely more upon the Western influences from which her strength to defend herself against the Russian yoke had been derived. And the continent of America would be in a better position to minister to this development in the case of China than it was in the case of Japan, as Pacific trade routes and connections become better opened up. The situation in the Far East opens up a tremendous opportunity for Canada through British Columbia. It is the opportunity through whose means the dimly understood destiny of this province will be realized.

FOREIGN TRADE.

During last year we exported $55,000,000 worth of goods to the United States, and we imported from the United States $125,000,000. There was therefore what is called an adverse balance of trade against us of $70,000,000. How was that settled? By our receipts from our exports to Great Britain. On the general foreign trade of any country there is no such thing as a balance of trade, or rather there must be an exact balance. That is apparent from the simple fact that nobody either gives or gets anything for nothing. The United States has a large apparent balance of trade in its favor. That is settled in three ways, first, creation of credits abroad, second, expenditures abroad of travelling Americans, and third, imports of gold. These are the "invisible imports" of the United States. Similarly, Great Britain has an immense apparent balance of imports over exports. These are settled for by the returns upon capital invested abroad, freight rates earned on merchandise, or the resumption and expenditure of foreign credits. These are the main "invisible exports" of Great Britain. Many doctrinaire economists point to Great Britain's great imports as an indication of her wealth and then proceed to argue as if they were not merely an indication of wealth but the cause of it. As a matter of fact imports may be an indication of wealth and they may be an indication of poverty. If, for instance, Great Britain is paying for her imports by the resumption and expenditure of foreign credits, then Great Britain is living upon capital just as surely as if home industry and production were falling off. The meaning of imports will largely be found in the character of the goods imported. Our imports from the United States are an indication of poverty, because they largely consist of manufactured articles we are unable to make for ourselves, and that inability is due to poverty, lack of capital invested in machinery to make the goods. The fact that we need them and are forced to part with the raw produce of our soil to pay for them, is not an indication of wealth and prosperity at all. Do we call the farmer wealthy who trucks out the produce of his farm for the groceries and dry goods he absolutely requires? Of course not. No country is wealthy without the arts and manufactures. The wealth or poverty of a country lies not in trade balances but in the industries and arts of civilization it supports within its own borders. Trade balances matter nothing, and exports and imports but little, save as they show whether a country is buying out of its superfluity of wealth, or because it must, and whether it is selling because it has needs which it cannot satisfy and must pay others for their satisfaction, or because it has a superfluity of wealth of one kind which it wishes to invest abroad, or to exchange for commodities which enrich although the want of them would not destroy its civilization.

PHILADELPHIA'S MAYOR.

Philadelphia's mayor is reported to be a municipal improvement. He has intimated that he will not tolerate intimidation at the polls. Whether he is sincere or not is a hard matter to decide. He himself was elected by 80,000 improper votes out of a total of 204,000. It is calculated that 150,000 Philadelphians stayed away from the polls last election, knowing that they were not on the lists, that they had already been voted, that they would be manhandled, of that their ballots would be "switched." When it comes to voting a Southern negro and a Philadelphian have about the same chance. To begin with, the voters' lists are prepared by the "machine," and "padded" accordingly. Once a Philadelphia newspaper published the picture of a dog that was eligible to vote, several times dead dogs have been on the list, together with negro children and cats. Thus, on one occasion, 250 votes were poled in a district where the inhabitants numbered fewer than 100. If the election can't be carried with a start like this, the "repeaters" are called in. The police protect them, and arrest citizens who are foolhardy enough to complain. That is politics in the Quake state. Furthermore, it has been made a crime by the new libel law of Pennsylvania to draw attention in the courts to any of these things, or to attack the men who are responsible for them. Is it remarkable that the people of the United States are looking longingly to an autocratic president as a means of deliverance from the corrupt rule of political rings.

A NEW CARLYLE STORY.

The removal of the Carlyle controversy has drawn a very interesting letter from Goldwin Smith which appears in the New York Evening Post of the 9th of July. Although an authentic witness, Professor Smith adds but little to the substance of the controversy except to strengthen the conviction very generally held that after the domestic relations of the Carlyles had passed through the alembic of Mr. Froude's imagination, they reappeared as something entirely different from what they really were. He speaks of "an apparent artfulness" on Froude's part "which it is charitable to set down to the same unconscious fancy." Goldwin Smith thinks that Carlyle was a pessimist and a cynic. He says "You could not be in Carlyle's company for a day without seeing that his cynicism and pessimism were unmeasured. "To illustrate this he tells the following anecdote: "One evening at 'The Grange' we came out after dinner on the lawn. A glorious moon met our eyes. There were a few moments of pensive silence; then a voice was heard exclaiming "Puir auld thing!" We were left to guess whether the moon was "puir" in herself or because she was doomed to look down upon vile humanity." Now observe the scene. There had been a dinner. Carlyle was there, Goldwin Smith was there, Tennyson perhaps, and besides these real luminaries of the intellectual sky, doubtless a number of superior people shining in their radiance by patronising them. Shall we except Lady Ashburton? Carlyle was a great man and she knew it. She honored him with her friendship and admiration. Mrs. Carlyle was a great woman and Lady Ashburton did not know it. For her Mrs. Carlyle was a nonentity. Hinc illae lacrymae! We can hardly except Lady Ashburton herself. Carlyle was apt to get restive at dinners. Superior people had an irritating effect upon him. After dinner the company went out on the lawn. There were a few minutes of positive silence. Carlyle intuitively felt that these superior people were patronising the moon, and, in a tone of ironical commiseration exclaimed "Puir auld thing!" And Goldwin Smith has been wondering to this day what he meant? Puir old Goldwin Smith! It is a great pity for his own work that he was not born with a sense of humor and the saving grace of irony which would have enabled him to comprehend what Carlyle meant at the time.

THE IMPERIAL ISSUE.

We wonder if Mr. Chamberlain had any idea of the effect his Birmingham speech was going to have. It has divided political opinion in Great Britain as political opinion has not been divided since the repeal of the Corn Laws themselves. Fifteen or twenty years ago this would not have happened. Had any leading statesmen enunciated such a policy as Mr. Chamberlain's at that time, the effect would not have been upon the nation, but upon himself. Public opinion would merely have been sufficiently awakened from its lethargy to have remarked, "Another good man gone wrong," and would immediately have dropped off to sleep again. The press would have cursed him mildly as a heretic, if it did not go the length of calling him an irresponsible lunatic, and would then have dropped him and his ideas forever. Mr. Chamberlain had no guarantee that the same thing would not occur now except his belief that it was a crisis in the affairs of the British Empire which raised the fiscal issue. His belief has been justified. Opinion has been divided not because it has been a man of the weight and position of Mr. Chamberlain who has raised the issue, but because a great number of people have become uneasily conscious that there is something wrong, and that Great Britain is not pursuing a course to maintain that position which her geographical position and unequalled resources in coal and iron have acquired for her. The attitude of a large number of British people towards Mr. Chamberlain and his proposals is quite extraordinary. It is an attitude of blind hate and rage. They object to inquiry independently altogether of the conclusions to which that inquiry may lead the public mind. Surely if they have such an extraordinarily good case as they claim they have, they should not object to, but welcome the opportunity of putting a political foe to the test by it, and worsting him. Curiously enough, however, they berate Mr. Chamberlain as a traitor to Great Britain, but are nevertheless unwilling to defend the arcana of orthodoxy by an appeal to reasonable discussion. They seem to object to the citation of facts where these facts appear to controvert their preconceived ideas. The export of British manufactures to manufacturing nations, that is Europe and the United States, has decreased in thirty years from one hundred and nine million pounds sterlings to ninety-nine million pounds sterling, while British imports of manufactured goods from the same countries have increased from fifty-five million pounds sterling to ninety-nine million pounds sterling in the same length of time. That is to say, that now Great Britain's exports of manufactured articles just balance her imports of manufactures from competitive manufacturing countries. Where then does Great Britain find a market for manufactured goods to balance her enormous imports of food and raw materials? Solely in countries which do not manufacture for themselves. The question then arises if Great Britain cannot prevent the manufactures of industrial protected competitors from making progressive inroads upon the British market itself, how can she prevent them from despoiling her in foreign markets as much open to them as to herself. This is the practical question which is securing a hearing for the Chamberlain proposals in Great Britain today. It is one to which the stereotyped arguments about cheap food do not give a satisfactory answer. Because Great Britain's ability to buy food at any price depends entirely on her being able to sell what is produced by those who consume the food she buys. If that ability is lessened, if it is progressively disappearing, the cheapness of her food supplies is of but little moment to a country which finds herself unable to buy food at all without trenching upon her assets and living upon capital. Yet the opponents of Mr. Chamberlain do not so far appear to have any other arguments to adduce. They reiterate over and over again that if people can only get bread cheap enough they will not fail of the means to buy it, an argument which has been disproved again and again in the experience of everyone who has ever lacked bread, and which is now in need of support in the case of a country like Great Britain, which does not produce enough bread, yet cannot live without it.

A RAILWAY POLICY.

The following statement we take from an Eastern paper discussing the railway policy of the Dominion government: "Whatever policy is ultimately decided upon, there will be barrels of cash floating around next year when the elections are on." Who does not believe this statement to be true? Who is there, upon either side of politics, who does not firmly believe first, that there will be a large campaign fund available during the next Dominion campaign, and second, that that campaign fund will be derived from railway promoters? No one, perhaps, admits it, yet everyone believes it. It is not very creditable that a political party should go to the country chanting the praises of a railway deal they have made as being altogether in the interests of the country, and that at the same time their friends and opponents alike, should be drawing attention to the size of the campaign fund that has thus been made available. It is not creditable to the Liberal party and it is not creditable to the politics of Canada. It may be that the Liberal party has not received one dollar, and does not expect to receive one dollar, towards the funds of the next campaign from the promoters of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The serious question is not whether it has or not, but that, if it has not, the finger of scorn would be pointed at it, not only by the practical politicians on the Liberal side, but by those on the other side also. That points to a demoralization of our politics, on account of which the action of a political party is not expected to have been dictated solely by the interests of the people, and the issue of an election is not expected to be wholly determined by the questions of public policy raised in the campaign which precedes it. We are aware that when an issue of supreme importance is placed before the people the ligatures of money are as withes of straw to restrain them, yet we are also aware that many issues are of supreme importance without being recognized as such, and that in such cases the power of campaign funds may blind the people to their own real interests. The standard of morality set by both parties is too low. It is a hypocritical pretence which sets that of the Liberal party above that of the Conservative party. The Liberal party in office has proved itself as amenable to corrupt influences as any other party in Canada. And its amenability has been so much the more squalid because it neither owes office to, nor commands continuance in office because of, any devotion to a lofty principle of policy which might excuse while it could not justify the corrupt influences which cling to every political party.

THE PROVINCIAL ISSUE.

The opponents of the Conservative party are trying very hard to obscure the issue upon which the forthcoming election hangs. The province of British Columbia is committed by legislation, by unanimous conviction, and by the advice of the Colonial Office, to the principles of the Natal Act in dealing with the vital question of Oriental immigration. The Liberal government has once and again disallowed the Natal Act as applied to British Columbia by the legislature of the province. That raises two questions, first, the advantages of the principles of the Natal Act as applied to any portion of Canada, and second, the right of the province to legislate for itself on such a matter. The first of these questions is a matter of opinion. It is not a matter of opinion as to which there is much difference in British Columbia, but there is a considerable difference of opinion as to this question in other parts of Canada, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier in particular is diametrically opposed to the practically unanimous opinion of British Columbia on this subject. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberal party are just as much entitled to their opinion as anyone else. It is true they cannot expect any support from British Columbia for such opinions, but they can make the very powerful retort that to them the support or opposition of British Columbia is very largely immaterial. The second of these questions, whether the province is entitled to pass acts of the nature of the Natal Act or not, is not a question of opinion but a question of law, a question of the jurisdiction of the province under the British North America Act. Now there is a proper way of settling that question by an appeal to the courts, but it cannot be adopted without the consent of the Dominion government. That government refuses its consent because of its opinion that the principles of the Natal Act are undesirable as applied to any part of Canada. Therefore, the Dominion government invades the prerogative of the province, basing its action in doing so not upon the ground of law upon which it might have standing, but upon the ground of policy upon which it has no standing if the legislation in question were to be found within the jurisdiction of the province. This is what the provincial Conservative party and the people of the province will not swallow. As the only protest in their power they demand continual re-enactment of the legislation in question until the vexed question of jurisdiction is settled. The provincial Liberal party is fairly and squarely against re-enactment. Its policy is to allow the Dominion government not merely to declare a policy of its own in this respect, but to invalidate the policy of the province, even if it has to violate the constitution to do so. It is idle to say that this is a matter trumped up for campaign purposes. It is not. It is a question of the prerogative of the province upon which the Conservative party, provincial and Dominion, has taken one stand, and the provincial Liberal party another.

WHAT RECIPROCITY MEANS.

"The enormous growth of our Canadian exports," says the New York Evening Post, "estimated at $125,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, will tempt devotees of the balance of trade theory to undue transports. They will argue something like this: Exports to Canada, $125,000,000, imports from Canada $55,000,000—Uncle Sam's credit in his trousers pocket $70,000,000. To our readers it may seem superfluous to say that Uncle Sam would have more reason to gloat over Canadian trade if his credit balance were smaller. Our mills have lacked Canadian wheat; in a great building period we should have had their lumber without paying too dearly for it; most of their natural products would have been readily convertible into profits in our hands. Of course, the increase of our exports by $12,000,000 is matter of rejoicing. It shows that a natural trade will leap over artificial obstructions, and it is an indication of what the traffic across our northern border might be if reciprocity should come. Under such a happy dispensation exports would undoubtedly greatly increase, but the real advantage to us would lie in the liberation of a stream of Canadian exports to the south, to be profitably employed in our great industries." It may be a matter of regret that Canada has to buy so very much more from the United States than we are able to sell to the United States. It marks the fact that in many important particulars, in spite of our enormous natural resources, we are not a self-sustaining nation. But if we balanced the account by exporting to the United States our raw material more freely than we do, we should merely aggravate the disease and not cure it. An unfavorable balance of trade is to be measured not by the monetary figures involved, but by the character of the goods exchanged. To attempt to correct an unfavorable balance in our trade with the United States by a freer export of our raw materials would be worse than useless, because it would leave our people equally as much in need of the manufactured goods they import from the United States, and so far as the returns of export trade are concerned, simply able to pay for more of them. Any country which exchanges raw materials for manufactured goods is foredoomed to poverty and a low quality of civilization. Such a fate the United States wishes to inflict upon Canada. It imagines such a fate to be Canada's inexorable destiny, and argues that we merely add to our disabilities by refusing it. But the history of Canada shows that that is not the case, but that we may fairly claim an independent economic existence, finding in our own country all the necessities of an advanced civilization. We very much misread the temper of the country, if anything that the United States has to offer can tempt us from the policy of making Canadian resources and Canadian raw material the basis of Canadian industry, and the source of a civilization complete in all respects within its own borders.

A LIBERAL VOICE.

We publish this morning an interesting interview with Mr. Stuart Henderson, of West Yale. The calm assumption which permeates that interview, that the Liberal party is charged with a mission to reform the government of British Columbia, is amusing and characteristic. A Liberal would lose caste with himself if he ceased for one moment to pose as a reformer. So, of course, he must set forth that he is full of zeal for the reform of British Columbia. We do not doubt that British Columbia needs reform, and we do not doubt that "party lines" will eventually bring us reform. But what is it about British Columbia that specially needs reforming, and what is it that can be reformed, or, we prefer to say, abolished by "party lines"? Where we need reform is in the opportunity our system, or lack of it, gave to small cliques of politicians to bargain for their allegiance or opposition to a government. To control a member or two members or three members was to be able to force a government to do this, that or the other thing, whether it was contrary to good policy or not. In fact, the no-party system led to a system of "hold-up", as in any legislative assembly it was bound to do. There have been "hold-ups" by individual members for the benefit of their constituencies. This is a comparatively venial form of political corruption, although a form of political corruption it undoubtedly is. Men have been practising it for years in British Columbia who would go black in the face with indignation at the suggestion that they had been engaged in corrupt practices at all. It is venial, however, because although the treasury may have been strained, such expenditures as it led to, were for public advantage, and without the design of personal advantage. Corruption, indeed, is almost too strong a name for such a system. Its effects, however, have not been good, and party lines will cure it. A member of the legislature from now on will either have to support his party upon party divisions or leave it, stating his reasons for so doing. Any other action would immediately make of him a political pariah. But there has been more government by "hold-up" than what we have been just describing. Men interested in particular schemes have brought political pressure to bear upon members to support or withhold their support from governments, according as these governments were disposed to look with favor or the reverse upon these particular schemes. We do not wish to insinuate that every one of these schemes was not in the public interest. But we do say, and say most emphatically, that such an attitude to the policy of the country is one which makes good government and stable government impossible. We say further, that the loose element in the legislature was entirely composed of Liberals, Liberals who competed with one another for the privilege of supporting any government at all, provided——. We do not say that all the Liberals in the legislature participated in this "hold-up" system of government; we merely say that all those who did were Liberals, and a proper purging the Liberal party will require in British Columbia, before it can say a word about being a party of reform. Who were all the promoters, schemers, and lobbyists attempting to prey upon the vitals of the province through the acknowledged weakness of the government? Liberals without exception, every one of them a pure-hearted reformer of the present day current type. Why, at one time there was a hungry Grit perched in every niche in the parliament buildings, yearning for impending spoliation and plunder. In the Liberal party, Mr. Joseph Martin refused to be a party to government by "hold-up," and for that reason, among others many of his own party hate him bitterly and, of all things, desire to follow him the least. It is one of the deep joys of our life, one of the compensations of which nothing can rob us, that they will be compelled to follow him whether they like it or not. Mr. Henderson expresses no doubt at all as to who is the leading man in the Liberal party. He at least has sense enough to see that there is no way of avoiding, and apparently he does not desire to avoid, the inevitable. We know of no circumstances under which Mr. Martin is more fitted to shine than as leader of the opposition. For that position he is marked out by fate. With him in that position, and a Conservative government in power, with a good working majority, the system of "hold-up" will disappear, and stable government take its place. This is the reform British Columbia needs, and that is the reform British Columbia is going to get, through the agency of the Conservative party. The transition period has been a stormy one, but the disturbances have been such as are incidental to the growth of a new country, and the genius of our race for self-government through solid, representative, and respected institutions, is not incapable of arresting a process which has already caused confusion, and if long continued, would lead to chaos.

MR. BLAIR'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Mr. Blair from the Laurier government can hardly be called an event of no significance, although we do not exactly know what its significance is. Here we have the country on the eve of being committed by the government to a railway policy of colossal magnitude, involving many millions of the people's money, and rather than subscribe to that policy, the minister of the department it immediately concerns tenders his resignation. Evidently Mr. Andrew Blair does not approve of the government's railway policy. The grounds upon which he does not approve of it are not yet sufficiently disclosed, but the fact that he does not approve of it is abundantly evident, and the significance of that fact is not to be denied. Nobody doubts the loyalty of Mr. Blair's allegiance to the Liberal party, nor his strong conviction as to the advantage to Canada in being ruled by the leaders of that party. Yet in matters which come directly under the cognizance of Mr. Blair's own department, the government has made a departure in which Mr. Blair refuses absolutely to follow it. The question is, whether Mr. Blair has betrayed his party, or whether his party has betrayed the country. One or other of these things must be true. If Mr. Blair has resigned at a critical moment, on the eve of an election, with a vast policy to elucidate and justify, without adequate reasons for resigning, Mr. Blair has unquestionably betrayed his party. If, on the contrary, he possesses adequate reasons for resigning, his party has unquestionably betrayed the country in a matter of vital importance. Of these alternatives, the people must be the judges. Frankly, we do not think that Mr. Blair is the kind of man, out of pique or from personal reasons, to betray his party. He may not be a man of high statesmanship, but his staunchness and loyalty have never been in question. A Liberal party which has ceased to command the respect and support of Mr. Blair, is a Liberal party with a fresh necessity for justification in the eyes of the people of Canada. We see that we are supposed to be jubilant over the resignation of Mr. Blair. We do not see why. It does not to our mind call for jubilation that the government of the country has become obnoxious to so respectable a man. Brains and respectability were exemplified in Tarte and Blair. The former was rather more brainy than respectable, the latter rather more respectable than brainy. They have both left the government. What is happening at Ottawa? Will this progressive cabinet disintegration go on until only Clifford Sifton is left, a Western apotheosis of both brains and respectability?

A HEAVY ENGAGEMENT.

A battle of no ordinary destructiveness took place in the United States on the Fourth of July. Eighty million people were in the fire zone, most of them as non-combatants. Very little attention was paid to the matter at the time as the sanguinary nature of the encounter was disguised under the name of a celebration. Returns, however, have since been collected from 200 cities, and the summary shows that 52 persons were killed and 3,665 injured in the patriotic demonstrations of the Fourth of July. The loss of property by fire, moreover, amounted to $400,625. It appears that the celebration this year was of an extraordinary destructive character. The classification of accidents makes a strong case against the toy pistol, which injured 590 persons, but shows that gunpowder as it is used in homemade bombs and fireworks is a still greater source of danger, claiming 765 victims. Firearms, carelessly handled, injured 562 persons, probably as many as were hurt in hunting accidents during an entire year. Skyrockets caused 319 injuries, cannon 319, and runaways 81, while "fireworks," unclassified, brought disaster to no less than 1,170. Evidently the efforts made in many places to secure a more quiet and dignified observance of the anniversary did not meet with conspicuous success.

A FALLING MARKET.

He is a wise financier who knows when the market has touched bottom. The financial wiseacres have for some time been pointing out that thoroughly sound shares have fallen to an very low price, and they have explained the slump by the necessary liquidation of "undigested" and "indigestible" securities, which has forced holders to sell good shares to cover their losses on bad ones. If that explanation suits these wiseacres, they are welcome to it. Like a great many other explanations, it does not explain anything. The fact is, that yesterday shares generally made a new record, and if anyone has a guarantee that the process will stop at the point now reached, any more than at that reached a month ago, we do not know what that guarantee is. We cling to the opinion that the process of liquidation is not yet complete, and that it will not be completed without a crash and a panic of greater or smaller dimensions. Such inflation as has been the feature of business in the United States for some years past has never yet been liquidated without a panic supervening at some stage of the game. If the present course of events is to show an exception, so much the better, but it will take more, to our mind, than spasmodic rallies to show that the worst is over.

ARGUMENTATIVE ABSURDITIES.

The most extraordinary arguments are being used in Great Britain against Mr. Chamberlain's proposals. As we all know, quite an agitation was stirred up against the government's Education Act, on the ground that the clergy of the Church of England were the inspiring force behind it. In this connection there appeared to be some color of reason for the charge. But what are we to think of a clergyman, supposed to be an educated man, getting up and solemnly declaring that Mr. Chamberlain's policy is inspired by the bishops in order to raise the price of wheat, and thus increase the revenue of the church from tithes? And what are we to think of a statement like that requiring solemn contradiction at the hands of the Bishop of London? In times of public excitement, strange stories sometimes gain currency, and more credence is attached to them than in saner moments people would be likely to accord. But a statement such as we have just described seems to mark the limit of absurdity. Unless indeed it is excelled by what a candidate for parliamentary honors said, namely, that a preference to Colonial wheat would cause such a vast inrush of Americans to Canada that the United States would step in and take Canada over, if any difference should arise between Canada and Great Britain. This gentleman's information about Canada is as faulty as the inference to be drawn from his remark is monstrous. Canada is quite able to attend to, and absorb all, the immigrants she can get, and if Canada is only to be kept in the British Empire by being kept unpopulated, of what advantage is Canada either to herself or to the Empire? The outlook for a sane and sober political discussion in Great Britain of issues affecting the Empire is not very cheerful, when such wild and foolish statements are made and repeated by people who, from their position, ought to know better.

Summer has apparently come and the dredge King Edward is coming. Both have been a long time on the road. Both are welcome.

If it is competent for the Dominion parliament to pass the Natal Act why does the Dominion parliament not pass the Natal Act?

Cardinal Gotti, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Scrufina Vannetelli Grand Penitentiary of the Holy Catholic church are said to be the two cardinals who have most chance of succeeding Pope Leo.

Great Britain and Canada between them buy more than half of all the goods the United States produces. Canada buys from the United States what Great Britain produces, and Great Britain buys from the United States what Canada produces. Why not cut the United States out and, so far as this exchange goes, do the trade among ourselves? Surely that would be a commonsense policy for two portions of the same Empire.

Even the Toronto Globe cannot stomach the paralleling of the Intercolonial from Moncton to Quebec. This is what it says: "Another question that is asked is, why build a government line from Moncton to Quebec when there is already a government line? We do not know the details of the government plans in this respect, but what is quite clear is that if the Intercolonial is to handle a respectable share of western products something more than a single track must be provided. If this is what is contemplated in the government plans it is intelligible, but an altogether new line competing with the Intercolonial calls for some explanation."

We are accused of mendacity in saying that the government of British Columbia was advised by the Colonial Office to pass restrictive legislation on the lines of the Natal Act. Section six of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's despatch of the 19th of April, 1899, reads as follows:

The exclusion of Japanese subjects, either from the province or from employment on public or quasi-public works in the province, by the operation of an educational test such as is embodied in the Natal Immigration Law, is not a measure to which the government of Japan can take exception. If the particular test in that law is not regarded as sufficient, there is no reason why a more stringent and effective one of a similar character should not be adopted, so long as the disqualification is not based specifically on distinction of race or color.

Section eight of the same despatch reads as follows:

Her Majesty's government earnestly trusts that on consideration of these explanations the government of British Columbia will at once procure the repeal of the provisions complained of, and the substitution of legislation on the lines indicated above.

Comment is quite needless.

PROVINCIAL PRESS.

Recent information from Fairview is to the effect that the New Fairview Corporation continues to employ between 60 and 70 men. Operations in that company's Stemwinder mine, stamp mill and cyaniding works, are being steadily maintained. The mill runs with 25 to 35 stamps dropping, as the ore output requires and the cyanide plant's capacity determines. The Morning Star is giving employment to 10 men.—Boundary Creek Times.

The Lands and Works Department have been instructed to draw plans for a bridge across Elk river near Morrissey, and to furnish an estimate of the cost of it. Data is now being obtained as the place of its location.—Fort Steele Prospector.

A wire was received today from Nakusp, saying that H. L. Stanley, who was working in the Le Roi during the months of April, May and June, has been killed, and asking for the address of his relatives. No particulars of the accident were given.—Rossland World.

Mr. Langworthy, who went up to the headwaters of Cayoosh creek a month ago, with Captain Bickford of Victoria, has returned with three bear skins and an exciting experience. Arriving at Lillooet somewhat late in the season, the party fortunately secured F. Gott as guide, and he led them to the headwaters of Cayoosh creek, the home of the grizzlies. In pursuit after the third grizzly the party went 17 hours without food and nine hours on bruin's track. Mr. Langworthy had the sport he came for, and takes back to France a hide eight inches deep with fur.—Lillooet Prospector.

The superintendent of provincial police, Mr. Hussey, left for Crow's Bar last Monday to investigate the mysteries of the Chinese murder case. The alleged murderer and the two Chinese witnesses are still in jail. Government Agent Burr has in the course of his official life had a good deal of experience with bad Chinamen, and is not inclined to place much reliance in the story of the witnesses.—Ashcroft Journal.

Fruit Packages

A full line of packages consisting of strawberry crates and baskets, cherry boxes, plum crates, apple and pear boxes, etc., are carried in stock by

F. R. STEWART & CO.,

Wholesale Fruit Merchants. 40 Yates St.

To Save is to Succeed

The strong purchasing power of a dollar will surprise you if you observe these prices, and then come and examine the quality of the Groceries we are offering.

Royal Salad Dressing, pints	50c.
Royal Salad Dressing, half pints	30c.
Zinfandel, per bottle	25c.

The "West End" Grocery Co., Ltd.,

PHONE 88 42 GOVERNMENT STREET.

—AND—

The Saunders' Grocery Co., Ltd.

PHONE 28 39 AND 42 JOHNSON STREET.

THE HICKMAN TYE HARDWARE CO.

LIMITED.

HEADQUARTERS FOR THE FOLLOWING LINES

IRON AND STEEL — IRON PIPE AND FITTINGS
BUILDERS' HARDWARE — MECHANICS' TOOLS
LOGGERS' AND — LAWN MOWERS, HOSE
MINING SUPPLIES — GARDEN TOOLS.

32 and 34 Yates Street, VICTORIA, B. C.

TELEPHONE 59 P. O. DRAWER 617

BORN.

BRYANT—At Nanaimo, B. C., on July 2nd, the wife of Mr. Herbert T. M. Bryant, engineer Western Fuel Company, of a son.

EASTWOOD—At Rocky Point, on July 5, the wife of Mr. Fred Eastwood, keeper of the Race Rocks light, of a daughter.

AUDAIN—In England, on July the 8th, the wife of Major G. N. Audain, of a son.

CLARK-MENZIES—On the 12th inst., at Vancouver, B. C., the wife of J. Clark-Menzies, of a daughter.

LONG—At Creston, B. C., on Monday, the 6th inst., the wife of R. J. Long, of a son.

HOUSTON—At Nelson, B. C., on Tuesday, the 7th inst., the wife of James Houston, of Stanley street, of a son.

RINGROSE—At Nelson on Tuesday, the 7th inst., the wife of Joseph Ringrose of Hume Addition, of a daughter.

DARCY—At Nelson on Wednesday, the 8th inst., the wife of J. Darcy, of Victoria street, of a son.

WALMSLEY—On the 11th inst., at 616 Seymour street, Vancouver, the wife of F. M. Walmsley, of a son.

MARRIED.

VENABLES—GARDEN—At St. George's Church, Enderby, on the 7th inst., Rev. F. Vernon Venables, to Miss Emily Garden, second daughter of J. W. Garden of Mount Ida.

TAYLOR—DUDLEY—At Kimberley, B. C., on the 7th inst., Ed Taylor of Moyie, to Miss Dudley.

ASHCROFT—McGREGOR—At Nelson, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., H. D. Ashcroft, to Miss Mabel E. McGregor, both of Nelson.

MILLS—PATTINSON—At Victoria, on Wednesday, 15th inst., Charles G. Mills, to Miss Ida L. Pattinson, both of Victoria.

TIMMS—TIMMS—At St. Michael's church, Mount Pleasant, Vancouver, on the 14th inst., by Rev. G. H. Wilson, Vivian R. Timms, of Vancouver, to Miss Edith Timms, of Oxford, Eng.

ASHCROFT—McGREGOR—At Nelson, B. C., on the 7th inst., Henry David Ashcroft, to Mabel Elizabeth McGregor.

DIED.

McLEOD—At St. Paul's hospital, Vancouver, on the 14th inst., Mary McLeod, wife of John McLeod, aged 46 years.

GRIGOR—At Vancouver, on the 14th inst., W. E. Grigor, formerly of Winnipeg and Toronto, aged 40 years.

MURPHY—At Vancouver, on the 14th inst., John F. Murphy, aged 42 years.

NEWMAN—At 1136 Seymour street, Vancouver, on Saturday, July 11th, 1903, Theresa, beloved wife of Charles William Newman, aged 32 years.

McPHEE—At sea, near the West Coast of Vancouver Island, on the 12th instant, David S. McPhee, captain of the sealer "Carrie C. W.," a native of Nova Scotia, aged 48 years.

JOSLIN—At Vancouver on the 13th inst., Harvey M. Joslin.

DENTON—In this city on the 10th inst., Dianna, the beloved wife of John Denton, a native of England, aged 53 years.

LINDSAY—At the Jubilee hospital, on the 10th inst., Lottie, beloved wife of David Lindsay, aged 38 years.

PARGETER—At the Nanaimo hospital, on Friday, July 10th, Annie Elizabeth, wife of James Pargeter, aged 61 years.

KENT—At Vancouver, on the 10th inst., Rebecca, beloved wife of J. W. Kent.

B.C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates Street, Victoria.

Ladies' and Gents' Garments and Household Furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new.

FOR SALE — Two-year-old prize-winning registered Jersey bull; also four yearlings. Five registered Jersey cows. Ten head Jersey heifers. Ten grade Shorthorns. Collie pups. Glen Tana Farm, Box 1997, Spokane, Wash. 13

PERSONAL.

Margaret and Bobby, come home. Wm. G.—di 17

Male Teacher Wanted.

For Quamichan School. Apply James Robertson, Sec'y., Duncans Station.

RE CHARLES TOWNS, DECEASED.

All persons having any claims against the estate of the above-named deceased, are required to send particulars thereof to the undersigned within one month from the date hereof, after which I will proceed to pay the same to the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to such claims.

Dated the 10th day of July, 1903.

C. H. SMITH,
Executor,
Soda Creek, B. C.

Casualties due to the Fourth of July celebration are being reported every day.