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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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GERMAN POLICY.

It is said that with the retirement of Von Buelow, the Kaiser has become his own Foreign Minister. However much we may agree with Talleyrand that language is given to enable us to conceal our thoughts, it is nevertheless important to note what people say, and especially those who are in a position to give effect to their opinions and bring about the accomplishment of their wishes. Therefore it is of interest to recall what the Kaiser said of his recent meeting with the Tsar. Addressing the Burgomaster of Hamburg and his colleagues, he said: "The Tsar Nicholas and I agreed that our meeting is to be regarded as a vigorous reinforcement of the cause of peace." He then spoke of the responsibility resting upon monarchs, and added: "All peoples need peace in order, under its protection, to fulfil undisturbed the duties of civilization for their economic and commercial development." He closed by saying: "We will both, therefore, continually endeavour, as far as lies in our power, to work with God's help, for the furtherance and maintenance of peace." It is not possible that in making these weighty utterances, the Kaiser was waiving his responsibility to the public. He is entitled to full credit for entertaining the laudable aspirations which he expressed, and to be understood as desiring to govern his policy by them. This is very important in the case of a sovereign who is "his own foreign minister," even though we may feel that he may not be strong enough to control influences which are moulding the policies of European nations.

The disturbing factor in the case is the great increase of the German navy, coupled with the determination of Austria to augment materially her maritime power. Very naturally the British people find difficulty in reconciling such things with a desire to promote peace. To the average Briton, the royal navy is not only a guarantee of his own safety, but the preserver of the peace of the world, and he finds it difficult to understand why all other nations should not so regard it. He says to himself: "We have been supreme on the sea, and have never used our powers for purposes of aggression; why should any other nation think it necessary to rival us in naval strength? He distrusts the assurances of other powers that their intentions are as pacific as those of his own government. He can think of no reason why a continental European power should want a strong fleet, unless it intends to use it to destroy his. It has so long been in naval matters a case of Britain against the rest, that where, that anything calculated to disturb this very satisfactory balance of power, strikes him as not only unequalled for but as intended to be hostile to him. This is the substance of the British view of the matter, although this is not the way it is usually stated.

But there is more in the case than this. Perhaps no sane man in the United Kingdom really believes that Germany is building a navy with the intention of invading England; but many of the sanest public men find themselves unable, and we think with good reason, to contemplate the unrestricted increase of the German navy with equanimity, even though the Kaiser speaks eloquently of maintaining peace. They do not know what a powerful German fleet may mean. There may not be a cloud upon the horizon of world's politics—although we fear that there are several—but the abolition of the naval supremacy of Great Britain would so change the whole aspect of international relations that no one can possibly foresee the result. Therefore, while believing the Kaiser, when he declares for peace, it is the duty of the people of the British Empire to act as though he were preparing for war.

HARD-WORKING MINISTERS

Sometimes during election campaigns, Opposition orators—it does not make any difference of what political party—are given to talking about high-salaried ministers, who loiter in luxuriant office chairs, while their subordinates do all the work. As a matter of fact the members of Canadian ministries, federal and provincial, are generally very hardworking men. Of course there are exceptions; it would be a strange rule to which these were no exceptions; but as a general thing they work harder than any of their subordinates, and very much harder than the average run of business or professional men.

Mr. Taylor, Minister of Public Works, has returned to town after a journey through the country, during which he has seen and inspected more roads, trails, bridges and public works and buildings than he could very well tell off-hand. There is not the least doubt that Mr. Taylor is "making good" as a minister. He is an administrator from Missouri. He wants to know, and he has not waited for people to come and tell him things, but has gone out to see for himself. This is the business-like way, and, as we have said on previous occasions, the administration of the affairs of

British Columbia is chiefly a business proposition.

The gathering of teachers and others interested in education, which is now being held in this city, is evidence of the deep and intelligent interest which Dr. Young, Provincial Secretary and Minister of Education, takes in the subjects, with the management of which he is charged. The public observe such things as the meeting of the Dominion Educational Association here without taking into account the effort necessary to bring them about. Dr. Young's interest in education is not merely a perfunctory one due to the fact that he is minister at the head of that branch of the public service, but is inspired by zeal for the cause itself. None of his predecessors has entered into the spirit of the work to a greater degree than he, and none of them has had its welfare more at heart.

Such services as Mr. Taylor and Dr. Young are rendering the public are not the outcome of a desire to stand well with the country politically, and they are certainly not accomplished without much hard work. They are inspired by a practical patriotism, which we feel we may say inspires all our public men, even though sometimes we find ourselves unable to agree with the policies which they pursue.

THE NORTHERN INDIANS

In the language of the street, the Northern Indians are claiming everything in sight. There is nothing new in this, for it has been understood for a long time by those familiar with the subject that the Indians north of the Skeena do not recognize themselves as under any obligations to white men. They are willing to accept everything that is given to them, but they have hitherto not been willing to concede anything worth mentioning. At the same time they admit that the rule of the white man has been of advantage to them. They realize that in the older days, their lives were made up of constant strife with neighboring tribes, and that they could not with safety go abroad. But this continual fighting is the basis of their territorial claim. Said a gentleman, who knows them well and converses with them in their own language: "They have said to me: Why should we give up our land to the white people? We have lived in this valley for generations. My father was killed here in a fight to drive our enemies away; my grandfather was killed further up the river in a fight for the same purpose. What reason is there for us to give up our land to the first white man that comes along?" This claim is not made simply to the area within a reservation, but to the whole country. Each tribe claims its territory. The Indian title, whatever it may be worth, is founded upon force, that is upon ability to drive off all trespassers; and no one need be surprised, if they are not ready to concede that this title may be extinguished at the will of the first white man, who comes along, without any compensation being given them. We are stating the case as strongly as we can from the Indian point of view, because we do not desire to belittle the importance of the question with which the Indian Department is called upon to deal. It is not an easy question by any means. But it must be disposed of, and at the very earliest possible day.

A RECOGNITION.

The ladies of the International Council of Women who were in Victoria this week, expressed their hearty appreciation of the hospitality extended to them at Government House by Mrs. Dunsmuir. To be received after their long transcontinental journey in such a manner was a surprise and a delight, and many of them made mention of the kindly, womanly and altogether sympathetic manner in which their hosts met and entertained them. The occasion, while sufficiently formal to indicate that it was quasi-official, was so thoroughly informal in spirit as to leave an exceedingly pleasant impression upon guests, who represented many different nationalities and who were thus enabled to conclude their Canadian journey amid surroundings calculated to stimulate and strengthen the sentiment which is the motto of this organization. Never were the hospitalities of Government House extended in a more worthy direction, and never were they discharged with greater grace and cordiality. We feel these few words of recognition are due to a lady, who, in her unobtrusive and generous way, has done so much to endear herself to the people of this city.

It seems to be understood, although

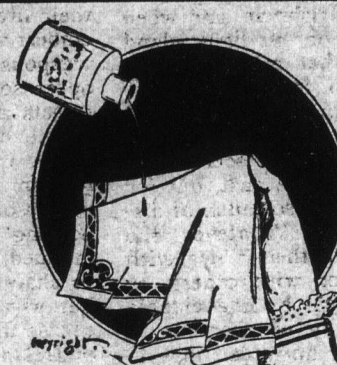
we have no late information on the point, that Mr. Dunsmuir desires to be relieved of his official duties. He has never had any great desire for public life. Those who know the facts will bear us out in saying that he accepted the premiership of the province very much against his own desire. When we say that in taking the position he was influenced wholly by representations that the financial conditions of the province were such that nothing short of the acceptance of office by its most prominent and wealthiest business man could bring about that, steadiness of public opinion necessary to enable a fresh start to be made, we speak with a full knowledge of the facts. In the discharge of the duties of the premiership he was influenced solely by a desire to promote the public welfare, and as Lieutenant-Governor he has endeavored to exercise the authority of his position in accordance with the principles of responsible government. On the whole when Mr. Dunsmuir vacates his office, which we hope will not be as soon as there seemed to be reason to anticipate, and retires to private life, he will have left behind him an excellent record of duty conscientiously and fearlessly performed.

Politics is creeping into the discussion of Imperial defence so far as the eastern Canadian press is concerned. As yet it is not very conspicuous, but we are sorry to see any sign whatever of an attempt to make political capital out of such a question. We find the Ottawa Journal, which is independent in politics though somewhat Conservative in its leanings, uttering a strong protest against such a course. It protests that our share in Imperial defence should remain "a matter of simple loyalty, self-respect, business, if you will." It asserts, and speaking as far as we may for the people of this part of the Dominion, we say it asserts correctly, that "the people of Canada in substantial majority would declare that what the Motherland says she needs of Canada she will get." We think that when this has been said all has been said that is now necessary. To condemn the Laurier administration in advance of the conclusions of the forthcoming conference would be unfair to the government, and what is of vastly greater importance, unfair to the country.

Dr. Fritchett, who was at the Dominion Educational Assembly yesterday, speaking to some friends of the attractiveness of Victoria, told a story that has not appeared in print. When the Alaska Boundary Commission met in Washington, Lord Hespethall presided. His lordship has an inclusive way of saying things, and managed on one occasion to rattle the feathers of the American Eagle rather badly. Sir Wilfrid Laurier came to the rescue, and averted the threatened storm by suggesting that if the United States Commissioners were determined to yield on anything, they might be willing to make an exchange, and would be willing to accept for an Alaskan port. The idea of a trade commended itself to them at once, and they began to talk together, whereupon Dr. Fritchett, who was United States geographer to the commission, suggested that they might ask for Vancouver Island. Mr. Fritchett, afterwards, however, thereupon said to the Canadian Premier: "We will take Vancouver Island." "Vancouver Island?" replied Sir Wilfrid. "I have no doubt that you would; but it will be a very cold day before we will give Vancouver Island for anything you could offer us."

A Japanese, who carries on gardening near this city, has found himself compelled to sell his turnips and onions before they are half matured, because boys enter his premises while he is away, and pick up the growing vegetables. A Victorian, who has a summer home near the city, says that as soon as he leaves it in the fall, depredations are begun and are of such a character that they can only be due to a spirit of malicious mischief. Other instances of the kind might be mentioned. It seems therefore, very timely to direct the attention of parents to the fact that the criminal code provides very severe penalties for malicious mischief, and that they themselves are liable to pay for any damage done by their boys. The police, provincial as well as municipal, ought to be on the alert to arrest these young miscreants responsible for such things.

The report from Vancouver that the Canadian Pacific is about to occupy both sides of the Fraser river so as to exclude the Canadian Northern, and also to extend its line from Midway to the Coast, is very interesting, and if it proves to be accurate may have a very far-reaching effect. We shall not be surprised to learn that it is authenticated.



Good Perfume is Indispensable

To many people who find it exceedingly refreshing. It is also a splendid disinfectant. You will need some, doubtless, to take away with you on vacation.

"LORNA"
Extract of Wild Flowers of Exmoor

A perfume we can highly recommend. It is the odor of Devonshire wild flowers. It is lasting, too, and you can buy as much or as little of it as you choose. 60c per ounce.

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CASEMENT CURTAINS

From These Materials Please



INTERESTING DISPLAY OF ART LINENS ON 2nd FLOOR

ON THE SECOND FLOOR we are today showing an interesting display of Art Linens suitable and very desirable for casement curtains, etc. This display is interesting in its daintiness and in the interesting values offered.

Suggestions of better home adornment will present themselves when you view this showing—the "betterment" possibilities of these dainty materials being great indeed.

These art linens are from one of the foremost makers in the Old World and nothing newer, nicer or better in quality is offered anywhere—for it isn't made. Prices are fair indeed—you'll agree when you see the materials.

We have these from, per yard 60¢

A SHOW OF ORIENTAL RUGS

IN OUR WINDOWS—INTERESTING EXHIBIT



GREAT CHOICE AT FROM EACH \$6 TO \$400

IN ONE of our Government Street windows we are showing a few Oriental Rugs taken from our splendid stock of these interesting floor coverings. If you are interested in such lines you should see these rugs for they represent splendid values—values with the "exclusiveness" eliminated.

There are many "fake" imitations of genuine Oriental rugs now-a-days and it is an easy matter, for those not capable to judge, to be fooled. We stand back of every rug we sell—ready to guarantee its genuineness.

Our collection embraces many beautiful examples in the following styles—

Mirzapore Daghasan Mousoul Yaprack

The choice in matter of style isn't equalled elsewhere in Western Canada and we know of no other establishment offering a more comprehensive price range. We have these rugs from \$6 to \$400

THE DAINTIEST OF 40-PIECE CHINA TEA SETS FROM \$8.50

The Price Ranges from This Figure Up to \$50 Offering You Great Choice

FOR A DAINTY China Tea Set of 40 pieces, \$8.50 isn't much—not when such excellent china and such dainty decoration is combined. We have an excellent tea set at this price. 40 pieces of china in newest shapes and in pleasing decoration.

The price starts at \$8.50 and ranges up to \$50. Between these figures many different prices are quoted. The sets are all from well known makers and include the best offerings of Austrian makers, Limoges and Wedgwood. These makers are supreme in China Tea Sets.

Don't Fail to See the Many Offerings on the Balcony \$8.50 to \$50

These sets are shown on the new balcony—first floor. Visit it the first time you are in the store. Every homekeeper delights in dainty tableware and there isn't one anywhere who won't be pleased with these sets.

Carlton Tea Sets—40 Pieces—in Solid Blue or Terra Cotta \$7.50

We have some very attractive tea sets in Carlton Ware at a little price. These are 40-piece sets and come in very pretty solid blue or terra cotta. Priced at, per set \$7.50

BEDROOM FURNITURE GREATLY REDUCED



DECIDED SAVINGS OFFERED ON MANY FINE PIECES

BEDROOM FURNITURE is bulky—takes up too much floor space on our second floor, floor space we require for other lines coming in. That is one big reason why we have made such liberal reductions on so many pieces. If you haven't visited this floor you should do so and see these special values in bedroom furniture pieces. Some splendid opportunities to add to the attractiveness and comfort of your bedroom are offered.

Here is a Sample Value in a 3-Piece Suit at \$18

Suite consists of three pieces—dresser, washstand and bed. Made of golden elm, in excellent manner and well finished. Dresser has 2 drawers and large bevel plate mirror. The three pieces were priced at \$22. CLEARANCE PRICE IS \$18

TWO CARLOADS OF NEW FURNITURE ARRIVED YESTERDAY

More Are On the Way—Special Values Offered On Present Stock

THE NEW FURNITURE is arriving—carloads of it. Two are in today and others due any day now. Fortunate indeed were we to have had such a hearty response to our special offerings during the past ten days for otherwise the storing of these new arrivals would have been a problem. But there is more on the way and more room is needed. The result is that more special price tickets will be in evidence on our third floor this week.

Remember that these pieces we have specially priced are not old, out-of-date, shop-worn lines, but are furniture pieces of which we have but one or two of a kind in stock. They are stylish new pieces of the famous Weiler Quality—nothing better anywhere. The opportunity to save shouldn't be overlooked by you.

The first two cars of the new furniture to arrive are being unpacked today, and tomorrow we shall be busy marking these items. Don't fail to come in and see the new things and when in you'll also see the special offerings. New arrivals include many handsome pieces for every room.

Extension Tables
Buffets
China Cabinets
Dining Chairs

Hall Mirrors
Hall Seats
Hall Racks
Umbrella Stands

Parlor Tables
Tea Tables
Pedestals
Sideboards

Kitchen Cabinets
Medicine Cabinets
Card Tables
Dressers and Stands

An Excellent Line of Low-Priced Sideboards at from Each \$17

Sole Agents
Ostermoor
Mattress
Price \$15.00

WEILER BROS.

HOME FURNISHERS SINCE 1862, AT VICTORIA, B.C.

Sole Agents
"Libbey" Cut
Glass
Finest Made



GREAT INVENTION

That a body would move more than when it lay flat upon the ground have been a very ancient discovery would suppose that a very little would have so familiarized even primitive races with that fact that a roller in moving heavy bodies become common at a very early development of mankind. It can therefore be called an invention. However, took the roller, cut a wheel, bored a hole in the middle and round stick in the hole and made a wheel. It was probably pretty your hand at making a wheel with appliances available in an everyday and you will find the result not a success. But crude as the first have been, there were in it possibilities which we are not yet able to imitations we are not yet able to. Wheels play so great a part in the that no one can possibly enumerate. The principle of the wheel is the force to be converted into motion into force. That may not be a very way of expressing it, but it will of far definition. Another way of might be to say that a wheel is, lever, the centre being the fulcrum have been some interesting speculation how the wheel was evolved from but the truth of the matter, if we discover it, would doubtless be that given above; namely, that by moving heavy bodies over round gested to some long-departed generations could be served. When once this was done the way to an infinite field for the exercise ingenuity. Upon that crude foundation all the mechanical progress of the been built up. Surely we may not known inventor in our scroll of fame below the genius who first discovered to convert motion into heat, and primitive ancestors fire.

At the outset of this series of said that we take so many things in everyday life that we rarely pay there was a stage in human progress most of them were unknown. Let point, before taking up modern age the great fundamental ideas, think while of the vast gulf which separates man, the unclad creature from the cave-bear for such shelter as the rocks afforded, from the enlightened, who had learned how to make had come to make use of the skinned creatures to protect his own; who came his handicap of weakness speed by designing a bow and arrow with to supply himself with food who had learned that a hollow float him safely on the water away of hollowing it; who had discovered rollers and wheels would augment in moving materials; who had learned to move upon each other for himself shelters and defences; covered that if he made holes in pieces of wood in them and put the wood, he could split up the building materials; who had not opened his faculty of speech, but in way of recording his thoughts in others could know them. We without any means of measuring of the time required to enable make this progress. And just brought face to face with a question no satisfactory answer can be given be thus stated: How is it that has not been universal? There are who use the most primitive method of fire, who use the most elementary of navigation, who have not yet developed language, whose ideas in regard are such as our earliest ancestors have not been long in evolving. we to discover the cause of this difference between the races of men of a common ancestry seems utter when we think of this difference between the lowest type of civilization and the dwarfs of Central Africa great to be bridged. It may be respects the latter is better than The difference is not a moral one, be called a mental one. We seem to the conclusion that certain primitive human race have received improvement from some source themselves. On the other hand which have not made such material as we have, seem to possess qualities if we have them, we do not know ploy. A man, who lives in the north of Vancouver Island, had been a for more than a month. One day returning home, he met an Indian other direction. They had a little and he told the Indian what his intentions would be. The next day another Indian, who told her what he and was what day he would there was no way by which the could have communicated with far as any white man knows. Of this kind have been told. The manner in which news spreads tribes of Africa is an unsolved every one knows how things are tanously in all the bazaars throughout areas in India. Therefore, while the yellow races have gained so vast