

## The Colonist.

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### THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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#### INDIAN RESERVES.

The number of Indian Reservations in British Columbia is very great; the area included in them is large; the locations are almost always valuable; the soil is generally the best in the neighborhood. The great liberality shown by the government in setting apart the Reserves. One of a party which was engaged in setting out the reservations on Vancouver Island has said that they went along in a canoe and whenever they came to a place, which the Indians with them said they sometimes camped upon, it was put down as a place to be reserved. No one desires to deal unfairly with the Indians. Indeed the general disposition is to give them very much more than they can turn to their own good advantage. We are frequently told that in treating of the question of the reservations we must remember that the Indians were originally the owners of all the country. This is a claim, which we doubt if the Indians would ever have thought of making, if it had not been suggested to them by white people. The doctrine of ownership of land does not appear to have been held by the Indians of North America. Their only right of possession and use was the right of constructive possession. Under the common law we have evolved the doctrine of constructive possession, but the notion is not one that seems to have been ever held by any of the primitive tribes. Hence, when we begin the discussion of the reservations by assuming that the Indians who were living in British Columbia a century ago owned the land in the sense that ownership is understood by the white races, we import into the case a feature that colors all other considerations. All that has ever been done in regard to the tenure of lands, so far as the Indians are concerned, is that agreements have been reached whereby they may, if they see fit, occupy certain areas without interference from white people. Even this agreement, so far as British Columbia is concerned, is subject to change as the number of Indians decreases. Note that the obligation is all on one side, namely on that of the white people. An Indian is not obliged to live on a reservation. He may leave it at any time and make his home elsewhere. Every Indian now on the Songhees Reserve, for example, has the right to leave the reserve at any time and go into fruit farming on the Saanich Peninsula. The Indians might as well make any use whatever of the land set apart for them, as indeed is the case with large parts of most reservations, but under the law, as it stands at present, the reservation is a reservation. It would be easy to amend the law so that the Indian ever thinks of living and of which no use of any kind is made. There are tribes, which are practically extinct; yet their Reserves are intact. There are others which have dwindled to small numbers, but the land is set apart for them, and they are numerous yet remain closed to the white people. The Indians pay no taxes on their reservations, or the improvement of them, or the use of them. They receive the same degree of protection that is extended to the white people. There is absolutely no mutuality in the arrangement, and there never was, for what the Indians are supposed to have surrendered was something that they never actually had, for freedom to rove over a country can hardly be called a right, especially when the right is to constant warfare with others claiming equal freedom. Moreover that freedom yet exists so far as it relates to property in the actual possession of white people. The vast unoccupied areas of British Columbia, its numerous lakes, its miles of sea coast are as free now to the Indians as they ever were and vastly safer. The white people have taken nothing from the Indians, but on the contrary have given them much in the way of protection. Hence to approach the consideration of the question from a sentimental point of view is to make it needlessly difficult. We would expect the above considerations to commend themselves to an Indian; but they seem important because they establish the right of the white population to deal with the Indian problem in a manner which seems to them best for all concerned.

An idea seems to prevail that a hard and fast rule must be devised and applied to all the Indian bands indiscriminately; but we suggest that each case ought to be dealt with on its own merits, and we believe if each case were approached in that way, in the majority of instances a satisfactory result would be reached. Take the case of the Cowichan Reserve. Here are 4,000 acres of very fine land. A sufficient part of this could be set aside for the use of the Indians and there would remain an area, which subdivided into small holdings, would realize probably \$400,000. This money invested at 4 per cent. would give a revenue of \$16,000. If this were divided among the Cowichans, it would make them all exceedingly comfortable. If it is conceded that these Indians have a right to the use of the whole Reserve, and for the purposes of the argument we will not dispute it, they would have the right to the use of the income derived from the sale thereof. Take the case of the Songhees Reserve. That property would realize about \$200,000, and this at 4 per cent. would give more than a dollar a day for every adult male Indian, which sum they would doubtless be willing to accept and leave the Reserve altogether. We understand that the view taken by the white population is at least in regard to the money that might be derived from the sale of lands is that it would be sent to Ottawa and doled out to them only in cases of dire necessity and after a lot of formality. If they have in any case been approached with the suggestion that the income from the Reserves would be theirs if not at all, they would be distributed regularly. They might look at the matter favorably. There are some principles that must not be lost sight of in relation to the reservations. One is that the Indian title is not indefeasible; another is that the government has the right to scale the areas of the Reserves down proportionately to the decrease of the number of Indians; another is that while the Indians must yield to the growing demands of the country, they must be treated with such fairness and liberality that it can never be said that justice has been meted out to them. But justice does not require that they should be allowed to have their own way.

#### MR. PUGSLEY.

A local contemporary, without mentioning The Colonist, evidently refers to this paper when it speaks of persons who recently denounced Mr. Pugsley as a "corrupt politician." The Colonist's critics are invited to quote from its columns an expression which by the utmost ingenuity can be construed into a charge that Mr. Pugsley is corrupt. The Colonist has said and it repeats it, it was Mr. Pugsley's duty to have vacated his office until he had cleared up the allegations made against him in the Royal Commission. It says so yet. It would not have the slightest objection to telling Mr. Pugsley so under any circumstances that might arise, if there was the least reason for doing so. The Colonist is not interested in its local contemporaries seem to find their chief pleasure in misrepresenting it. This paper has the habit of discussing all questions of a public character as they arise. It does not wait until it sees what others are going to say. When the report of the Royal Commission was made public it stated promptly what it thought was Mr. Pugsley's duty. In all The Colonist has had five articles relating to this subject. The first was on April 13, which was a review of the case, and the strongest allegation in regard to Mr. Pugsley. The second was on April 20th and in this issue was expressly stated that Mr. Pugsley personally was one of suspended judgment until he had an opportunity of giving a full explanation. The next was on April 22nd, and in this issue was stated not to be one of dishonesty but of incapacity through carelessness. The last was on May 4th and dealt with the apparent truthfulness of Mr. Pugsley or the New Brunswick government to have the matter investigated to the furthest limit. There was a fifth article, but it related to the embarrassing situation that under the principles of responsible government, ought to have arisen between Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie and his ministers. In neither of these articles is there an allegation that Mr. Pugsley has been guilty of corruption or anything that could be so construed. There are absolutely no references to him except as to his connection with the transaction which formed the subject of the Commission's inquiry but in three of them the position is taken that he ought to have resigned his office until everything had been cleared up. Will our contemporaries withdraw their incorrect statements? Of course they will not.

The fact that The Colonist holds these strong views as to the course, which Mr. Pugsley ought to have taken, does not alter the fact that the Minister of Public Works, and a responsible and influential member of the Dominion government it is desirable that he should be informed of the requirements of this part of Canada. Nor does it follow that because The Colonist is very strongly of the opinion that Mr. Pugsley ought to have resigned his office until everything had been cleared up, that it is in any way hostile to him. It is in no way hostile to him, and never as private citizens. It fights his political battles squarely and fearlessly and never uses insinuations. What it has to say it says in plain English. It has grown accustomed to being charged with stating in their things that were not mentioned and were not even deducible therefrom even by forced inference. It has never protested against this sort of thing, and possibly it is hardly worth while now. We apologize to our readers for doing so, and will endeavor to avoid a repetition of it.

We commented briefly the other day upon the resolution of the Montreal board of trade favoring free trade within the Empire, and said it was directly opposite to the views expressed by that body at the time of the congress of the chambers of commerce of the Empire, held in Montreal. Mr. George E. Drummond regards the matter so seriously that he has withdrawn from the board in a letter announcing his resignation. Mr. Drummond said that the resolution was adopted by less than a five per cent of the membership, and was an ill-considered one, "so absolutely at variance with the national trade policy of Canada, with the whole past work of the Montreal Board of Trade, with the well thought out policy of the chambers of commerce of the Empire, as evidenced by the resolution passed at the sixth congress, and, furthermore, with the resolution of the London Chamber of Commerce, now to be presented at the forthcoming seventh congress, that he had no other course open but to tender his resignation as a delegate to the coming congress, as he could not consent to present, on behalf of the board, a resolution which he considered would prove most misleading to the people of Great Britain and other sections of the Empire, and which did not represent the views of the great mass of the Canadian people, nor yet of the membership of the Montreal board of trade itself.

The income tax to be levied under the new British Budget is estimated by a writer in The Nation at 9 per cent.

### Vacation Toilet Accessories

"Going-away-time" will soon be here. Beforehand we would like you to remember the fact that we have the most complete stock of sundries carried by any drug store in the west:

Hair and Fancy Combs, Hair Brushes, Bath Brushes, Soap, Sponges, Rubber Goods, Tooth Pastes, Powders, Perfumes, Face Preparations, Toilet Brushes, etc.

Everything for the up-to-date person. Everything sold at popular prices.

**CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST**

1228 Government Street. Tels. 425 and 450

Chief Cooper, of the Songhees tribe, is evidently satisfied that the Reserve question is settled for all time to come, and he has written a letter to the Minister of the Interior thanking him for "firmly declining to accede to the urgent and unreasonable demand of the white people to have you pass legislation to compel us to remove off our land." This is new light, if it is light upon a very pressing problem. Without knowing just what authority Chief Cooper has for saying that the Minister has declined to pass the legislation referred to, we shall refrain from any extended comments further than to say that it seems to be up to Mr. Templeman to inform the people of Victoria if he undertook to have the legislation, promised by him, passed only to be met by the firm refusal of his colleague in charge of the Indian Department. The situation is growing decidedly interesting.

The police have felt called upon to warn people, against turning to the right when driving and complaint is made that there is a good deal of carelessness on the part of the drivers of horses. We are very glad that attention is being given to this matter. Traffic is increasing on the streets with great rapidity and metropolitan methods must be adopted. Conduct that might be excusable on country roads is out of place in a city. In regard to turning to the left, the rule is such an excellent one that its enforcement ought to be thorough. It is one of the best guarantees of safety in vehicular traffic.

In view of the proposed visit of Mr. Pugsley the Vancouver Province thinks that a comprehensive program should be arranged including the various matters relating to that city to the attention of the Minister of Public Works ought to be decided. It says that he is "a man of great practical ability." The Province should be careful. If it is not, some one will be unable to understand how it can take such a position. Some "Englishmen either at home or abroad" may not be able to understand why it should say such things.

Lord Curzon is of the opinion that, if women ever vote, the British Empire will be shattered into its original fragments. Poor old Empire! The number of things that threaten your existence is increasing day by day. Don't you sometimes wish that certain amiable people had not discovered you a few years ago? You were getting along nicely and nobody was paying any attention to you, but now it is necessary to do something for your salvation at least once a week.

As a rule our Canadian cartoonists are not a success. They imitate the coarseness of their United States contemporaries but display less wit. A cartoon loses its force when it becomes a mere gross caricature.

The Japanese appear to have been having a very enjoyable time in Vancouver. The suggested, aldermanic shooting match did not materialize.

### KILLED HIMSELF AND WOUNDED WIFE

Frank Slack, Real Estate Agent of Harrisburg, Pa., was killed in a bloody drama.

Harrisburg, Pa., May 21.—Frank Slack, a prominent real estate agent, was shot and killed in his home yesterday after attempting to murder his wife, whom he shot in the head and arm.

Mrs. Slack said that her husband said: "Come out into the yard. I'm going to shoot you, and we will die together." The woman ran but Slack followed and fired twice. The first shot struck Slack, going to a wooded, fired a bullet through his head.

### PLANS ADVANCED FOR QUEBEC BRIDGE

Structure Will Cost Between Six and Seven Million Dollars

Ottawa, May 21.—The commissioners appointed by the Dominion Government to prepare plans for the reconstruction of the Quebec bridge are so far advanced in their work that it is likely the Government will be in possession of completed plans in a short time and a contract for building will probably be let during the summer. The new bridge will cost between six and seven million dollars.

To Quell Tuberculosis. Hamilton, May 21.—At the annual meeting of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis a resolution was passed urging all provincial governments and legislatures to aid in every way reforms to check a spread of the disease. Dr. J. G. Adams, Montreal, was elected president. The next meeting of the association will be held in Montreal.

Abdul Hands Over Coin. Constantinople, May 21.—A local newspaper is authority for the statement that Abdul Hamid, the deposed Sultan, has transferred bank deposits to something like \$5,000, to the Government.

Husband Was a "Fan." Sacramento, Cal., May 21.—Judge Shields today granted a decree of divorce to Mrs. Miller H. Upson on the ground of failure to provide the specification to which the wife testified, being that most of her husband's time was devoted to baseball when he ought to have been earning a living for her two children and herself.

Military Man Dies. Chatham, Ont., May 21.—Col. J. B. Rankin, for many years commander of the 24th Kent Regiment, died yesterday.

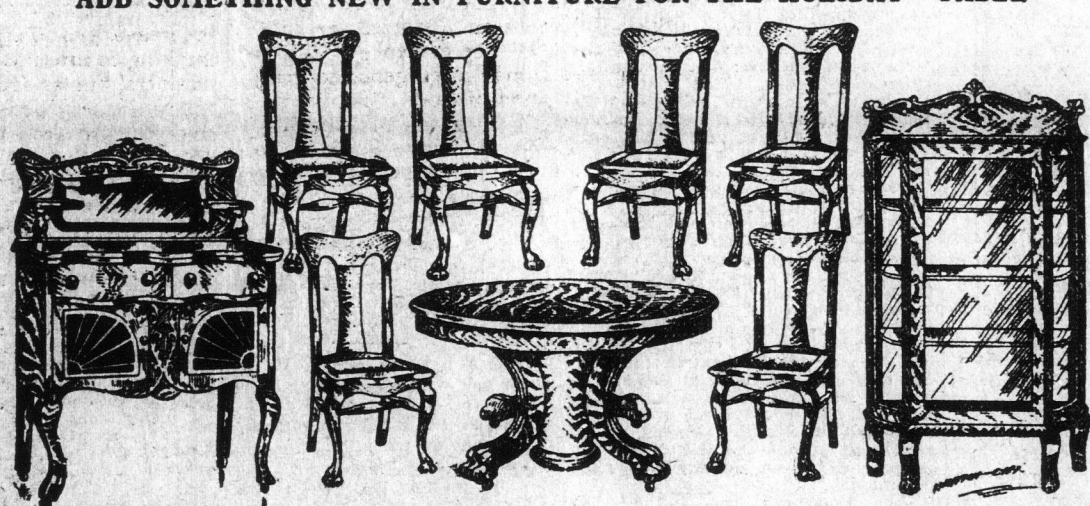
### LADIES' REST ROOM

Have you visited our new Ladies' Rest Room? Up on the second floor we have a room built specially for you Ladies—a convenient and comfortable place to rest, write, read or meet your friends. Built for you so make use of it when in town.

## WE TURN A HOUSE INTO A HOME

## FIX UP THE DINING ROOM A LITTLE

ADD SOMETHING NEW IN FURNITURE FOR THE HOLIDAY "TABLE"



WHY NOT ADD a furniture piece, a new rug, or new curtains to the dining room's furnishings before the 24th? Bound to have some visitors and they'll certainly use the dining room for holidaying is excellent for the appetite. Then you want to have this room looking its best for the occasion.

Come in and see the wonderful array of furniture and furnishing items for the diningroom offered in this stock of ours. It is possible to work wonderful changes in this room's appearance and at little cost through the medium of this splendid stock.

In all lines — chairs, buffets, tables, china cabinets, carpets, curtains and draperies there is a style to suit you and a price that fits your pocketbook. Come in and let us show you a piece to add to your diningroom.



Today we are showing some splendid new arrivals in office desks and we have some stylish office furniture to offer you now.

The new arrivals include the very latest in those sanitary desks, some new styles in flat tops and double flat tops, and some of those popular standing desks we showed this past winter. These desks are from the best desk maker in Canada, and the workmanship, finish and arrangement is the very best. Prices are so reasonably fair that there is no excuse for a poorly furnished office now.

See these new arrivals on the fourth floor.

## HERE IS SOMETHING REAL DAINTY

FROM THE MANY NEW ARRIVALS IN STERLING SILVER  
TRULY we have never opened daintier silver than these new arrivals in Sterling just priced yesterday. You won't regret the time spent in viewing and handling these dainty pieces for they are unusually choice examples of the silversmith's art.

There is a hearty invitation extended you to come in and see the wonderful offerings of the silver shop — not only these sterling lines, but this week's arrivals in "1847 Rogers Bros." silverware. A wonderful assortment of chic gifts for June Brides shown.

## See These Charming New Ideas in Souvenir Spoons

Nothing so nice as these new souvenir spoons has ever been shown in the city. New and attractive designs are shown and in many finishes. It is not possible to describe them properly here, but don't confuse these with the ordinary variety of souvenir spoons. Come in and have a look at them. Splendid to send to some bride-to-be — quite a fad to collect a set. Prices range at each—

\$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50

**TOTEM POLE SOUVENIR SPOONS—SOMETHING NEW**  
These spoons are very attractive and are distinctly new. The handle represents an Indian Totem Pole, while the bowl shows, Parliament Buildings, boats, etc. Priced at each, \$2.00

**"OUR EMBLEM" SOUVENIR SPOONS—A POPULAR NEW SPOON**  
One of the most charming designs is this "Our Emblem" spoon. A maple leaf design with a verse from this national song engraved on bowl. Finished in French grey finish. A splendid spoon at \$2.00

**HERE IS SOMETHING NEW FOR THE NEW BABY**  
Here is a gift that will last to become a valued souvenir of babyhood—a new line of baby spoons. These are of sterling silver with a picture and verse from the old nursery rhyme engraved on each. You couldn't find a more appropriate gift for a new baby. Each in a lined case at \$2.00

**HERE IS A SPECIAL VALUE YOU SHOULD INVESTIGATE**  
You'll look far and wide before you'll find a value to equal this in any silver shop. Here you have a dainty pair of cut glass salts with sterling silver spoons in a lined case offered you at a price which should bring you in today. Just a sample value from the silver store—all this for \$1.50.

## MANY NEW ARRIVALS IN STERLING SPOONS

If you have been waiting for the arrival of new spoons in sterling silver we suggest that you come in today for we have just added some excellent new designs. Many different patterns are shown now and a range of prices interesting, indeed. Come and see what we offer at, per dozen—

\$12.00, \$14.00, \$15.00, \$16.00, \$20.00

## A SPECIAL HOLIDAY SHOWING OF 1909 GO-CARTS

We are making a special window showing of the new "Whitney" Go-Carts and Carriages—an exhibition of new carts for the holiday. You cannot enjoy the holiday if baby hasn't got one of these carts, so come down today and choose your cart. The price is the easiest feature of the choosing—the difficulty being in the deciding between the many handsome carts offered.

## See the Dozens of New "Whitney" Go-Carts in Window

These collapsible carts are very popular for holiday use and travelling, as they fold so compactly they may be carried on street cars or packed in the trunk. There isn't anything better than the "Whitney"—the opening and folding device being the very simplest and best.

## Come in and See the Range of "Whitney" Go-Carts from \$3.75 to \$50

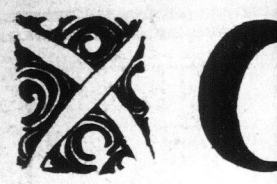
EXTRA PARTS IN STOCK  
Parasols, Wheels, Tires, Springs  
Always on Hand.

COLLAPSIBLE CARTS, without hoods, from each ..... \$6.50  
COLLAPSIBLE CARTS, with hoods, from each ..... \$9.00  
COLLAPSIBLE CARTS, reed body, new style, from ..... \$18.00

Furnishers of  
HOMES  
HOTELS, CLUBS  
BOATS

**Weiler Bros**

Furnishers of  
CHURCHES  
SCHOOLS, STORES  
OFFICES



### REVEALED RELIGION

Those who contend that religion as revealed religion cannot be proved. By religious sense of responsibility to a Supreme Being, which is or less extent among all races go back to the beginning, we will fail to discover a religion that of self-preservation religious system could be it is possible to derive the human law. The thunders necessary to convince men not steal or that he should not travection of any other of the material commandment of property as was recognized the home was understood as one's property and to safe would follow as a matter as those particular aspects are concerned we are not es different from the brutes was no necessity for a revelation that he must respect rights ing them were able to enforce the instinct of self-lead to the formation of org the laws which originally tion from individual right, enforced by the community to presuppose a revelation for much of what is called it is preposterous to suggest merit whatever in complicity.

Revealed religion has spiritual side of man's nature means whereby we may fit ourselves for a higher not consist of a series of p constructive. It substitutes terminating what our relation ought to be. It changes the those who live under its dows its possessors with greater than any material not imagine how the idea religion is based could be law of self-preservation or contemplation of natural.

It is not difficult to see how confused with natural phenomena if we suppose men in a low progress than we now are from some source the idea it is easy to conceive that Him with the Sun or some phenomenon; but the new worshipping the Sun was ister of the idea of wor and this idea must surely spiration from some source humanity. When once it h minds of men it would as and the logical result of crude intellects would be a has been said of Hindustan many gods as there were would make a god in his he would conceive of the self, only greatly exaggera we must of necessity con otheistic idea was a rev whom and under what cir heard in his soul those tre am the Lord, thy God," know. It is historically Monotheistic idea, as we is, the belief in one god, Abraham; but there is re it originated with him. I ground for assuming the dawn of civilization the existed, and it is a qual which distinguishes hum creation. Last Sunday w animal that invents; we as an animal that wor point meet the evolution ground. Let us concede originated from the sam that it has been shaped survival of the fittest, a fluence, so that it has various lines in which we line, that is, the human, found. Must we not of a sume the derivation of th from some external source explain that what is evol ships that which is spiri lists, who hold to mat endeavor to explain the ex ference in forms of life b periods for their evolu of evolution could not pr nothing, and if we accep terial evolution, we mus idea of worship in a Su been present in the ch which the earth was for derived from some sour cal nature. Hence it claimed that the fact of n that worships, and yet i similar in essential part ials, proves incontestab and a very early stage, there came an inspiratio ever this was, it was vealed religion.

If this position is co must of necessity have inspiration, or whatever to explain the existence of the idea of worship, in supposing other rev