

The Colonist.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.
PROVINCIAL POLITICS.

The public meeting was a failure; only two men were present, but one of them in describing it for the paper, said the meeting was large and respectable, observing to his companion in justification of the adjective, "You are large and I am respectable." It is on this principle that some of the Kootenay papers discover a loud and widespread demand for the overthrow of the provincial ministry. They demand it with vituperation; that makes it loud. They are separated by magnificent distances; that makes it widespread. Just now coupled with this "demand" is a prayer to Mr. Hewitt Bostock to become a political Moses and lead the disgruntled out of the house of bondage and into the land, supposed to be flowing with pap and patronage. This demand is likewise widespread, for Mr. Bostock has distributed his shekels in newspaper plants at points very remote from each other. So it comes about that when Mr. Bostock's paper at A. discovers that the country is aching for Mr. Bostock's leadership, Mr. Bostock's paper at B. thinks it would be a most excellent thing, and Mr. Bostock's paper at C. agrees with them both. Then Mr. Bostock's paper at D. comes out with a note to the effect, "I am not a prophet, but I am a prescient man, and I am sure that the sacrifice asked of Mr. Bostock is very great indeed, and only the conviction that it is the general demand of his fellow citizens that he should retire from the *otium cum dignitate* of parliament and mingle with the common herd of provincial politicians, can induce him to take the suggested step. When he does finally consent, he will do so after the manner of the maiden, who has waited for 749 consecutive nights for her lover to propose, and when he does at last with dreadful hesitation, replies, "George, dear, this is so sudden."

Against Mr. Bostock the Colonist has not a single word to say. Considering his experience and training, he does very well as a member of parliament. He has not made it necessary to call out the Ottawa fire brigade to save the river from destruction; but he has hitherto made no claims to be anything more than a decent, every-day sort of a fellow, who, having a snug income, thought a little public prominence not amiss. To his ambition in this respect there is no possible objection, and unless report flatters him, he has been always ready with open hand to assist those who were willing to advance it. Left to himself, Mr. Bostock would pursue the even tenor of his way as a member of parliament, attending to the minor wants of his constituents diligently, with a reasonable hope of re-election and the prospect of Government House in view five years from now, if the Liberals stay in so long. This anyone will admit to be rather a neat little career.

Such a simple arrangement as this does not suit certain political amateurs in this province. They want a lively local campaign next year, and for that reason need a leader with money. They will furnish the brains if Mr. Bostock will supply the cash. Mr. Bostock could undoubtedly furnish as good a quality of the former as they; but that is not the programme. He is to be told that the hour has come for the Liberals of British Columbia to seize the reins of power. He is to be told in this province what Mowat was in Ontario, Blair in New Brunswick and Fielding in Nova Scotia, the great Western Horatius at the Bridge, holding back the hosts of Toryism. Mr. Bostock may yield to their blandishments, but we venture to guess that if he consults his friends in the federal ministry as to the expediency of his resigning his seat in parliament to introduce federal politics into the local arena, he will be advised to do nothing of the kind.

This Bostockian cult demonstrates the weakness of the local opposition. It is a distinct admission that it is hopeless to think of defeating Mr. Turner and his colleagues on provincial issues. We have been looking for this admission. It will be remembered that there has been outstanding a challenge on the part of the local government to formulate their charges, and that, except in three minor matters, that were at once fully explained, not a single opposition paper has dared to take the challenge up. Hence distinctly provincial issues are to be abandoned and the election of next year is to be run, if possible, on federal issues. In this alone do the opposition see any chance of success. But more than this is implied, for the Macedonian cry that has gone out for Mr. Bostock is a direct declaration of non-confidence in Mr. Semlin as leader. We cannot say that this surprises us very much, for with all Mr. Semlin's estimable personal qualities, he is singularly destitute of the qualifications of leadership. We do not think the people of British Columbia are likely to seriously contemplate placing their affairs in Mr. Semlin's hands, although we say most frankly that if they did, he would undoubtedly deal with them honestly and as best he could. He would not suit, he does not suit the hungry horde, who are crying out for Mr. Bostock, and who hope that the last named gentleman will let them play ducks and drakes

with his money before election, and with that of the Province afterwards. These gentry in their proposed campaign stand to win everything and lose nothing. If they should carry the Province on federal issues, they would set upon their plank, which calls for a clean sweep in all public offices; if they should fail they would have at least the fun of spending some of Mr. Bostock's good British sovereigns.

THOSE EXEMPTIONS.

In the Seattle Times of the 17th inst., appears an article headed "Victoria knocked out—Dominion government says miners' outfits to go free—Americans are Jubilant—Canadian tariff duties greatly modified and special ruling has been made in the case of actual miners going out to mine." The article begins by saying that "Victoria is practically out of the race for the Klondyke trade," and goes on to say that the special ruling made "makes the duty question of little importance." It adds that owing to the efforts of the Washington congressional delegation the tariff duties have been greatly moderated, and that "all necessary clothing and any amount of provisions can go across the border line of the Northwest territory duty free." This it is alleged gives "Seattle merchants a greater cinch on the Yukon trade than ever," and they are urged to see that the joyful news is spread far and wide.

It is not easy to excuse bare-faced lying of this kind. It is not true that the duties have been moderated to any extent whatever, and the exemptions are not as stated. If men buy goods in Seattle on the strength of these representations made by the Times they will find themselves once more grossly deceived to their great pecuniary loss. In order that there may be no mistake on this subject we present the facts as they are. If the Seattle papers choose to ignore them and persist in their false statements, we suppose there is no help for it, except that Victoria merchants must see to it that the truth is spread equally broadcast with the lie.

When the Customs house officers went North they were instructed by Collector Milne to permit miners' clothing in use and broken packages to pass duty free, the idea being that if all a man had with him was what he needed to keep himself warm and from going hungry on his journey, he ought not to be obliged to pay duty on it. This privilege was granted on humane grounds, and no one would think for a moment of objecting to it. Later, Collector Milne became satisfied that the expression "broken packages" hardly met the case, for a man might reach the officers with only a few yards of cloth or some small article of value, and the relief intended would not apply. Therefore he advised the Minister of Customs, in response to a query as to what exemptions he was allowing, that in his opinion it would be well to let each man pass this season with his clothing, blankets and a hundred pounds of food. The amount of food was put at a hundred pounds because very many persons were not in a position to pay duties on anything. He took into consideration the fact that hundreds did not believe they would have to pay duty at all, that many would have to spend nearly all their money in paying the cost of packing and that in every case there was much greater delay than was anticipated. We do not think that any one will be found to object to this. The collector was particular to specify that these exemptions should apply for this season only. Meanwhile there had been some correspondence between Ottawa and Washington on the question, and shortly after the Collector had sent his suggestion to Ottawa he received the following instructions:

OTTAWA, August 13, 1897.
Collector of Customs, Victoria.
In accordance with despatch sent by Acting Minister to Washington, you will give special instructions to officers at Lake Umbagog that miners' blankets, personal clothing in use, cooking utensils in use and one hundred pounds of food for the journey are exempt this season, charging duty only on excess.
JOHN McDONALD,
Commissioner of Customs.

These exemptions are sufficient to prevent it being necessary for any man to turn back, simply for lack of money. If he chooses to go forward this fall with what clothing he is actually using, his blankets, his cooking utensils, and about as much food as he could pack in two flour sacks, he will not have to pay any duty. This exemption applies to about one-sixth of the average outfit, and will not apply to any of it after the present season, which, we need hardly add, is now almost at an end.

Seattle is welcome to all the comfort she can get out of this arrangement, which was made, not, as the Times suggests, because the Seattle people clamored for the closing of the sub-port at Dyea, nor because of the demands of the Washington congressional delegation; but because the Canadian government is conducted according to the principles of Christian civilization, and because Canadian business men are not so keen after a dollar that, rather than permit them to eat food bought in Seattle, they would prefer to see men turned back on their Yukon journey through no fault of their own, but simply because they were grossly deceived by Seattle newspapers.

Magic Liniment, the great pain reliever, is superior to all others.

THE MISUNDERSTANDING AT SKAGWAY.

There has been some indignation expressed as to the course of the United States customs house officer at Dyea in regard to the Danube, but we think he must be held blameless in the matter; but at the same time no blame attaches to the captain of the steamship. The person responsible for the misunderstanding was the special officer sent up on the Danube from Mary Island, and he doubtless erred through a mistake in judgment.

No material difference exists between the laws of civilized countries as to the entry of vessels from foreign ports. For example, if a vessel should come from any port out of Canada with a cargo, which the owner wanted discharged at Oadboro Bay, she would not go directly to the Bay and begin unloading, if she had fifty customs house officers aboard, but would report at Victoria. If she ignored this office she would be subject to detention and fine. So when a foreign vessel has a cargo for some point on Puget Sound, which is not a sub-port, she reports to the Collector at Port Townsend, who sends an officer with her. On this principle, when the Islander went North she took an officer from Mary Island as a precaution in case there was no one at Dyea to report to. Now that an officer is stationed at Dyea, the proper course for all masters of vessels is to report directly to him and obtain his permission to discharge elsewhere, if it is wanted. While this permission is granted in the discretion of the officer, it is the universal rule to refuse no reasonable request, and if Mr. Jones, who is the United States official at Dyea, understands his duties, there need be no difficulties hereafter, provided the captains of steamers recognize his authority as they are bound to do.

We make this explanation because of a disposition, which exists, to magnify the misunderstanding about the Danube into an affair of international importance. It was only a conflict of authority between two United States officers, both of whom thought they were doing right. Mr. Jones is not, as we understand the matter, at all to blame for taking the position he did in regard to the Danube, but on the contrary was quite within his rights in insisting that the vessel should have reported to him, and very reasonable, indeed, in not proceeding to extreme measures, for while Captain Meyers had no reason to suppose he was doing anything in derogation of Mr. Jones' authority, and was quite warranted in supposing that the Mary Island officer was the person to whom he should look for guidance, he did undoubtedly, though unintentionally, put himself in a wrong position.

The Okanagan farmers co-operative flouring mill has just paid an 8 per cent dividend. The Vernon News says:

A dividend of 8 per cent, on the paid-up capital of the Okanagan Flour Mills Co., Ltd., of Armstrong, as well as \$3 per ton on wheat delivered during the year ending July 31st, 1897, was last Saturday declared by the company's directors. Though the mill has been in operation but fourteen and one-half months, two dividends of 8 per cent, each on the paid-up capital have been declared, and 90 cents and \$3 per ton respectively on wheat delivered has been paid, besides which a reserve fund of \$2,500 has been created.

This very encouraging report should stimulate farmers in all parts of the province to renewed interest in co-operative methods.

NOW THE up-to-date woman gets on a fur suit and has herself photographed as the latest Klondyke heroine. In the pictures they are all statuesque-looking creatures, with big dreamy eyes and smiling lips. On the steamers they are just like other women, only perhaps they look a trifle more faded, and most of them have a wish-I-hadn't-started expression. But no one begrudges them the fleeting romance of the newspaper portraits, for they have hard work and many privations before them.

SPEAKING of the Skagway pass J. A. Costello writes to the Seattle Times to say:

This trail is all right; hard to climb, but a good, substantial trail, four feet wide, open from salt water to Cape Bennett—between thirty or forty miles, about sixteen miles over the mountains to the Summit, and passable for horses all the way.

What Mr. Costello says may be accepted. He is a man who can be relied on to state the case as he finds it.

Not many people will take issue with the Boundary Creek Times in its demand for a training school for teachers. That is an institution which must come before very long.

THE decision of Hon. Mr. Sifton to come to the Coast and go up as far as Lake Tagish is one that we most heartily commend.

SPAIN'S CABINET.

MADRID, Aug. 18.—Senator Sagasta, the Liberal leader, in an interview to-day, is quoted as saying: "Even during Canova's time dissensions existed in the cabinet, and if they are continued Gen. Azcaraga will be obliged to decline to hold office. In any case his cabinet is certain to be only a temporary one."

The supreme council of war and the cabinet have confirmed the sentence of death imposed on Angiollo, the assassin.

ANDREE'S EXPEDITION.

He May Yet Anchor His Balloon Amidst the Nuggets of the Klondyke.

Just before Andree left he dictated a message to the Copenhagen (Denmark) "Aftenbladet," in which he said: "We shall probably be carried in a north-easterly direction." He had figured out his probable course to a nicety. He had about 700 miles more to go to reach the pole, and about 1,200 miles more before he would be where it would be advisable to land. His balloon left Spitzbergen going at the rate of twenty-two miles an hour, which would mean his arrival at the pole in thirty-two hours, or about 10 o'clock Monday, July 12. This would not interfere with observations, however, as there is no night at the pole at this time of the year, so that the explorer had daylight. He said himself to his time: "We shall be three weeks, or even more. I would rather not do it so quickly because of our observations."

1. That the balloon will land in Siberia in about latitude 70 north and longitude 155 west, where there is a United States government station. Point Barrow is about 600 miles northwest of the new Klondyke gold regions, and about the same distance from the mouth of the Yukon river, or about 500 miles from Behring Straits. It is almost opposite to Spitzbergen.

This direction is what Andree characterized in his address before the Society of Anthropology and Geography in Stockholm, Sweden, on March 20, 1897, as "the desired way." He gave his reasons in substance as follows: "This part of the world is not now so nearly desolate and uninhabited as it was when the Franklin expedition perished. Ever since 1889 American vessels have been stationed about the mouth of the Mackenzie river for hunting purposes, and twelve to fifteen ships pass the winter there with 400 or 500 persons aboard. Along the coast of Alaska are to be found more or less civilized Indians and Eskimoes. In the interior of Alaska there are a great number of gold diggers."

Andree had a fourth possible route, viz: That the balloon may land in British North America in latitude 67 north, longitude 100 west, which is in the vicinity of Melville Sound. Landing at the points at an angle to the pole would not necessarily mean that Andree did not cross the pole, because the topographical and astronomical charts of the Arctic show that he might be carried from Spitzbergen across the pole and landed in British America, because the winds blow in a circle much after the fashion of the gulf stream of the Atlantic ocean.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

JIMMIE not being present, one remarked: "It's a hard thing to say of a man, but I don't think Jimmie has any great mental capacity." "The capacity is there all right enough," said the other, "but there is not time to fill it."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Doctor," asked the seeker after knowledge of the clergyman, "why do people get on their knees to pray, instead of standing?" "They want to save their souls," replied the clever minister.—Harlem Life.

"What is the difference between an alias and an incognito?" asked the examiner. "About the same as the difference between kleptomania and theft," said the student.

"Typographical Drageons—A.W. dat guy made me tired, fer he said he wuz savin' his money for a rainy day. Casey de Kidder f'ces an den it will be too wet ter burn it."—Pittsburg News.

George—I just saw you coming from the conservatory with Miss Goldie. Rather handsome girl, but too reserved for me. Thomas—Yes; I've just reserved her for life.—Fun.

"It seems strange that a bank cashier should invent an airship." "Has he?" "I see here that a prominent bank cashier has flown."—Philadelphia North American.

Putting it ingeniously—"Oh—er—excuse me, sir, but your daughter thought perhaps you might like to be my father-in-law."—Boston Traveller.

Son (who had been caught reading a dime novel)—Unhand me, tyrant, or there may be bloodshed.

Father—No my son; there will be nothing more serious than woodshed. Come, that is where the strap hangs.—Princeton Tiger.

Pullen—I worked hard enough trying to get a government clerkship, but I'm going to take a good rest now.

Pusch—You've given up trying, have you?

Pullen—Oh, no, I secured the place.—Boston Traveller.

"What a peculiar, faraway look that man Dodson has."

Girl (to her lover)—Ah, only think of it, dearest Earnest, my elder sister must be married before I can be!

He—Is there no way out, then?

Girl—Oh, but so that I can marry—you might marry my sister.—Flegende Blaetter.

Head of Firm—What's that awful racket out there?

Silent Partner—We're just knocking down the crash suits.—Philadelphia Record.

"You look awfully happy, old man."

"In what way?"

"I've just bought a half interest in an Alaska dog."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Telegraphing without wires is all very well, but what the average man wants is a means of telegraphing without money.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"They ought to get on well after they are married. They are both interested in the same thing."

"What?"

"Him."—Boston Traveller.

Uncle Nicholas—So your Aunt Mary gave you that nice horse and cart. Do all your aunts make you such nice presents?

Freddy—No; but then you know Aunt Mary is my godmother.

Uncle Nicholas—Ah, I had forgotten that!

Freddy—And I am afraid you have forgotten that you are my godfather!—Punch.

Two Seamen Disciplined.

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 19.—At a court martial yesterday of two seamen on the battleship Royal Sovereign, the prisoners pleaded guilty to gross insubordination and striking an officer. One was sentenced to a year's penal servitude and the other to receive 24 lashes and three months' penal servitude. Both were dismissed from the service.

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Young Man, Stop!



Don't make a machine of your brain. Don't use the gifts of nature as you would a grindstone. Your body won't stand the wear and tear. It will lose its "grit." Your nerves are sensitive, and every act of excess is bearing down your general vitality. It may not show now, but it will later on. Then it will be too late for regrets. You will be weak, nervous, wretched.

Middle-Aged Man, Turn!

Turn back the pages of your life. You can see how you have worn yourself out. You know the cause of your weakness. You know why you are getting so nervous, why little business worries seem like terrible calamities. You know you have lost your grit, your vim, push, energy. Your vitality is wasted. You know all this, and you must check the further waste which you see going on. You can do it only with Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt.

Old Man, Look Back!

Think of what you were 20 years ago. You might be the same to-day but for the wear and tear. It has been too great, and your body has lost the grit. You feel your old nerves giving way and the blood growing cold. The fire is gone from your nerves. Get it back. Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt has a wonderful reputation for restoring wasted vitality. How you would like to feel the warm blood coursing through your veins! You can. The blood is there. Give it the fire.

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THE KLONDYKE

Canada Urged to Put Operation at the Moment.

International Postal fees to be Established Several Points.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Position for carrying the trip a month between Dyea was formally accepted noon by acting Postmaster General, and the communication this government notified of the responsibility, argued to put the service the earliest possible time which is 100 miles above Lynn Canal, and Dawson declared international offices. The British mail by the United States B.C. to Dyea.

Post offices will be Cudahy, Forty Mile and other points. The service the immediate supervision Mounted Police. The equipped with dogs have Indian drivers. At least will be for one the British mails carrying them over route between the service, this will be done.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—government and the U practically agreed upon tunnels are now all providing postal facilities dyke region, and the be evidenced in a sub of the mail service from that district. The outlined, but in all a strike off directly on Stony City down to Dyea.

THE KOO

ROSELAND, Aug. 19.—Kaslo states that a big made in the Carbonate. In the lower tunnel of solid galeas, average ton in all values. tunnels are now all in being at once. T entirely in Roseland. A special from Alice Willis, who was by H. B. Swynne, who self, is dead. She left 000 to her mother in pointing Dr. Leach. The Le Roi company in addition to furnish own plant at Northport to supply Mr. Heine keep his smelter at four years after the present contract.

Bids were opened land's first issue of all range around par

MORTIFIED T

LONDON, Aug. 19.—spondent of the Daily accident to the French which had been dele vessels to escort C. Cronstadt, but was through the failure caused a stormy call Admiral Bernad, wished to resign, but to withhold his return of President burg. It is possible result in a fierce hauling the French

LORD ROBE

LONDON, Aug. 20.—publishes this mo with Lord Frederic har, commander of with reference to the Swat valley and in Lord Roberts said for alarm or anxie wholly fanatical.

TO END T

PITTSBURGH, Aug. are determined to many of them a the question to ar any radical step strike, and with an effort is be a conference of miners' officials agreement cannot ference then the ately prepare for men. The operat of action has been fuse to say what first. A report were to be employ auance was giv would have amply REYNOLDSVILLE meeting of ab laborers of the Hamilton and B decided to deman from 25 to 32 g mining other w satisfaction in men's pay. A co