The Colonist.

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TH FINANCIAL SITUATION.

New York advices are to the effect that the financial situation is much easier. The significant statement is made that the use of clearing house certificates in lieu of cash for the settlement of balances is having an excellent effect. This bears out the observation made in these columns yesterday to the effect that the real cause of trouble lies in the fact that the country is doing business on too small a capital. The clearing house certificates are not money, but they are accepted as such. They illustrate how credit may be converted into capital. In this connection the following is of interest: On Thursday of last week the Montreal Star commissioned one of its staff to take soundings of the financial status of the city's leading commercial institutions. Here is the opening sentence of the "story" which he afterwards turned into his paper: "A canvass of all branches of trade and commerce, represented by business men of undeniably sound ability and careful judgment, reveals the fact that in not a single branch of Canadian industry is fear expressed for the financial future of the country, and that, with the exception of but one firm, optimism, free and happy, leads the dance of commerce and business with assurance and courage."

UNHAPPY RUSSIA.

The bombardment of Vladivostock by Russian torpedo boats is a striking illustration of the unhappy condition of affairs in the dominions of the Czar. It seems incredible that such a state of things can much longer continue. There surely must be some change. But how will it come about? It is easy to say that the Czar ought to give his people freedom, but he is almost powerless. He is as much in the hands of the system, of which he is the representative, as the meanest of his subjects. We do not believe that there is any living man strong enough to bring order out of the chaos now prevailing in Russia, at least by peaceable means. If some man of sublime courage and unquenchable will, such a man as Genghis Khan or Napoleon, could come to the front and take the tremendous chances which a Russian revolution would involve, it might be possible in a lifetime to make the country free. But there is no such man in sight, and possibly the time is not ripe for one to appear. History teaches that men are the product of circumstances rather than circumstances the creation of men. Russia has not developed a liberator. Until he comes, we fear that the government will remain an autocracy intensified, not tempered, by assassination. The mutiny on the Vladivostock squadron is probably not materially different from those which occurred on the ships in the Black and Baltic seas. They were caused not so much by political feeling as by the gross misuse of authority by the officers. And therein lies Russia's greatest danger. The whole body politic is rotten. Doubtless the Czar is the most blameless of all those in authority, but what can he or any one man do against the gigantic octopus of wrong, which has fastened itself upon the nation?

CANADA AND TREATY-MAKING.

The London Daily Graphic takes exception to an expression of Sir Wilfird Laurier to the effect that British diplomacy as regards Canada has been "a record of sacrifices from the Atlantic to the Pacific," and it says that "as a matter of fact, Canada has very little to complain of." The Graphic is not well-informed as to the facts or it would hardly have made such a statement. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was, we regret to say, historically correct in what he said. Let us look first at the Atlantic. Something like seventy years ago a dispute arose as to the boundary between the State of Maine and the Province of New Brunswick. It is not necessary now to go much into details, but a fairly correct idea will be given of the nature of the New Brunswick contention by saying that if it had been insisted upon by Great Britain, the Dominion would include that part of the State of Maine which projects like a great wedge between Quebec and the more easterly province. There never was the slightest doubt that the pretense put forward by the United States government was without any sort of foundation in fact yet it was agreed to. British diplomacy was defeated by a very simple sort of trick. It was claimed on behalf of Great Britain that the line should be drawn where every student of the case, even those on the opposite side, now concedes that it ought to have been. The United States made a counter claim by insisting upon receiving territory to which no one ever supposed for an instant they were entitled and then they proposed a compromise which would give them the area really in dispute and to this Lord Ashburton assented. The United States commissioner, Daniel Webster, afterwards boasted that he knew he was wrong and had in his pocket proof that the British claim was right. Now let us come to the Pacific. This whole Northwest Coast, from the Mexican line to the Russian possessions, properly belonged to the British Crown, but it was given up to the United States hardly without a word of question. Later it became necessary to define the International Boundary between the islands in the Gulf of Georgia, and once more we lost. More recently still the Alaskan Boundary award was contrary to our interests. There are other points on the International line, where the two countries advanced opposing claims, and in every instance, Canada got the worst of it. Hence it is historically accurate to say that there is a record of sacrifices from the Atlantic to the Pacific. If in any of these matters the issue of peace or war were involved, we would hesitate to say that Great Britain ought to have taken up arms rather than submit to the territorial claims made by our neighbor. That is another aspect of the case entirely. The point is, and there is no difference whatever between the public men of Canada in regard to it, that the British government has in every instance, where there has been a question involving territorial jurisdiction, given way to the United States and abandoned the contention of Canada. We believe that this would not have been the case, if Canadians had conducted their own negotiations. No one has ever charged that the Mother Country purposely sacrificed Canadian interests; all that has ever been said is that the diplomats of the Mother Country have never yet shown an appreciation of a Canadian case so far as territorial rights were concerned.

IRON AND STEEL.

The engineering correspondent of the London Times, in a recent issue of that paper contributes a lengthy article reviewing the progress and development of the iron and steel industry in Canada. In some statements which he makes the people of Vancouver Island will be specially interested. He believes that before very long the great iron ore deposits in this province will be developed, and urges British capitalists to turn their attention to so profitable a field for investment. Noting that the most westerly point which the industry has extended to as yet is Port Arthur, he declares that "the next advance must be British Columbia." We quote:

"The most westerly point to which the iron industry of Canada extended up to recently was Port Arthur; the new works of the Manitoba company at Winnipeg have now taken the industry a further step westward. Its next advance must be British Columbia, a country with unlimited scope for the development of metallurgical industries generally, not the least of which are those of iron and steel. The Vancouver board of trade point out that "with the immense amount of iron used in the province today, and the possible markets of the Northwest, and with iron and coal at the water's edge, it is time such an industry (blast furnaces and rolling mills) was established." A committee on manufactures in Victoria also says that the time appears to be opportune to interest capital in such a venture on Vancouver Island for much the same reason. They also point to the extensive markets of the Western States of the American Union and of the Orient, and to the coming and inevitable railway development of Western Canada as further considerations favoring the establishment of an iron and steel industry in British Columbia.

"Everywhere in Canada where iron is to be found—in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and British Columbia—the demand is for an extension or institution of primary furnaces and the growth round them of works which will make use of the pig iron produced for the manifold purposes unnecessary to enumerate. The enormous domestic demand for iron and steel products will force a greater development of the industry than the not inconsiderable one that is now proceeding. The stimulus the railways are giving the industry is shown by a report of the Toronto Department of Industries. "Canada's extraordinary industrial expansion," it says, "has outrun the progress of some of its most necessary concomitants. Tremendous as are the efforts of the railway companies, they are overwhelmed by the traffic. A basic industry that must grow enormously before it will reach the proportions of the trade that is being increasingly provided for it is iron and steel making. The three transcontinental railways of Canada are maintaining a demand for rails with which Canada's two mills cannot be expected to keep pace. Railway mileage is being largely added to each year. It is true the domestic supply of steel rails can be supplemented by importation, but a duty of £1 8s a ton is a bar to such imports. So that this large protection of a market of such great and lasting capacity should ensure the early construction of new rail mills in Canada"—preferably from Toronto's point of view, in that active city. American capitalists and manufacturers are not blind to the need for further rail mills. By establishing them on Canadian soil they avoid the import duty and also avail themselves of the ample supplies of native ore. Such at least may be inferred from the report that the United States Steel Corporation intend to erect a steel plant on Lake Erie in order to have a share of the domestic trade."

It is not any longer a matter of experiment as to the quality of our Vancouver Island iron ores. The magnetite of Texada has been tried at Irondale, Washington, with very excellent results, and so has the bog iron from Quatsino. We understand that as yet the proper proportions for the mixture of the two ores has not been quite ascertained. Excellent iron is being produced, and there is a ready sale for it, but even better results are anticipated. We await with a good deal of interest Mr. Lindeman's report on the extent of our iron deposits, although it is right to say that in the time, which he has had at his disposal, it would hardly be possible for him to make anything like a full investigation. We have been informed that the operations at Irondale are being watched with great interest by the representative of a large amount of British capital, and that if they prove successful there is likely to be a large investment in a plant on Vancouver Island.

MALIGNING CANADA.

Brief reference was made in these columns yesterday to a suit instituted by Sir Frederick Borden against the Nineteenth Century for reproducing an article from the Eye Opener of Calgary. The article in question does not contain his name, blanks being used where the name occurred in the Calgary sheet. The Nineteenth Century seems, therefore, to have had sufficient malice to attack a public man, but not sufficient courage to do so man-fashion. Of the two publications the Eye Opener is infinitely the more decent in this matter. The allegations made about the Minister of Militia have reference to his personal habits. We do not propose to say anything in his defence. We leave that for himself, his personal friends and his political supporters, but we have a few remarks to make about the Nineteenth Century's article. It was written by Mr. H. Hamilton Fyfe, about whom we have no information. The article throughout is a gross misrepresentation of Canadian public morality and Canadian public life, and the hope is expressed that the "English" element, that is coming into the country, will improve matters somewhat. Almost the first subject referred to in the article is the sale of Kaien Island, and we are told it is "shrewdly suspected" that certain government officials participated in the profits of that transaction. This statement has never been made in this province, where party feeling runs about as high as it does anywhere, and the whole proceedings in the transaction are matter of record on sworn testimony. There was no excuse whatever for Mr. Fyfe to write or for the Nineteenth Century to print such a false insinuation regarding the government of British Columbia. Mr. Fyfe starts in at the old Pacific scandal and comes down the whole record of public life in Canada to the Eye Opener's attack on the Minister of Militia, and manages to fill some half dozen pages with more or less definite charges of corruption and more or less definite insinuations. He is explicit enough, however, in charging that corruption is rampant in all departments of our public life, and he hardly draws the line at the bench, for he intimates that judicial positions are filled without respect to the fitness of the appointees.

We protest against such a grossly unfair and altogether sensational statement of conditions in Canada. We do not deny that there is more or less wrong-doing; we do not claim that our public men possess immaculate characters, we do not say that corruption has no place in our public life. In other words we do not claim that Canadians are not human. But we do claim that the affairs of the country, provincially as well as federally, are administered generally in an honest fashion. Canadian papers and Canadian public men are largely responsible for the prevalence of such a belief as makes an article like that in the Nineteenth Century possible. There is too much of a disposition to impute dishonorable motives to political opponents. We see it here in Victoria. It is almost impossible for any man or any newspaper to take any side on any public question without being charged with dishonorable motives, and what is true of Victoria is even more applicable to the eastern part of the country. Men, who meet each other socially and upon the most friendly terms, will get upon a public platform and accuse each other of all manner of dishonesty in public matters. Mr. Blake was once charged with being unduly sensitive for refusing to shake hands with a man who had questioned his political integrity. But there is another reason why such charges obtain currency. Canada is a vast country in which vast enterprises are being carried on. The population is small. Hence the number of men capable of conducting the affairs of the country and of carrying on the great undertakings necessary for its progress are comparatively few, and there is bound to be a lapping over of those engaged in the work of government and those engaged in the work of development. What is often mistaken for corrupt association is only legitimate and necessary business connection, which might be spread open to the light of day if it were thought advisable. Since the Dominion was formed, the public expenditures have amounted up to hundreds upon hundreds of millions. How many of the public men of Canada have died leaving even a fair competency? How many of them have during their lifetime lived as though they were in receipt of large sums, or indeed of any sums of money, illegally? How many of our public men today give any evidence that they are illicitly profiting by their political positions? We admit that there is much in the manner in which the affairs of the country are administered that calls for reform. We believe that there will be such a reform. But we maintain that public life in Canada is not so rotten as the Nineteenth Century would have the people of the English-speaking world believe. We do not believe that the administration of affairs in Canada is any more corrupt than in any other country, although we freely concede that nowhere are charges of corruption more freely thrown broadcast than in this country. The moral of the matter is two-fold. First, we ought to put down anything like corruption, and, second, we ought to refrain from making groundless charges against our political opponents.

THE CANADIAN SPIRIT.

At the risk of being charged with needlessly endeavoring to stimulate Canadian patriotism we take much pleasure in referring to the speech of Mr. Rudyard Kipling to the Canadian Club of Ottawa, a paragraph from which was printed in these columns yesterday. Mr. Kipling's whole speech was instinct with an appreciation of the great future, which is before Canada, and was a powerful plea to the people of the Dominion to appreciate their responsibilities and develop a spirit in keeping with them. Canada has come of age. We must accept the duties of manhood as well as indulge in its aspirations. How shall the Canadian spirit be built up? The answer is that it can best be done as national spirit has elsewhere been built up. History has valuable lessons for us. We do not often see much in the advice which Collier's gives Canada from week to week, that calls for very hearty appreciation, but in the last issue the suggestion is made that we should seek to develop Canadian unity. The New York paper thinks that the way to do so is to abolish the dual language; but it is too late to talk about that. We must reckon upon a French Canada, and if we reckon upon it wisely, we will find in its existence a source of strength rather than of weakness. As we pointed out the other day, the French-Canadians are distinguished by their patriotism, that is by their love of Canada as their native land. There are doubtless objections to the duality of the language; the slowness with which the two elements of the population assimilate is regrettable, but the presence in the Dominion of millions of people, intensely loyal to the land, is an element of national greatness, which, if rightly employed, may prove of enormous value in the evolution of Canada as a nation.

National sentiment has ever been developed by an appreciation of a sense of national responsibilities. Unusually this is done in the throes of war. Happily Canada has as yet been almost free from an impulse of that nature, but those who are familiar with the story of the war of 1812 will bear us out in saying that it did very much to consolidate the sentiment of British North America, just as the sending of contingents to South Africa stimulated Imperialism all over the Dominion. Nationality is often built upon sacrifices, but in Canada we are not called upon to make great sacrifices, that is none which are spectacular or yield a reward of glory. Ours are the prosaic tasks of peace. Ours is the duty of construction not of destruction. We realize that consolidation is more difficult under such circumstances, but it ought not to be impossible. We are glad that Mr. Kipling spoke as he did. He cannot be accused of any sinister motive; he is free from the charge of vote-catching.

WORDS OF HOPE.

At the meeting of the Victoria Liberal Association held on Monday night, Mr. Templeman said "that he hoped yet to see a proposition looking to the connecting of Victoria with the wheat fields of Alberta by way of the Seymour Narrows, and felt assured that when such was put forward it would receive most careful consideration by the members of the Ottawa government." We regard this with a great deal of interest, and were somewhat surprised upon turning to the editorial columns of our contemporary not to find any censure of the Minister for presuming to suggest such a railway until traffic had developed to warrant it. Time and again during the last year the Colonist has advocated such a railway, and always the Times opposed it. On more than one occasion we said that our contemporary did not reflect the opinions of its proprietor, a statement which was met with cheap sarcasm, in the use of which the Times is such an adept. The people of Victoria are now in a position to judge of the value of the utterances of the Times on any subject whatever. It has persistently opposed the very project which its proprietor promises to assist. We confess to considerable pleasure in reading what Mr. Templeman said. If he is able to give effect to it, the realization of Victoria's long cherished hope cannot be long delayed.

Mr. Lemieux says that he likes Victoria. If he will come here and stay awhile, he will find that Victoria will like him. Many of us may differ in politics from the Postmaster-General, but every one who knows him votes him a jolly good fellow. May he meet with every success in Japan.

The steamship Kaiser Wilhelm Grosse lost her rudder on a trans-Atlantic voyage and made port in safety, though guided by her propellers alone. It was a fine piece of seamanship on the part of her commander. The incident recalls a similar mishap to the Great Eastern on one of her few trans-Atlantic trips. When her rudder was lost, the ship wallowed in the trough of the sea for several days until a jury rudder could be installed. The great German liner went on her way without danger or inconvenience to her passengers.

Emperor William is having an uneasy quarter of an hour with the Socialists, whose newspapers, we are told, "are attacking the monarchial principle with studied fury, mocking, sneering savagely and assailing the exotic conditions flourishing in the hothouse atmosphere of the court, where the sovereign is surrounded with corrupt companions and counsellors, whose private lives taint their judgment." This is remarkable in a land where the machinery for the suppression of lese majeste is supposed to be running with its smoothness and efficiency.

There is every promise that the activity in the building line will continue throughout the entire winter, more permits for the erection of dwellings and houses of various kinds having been issued this month than in September. This is a highly satisfactory condition of things, implying an assurance that there will be no idle period for the carpenters and joiners. Owing to its mild climate, Victoria is fortunately situated in respect to the opportunity it affords for outside work of all kinds to be continued without interruption through out the entire year.

The Lusitania is not to be allowed to rest upon her laurels. Already the engineering experts of the world are scheming how she may be placed in the "back number" class. A special cable from London says: "There is now underway an experiment which if successful will mark a new step in marine propulsion and achieve results by which the Lusitania's speed record will be put into the shade. The keynote of the idea is the application of electricity to turbines and a well known firm of engineers is equipping a vessel with an apparatus designed to make the test both practical and complete. It is expected to develop 30 knots an hour."

The anticipated rush of homeseekers from the prairie provinces to the British Columbia coast cities is on in earnest. This is made clear not only by the crowded condition of the local hotels, but by a statement made by Mr. Samuel Woods, the veteran C.P.R. depot master at Vancouver, who said in an interview on Monday: "From careful observation of the daily arrivals on our trains, I have no hesitation in stating that the population of the coast cities is being increased from outside points at the rate of one hundred a day, or three thousand a month. Passengers—scores of them—daily tell me their hopes, troubles and ambitions, and I find that the great majority come to locate permanently." Every class of labor is represented by the newcomers. They comprise farmers, carpenters, clerks and professional men, and a large proportion are possed of considerable means.

WILL PRESENT MEDAL

W. D. Jones of Vancouver Will Get Reward For Bravery

(From Thursday's Daily)

Capt. James Gaudin, agent of marine, who left for Vancouver last night took with him a medal awarded by the department to W. D. Jones, of Vancouver, for bravery during the rescue of the survivors of the steamer Chehalis which sunk after collision with the steamer Princess Victoria in the narrows at Vancouver, when Jones, in a small boat was instrumental in rescuing several of those thrown in the water. The presentation will be made by R. G. McPherson, M. P.

Our Syrup of Hypophosphites

Is a good tonic for this season of the year. Try it for that run-down condition.

One Dollar per Bottle
which will last a month.

CYRUS H. BOWES
Chemist 98 Government St. Near Yates St.

STORE CLOSED TODAY ALL DAY

Weiler Bros

OPEN FRIDAY AS USUAL 8 a.m.

SOME FAVORITES

IT IS HARD TO PICK THE LEADERS in the new Leather Upholstered Furniture. Every piece is so much above the average—the whole assortment the best ever. You see one piece with which you are delighted and which seems about perfection, but presently your eyes get a glimpse of some other and—well, they are both so good you wish to have them both sent home. Every piece seems to have some special charm—some little grace that makes it a favorite. There is "newness" in each piece, and "goodness," too, in abundance. The hand that fashioned these was a master workman. He used a very liberal sprinkling of "Gray Matter." There is a three-piece set among the new arrivals which has many claims to leadership. Three pieces of CHOICE FURNITURE (Settee, Rocker, and Arm Chair) we should like you to see. It is a favorite with many and you'll like it. Come in tomorrow.

Three-Piece Set in Early English Mission - - $100

This Set consists of Settee, Arm Rocker and Arm Chair, made of very finest quartered oak, in Mission style, and finished in the favorite Early English style of finish. Upholstered in best quality of genuine leather. Excellent value at .. .. .. $100.00 Shown on our fourth floor—take elevator.

ARM CHAIR—Chair from above set, sold separately if you so desire. A big comfortable chair. At, each $30.00
ARM ROCKER—Arm Rocker of above set sold separately if you wish. A handsome rocker style. Price, each $30.00
SETTEE—This stylish piece of furniture sold alone, also. Put it in your hall. Price, each $40.00

A Record-Breaking First-Day Sale of Pottery
Eager Shoppers Take Home Many "Ruskin" Pieces

"Ruskin" Pottery most certainly has "caught on." Yesterday—the first day this delightful ware was placed on sale—saw many pieces disappear, to later decorate the homes of an appreciative people. We were surprised at the unusual first-day demand for this ware. We knew that it was sure to be a quick seller, but didn't anticipate a "rush sale." Of course we are pleased. Pleased, above all, that our efforts to supply superior merchandise are appreciated so generously. We placed quite a large order for this ware, in anticipation of heavy Christmas selling, and we have still a full range to offer you. We advise, however, an early visit, as, judging by yesterday's sales, this shipment won't see Christmas in this store.

A Wide Range of Prices - - 50c up to $6.00

Matchable Sets That Offer Unmatchable Values

The open-stock pattern has almost entirely driven out the made-up dinner-set.

Housekeepers prefer the kind that can be readily enlarged at any time and replenished at will.

Of the enormous business that has sprung up in

Open-Stock Dinnerware

We do the far greater share in this section, because we control the best patterns, and our prices on extra pieces are on the same scale as the complete sets.

Patterns at all prices.

NEW CUTLERY
First Floor Centre

Lamp Art
Lamp Utility

¶ Never in the history of lamp making have art and science been so cleverly combined as at the present time.

¶ The practical considerations have not been sacrificed in striving for the ideal—yet we have lamps in forms and colors that are truly artistic and within the lines of conservatism as to cost.

¶ Perfect combustion renders them odorless—eliminating the only objection to kerosene as a lighting agent.

¶ Our display for the coming winter season is the the largest we have ever shown and by far the best.

¶ Come in and we'll tell you all about them.

After the Fall House Cleaning---What's Needed?

Been getting the house cosy and "ship-shape" for the winter?

Changed things about to get new effects, and there still remains an indefinable something needed here and there to round out the scheme?

Like as not you can solve the mystery right here—we've got such an array of odd and genius-made things to help one in such a contingency.

You never saw a more fascinating lot of treasures for small outlays than the new goods just opened.

Look them over—today.

NEW FIRE SETS
On the Balcony

Folding Card Tables

Deep Mahogany finish, green felt or green leatherette cover, packed in separate carton, at, each $5.50
Golden Oak or Weathered Oak, green felt or green leatherette cover, packed in separate carton, at, each $6.50

Folding Chairs to Match

Deep Mahogany finish, at, each $2.50
Golden or Weathered Oak, at, each $3.00

Distinctive Card Trophies

Our stock offers the widest and most satisfactory array of suitable articles in this town—no matter what the limit is as to price. No reservation attached to the claim as regards to women's prizes—we're strong there, too.

It is quite out of the question to enumerate the things that suggest themselves—a glance through the display any time you have need of such things is best. Yes, looking them over is the only way to get a proper "line" on them.

Consult Our Decorative Department—Free Advice

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