

## The Colonist.

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A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year ..... \$1.00  
Six months ..... .50  
Three months ..... .25  
Sent postpaid to Canada, United Kingdom and United States.

## ONE FINE ASSET.

That Victoria has one fine asset as an attraction for tourists and pleasure seekers was demonstrated Friday when on the occasion of the Good Friday holiday the departure of the E. & N. morning train was delayed for over an hour, so great was the crowd of passengers, until more coach accommodation could be arranged for. The Mecca for the travelers, who were equipped in nearly every instance with rod and reel, were the splendid fishing grounds up the line. In a few hours they would be transported to scenes of sylvan beauty, far from the maddening crowd of the city, and given opportunity to whip streams and lakes in pursuit of the seductive trout at points which cannot be equaled for their sport-giving qualities anywhere on the continent of America so adjacent to a city the size of Victoria. This close proximity of fine hunting and fishing grounds is something which is not adequately appreciated by the average Victorian. It requires no prophetic eye to note that when the big C. P. R. tourist hotel is in operation, Vancouver Island, with its numerous lake and mountain retreats, where fish and game abound, will be thronged at almost all seasons of the year with ardent sportsmen, attracted hither from all quarters of the globe. Victoria has an asset in this feature of the island's attractions, the importance and value of which is not properly estimated. The newly formed "Advancement Club" will find in the island's attractions for the sportsman and pleasure-seeker a theme upon which it would be profitable to dwell at a very considerable extent in all attempts to "boost Victoria."

## WAR CLOUDS AGAIN.

A German official announcement that the government is unable to recommend a Russian loan to the German market is exciting attention in all the European capitals. There is widespread opinion, despite an official intimation that no political consideration is involved, that Germany's refusal is intended as a snub in return for Russia's failure to support Germany at the Algiers conference. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Telegraph depicts the situation of which the German refusal is an indication in quite an alarming manner. He says: "Clouds are again fast gathering over Europe. The fair weather which the Algiers conference was expected to bring about is further off than before, for the cause of restlessness, which hindered normal tranquility until then, not only continues operative, but has increased in intensity, and now two great empires are looking askant at each other. Germany, resolved to make herself heard, considered and felt by all nations, is deliberately upsetting Europe's political arrangement, with results which may become much graver and far-reaching than is generally anticipated. Every power which contributed to isolate Germany at Algiers has been or is being punished more or less." Her punishment of Russia, according to the correspondent, is this sudden and insidious change of attitude. The correspondent dwells at great length upon Germany's disabbling act in refusing to recommend a Russian loan. The Berlin correspondent of the Tribune records the satisfaction of the German Russophobes at the refusal, and their tendency to regard it as an international snub, but other correspondents at Paris and Berlin represent the German attitude as being due to Germany's own serious need of money, both for the empire and Prussia, the latter alone wanting \$150,000,000. Germany's contribution to the Russian issue was to have been nearly equivalent to this sum. The total issue will now be reduced by that amount and the operation confined to Paris, London, New York, Brussels and Amsterdam.

## THE MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE.

Discussing a statement attributed to Mr. Henniker Heaton, M. P., in which he proposes a telephone for every house at the cost of a shilling a week, the Montreal Gazette says there is no prospect of realizing this dream and states that a telephone service at \$15 a year is a commercial impossibility, though it meets acceptance among those who do not know any better, and among those who believe that government control of telegraphs and telephones has been a success in Great Britain. It is true, says the Gazette, that they carefully omit any reference to the efficiency of the service supplied. As a matter of fact, but if it did not have the national treasury behind it, it would have been hopelessly bankrupt long ago. It is, indeed, almost as striking an example of the inability of governments to conduct a business enterprise as the Intercolonial railway. A return made to parliament

the other day and covering the operations of the post office telegraphs, which includes telephones, supplies all the proof necessary for this assertion. According to this return the earnings of the department for the year ending March 31st, 1905, were \$10,078,952. To earn this necessitated an expenditure for operation alone of \$23,553,842, a deficit of \$4,474,890. In other words to earn a dollar the British telegraph and telephone system spent \$1.24. If the amount of the interest charge on the capital invested in the department be added, the cost of earning a dollar of revenue would be increased to \$1.38. And if a reasonable allowance be made for depreciation, the cost of earning a dollar would be easily \$1.50. This condition of affairs is absolutely startling. Yet it is being held up to us by those who do not know any better as ideal.

There are those, however, who while cognizant of the actual state of affairs, excuse it by claiming that the rates charged are so much lower than those in effect in this country. So far as the telephone service goes there is no truth in this statement. The man in London, for instance, must pay the post office 45 pence per year for his telephone and a penny for each call. If the person he was in communication with were more than two miles away he pays 2d. For an unlimited service he has to pay £17 per annum. Toll line charges appear low, but are deceptive. Thus, for a five-minute conversation with a person a subscriber to the National Telephone company, residing 120 miles away, the charge would be 3s. 3d. about 80 cents. The same conversation with Ottawa would cost a Montreal man 80 cents. The same thing is true of the telegraph charges. The rate is 6d. for the first twelve words, and a half-penny for each subsequent word. Out of these 12 words must come the address of the receiver, and unless a person is in business and has a registered address, this means that most of the 6d. goes for what the Canadian company sends free of charge. Thus the name and address of the receiver, and the name of the sender must easily take up the whole of the twelve words allotted, leaving the receiver to pay a cent a word for the actual message, and bringing the total cost up to just about what a Canadian company would charge. As a matter of fact considering the density of the population and the comparatively short distances, the British telegraph charges should only be half of those charged in Canada, for the telegraph, unlike the telephone, shows decreases in operating expenses as the volume of business increases. A Canadian charge of double the British charge can be very easily justified when the higher cost of labor, equipment, capital and taxation is taken into consideration.

But this aspect of the situation is really unimportant. What signifies it that the British government is conducting at a cost of \$150 for every dollar's worth of revenue it receives from them, two public utilities which should be self-supporting.

## FRENCH AND GERMAN ARMIES.

Aprons of "certain boasts in the French press," the semi-official Continental Correspondence (Berlin) takes occasion to call attention to the German army's points of superiority. The year-books put the French military establishment in time of peace at 613,000 men against Germany's 594,000. The "active army and reserves" of Germany, however, foot up to 2,200,000, against France's 1,625,000. The Germans spend more money on the army than the French do, says The Correspondence, and hence the German soldier is less often in the hospital and the army is more efficient. The proportion of combatants and non-combatants in these armies, too, stands in favor of Germany, and many other points are cited in which the German soldier may be considered superior, we are told, to his Gallic counterpart. Indeed, it is almost amusing to see the manner in which the fighting forces of the republic, like children standing back to back, and sometimes even rising on tip-toe to compare their heights. Of the average expenditures in France and Germany we read: "The German expenditure on the army of late years has been approximately \$40,000,000 more than the French. This extra expenditure is to be attributed not only to the greater number of men, but also to the more careful provision made for each individual. Germany spends in feeding, clothing and providing for the health of each soldier more than \$70, while France spends only a little over \$55. The extra cost for Germany is money well spent, for there are only a quarter as many invalids among German soldiers during their military service as among French. The better health of the German soldier is naturally of the utmost importance in case of war, because healthy men will be able to endure great hardships. The army too will be in better working condition, when composed of strong and healthy men."

In numbers also the Germans are practically superior to the French, we are informed, in infantry, cavalry and artillery. Thus: "While the French army in time of war would be subject to heavy losses on account of sickness, it is also to be noticed that whereas in the French army there is one non-combatant to every 19 combatants, the proportion in Germany is only 1 to 27. This would naturally tend to increase again the numerical superiority of the German army in the field."

"With regard also to the peace strength of men, the French are behind the Germans in all arms of the service. In

the infantry and the cavalry the Germans are superior to the French by a tenth each, in the artillery by two and a half tenths and in the engineer troops by as many as three and a half tenths. Among some statistics and other details relating to the French army, recently published by General Langlois, of the chief military council of France, the assertion was made that the quality of the French artillery service was superior to that of the German. This the Continental Correspondence denies, and adds that the German army is better off than the French. To quote: "The French are fond of asserting that in the important arm of artillery they have a qualitative superiority, because they have better guns at their disposal. Whether this is a fact or not can not be discussed here, but it may be pointed out that in 1896 the Austrians had a much better cannon, and in 1870 the French a better rifle than the Prussians or the Germans. But in spite of that the Austrians and the French were both defeated. It was especially evident with the latter that the better quality of the weapon is of no avail when the training is deficient. In this respect, however, the German artillery should be superior to the French, just as in 1870 the German infantry was better trained in marksmanship and fire discipline."

"A word in conclusion on the officers of the two armies. The German officers are subject to strict discipline, for it is impressed on the youngest officer that he who would command must first learn to obey. In France quite recently some officers had to be punished on account of disobedience to commands from superiors. This is a scandal quite impossible in Germany."

## A BRITISH ESTIMATE OF A CANADIAN POET.

Not long ago the Colonist contained an editorial review of the published poems of William Wilfred Campbell in a collected form. Its estimate of his poetical genius was a high one, and we are glad to note that it has been backed up by so good an authority as the London Standard. In fact, the opinions of the Standard are much more laudatory of Mr. Campbell's work than were those which the Colonist expressed. In its issue of March 2 it says:

Wilfred Campbell is a name known to far too few English readers of poetry. It is the name of a Canadian poet, a real poet, the most stirring of whose songs are inspired by as fine a spirit of Imperialism, as patriotic a fervor, as any writer within the confines of the Empire has shown us. Messrs. Fleming H. Revell Company have now published his collected poems, of which we should like to see an authentic English edition. It is a general attention in this country. Mr. Campbell's message is not for Canada alone, deep-rooted as is his devotion to the splendid land that gave him birth; it is a message to British men and women the world over, from Ottawa to Delhi, from Vancouver to the Cape. It has the fire and zest in it which belong to the highest kind of young life, born of the early days of great nations. Chaste as Galahad, but throbbing with the splendid virility of youth, the soaring idealism of the ardent patriot, it is a message of which we have a need here in the ancient center of a world-wide dominion. These songs come from the banks of the Ottawa River; they bring a gift to London, they merit a glad hearing in England.

New York holds a golden door open to Canadian writers, with promises of an audience seventy million strong, and favors in proportion. Few can resist the invitation. Some who have accepted it have besought Wilfred Campbell to follow them, and even to forewarn in his writings the inspiration of Imperialism, on commercial grounds. Every man to his taste and conscience. This poet has another way, and he adheres to it steadfastly, bidding quietly in his Canadian home, and choosing to follow the dictates of his heart, though they should never fill his purse. British readers the world over should see to it that the Canadian poet does not suffer for his loyalty. They as well as he will be the gainers.

But the poet himself would probably not thank the present reviewer (to whom his collected work comes as something of a revelation) for devoting space to his personality. The work is the thing, and in this book of collected poems we have it in rare quality and unstinted measure. The volume of it, as well as the fine inspiration of this work, has astonished the critics on the other side of the Atlantic and delighted a comparatively few upon this side who have learned to know it. Mr. Andrew Carnegie has purchased five hundred copies of the work, a compliment which means far more than mere compliment. It is, indeed, a rare compliment to Canada to have such a tribute to her writers from such a source of undoubted authority, and what is a compliment and honor to Canada is a still greater honor to the poet himself.

## THE TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

When the Tourist Association was established in 1901, the following were the objects that were set forth and decided upon: A thorough canvas of the city for subscriptions; The preparation of advertising matter covering the attractions of the city and the island; The establishment of a bureau of in-

## formation;

The encouragement of lines of buses to the different places of resort.

The advertising of fishing at points easily reached, and the restocking of lakes and rivers for fishing purposes; The arranging of home weeks for British Columbians on the lines carried out in Eastern Canada;

The holding of conventions in the city of the various organizations;

The advertising of our registered temperatures in eastern points;

To secure regular band concerts during the summer months;

To agitate for cleaner streets and better roads;

To induce citizens to make their surroundings more attractive.

To induce hotelkeepers and others in the business to cater to the tourist trade;

To secure the insertion in eastern publications of matter in relation to the city and the island;

To secure the co-operation of people everywhere throughout the city and the island with reference to the general objects set forth in the foregoing.

The foregoing is a pretty general statement of the objects of the Tourist association and a pretty good statement of everything that is at present proposed. Interest in the subject has been revived by the agitation for a 100,000 club. On Friday morning we intimated the lines which should be adopted in supplementing the work at present so successfully carried on by the Tourist association.

The first of these is the encouragement of home industry. We are all of us inclined to buy things outside of the city on the score of cost. That is to say, if we can buy a thing cheaper abroad than at home we will do it. As a matter of fact we will pay for foreign things in preference to home-made articles every time. We have an idea that American hams, for instance are better than Victoria hams. We don't know quite why that is the case but it is an impression nevertheless. There is an absolute prejudice against home-made things. We forget that every dollar spent in industry in Victoria is a dollar which has its ramifications in a hundred ways in benefiting the city. The 100,000 club has for its purpose the creation of a settlement in favor of buying what we can in Victoria other things being equal—in fact favoring the home industry wherever it is possible.

Now, we come to the consideration of new industries. The special duty of the reorganized club will be to ascertain in what lines industry can be expanded. We are simply going to suggest one industry, in which we believe there is great possibility, viz. the woolen industry. There is a market in British Columbia for certain lines of coarse woollens, such as blankets, Mackinaw, woolen shirts, etc. When Turner, Beeton & Co. started out in the manufacturing of overalls and shirts they had all kinds of opposition to face. But they have made it a success, because there is a legitimate opening for the goods they manufacture. We believe that in coarse woollen goods there is a similar opening. We can import from Australia cheap wool and mix it with the home-grown product.

The question of the improvement of the city is one that may reasonably be considered. We believe that it is possible by the use of modern methods to greatly improve the facilities we have in regard to streets. We believe that it is possible to inaugurate a system of public improvements that will give us good streets at a minimum of cost. This is a matter which the 100,000 club can consider carefully.

We have on previous occasions advocated making Victoria an educational centre. It does not mean a university in this city, so much as the building up of schools after the model of Eton and Harrow. We shall never have the British Columbia university in this city, but we can have private schools that will be a great deal more to us.

In a word, it is possible to make Victoria such a centre of business and educational activity that will make it the principal place on the Pacific coast.

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## REVIVAL OF WOODEN PAVEMENT

Ratepayers of (Victoria) who have now the question of street improvement before them will be much interested in an article appearing in the Literary Digest respecting "The Revival of Wooden Pavement."

In the old American pavements, we are told in The Municipal Journal and Engineer (New York), the wooden blocks were laid on a plank foundation, with tar or paving cement between the joints. As they were not made waterproof or treated to prevent decay, they either swelled or else the wood bled off at the edges and became soft and uneven. Under these circumstances the cobblestones, which took the place of these pavements, were regarded as an improvement. The writer goes on: "The modern wood pavement is entirely different. The cross-sectioned blocks, which are now being laid in New York, are thoroughly impregnated with a mixture of creosote and resin, . . . and nothing but heart long-leaf pine is employed. The specification provides that after treatment, the blocks shall show such waterproof qualities that after being dried in the oven at a temperature of 100 degrees for a period of twenty-four hours, weighed, and then immersed in clear water for a period of twenty hours and weighed, the gain in weight shall not be greater than three per cent."

This is regarded as demonstrating the value of the resin in the mixture, its purpose being to keep water out of the block and prevent the washing out of the preservative, creosote. The foundation of the wooden pavement calls for four and one half inches of Portland-cement concrete, over which is spread a half-inch bed of cement mortar, struck to a true surface exactly parallel to the finished surface of the pavement. Wood blocks, usually eight inches long by four inches wide and three and one-half inches deep, are bedded in this cement with the grain vertical. Sand is then brushed over the street and left for a few days to be ground into the surface of the blocks by traffic, also filling up the joints. Treated in this way, the blocks offer much resistance to the effects of traffic, the wear upon the end grain of the wood being trifling as compared with what happens to flat-laid timber."

The first street in the United States to be paved in this way, we are told, was Tremont street, Boston, in the year 1900. Since 1902 measurements show a depression of only about one-eighth of an inch, most of which, it is claimed, is due to compression, and not to wear. The advocates of the new wood pavement believe that it excels in durability, sanitary and antiseptic qualities, the facility with which it can be cleaned and repaired, its non-slipping surface, and its relative freedom from noise. The writer concludes: "Vehicles pass over this smooth surface without any rattle or bang; blows from horses' hoofs, instead of making a sharp metallic sound, cause only dull hollow thuds as on a dirt road. In fact, the silence of this pavement is among the leading claims made in its behalf. Broadway, New York city, is now to be laid with the Battery to Vesey street, a length of 2,870 feet."

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FOR SALE—Eggs for hatching from pure bred stock, imported breeds of White Minorcas, \$2.50, and Black Spanish, \$2. a setting. R. H. Robertson, Cumberland, B. C. J408

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Commencing at a post at R. Tomlinson's pre-emption, marked S. B. S. W. corner, thence North 40 chains, thence East 40 chains, thence South 10 chains to right bank of Skeena River, thence by bank of river to point of commencement, containing 80 acres more or less.

(Signed) SAMUEL BRIGHT, Measurist, B. C. January 9, 1906.

(From Friday's Big Silver Find.—A recovery of silver is said to have been made recently on Oliver, the northwestern coast, made about 1,200 ounces.

Rivers Inlet Cannery equipment for a new Dawson-Buttimer cannery, was taken north to Otter. The company has Fraser River cannery, whole equipment north.

Far North Mail.—given by the post office for a mail which James for Queen on or about the 10th inst. and that the mail was despatched from Queen's last proximo with mails for Fort St. James, Fort Lejac, Fort Graham, and points in the New Caledonia.

To Prevent Glanders.—those interested in connection of glanders and measures to be adopted to prevent the disease, Dr. Rutherford, veterinary officer for the Dominion, and in view of the fact that the disease is spreading from glanders at the present time, the full court adjourned yesterday the full court adjourned in this city on April 11th. An order was obtained from Mrs. Joan Dunsmuir, the Hopper vs. Dunsmuir, an appeal to the privy council.

Real Estate Activity.—in Victoria real estate at the Colonist in its issue continues to be active at the present time for Messrs. Grant & Conyeff effected the purchase of two lots on Belmont, Marling of Regina, who to make his permanent transfer of the residence of Dr. George Duncan, Dr. O. M. Jones is anxious to purchase a four-story building at situated.

Inquest Again Adjourned.—The inquest on the death of the infant child, Mrs. Duval, of North, which died after Stedman powder had been administered, resumed, but nothing was done at the adjournment. Dr. Fagan, who had been requested to attend by Dr. Fagan, had been who was at that time preparing for Ottawa and had been the result of the analysis ready as soon as the do from the East. He had general another adjournment. The inquest was adjourned 14th.

Hazard Found Guilty.—who came to Victoria at the time of the Vale seeking the body of his wife, and who in company with girls, Lulu and Mabel, had been charged with assault, reduced to run away from them that they would not be arrested. Evidence was given at the preliminary months ago. Mabel, a sister a few years older than the Roy Hazard, a son of the wife also lost in the wreck. It was charged by the present case Hazard was attempting a rescue of his father, to land girls out of the count, their testimony against him, they boarded the Valencia on its voyage. The of the girls and that of were recovered.

New Westminster's G. a meeting of the New board of trade held on Wednesday, the 12th inst. that city and Victoria was and it was decided to call of the Victoria board of commerce as Victoria merchants