

PICKED UP AT RANDOM.

SPEAKING of the so-called disturbing speech which the British Prime Minister lately delivered, Mr. John J. Macdonald, the well-known contractor and President of the Temiscouata Railway Company, who has just returned from a trip to Great Britain and the continent, gave a Toronto Empire reporter a most interesting reminiscence of his social relations with Canada's lamented Premier, Sir John Macdonald. "Some three years before the late Premier's death I was out boating with him at Riviere du Loup, and the conversation turned upon Great Britain's trade policy. Sir John, who was in constant communication with the party leader in England, made this remark: 'England will in the near future adopt to a certain extent a protective policy. It will not come in my time, but the Conservative leaders of Great Britain will sooner or later advocate the change.' The old man's words were prophetic, were they not?" concluded Mr. Macdonald, who repeated Sir John's closing remark: "If Canada will have patience and stick to the British flag, she will become the first nation on the American continent."

Wealthy ladies who assemble at evening parties and soirees in magnificent costumes covered with fine pearls know little or absolutely nothing, perhaps, about the many dangers encountered in gathering these pearls from the sea, remarked J. G. Danvers, of London, Eng., recently. "I was on a trip along the coast of Zanzibar, Africa, a year ago, when I learned that sea pearl fishing is not a trade for men of weak hearts to follow. The pearls are gathered at the bottom of the sea by divers.

"The reason a man with a weak heart is not fit for the work is because the stopped breath and the pressure of 90 feet of sea water, with its weight of 62 pounds to the cubic foot, will bring on palpitation of the heart and burst the weaker vessels, causing distressing and often dangerous hemorrhages. But the divers are all stalwart savages, in such rugged health that the physical danger never occurs to them. Two dangers constantly menace the divers. Wherever the oyster grows there also thrives the giant tridachna, a monstrous

bivalve whose shell is from four to six feet in length, firmly anchored to the bottom.

"It lies with its scalloped shells yawning a foot or more apart. Immediately anything touches it the shells snap together, and once these large shells are closed not a dozen men out of water could get them apart, far less the single diver, fifteen fathoms deep, who may have dropped into the capacious mouth or may carelessly have put his hand within its shells while groping in the gloom.

"If such a fate befall a diver there is only one thing for him to do, and that is to amputate himself from the enormous mollusk and rise to the surface, fainting, bloody and mangled. The savages will fight anything from a lion to a python on land, but they haven't the courage to run against a bivalve under ninety feet of water and stand the chance of those yawning shells closing in on an arm or a leg and crushing the bones to splinters.

"If the monstrous mollusk should close down and catch the diver's head, of course he would never know what killed him. His head would be mashed to a pulp, and it would go off as if severed by a guillotine. I saw only one native who had been caught by the mollusk. It had closed down on his left hand and the only thing he could do, as the monster held him, was to cut off the left arm at the elbow."

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PORT ANGELES—50 acres, \$30 per acre, short distance from town.

TWO LOTS—Victoria West, with two houses 120 feet x 130, corner, all fenced, \$4000.

MONTREAL ST., James Bay—Lot on front, 104 feet, good house, \$2600.

CRAIGFLOWER ROAD—Lot 120x80, small, new house, \$700, corner lot.

SOOKE DISTRICT—117 acres on the water front, close to railway terminus, \$1,200.

CHATHAM ST.—One lot and 7-room house, \$1700. \$500 or \$750 cash, balance in 2 years.

SOUTH TURNER ST., James Bay, next street to one to water, \$1,300.

FRONT ST., Esquimalt Road—12 to 14 trees, \$500.

ESQUIMALT ROAD—Lot 20, by switch of Tram Co's Line, \$700.

JAMES BAY—Lot and two houses, renting at \$25 per month, \$2,800.

One 13-room house, 2 acres of land, all fenced and cultivated, highest part of the city and overlooking everybody, \$13,000.

OAK BAY, on the water side—7-room house and beautifully situated for bathing facilities, this is an absolute bargain, \$1,650.

Four and a half acres in Saanich District for \$13 per month without interest; also farm of 76 acres on Saanich Road.

ROCK BAY—Two beautiful lots, very suitable for a garden.

EDMONTON ROAD—Lot 18, Block 70, good garden soil, \$425.

Hotel to lease, doing a good business, with four acres of land, \$1,700.

Eighty acres of land, all of first-class quality, Saanich, 30 acres absolutely clear and 50 acres nearly so, facing salt water, \$6,500.

EARL STREET—Two 1-acre lots, \$800 each, partly fenced, well situated. Also one acre of land with house and improvements—\$3,200. Terms easy.

BELMOT AVENUE—One lot, beautifully situated, \$600; also one lot, \$550.

FERNWOOD ROAD and Johnson Street—A fine 3-story dwelling containing 8 rooms, closets, hot and cold water, \$3,600.

VICTORIA WEST—A new 5-roomed house on front street, fine, airy situation, \$1,200.

FAIRFIELD ESTATE—Dwelling house, seven rooms, rented at \$14 per month, \$1,300.

LAKE DISTRICT—6 acres partly cleared, situated near tram line, \$2,100.

CONSTANCE COVE—About one acre of land fronting on salt water, \$2,500. \$500 cash.

BEACON HILL—Beautiful house and lot, every convenience, 8 rooms, \$4,200.

PINE ST., Victoria West—Very good lot cleared, \$525.

ALBERNI, B. C.—152 acres of beautiful land, barn, stables and everything complete, capable of being made into a first class home for right party, \$3,200.

POWDERLEY AVENUE—Lot 21 113x118x120, \$525.

VICTORIA WEST—One house to sell, 5-rooms, bath and pantry, hot and cold water laid on all over the house, \$1,500 very easy terms. Two houses to let, \$12 and \$16 per month, respectively.

PINE ST., Victoria West.—Lot 60x150, fenced, cleared, small house (new), water laid on, \$1,200. Very easy terms.

OAK BAY AVENUE—2 lots 60x120, \$500 each.

ALFRED STREET—One lot, 30x175, \$175.

OAK BAY, Water Front—Large lot, 60 feet front on road and about 120 feet on water, \$1,000.

CADBORO BAY ROAD—Lot, 40x120, \$450.

CADBORO BAY ROAD—Two 7-room houses very easy terms, \$4,200.

CHAMBERS ST., cor. North Park St.—3 lots, \$2,650.

CHATHAM ST., cor. Stanley Avenue—Two beautiful lots, 108x120, \$2,000.

VICTORIA WEST, Powderley Avenue—A fine lot, 60x120, \$325. \$75 cash.

ESQUIMALT DISTRICT—100 acres excellent timber, all good land, no rock, adjoining Public School, \$3,000.

METCHOSIN DISTRICT—102 acres land, 4 acres cleared, 40 acres slashed, two log houses, two rooms each, \$30 per acre.

House of 5 rooms, bath and pantry, \$1,400. \$18 per month.

No WILD CAT schemes, but solid bargains.