

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1896.

AN OLD LIBERAL'S VIEW.

Senator Scott, who is one of the oldest and the staunchest of Canadian Liberals now living, has written a letter to the Toronto Globe in which he proves with the greatest clearness that the course which the Government is now pursuing with respect to the Manitoba school question is no invasion of Provincial rights. Here is the first paragraph of the learned Senator's letter:

The Globe seeks to justify its course on the Manitoba school question on the ground that Federal action would be an interference with Provincial rights. If, however, the constitution of Manitoba does not give its Legislature the exclusive power of making laws in relation to education, it cannot be truthfully contended that Federal action is any interference with Provincial rights. The restoration of those privileges of the minority that were guaranteed under the constitution. The Privy Council in its recent judgment deals with that aspect of the case in the following extract: "Before leaving this part of the case it may be well to notice the argument urged by the respondent, that the construction which their Lordships have put upon the second and third sub-sections of section 22 of the Manitoba Act is inconsistent with the power conferred upon the Legislature of the Province to 'exclusively make laws in relation to education.' The argument is fallacious. The power conferred is not absolute, but limited. It is exercisable only 'subject and according to the following provisions.' The sub-sections which follow, therefore, whatever be their true construction, define the conditions under which alone the Provincial Legislature may legislate in relation to education, and indicate the limitations imposed on and the exceptions from their power of exclusive legislation."

Mr. Scott was a member of the Dominion Senate in 1870 when the Manitoba Act, which is the constitution of that Province, was passing through Parliament. He, in his letter, quotes part of the debate on the subject to show that it was the intention of the men who enacted the law to limit the jurisdiction of the Province on education in the direction of preserving to the minority any rights in that regard it may have enjoyed and exercised. The debate was on an amendment moved by Mr. Oliver, "raising the question of granting the minority the right to establish separate schools." The amendment was lost. The division list is given in the letter, on which the writer remarks: "It will be observed that excluding the votes of Catholic members there was a clear majority of Protestants supporting the proposal to grant the minority the right to establish separate schools; it cannot therefore be urged that it was by Quebec votes that Manitoba's educational powers were restricted. Did those members, in supporting the rights of the minority, intend the concession to be only a sham to be set aside and violated when it suited a purpose?"

This very interesting letter also contains an extract from a letter written by Sir John Macdonald to a member of the Manitoba Legislature in 1888, when the new Education law abolishing separate schools was before the Legislative Assembly of that Province. The letter explains itself. Here it is:

You ask me for advice as to the course you should take upon the vexed question of separate schools in your province. There is, it seems to me, but one course open to you. By the Manitoba act, the provisions of the B.N.A. act (sec. 93) respecting laws passed for the protection of the rights of educational matters are made applicable to Manitoba, and cannot be changed; for, by the Imperial act confirming the establishment of the new Provinces, 34 and 35 Vic., ch. 28, sec. 5, it is provided that the act shall be competent for the Parliament of Canada to alter the provisions of the Manitoba act so far as it relates to the Province of Manitoba. Obviously, therefore, the separate school system in Manitoba is beyond the reach of the Legislature or of the Dominion Parliament.

From this it is seen that Sir John Macdonald, under whose administration the Manitoba Act was enacted, was of opinion that the rights of the minority in Manitoba were secured by the constitution of the Province, and there can be no question, we think, that it was the intention of the Government of the day and of the leading men in Parliament of both parties that they should be so secured. Senator Scott's letter is a most valuable contribution to the Manitoba School controversy.

Senator Scott was Secretary of State in the Mackenzie administration, during which he was the Leader of the Senate; and since 1878 he has been the Leader of the Opposition in that body. It was he who introduced into Parliament the Canada Temperance Act, which has from the first been generally known as the "Scott Act."

"RECALCITRANTS."

The Times dubs Messrs. Earle and Prior "recalcitrants," and says that our method of defending them is "feeble and will hardly suffice." Those gentlemen are not recalcitrants, and they need no defence. What they did and said at the Board of Trade meeting was not in any sense wrong; on the contrary, it was perfectly right. They were not kicking against anything. They, like the great majority of those present, were opposed to a foolish and imprudent way of attempting to further what all believed to be a good enterprise. It is the Times which is "feeble" when it attempts for mere election purposes to create the impression that Messrs. Earle and Prior are hostile to the British Pacific. Everyone who is acquainted with the gentlemen knows that this is not the case; and all who saw them at the Board of Trade meeting and heard what they said—men whose words were determined to misrepresent them—know perfectly well that they evinced as strong a desire for the success of the project as any member who spoke on the subject.

The Times might as well try to convince men whose eyesight is good that black is white as to attempt to make the members of

the Board of Trade who attended that meeting believe that Messrs. Earle and Prior showed, by word or gesture, that they are unfriendly to the British Pacific. The Times' attempt to injure the political prospects of those gentlemen by misrepresenting what they said at that meeting is as impudent and as dishonest a piece of political trickery as was ever perpetrated.

NOT OMNISCIENT.

The organ of the Opposition is generally most positive on subjects about which it cannot possibly know anything. It said on Wednesday: "If Mr. Stewart has formed any other conclusion (than that Mr. Fitzsimmons was guilty of gross misconduct) it was only through pressure from superior." What can the Times know about the working of the mind of the Inspector of Prisons? What does it know about the amount and the kind of evidence that are sufficient to lead him to arrive at a conclusion on the subject? What can the Times know about the influence to which Mr. Stewart was exposed or his susceptibility to be influenced? How does the Times know whether or not any influence at all was brought to bear upon that official in the Fitzsimmons case? Has the Times any idea of the ridiculous position in which it places itself when it virtually claims to possess the attribute of omniscience? The Times is not omniscient. It is, in fact, very stupid and exceedingly short-sighted. The most it can do and the best it can do in such cases is to guess, and the chances are a hundred to one that its guesses are the very opposite of the truth.

Another trick of our ingenuous contemporary is to pronounce judgment before trial. It coolly takes for granted that questions asked in the House of Commons will not bring out the information necessary to enable those interested in the case to arrive at conclusions fair to all parties concerned. It professes to fear that some of "the details" are so well hidden that no question in the House will reach them. This trick of prejudging the mind of the inquirer is the reverse of honest. It shows pretty clearly that those who resort to it fear that an impartial inquiry will have a result very opposite of that to which they have arrived without inquiry.

AN EDITOR'S DIVERSION.

The other day the Statistic News-Advertiser went into figures on the debt—public and private—of the Province, and arrived at a conclusion that the total sum was somewhere about \$22,000,000. Of course, this was merely an innocent calculation for the amusement of the editor in a dull moment, and had no reference to politics at all. Neither did it enter his mind that the Finance Minister was in England for the purpose of floating a loan; and that statements like these, made by guess work, but put down as gospel truth, would assist materially in raising (?) the credit of the Province. At least after calling the attention of the editor of the paper in question to it, we are gravely so informed. The fact that other papers in the Province did comment on it, and that it is that class of matter which outside papers eagerly seize upon, is proof that whether intended or not it could serve no good purpose, more especially at the present time. It was not a fair statement, because it was one-sided; it is no way authentic, because it was arrived at by guessing. If, as the editor now assures us, it was merely a statistical effort and nothing more, why give the liabilities without the assets? Scott's statistical employment as that is as senseless as it is unfair.

We called attention to this fact and asked the News-Advertiser to devote a little time to footing up the credit side of the column, because a statement of debts means nothing without a statement of assets. We further pointed out that the News-Advertiser flew to the defence of the C. P. R. Co. when its annual statement was attacked and held up hard times as a sufficient excuse for falling revenue, lack of dividend and all the rest of it. We wondered, why cause which have common effects as applied to governments, corporations and private individuals, should not be ample justification for deficits in one case as well as another. The Dominion Government will this year suffer a large deficit. The Speech from the Throne refers to the severe depression existing in Canada as elsewhere. The News-Advertiser will not take issue and condemn the Dominion Government on that score. The editor is therefore not honest with himself or his readers.

In Wednesday's issue it replies to the Colonist in a two column editorial, the main feature of which is the skillful avoidance of the issues raised by us. As usual, the News-Advertiser, when unable to meet square issues squarely put, has resort to profuse verbiage. Battered down, what it says is that there is no comparison between the Province requiring more money on account of falling revenue, the result of depression, and the failure of the C. P. R. to pay dividends from a similar cause. It does not say why. Its statement is simply "comparison is impossible," which is very much like a woman's "because."

The editor of the News-Advertiser, though he readily enough gave us a statement of our liabilities—private and public—has failed to meet our invitation to present a statement of our assets, which he must know to be in a position to do. He has failed to do this in the face of the fact that which it is his object to show. He "hopes" "on an early occasion" to deal with the matter, but we very much suspect that, if he refers to it at all, his attempt will be characteristically wordy and evasive.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder

Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco.

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THE SESSION'S WORK.

The amount of work which the Government have put out for Parliament during the present session is very far from being inconsiderable. The questions which it will have to consider are of great moment, and the measures that are to be deliberated upon and passed are of scarcely less importance.

The question of preferential trade with the sister colonies is one which ought to be handled with care and intelligence. The subject which it opens up is one of the greatest importance to the whole empire. Are the Mother Country and the colonies hereafter to consider themselves in matters of trade and commerce as one large family having many and great interests in common, or are they to continue to treat each other in such matters as strangers or new rivals? Will the treaties between the colonies which are alluded to in the Speech be but the prelude to a comprehensive and a most beneficial trade arrangement between the different parts of the whole Empire? We believe that they will. Events and opinions have of late years been tending in that direction, and it is to be hoped that the deliberations of the Parliament of the Dominion will show that the tendency as far as this country is concerned is pronounced, and will give a fresh stimulus to the movement towards a closer union.

We do not anticipate that the debate on the Manitoba School Question will be sharp enough to be interesting. The course that the Government have pursued with regard to it has been so prudent and so closely in conformity with the requirements of the constitution that we do not expect any man of standing in the Opposition—Mr. McCarthy of course excepted—will have much to say in the way of adverse criticism of what has been done or left undone. We see that no legislation on the subject is promised. This is what might have been expected. The matter has been submitted to the Legislature of Manitoba, and it would be unjust to it to assume that it would not deal with that very important question fairly and to the satisfaction of all concerned. It is not until the Manitoba Legislature has had the opportunity to redress any grievance that may exist that the case of the dissatisfied minority can come before the Parliament of the Dominion.

The conditions of Union with Newfoundland will no doubt be favorably considered by Parliament. It is not known how far the negotiations have proceeded, but it is more than likely that a basis of union has been agreed upon. Parliament will, of course, deal with this question in a liberal spirit and will take care to convince the Newfoundlanders that they will be cordially welcomed and generously treated if they elect to join the Dominion on reasonable terms.

If Parliament before the prorogation enacts a good workable Involuntary Law and does nothing else in the way of legislation the session will be very far indeed from being a barren one; but it is expected that it will do much more than this.

PEACE RESTORED.

There is peace at last between China and Japan. The Chinese have purchased peace at a very dear rate. They are in the first place terribly humiliated. For a great nation like China, having almost unbounded resources, to suffer itself to be beaten almost without resistance by a much weaker and a far less wealthy power is an unspeakable disgrace. That disgrace is greatly accentuated by the humiliating conditions of peace which the Chinese have felt themselves forced to accept. They must pay an immense indemnity to those who have beaten them so badly and with such apparent ease. They are compelled to give up to their conquerors territory upon which they set a very high value. The Island of Formosa has hitherto been looked upon by the Chinese as one of the most precious parts of their Empire, and the possession of the peninsula of Korea, with the cities and fortifications that are on it, is almost, if not altogether, necessary to the maintenance of China's independence. China has hitherto lost no opportunity to assert its sovereignty over Korea. It is now forced at the dictation of Japan to acknowledge its independence.

Hard as are the terms which China must submit to, they would be most likely harder still if the victorious Japanese did not know that if they pressed their fallen foe too hard the Western nations would interfere and insist upon their being more moderate in their demands.

It does not yet seem to be very well known what sum China has agreed to pay as indemnity to Japan. The sum is set down by some to be 400,000,000 taels, and others place it at half that amount. The tael is a silver coin which appears to vary in value at different times and in different places. Its value is six shillings sterling, but we see that the New York Times says that in Peking it is worth \$1.33 and that in the southern part of the Empire it is worth from twenty to forty cents more. If, as seems likely, it is to be 200,000,000 taels, its amount will be \$266,000,000, which is enough in all conscience to pay for being terribly beaten and everlasting disgrace.

The opening up of China to commercial enterprise is the single feature of the terms of peace which appears to be for China's benefit as well as for that of the rest of the world. It is pretty clear that China's extreme isolation, and the dense ignorance of the great mass of the population of the world of which it forms so considerable a part, is one of the chief causes of China's weakness as a nation. When once the people of China are stirred up by constant intercourse with foreign nations, and when they begin to feel the promptings of national ambition, they will make the improvements which are necessary to enable them to avail

themselves of their immense resources and to make use of the enormous strength they possess. In the next half century, the Chinese make the advances in civilization and in the science and the arts of the West which Japan has made in the last half century, they will become a truly formidable nation, and there will be some probability of their playing the part in the great theatre of the world for which some theorists say they are destined.

UNDULY ELATED.

The Times is greatly elated because two Liberals were returned on Wednesday. It fully expected that all four constituencies would have returned supporters of the Government, so that when it finds that Vercheres and Antigonish returned the Opposition candidates it is most agreeably disappointed. It is quite welcome to its crew. Very few expected that Vercheres would reject Mr. Geoffroy, and it is not very surprising that Antigonish has gone back to Liberalism, particularly as the Liberal candidate is a strong man in the county, with a large local connection.

It must be observed that the election in both these counties does not mean disapproval of the Government's action on the Manitoba school question. Both Mr. Geoffroy and Mr. Moliseux declared that they approved of what the Government had done in that matter, and they took a great deal of pains to convince the electors that the Manitoba school question was not then an issue before the people. They made the electors believe that the election was being run on the old lines, and it is not at all wonderful that they were taken at their word. It will be seen before long whether or not they were deceived.

In Haldimand the school question was really the only issue at the polls. The candidate who opposed Dr. Montague represented the views and the aims of those who would condemn the Government for the course they have pursued in the matter of the Manitoba school law. The Liberals left the whole field to the McCarthyites and so did the Patrons of Industry. The McCarthyites and the Conservatives had the contest to themselves, and the country sees the result. As far then, as the Manitoba school question is concerned, the bye-elections have been a complete endorsement of the Government's policy; and this was the question that during the campaign gave both Conservatives and Liberals most concern. No other question was thought of or talked about in connection with the bye-elections. The Government have good reason to be pleased with the result. In two of the elections the Opposition did all they could to convince the people that the school question was not an issue, and in the third, in which it was the only issue, the Government gained a signal victory. Our Grit contemporary will find that it blundered most egregiously when it exclaimed with apparent sincerity that "the Bowell Government received a death blow in (Wednesday's) bye-elections."

Elsewhere we publish a letter which has appeared in the British Trade Journal from its Victoria correspondent, and its editorial remarks thereupon. The British Trade Journal, as our readers may be aware, is a very influential paper, and is a very valuable journal of its class in the world. Its remarks on the mining outlook in British Columbia are most important from the fact that they are published in the very centre of British capitalist influence, and it is extremely rare that any of the metropolitan editors can be induced to take an interest in British Columbia, more especially as a field for investment, or are at all familiar with our affairs.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S MINING OUTLOOK.

It will be seen that the British Trade Journal takes strong grounds and warmly supports the views of its correspondent, who, it seems, in a private letter to the editor, advocated that the British investor take a deeper interest in British Columbia's mining resources and make himself personally more familiar with the prospects than he has hitherto done. The correspondent points out that British Trade will follow British investments, as it has done in Australia, South Africa, India and elsewhere, and the editor admits the force of such reasoning as the most practical appeal to British interest and sympathy, and in this we entirely agree. The Americans by their contiguity as well as their enterprise, have got into the Kootenay country and own, we are safe in saying, the great bulk of the best mining properties there. In the development that is going on, the machinery, contractors' supplies, etc., so far as possible, are obtained through American channels.

When the mines are developed and become paying properties, they will in all probability be sold at immense advances to the British capitalist, but not before, however, the cream of the investment and the trade have gone into American pockets. It is scarcely necessary to discuss this matter further, except to say that it is highly gratifying to see a leading trade paper of London taking up this matter and calling attention to the opportunities and advantages which exist in British Columbia for British investment. We have no doubt that most beneficial results will follow.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became a Girl, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Carpenters' tools at Cheapside.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, April 19.
PORT SAN JUAN.

Hon. D. W. Higgins Pays a Visit to That Part of His Constituency.

Bright Prospects as an Agricultural District—Increasing Settlement—Survey for a Wharf.

Hon. D. W. Higgins, M.P., has returned from Port San Juan, a part of his constituency, which he visited with Mr. William Clarke, of the Lands and Works department, in connection with the location of a wharf. Mr. Higgins found great changes in the settlement; during the last two years some 10,000 acres of land have been taken up in the San Juan and Gordon river valleys, and there are now fully a hundred settlers there. The soil is extremely rich; the vegetables and other produce are remarkably fine, and altogether the prospects of that thriving district are very rosy from an agricultural point of view. Besides, the forest wealth, in the shape of splendid hemlock, cedar and spruce, is being turned to account. Mr. Clarke took careful soundings in the harbor and will report to the government what he considers the proper location for the wharf. A good place can, it is said, be found outside the bar, which is not nearly so dangerous as has been reported, while the harbor is well landlocked and a valuable refuge for vessels.

A public meeting was held at Mr. Arthur Enory's house during Mr. Higgins' visit, there being sixty settlers present. Mr. J. J. Baird occupied the chair and Mr. F. Crompton acted as secretary. Hon. Mr. Higgins addressed the gathering, stating that the object of his visit was to ascertain the wants of the settlers, and to see for himself how they were situated. He apologized for the absence of his colleagues, Hon. Mr. Forster, who was unable through press of business to be present. Speeches were made by the chairman and Messrs. James Barker, Marton, Wilkinson, Enory, James Jordan, Wiggs, C. M. Brown, Blackstaff and Hubbs.

The matter of forming a municipality received some attention, but was dropped for the present. Chief Peter of the Pachena Indians, who have a reserve at Port San Juan, was introduced by Rev. Mr. Stone, the Methodist missionary. Peter wished to know whether if the wharf were built on a reservation it would be as free to Indians as to white men. He also asked that the Indians be consulted before the wharf were built on a reserve.

Hon. Mr. Higgins replied that government wharves were free to everyone, and that nothing would be done to infringe upon any of the rights of the Indians.

A resolution was passed asking the government to appoint another road boss and at the conclusion of the meeting a resolution of regret and concurrence were read. Mr. Higgins for his visit and the interest he took in the district.

Mr. Higgins having examined the jam on the San Juan river, found that while good work had been done towards clearing it out last year a little more is required. The settlers desire the government to survey some more land back towards the hills so as to make room for more settlers, and are anxious to know their status as to the timber limits, in order that they may settle on them if possible. The growing importance of San Juan is shown by its having been declared a port of entry with Mr. A. Blocky as customs officer.

BOYS' BRIGADE IN CANADA.

A conference of officers called by the provisional president, Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, of the Boys' Brigade, assembled in Toronto on the 25th of March. There were present twenty-two representatives from St. John, N.B., Toronto, Hamilton, Kingston, Niagara Falls, Ottawa and Sarnia, and letters of regret and concurrence were read from Montreal, St. Catharines, Berlin and Victoria, B.C. Rev. T. F. Fotheringham was elected chairman and T. W. Nisbet, of Sarnia, secretary of the meeting, which was opened by prayer by Rev. John Young, of Toronto.

T. W. Nisbet, as treasurer of the fund raised towards paying the expenses of Mr. W. A. Smith's visit to Canada, reported that contributions amounting to \$311 55 had been received; that this fell short of Mr. Smith's personal expenses by \$34, and that other expenses had to be met which would make the total deficit \$164 88. At a later stage the account was referred to the executive committee to provide ways and means.

The adoption of a constitution for the brigade in Canada was the next order of business; the constitution of the parent brigade with some few alterations was adopted.

The following officers were then elected: President—His Excellency Lord Aberdeen. Vice-Presidents—Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., St. John, N.B.; Rev. J. H. Dixon, Montreal; Hon. Senator Allan, Toronto; Major Walker, Calgary. For Manitoba and British Columbia (the President was asked to nominate men to fill the offices for these provinces): Brigade Secretary and Treasurer—T. W. Nisbet, Sarnia. Eastern District Secretary—J. W. Cassidy, St. John, N.B. Western District Secretary for British Columbia—Referred to the executive to appoint.

Executive Committee—W. B. Rankin, Esq., Halifax; Rev. John Young, Toronto; Major McLaren, Hamilton; Rev. A. J. McLeod, Regina; Rev. J. G. Stuart, London.

The Boys' Brigade hall, Sarnia, Ont., was then adopted as the headquarters of the brigade in Canada. The meeting was then adjourned.

Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Manchester, Robertson and Allison, of St. John, N.B., for valuable services rendered; to Rev. T. F. Fotheringham for introducing the brigade into this country and for his services.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
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Carpenters' tools at Cheapside.

vices during the past six years; to the Bible Society for the use of their rooms for the meeting, and to Mr. W. A. Smith, of Glasgow, the founder of the Boys' Brigade, for the interesting meetings he has held since coming hither, and the interest he has created in the work by his visit to Canada. After some discussion on the practical work of the brigade the conference was closed by prayer by Rev. T. M. Winfield, chaplain to His Excellency the Governor-General.

The newly elected executive committee afterwards met and took steps to raise a headquarters fund, and instructed the secretary to publish a leaflet containing the constitution as adopted at the conference, and other information, which will be sent to all officers as soon as possible.

SIR JOSEPH NEEDHAM.

A Former Chief Justice of Vancouver Island Dies in England.

He Was an Able Jurist—A Few Incidents of His Career.

Word has been received from England of the death at Weybridge, Surrey, of Sir Joseph Needham, in his eighty-third year. Sir Joseph Needham's death recalls the fact that many years ago he held the position of Chief Justice of Vancouver Island. Governor Kennedy of Vancouver Island landed at Victoria on Good Friday, 1864, and the next year Mr. Needham came from England to fill the position of Chief Justice. Mr. Needham was a barrister in London, and his health having given way he made up his mind to travel for his health. At this time the post of Chief Justice of Vancouver Island became vacant through the decision of the Legislature to superannuate Chief Justice Cameron and to ask that a competent barrister be sent from England to fill his place. Mr. Needham was thereupon appointed. O' judicial mind and well versed in law Mr. Needham was eminently qualified to occupy a seat upon the bench, and his terse, clear judgments always commanded respect.

When the Mainland and Vancouver Island colonies were united in 1868, there were two chief justices, Mr. Begbie on the mainland and Mr. Needham on the island. It was then considered advisable that there should be but one chief justice, so in 1869 an ordinance was passed providing that, upon a vacancy occurring in the office of chief justice, on either the mainland or island, the office should be merged into one under the survivor. Mr. Needham having resigned in 1870, was appointed Chief Justice of Trinidad, resolving the distinction of service in 1868 and has since resided in England.

During his occupancy of the chief justiceship of Vancouver Island a serious trouble arose in Cariboo over a dispute between two rival mining companies, and for a time the situation was very serious. The difficulty arose out of the jumping of mining claims on Grasse Creek by what was called "the Canadian Company." Their contention was that the Grasse Creek Co. had not fulfilled the law as to representation. The Governor or Commissioner Mr. Needham to hear the case and, accompanied by his son, then a lieutenant on H. M. S. Rover (and who afterwards resided in Victoria for many years), the Chief Justice went to Cariboo. He had a talk with the boys, made himself agreeable and then proceeded to hear the case. Before giving judgment he decided that the gold—and it was a large amount—that had been taken out by the Canadian Company must be paid into court. This was agreed to, and the money having been paid in, he gave judgment against the company. It was only by his tact and good judgment that an armed collision between the opposing parties was averted.

A somewhat comical incident is related of a case which he heard in Victoria. A colored man named Carter became bankrupt and it was popularly supposed that he had hidden a large sum of money. Questions by the judge Carter every very much confused and replied "yes" to every question addressed to him.

"Have you buried your money?" asked the judge.

"Yes."

The judge then caused the yard to be thoroughly explored by a force of men but not a cent was discovered, for the very good reason that there had been nothing buried.

Chief Justice Needham was a shrewd man and not easily deceived, as may be seen from the following: On the 1st of April some jokers mailed a quarter of a dollar to the sidewalk and then watched with delight the people who were trying to pick it up. Along came the Chief Justice, and when he found the coin nailed he calmly proceeded to kick away at it with his foot till he loosened it, and then with grim satisfaction put it in his pocket.

MR. WOOD LEADS.

The bye-election in Cowichan-Alberni district, to fill the vacancy in the provincial legislature created by the appointment of Hon. Theodore Davis as Chief Justice, took place yesterday, the candidates being Mr. Thomas J. Wood, of Cowichan, farmer; and Mr. G. A. Huff, of Alberni, storekeeper and both supporters of Hon. Mr. Turner's government.

The district is a large and scattered one, there being four hundred odd voters and six polling places in Cowichan, and upwards of one hundred voters and three polling booths in Alberni. Many of the polling places are at a considerable distance from the railway or telegraph line, and it will therefore be impossible to secure complete returns before the beginning of next week at earliest.

At Duncan, which is the largest and most populous section of the district, Mr. Wood obtained a majority of 52, there being 121 ballots cast and one of these spoilt. The vote stood:

Thomas A. Wood..... 85

G. A. Huff..... 31

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MONDAY date for the Army force
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