The Colonist.

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THE DAILY COLONIST

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THE LEGISLATURE ADJOURNED.

The Legislature was adjourned last evening until Monday, January 11th. His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor went down to the House and gave his assent to the Bills that had been passed, and the Government has thus been successful in carrying out the programme it laid out at the commencement of the session. The measures set forth in the Speech from the Throne as requiring to be passed in order to place the Provincial finances on a proper basis, have now become law. They comprise the Loan Act, the Assessment Act, the Railway Tax Act and an amendment to the Land Act. By the first act the Government is authorized to negotiate a loan for $1,000,000 on the terms specified in the act, and which have already been published in our columns. By the other acts provision is made for increasing the revenue, either by the augmentation of existing taxes or the creation of new imposts. By these measures it is anticipated that not only will the interest and sinking fund requirements of the new loan be met, but that the revenue will be brought up to the level of the expenditure, so that the period of deficits in the Provincial financial regime may be ended and a more wholesome situation be brought about than has existed in the past.

Legislation of such a character was bound to meet with criticism and opposition, and during the last few days of the session the progress of the Bills—especially of the Assessment Bill—was impeded by a flood of amendments and hostile notices. Although everyone of these attempts of the Opposition was defeated by satisfactory majorities, it is, we think, a cause for regret that, in the course of their efforts to defeat or modify certain parts of the Bill, the Opposition—or at least some of its members—was led to discuss its provisions in a manner that is likely to cause prejudice to Provincial interests. When it is stated in the Legislature that a certain bill, if it becomes law, will ruin large mercantile interests, drive out capital, embarrass business operations and altogether cause much injury, people are liable to overlook the circumstances under which such prognostications are made and attach to them an importance which those who uttered them had no real intention of giving them. We must defer until another occasion a fuller reference to the Assessment Act, but we can say without hesitation that the Opposition is entirely astray in its assertions as to the taxation which will result from the changes made by the act in the assessment system in the Province. While it will increase, as it is designed to do, the revenues of the Province, it will impose no unreasonable burdens on any particular class. It will place the incidence of taxation on a more equitable basis than it has had in the past, whilst affording relief by exemptions to sections of the community that were entitled to such consideration. We refer to this act more particularly than to the others comprised in the group of finance measures, because its provisions have been so distorted and exaggerated that a strong protest against such misrepresentations is desirable. It is, of course, a very long bill and its provisions are numerous and complicated. We are, therefore, quite inclined to believe that better knowledge of the details of the act will dissipate all these anxieties as to its effect and lead to approval of the reforms that it will bring about.

The position of the Government and its ability to control the House have been completely demonstrated by the events of this two weeks' session. The possibility of it attaining to power being thus shown to the Opposition to be indefinitely postponed, it is hoped that, on the reassembling of the House, there will be a general desire manifested by the members to facilitate the passage of needful legislation and a hearty endorsement of the Goverument's proposals for the better administration of Provincial affairs and the establishment of greater efficiency in the Civil Service. While it is absolutely necessary under present circumstances that strict economy should mark every department of the Government, that fact does not imply that public works essential for the opening up of the Province and the development of its resources should be neglected. On the contrary, wise expenditures for such purposes are certain to promote progress and increase the general prosperity, and there is no question that both sides of the House will support them. But the principle that henceforth we must not overrun our means or incur liabilities without any provision for their liquidation must not be lost sight of, while the demands for money for all sorts of schemes that have been so numerous in the past must be met with a firm refusal. The Government has made a good start; it must not fail in any way to keep its pledges to the electors.

A NEW AUXILIARY FORCE.

An excellent beginning has now been made in England of a new auxiliary force in connection with the Royal Navy. This should in due season supplement and strengthen in case of need the Empire's regular maritime force, at least as usefully as efficient volunteer battalions have for several decades done in the case of the Army. The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve is now fairly established and it is expected in the course of two or three years to reach or nearly reach the authorized limit of its enrollment, which is placed at 30,000 men.

In the London district some 800 applications from would-be naval volunteers have recently been received, by the recruiting officer in charge, amongst these being many from men not only of special intelligence and good physique, but also of good social standing. The first division of the London Naval Volunteer Reserve has meanwhile reached a strength of nearly 1,000 men, whilst the formation of other divisions should soon treble or quadruple this number. In Bristol and Liverpool similar enthusiasm is being roused and proportionately good results of enrollment are assured, whilst other great ports of the United Kingdom will doubtless also shortly add large companies to the new auxiliary force, which will we, trust in the early future, find its counterpart in the establishment in many lands of Greater Britain, including our own province, of companies of colonial naval volunteers.

Meanwhile as regards the British home force which is to show the way, it is laid down that none must join unless he be of the limited number of officers, without being thoroughly ready and willing when out for training or on active service to share the ordinary life of the mess deck in the Navy. This, however, should not deter men of the right type from entering the new volunteer service, though it will serve the purpose of keeping out those whose main idea in the matter would be to amuse themselves by taking an occasional cruise in the uniform of a British fighting man.

The new force will probably be devoted in the main when called out for active service to coast defence rather than to offensive service on the high seas, though so far as we are aware, there is no limitation of its employment to this purpose only. In any case, however, the addition to our Naval Reserve of some 30,000 sturdy volunteers will be eminently useful in further protecting our Empire's central points, the main security of which, as almost everybody knows, rests on the maintenance of a Navy of the strongest that is possible.

OUR FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

From December 11th, 1858, to December 11th, 1903, is a far cry. The forty-five years comprised in the intervening space form a period fraught with events of great interest and importance to our country. When the Colonist began its weekly round, and became a political force the whole of British territory on the Pacific, and as far east as the western boundary line of Upper Canada, was controlled by the Hudson's Bay Company.

It would be unfair to those hardy pioneers of civilization to say that the company's rule was unsuited to the tastes and requirements of the aboriginal inhabitants who then hunted and fished for a living along the sea coast and rivers and through the length and breadth of the land. The natives knew naught of the blessings of constitutional government and they cared less. It mattered not to them whether Queen or Czar was ruler. All they asked was a good price and a steady demand for the products of the chase and net. The form of government never bothered the native tribes. They were entirely indifferent to what was proceeding in the world, and so long as they were allowed to lead the lives of their forefathers led they were content.

But the men who came hither in 1858 to dig for gold and engage in trade were of another stamp. They had been born and bred under the influence of responsible political institutions. They had left the Maritime Provinces and the Canadas to hew out new homes on this promising shore, and had come with the expectation of being permitted to take part in the government of the country. Their disappointment was great when they found that a Crown system of government prevailed, under which they were taxed without enjoying the Briton's privilege of deciding who should levy and collect the taxes. Discontent was general, and an agitation immediately began for a change. After a while this agitation took shape and a strong party was organized to break down the Crown system and replace it with a popular form of government. But the people soon found that they needed an organ as well as a leader. The newspapers then printed at Victoria were either owned or controlled by Americans, who cared little for the system so long as they enjoyed the patronage of the government.

The fall of 1858 was an important epoch in the political history of the British Pacific. It was marked by growing popular discontent and unrest among the colonists. In the emergency a leader was found in Mr. Amor DeCosmos, and he provided a newspaper through the columns of which were expressed the views and aspirations of the disaffected. The first number of the British Colonist made its appearance on the 11th December, 1858, and then and since it has made its power and influence felt.

Of the union of the colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver in 1866, which insured a single civil list for both sections, the Colonist was a firm advocate, and when in 1869, '70 and '71 the larger question of confederation with Canada convulsed the constituencies, the Colonist was its foremost advocate. With the acceptance of the terms of Confederation came a responsible form of government, followed shortly by the Canadian Pacific railway, the dry dock and other public works of vast importance and utility.

With this issue the readers of the Colonist have the opportunity presented of comparing the Colonist of 45 years ago with the Colonist of today, of seeing on one side the Old and on the other the New. From the comparison they will understand how great a tree has grown from one small acorn.

When the first paper was issued the white population of Victoria was under 2,000, and that of the whole province about 10,000. There were already two papers printed here—the Victoria Gazette and the New Westminster Times. It was a bold venture to attempt the establishment of a third, but the Colonist was needed. Public opinion required a vent, and through the columns of the Colonist the popular feeling found expression in tones of more or less acerbity. The paper sprang into favor at once, and soon the Gazette retired, followed shortly by the journalistic cemetery by the New Westminster Times. From first to last something like fifty newspapers have been established in Victoria, and today there are but two in existence—the Colonist, which has weathered all financial and political storms, and the Times which is firmly established after a long and arduous struggle extending over several years.

A glance over the columns of the first Colonist will show the many changes that have taken place in city and country since that day. Of the advertisers who on that day encouraged the new venture, nearly all have passed away. The proprietor, who was also editor, has long since gone to the mystic land, whither all his printers and contemporaries preceded him. The only man now living who assisted in getting out the first number of the Colonist, is John F. Damon, familiarly known as Father Damon, of Seattle, he having set type for the first number. He is now a venerable and respected minister of the gospel.

Of the men who were active in political circles at the time, none remain except the Hon. Dr. Helmcken, who was the first speaker of the Vancouver Island Legislative Assembly in 1854, and who for many years after occupied that position in succeeding legislative bodies. Senator Macdonald, who was a member of the first legislative council and one of our early mayors, and Sir Joseph Trutch, the first Lieutenant-Governor after Confederation and a very few others. Sir James Douglas and all his official staff, including W. A. G. Young, Colonial Secretary Chief Justice Cameron and Solicitor-General Pearkes, C. B. Young, John T. Pidwell, W. Shanks, Roderick Finlayson, Dr. Tolmie, Henry Rhodes, J. D. Pemberton, A. F. Pemberton, James Yates, A. C. Anderson, T. J. Skinner and hundreds of others whose "names from the earth have passed away," but whose honorable records remain for the future historian to exploit. They were all prominent and useful men in their time, and each filled an important niche in the events of the day, when they moved and breathed and had their being.

We might almost have thought that without any or all of them to direct affairs there would be no government, no country to govern, but the globe rolls on, just as it has rolled ever since the dawn of Creation, and a few millions more or less do not disturb the purpose of the Great Ruler of the Universe. Things proceed much the same now as before.

Of those who advertised in the first few issues of the Colonist not one remains—all are dead; and of the business houses that flourished at that time only the Hudson Bay Company, T. N. Hibben & Co., and the Colonist remain, with new sets of managers, proprietors, editors or clerks.

The changes during the last forty-five years have indeed been marvelous. It is idle to speculate, but viewed in the light of what has gone before it is not unreasonable to suppose that when the ninetieth anniversary of the Colonist shall have come, even greater and more momentous changes than those which we have briefly sketched will be noted by those who will then move upon this field of action, and another will take up the pen to describe them.

Well may it be written of those who peopled this land in the very early days and who have vanished from mortal sight forever: "Sic transit gloria mundi."

STEERING A STRAIGHT COURSE.

The earnest determination of the Government to stand by its pledges to do all in its power to place the Provincial finances upon a sound basis, which was indicated by the Bills it introduced dealing with the various sources of revenue, has been manifested very plainly by its course during the passage of the Assessment Act. Probably no Bill is more calculated to arouse antagonism and hostile criticism than one of such a character. It inevitably touches the pockets of the people, and the more impartial and general its provisions, the larger the circle from which such opposition arises. While an Opposition finds in such a measure abundant ammunition available for its purposes, even the supporters of the Government are frequently placed in an embarrassing position by the demands of their constituents that their particular interests shall be very tenderly treated if not entirely exempted from any new burdens. But in such matters only one standard of conduct should be held—that the general interests of the country must be kept in view and all particular, all individual claims or preferences be subordinated to them. If such a course be strictly adhered to, there is little doubt that the results aimed at will be attained and the legislation secured be found to be of such a character as will redound to the benefit of the community as a whole.

Before the session opened, the Opposition press was almost unanimous in its declarations that the financial situation was such as required extraordinary and very radical treatment, and that the members of the Opposition in the Legislature would be found willing and anxious to lend their assistance to the Government in any measures that it might propose to that end. The only doubt that these writers expressed was as to the sincerity and ability of the Government to pursue such a course. Now what have been the facts? The Government promptly introduced its financial proposals and they were found to be of as drastic and effective a character as the most radical financial reformer could desire. Immediately the Opposition newspapers took a new tack; denounced the Government's proposals as too severe; incited their friends in the House to oppose them and attempted to ridicule the Government as the subject of panic and the enemy of every interest, of every industry in the Province. To their credit be it said the Leader of the Opposition and some of his colleagues ignored these unworthy appeals to partisan concern, to factional opposition, and dealt with the Government's proposals generally in a fair and reasonable manner. It is to be hoped that a similar line of conduct will characterize the course of the more thoughtful and capable section of the Opposition, while these measures are under consideration. The electors are closely watching the proceedings and will not fail to note, and at the proper time to sternly condemn any attempt to depart from such a course.

Among the measures that have seemed to some members of the Opposition to afford opportunity for successful attacks on the Government are those dealing with the lumber industry and the taxation of real property. The laws dealing with the timber resources of the Province are notoriously defective as regards their safeguarding the public interests and securing to the Treasury the revenue that should properly come from that valuable Provincial asset. Whatever pressure is brought to bear on the Government whether from friends or opponents with a view to diminish the legitimate revenue from that source, or prevent legislation necessary to achieve that end, must be resisted, and every supporter of the Government must loyally assist to attain that result. The same view should be held in regard to any proposal to grant special exemptions to landowners. At a time when new imposts are necessary on every class, on every line of industry, it is inconsistent, a violation of principle, a piece of class legislation, and grotesque in its absurdity to propose to exempt a section of the community from contributing its share to the revenue. The passage of the exemption of lands up to $2,500—or to any less amount—after the liberal treatment already accorded to the agricultural community in the Assessment Bill—would afford a not unreasonable pretext to many other classes of people for similar exemption. While the proposal was doubtless intended as a bid for popularity and to embarrass the Government, its adoption would be a grave injustice to other classes of taxpayers and stultify the proposition that the Legislature has assented to—that the present financial situation requires increased contributions from all sections of the community.

HEARD IN PARIS.

Some interesting and suggestive references to Canada, our trade and our general fiscal policy, were, in connection with British Imperial possibilities of commercial policy, made the other day in Paris by Mr. Bodington, the president of the British Chamber of Commerce, in the French capital, where the chamber holds quite an important position by reason of the importance of the business relations of Great Britain and France.

Mr. Bodington, speaking at a banquet given by his Chamber, at which there were present some very representative French public men and men of business, first expressed his belief that Anglo-French commercial conditions, being what they are, the adoption of a preferential tariff by Great Britain would not impair the present friendly feeling of the two countries.

This is the more probable, as a very large proportion of the exports of France to the United Kingdom consists of goods and articles in some cases not producible in the latter country, and in others not so easily capable of British production.

Mr. Bodington added that French Canada's friendly feeling towards France would also tend to the more careful consideration of all matters of trade relationship between the British Empire in general and the French Republic, and he was personally of opinion that the suggested modification of British fiscal policy would in the end, if adopted, do good all round by gradually leading to a general reduction of tariffs throughout the world.

The president of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris then proceeded to make effective advertisement of Canadian opportunities, by declaring that, from the gold fields of the Yukon to the steel mills of Ontario, Canada was by far the most prosperous colony of the Empire, and he added, thus evidencing his faith in a reasonable policy of protection, that what Canada thought today the Empire would think tomorrow.

Mr. Bodington, it is true, was, as things are, not quite happy in his reference to the steel mills of Ontario, as some of them are, as we know, passing through a period of difficulty and stress, of which facts he seems to be unaware. But on the whole, such troubles being in all probability transient, the remarks of the Chamber of Commerce president were apt and timely, and, as we have said, put in some very good words for Canada in the capital of a land with which there should be possibilities of considerable extension as regards the trade of our Dominion.

AN AWKWARD REFERENCE.

Colonel Jones, of the Hawaiian militia, and Major-General MacArthur, of the United States army, have been stating and through interviews with representatives of the press, publishing, opinions of their own which will scarcely please President Roosevelt as raising an embarrassing suggestion that may annoy Germany's Imperial authorities quite a little. The military and militant gentlemen in question, forgetting the desirability of professional reticence on delicate matters connected with international relations, have lately discussed and agreed, more or less, upon the likelihood, in their opinion, of Germany's defiance of the Monroe doctrine in South America in defence of German commercial and German colonizing interests on that continent, in parts of which our Teutonic brethren already stand on a strong trade footing.

"There will be trouble some day between us and Germany in respect of our country's favorite doctrine," say the two American officers, "and there will then be warm work on the Pacific. The United States should, therefore," says to the assenting General the Colonel of the militia of Hawaii, "fortify that Island."

This may or may not be advisable, from our neighbors' standpoint, whilst if so it is, President Roosevelt will not thank his Colonel and his General for giving the world in such blunt, undiplomatic fashion, their motive in making the suggestion.

GERMANY LEARNS BY EXPERIENCE.

A recent cable despatch from London states that Germany will not withdraw the "most favored nation" treatment from British South Africa in consequence of the latter's beginning of preferential treatment in respect of imports from the United Kingdom.

Otherwise British South Africa might, like Canada, retaliate upon Germany for intervention in the matter of a British Imperial fiscal preference.

This would probably be far too great a risk for even the German Empire to run in the case of British South Africa, with which Germany does a very large and profitable trade, having there in fact far more at stake, especially, than in the case of our Dominion, which has, with less opportunity, countered fairly effectively against Germany's exporters.

New Brunswick is, like our own Province, compelled to raise more revenue, and this is, in part, to be raised by increase of lumber dues and charges. The stumpage on cut lumber is being increased from $1 to $1.25 a thousand, and the charge for the renewal of leases to be made $8 a square mile, or double the former amount.

The Socialist members of the Legislature are being paid all sorts of doubtful compliments by the Opposition press, according to which they are malignants indeed, bent on nothing less than deliberately bringing the Province to rack and ruin. But hard words break no bones, and those thus assailed will probably be more amused than hurt, and continue to "gang their ain gait."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

AN EXPLANATION.

Sir,—As I am in no way connected with the Capt. A. R. Johnston versus Oliver case, mentioned in your paper, will you please correct this error. The Capt. Johnstone connected with this suit is a resident of Victoria.

A. R. JOHNSTON.

Nanaimo, Dec. 9th, 1903.

HOME INDUSTRIES.

Sir,—I am a Kanuck exiled from my native country by decree of a government which prohibits the carrying on of industries in Canada, or the employment of labor in opposition to United States firms. I frequently buy a copy of your excellent Journal, from which I cut the enclosed advertisement.

I notice you frequently advise your readers to patronize their local stores and shops rather than do business with Toronto or Montreal. This is good advice, but I have no sympathy with the local dealer who sells you candy made in Boston, shoes made in Lowell, hats made in New York and food stuffs from Chicago. Every time you hand him $5 he keeps his commission for handling the goods and sends the remainder to his friend, the foreign manufacturer. That money is lost to the country for good. I have noticed this all over Canada. It is your merchants who drain money out of the country by procuring their stocks from the greedy foreigner, who wants your market but won't let you into his. Let your merchants deserve sympathy by stocking themselves in Canada.

L. E. TREMAINE.

HOME INDUSTRIES.

Sir,—"Exiled Canuck," dealing with home industries in yesterday's issue, struck an old sore, that will have to run its course before remedies can be applied.

I venture to say that no city on this coast can make so little claim of helping its home industries and giving manufacturers encouragement, as Victoria. Not only that, observe the consideration shown the manufacturing concerns already here. If you can tell me, what better office the Board of Trade could bend its energies to "then you have me," yet the wholesale element comprising this body have not awakened or realized that apart from trading pursuits, which are their first consideration, manufactories and employment of labor in our midst are an absolute necessity before we have backbone. Take again the average citizen, how little he cares how and from whom his wants are supplied, so long as he is not an immediate sufferer. No recognition here of principle, nor of the inevitable results of such indifference.

Yet look at the wholesale, the retail, the legal and other fraternities, including the good union and non-union men, all in the swim with some few exceptions. Then just ask yourself the question: "Isn't it about time to be up and out if we don't want to be carried down with such patriotic industrialism? The little red wagon is only part evidence of how the trade of this city and province can be catered to from the outside and bring to mind in a forcible manner how little we gain by remaining and assisting to pay the large increased taxation rendered necessary and now being meted out to us by the provincial government.

Be honest and just in the future with your fellow man and either get down to business on business lines, or see to it in future that you tell the truth by representing the future distribution of emigration literature as they exist. All you may say then of locked up resources or beautiful climate will not attract others from leaving a bad thing to jump into that which is infinitely worse.

"ONE WHO HAS STAYED WITH IT."

Victoria, Dec. 11, 1903.

DISCOVERY OF KLONDIKE.

Sir,—In the Colonist of December 5th, you have a news item referring to Skookum Jim as a Yukon pioneer, and George Carmack as being the discoverer of Klondike, the latter part of which is wrong, for as a matter of fact, the only thing George Carmack ever discovered was a way to live without working, off the labor of his Indian wife, who is a sister of Skookum Jim. The history of the discovery is as follows: In the spring of 1896 Skookum Jim, Dawson Charlie and Tagish Charlie, both cousins of Jim's, took a notion to visit their relatives in the north, so they accordingly each took a blanket, a sack of salt, three rifles, pick, shovel and gold pan, went down from Dyea to Wrangel, then up the Stickeen, across to Teslin lake, along which they hunted until they came to the Hotalinqua river, where they built a raft and started down their long river journey, stopping in many places to prospect. They found gold all the way down on the bars of the river, and one place in particular, of which more later, arriving Forty-Mile, where Carmack lived. They concluded to go up to the Klondike to hunt moose, where they arrived early in August, meeting Henderson there, and he asked them to keep a lookout for gold as they went up the creek that has now become famous. Jim having been many years on the Stickeen and some three years in the employ of Captain Wm. Moore, was well acquainted with mining, and the first pan of dirt ever washed on Bonanza was by Skookum Jim, on what is now known as No. 60 below, where he got some gold. Following up stream he tried a few more pans, all of which showed colors. Arriving at the Forks they started hunting for moose, a very easy job in those days, for the animals had well beaten roads along all the ridges, which can be seen even to this day. Having killed two moose near where French Hill now is, they started to pack the meat out. Having brought a load down to the crossing below the Forks, they were on the way back for more, Carmack being in the lead and some distance ahead of the three Indians, who sat down at a small gulch to rest, when Jim lay down to have a drink. While drinking he saw something shining under his nose. Fishing it out of the water he said to Charlie: "Gold." Charlie said no; then Jim bit it with his teeth leaving the impressions on the nugget which was as large as the end of his thumb. Jumping up he "cooeed" to Carmack, who came back, and the excitement commenced right there. Jim and Carmack took 1500 feet, planting a stake in the middle of the centre claim. Carmack wrote the notice for Jim on one side of the stake and his notice on the other, Jim having the upstream side and Carmack the lower past. Dawson Charlie staking No. 2 above, and Tagish Charlie No. 2 below. The gulch where the first nugget was found is called Skookum gulch, and turned out very rich. After Carmack thought he had wealth enough he quietly sold his claim, left his Indian wife without a cent of money, and flitted with a white woman from Dawson via St. Michael. The first wife has made a number of attempts to get restitution, without avail, so she and her daughter are dependents on Skookum Jim for their existence, and he is man enough not to see them want. I would not like to say what would happen if Jim could lay hands on Carmack for the ill treatment of his sister. He has sought him in vain each time he has been in Seattle, and I think it well he did not find him.

While on their trip down the Hootalinqua they found a good diggings and the summer of 1902 Dawson Charlie started out on a trip to prospect them, when one night he lost both his pack horses and had to abandon the trip. The same summer Indian Patsey came down to Dawson to get Skookum Jim to go up to the head of White river, where some years ago they found some gold while hunting sheep. Jim having some lawsuits on hand could not go until this summer, as the same trio that discovered gold on Bonanza may justly be said to have also discovered the new diggings, and they know of more, but no amount of persuasion will induce them to tell where some valuable finds await their pleasure to show the white man. Skookum Jim is a Canadian born, and his right name is Jim Mason, his father having kept a small trading post at Tagish years ago. He is very proud of being a Canadian, and when he gets a little hilarious he emphasizes the fact very strongly.

Thanking you for space that justice may be done to one who deserves it.

W. E. L.

Victoria, Dec. 10th, 1903.

PROVINCIAL PRESS.

Rev. A. J. Morice, O. M. I., missionary and historian of Stuart's Lake, passed through Ashcroft last Saturday for Vancouver, where he expects to spend the winter. He has been engaged on a history of the northern interior of British Columbia and has two chapters still to write, when it will be complete and will go to the publisher. Altogether there will be 21 or 22 chapters, two only of which will be confined to a history of the early missionary efforts, Catholic and Protestant. Dating from 1640 to 1872, this history will doubtless be the most complete and accurate ever published of the province. Father Morice has been collecting data for many years for this work, and has also carefully examined the histories of others.—Ex.

The new assessment roll for Revelstoke riding shows the remarkable increase of $200,000 for the year. The valuation of Revelstoke riding is: Real property $680,-848, wild land $218,121, personal property $305,000, income $316,000.—Kootenay Mail.

A wide circle of Rossland friends will learn with keen regret of the death in Toronto on Monday of J. B. McArthur, formerly a prominent resident of Rossland and an active mining operator throughout the Kootenays. It is more than two years since Mr. McArthur visited the Golden City but everyone resident in the community prior to that time remembers the deceased gentleman with respect and in many instances with admiration.—Rossland Miner.

The recent car of ore from the Capella netted the owners over $6,000. This mine, at the back door of New Denver, is one of the richest silver producers in America. If it were in Poplar creek, or some other camp where the richness of a property is told about, not smothered, it would be advertised the world over. When Goat mountain is extensively mined and the ore bodies tapped at great depth, New Denver will have a mine that will make millions for its owners and the community.—New Denver Ledge.

It is known that the Brooklyn and Stemwinder dumps have thousands of tons of ore of good grade that any of the smelters of the district would be glad to have to mix with other ores. In consideration of the foregoing, it would seem that it will not now be long before ore shipments from the north side of the city will be going out regularly.—Phoenix Pioneer.

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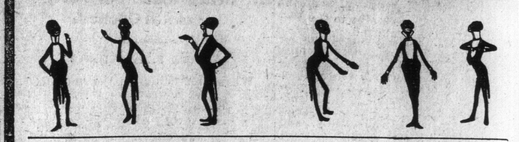

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