The Colonist.

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A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE DAILY COLONIST

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COMPROMISE ON THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

Harmony once more prevails at Ottawa. An agreement has been reached on the school question. A constitutional principle has been compromised on the altar of political expediency. Once more Sir Wilfrid Laurier has carried the day. Henceforth, it will not be denied that he is dictator of the Liberal party and a master of political strategy. Had the Prime Minister started in with a proposition simply to recognize the right of separate schools to exist in the Northwest, he might have been forced to withdraw even from that, because pressure to that end would have been inevitable and possibly as strong as it was in regard to the recent proposals. By inserting clauses so palpably beyond, in effect, what was contemplated by the British North America Act, or any Act since that time, providing for or regulating Separate Schools in the Northwest, he allowed a wide margin upon which to compromise and at the same time to make it impossible longer for the "wicked partner" of the administration to remain with it. Both things he has most successfully accomplished. He has carried his main point, the great object which he had in view, namely, that of engrafting on the constitutions of the new provinces, as a permanent feature, the principle of the recognition of separate schools as they now exist. It has been a distinct triumph in statescraft, as great as might have been achieved by the historic chief of his school of politics, Machiavelli.

The dissentient Liberals, too, have scored. They have registered their "kick," which is the now accepted term for voicing dissent, to proposals to which the country would not consent; and have succeeded in obtaining other proposals less unpalatable. They did not wholly succeed any more than did Sir Wilfrid, but they secured a "compromise," the "very best they could do." This they were glad to obtain, for although they dared not swallow the pill unsugared, they accepted any compromise that would "square" with the public conscience. To have done otherwise would have defeated the Government. An appeal to the country on such a question would have meant the overwhelming defeat of the Liberal party. So now all are happy once more, except Clifford Sifton, who finds himself no longer the hero of "high tragedy," but the victim of strategy cleverer by far than his own, strategy which has lost nothing of its finesse since the days of Loyola. Each side has stood out to the limit, barely to the breaking point, of their political consciences, and then conceded enough to save the principle contended for by the leader and just enough to save the skins of his English supporters—a pretty melodrama, with comedy sufficient to please the Premier and tragedy to alarm his partners.

Compromises in practical politics are inevitable; but compromises on questions of principle are never expedient in the public interests. They leave stains that can never be erased; they leave legacies that can never be evaded. Great Britain compromised with Spain in 1790 on the Nootka question, because of the complications in Europe at that time, and lost the Pacific Coast of North America, south of the 49th parallel, as a consequence. Great Britain compromised with the United States after the war of 1812 when the latter was beaten, over the Oregon country, and lost the state of Washington in 1846. Great Britain compromised with Old Canada after winning British North America from France, and has had the French question ever since. Consequences are never ending. Compromise on principles is the poison of politics.

The principle at stake in this instance is not the question of Separate Schools, because that has been legally inherited by compromise. It is the question of the right of the new Provinces to deal with their schools, subject to the direction of the B. N. A. Act. We contend, and have contended, that it is not competent for the Federal authorities to limit the powers of the Provinces in any way in regard to educational matters, which are exclusively within their jurisdiction. If they can limit them in any one particular they can limit them in any other particular. The B. N. A. Act contains all the safeguards that are necessary in the interests of denominational minorities. It follows then, it seems to us, that if they cannot vary in the slightest the provisions of the Act of Confederation, it was intended that they should not legislate at all in the matter. It was doubtless intended that within the four walls of section 93 the provinces should be supreme in their powers. To introduce into the autonomy bill provisions which are exactly parallel with provisions of existing legislation is either an act of supererogation or it is intended to prevent the Legislatures from using their own discretion when framing educational measures. If the latter, then it is a limitation of provincial powers and to that extent unconstitutional. The provinces have a right to pass an act containing any provisions they think consistent with their rights. It is for the provinces, in the first instance, to be the judge of what are their powers. If they exceed those powers there are two courses open. The Dominion authorities can exercise their power of disallowance or there can be resort to the courts, with a final appeal to the Governor-General in Council. It seems to us that the Dominion Parliament might as well insert a general clause in the Autonomy Bill providing that the new provinces shall not pass any laws that are unconstitutional, as to direct their action in respect to a particular law. Admittedly, such a provision would be absurd.

Whether the educational clauses of the Bill, when passed, could be attacked in the courts, we do not know; but we imagine they could. By an Act of the Legislature in contravention of the provisions of the Dominion Act, or in some other way, the question doubtless could, and in all probability may, arise as to the right of the Dominion to fetter the free action of the provinces. We believe, in such an event, it will be held that it has not such right. Whatever may be the outcome from a constitutional point of view, the action of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the present time has sown the seed of religious discord for many years to come in the Northwest. Instead of "healing a wound," he has opened it up afresh.

THE DISGRACE OF FAILURE.

The old Rothschild never had dealings with a man who was not a success, and he placarded the fact in his business office. Napoleon would palliate a military offence, but never a blunder. In ordinary experience we see illustrated over and over again the truth of the adage that "nothing succeeds like success." The popular hero of yesterday, in defeat, is the shattered idol of today. And so it runs through life. Stoessel, the defender of Port Arthur, who stood on a pedestal, an example of great resistance against fearful odds, the recipient of royal bouquets, is no longer the hero of Russia or of the world. So Kuropatkin, who was the embodiment of his country's hope in the present war, because he met a crushing defeat at the hands of the Japanese, has been dismissed from his command. Whether he failed through incompetence, through tactical errors, or through irresistible forces against him, matters not. He failed. No word of praise now for his masterly retreats, for which he was eulogized by the Russian press. He goes back to meet an angry Emperor, and a sullen, disappointed people. However strenuously he fought, however heroically he endured, he failed to defend his final position; he lost at the critical moment of a great campaign. Thus the Russian Autocrat rewards his true, if not successful, servant. Because he could not accomplish the impossible, the name of Kuropatkin becomes the by-word of reproach throughout the Empire. In the disgrace of failure he seeks oblivion as a soldier in the obliquy of an entire nation. Linevitch, his successor, is hailed as the savior of his country's honor. He will be praised and heroized for a period in a measure commensurate with his predecessor's humiliation. If he, too, fails, as fail he will, he will follow in the line of victims to popular clamor or Imperial dictum. The men who sit in high places at Court and who are responsible for the conditions that brought about their country's shame now sit in cruel judgment upon the instruments appointed to avert the consequences of official misconduct and misrule. Maddened by losses at the hands of an enemy they despised, and in the desperation of despair, they are prepared to place another army in the Far East to be sacrificed as Kuropatkin's forces have been. The destruction of an entire fleet, the loss of Port Arthur and Dalny, of a long line of railway, of an immense amount of munitions of war (all of which cost millions upon millions of money to create) and the sacrifice of a vast number of men, have not yet sobered a Government drunken with ungovernable pride. They are prepared to tempt the Fates still further. They will even risk the Baltic fleet, their last line of defence, like the throw of a dice, upon the result. To carry on this war their last vestige of credit is pledged in the money market. Having in view the prowess of Japan already displayed on land and sea, still fresh after victories of momentous character, still unimpaired in strength and vigor, and in control of every point of vantage; and having in view the untold losses inflicted upon Russia, there seems to be but one end to a course suicidal in its very conception, and that is absolute, certain, crushing defeat. Without an army, without a fleet, without prestige, without financial credit, and with internal discord, seething revolt and the intolerable burdens of war, what will the position of Russia be among the nations of the world? This is, of course, the blackest side of the picture. The fortunes of war are uncertain and Russia may avert final defeat, if she does not win, but the contingency is remote. What the end will be no one can foretell. It may be that this mammoth Empire, made up of many peoples and the dismembered parts of former nations, which it has taken centuries to weld together, will itself be dismembered and revert to its original elements or be re-organized into other political combinations. The work and dreams of Peter the Great seem about to suffer the Nemesis of a fate as cruel as was that mediaeval savage himself.

THE FISHERIES SETTLEMENT.

We refer to this matter on account of the unsatisfactory position in which it is now in, owing to the long delay in settlement. In 1901 when the modus vivendi was entered into for continuance of temporary control of the fisheries by the Dominion, there was a definite object in view on the part of the Provincial Government for the development of the salmon fisheries. Conditions had been unsatisfactory. A licence of $10 a boat was being imposed, which was a heavy tax on the fishermen, and produced a large revenue to the Dominion. In return for this nothing, or practically nothing, was being done to develop the fishing industry. It was felt that greater and more scientific efforts should be put forth in the direction of propagation. To promote such development the canners urged upon the Provincial Government to undertake the work upon its own behalf, and in order that it could be carried out without loss to the Province they expressed their willingness to allow the output of salmon to be taxed two cents per case. The Government having decided to take over the control of the inshore and inland fisheries, passed an act to authorize it to issue licenses and appointed a commissioner. Then came the request from Ottawa for a modus vivendi until a final settlement could be reached. As part of the negotiations, and towards that end, the Provincial Government offered, if the Dominion would reduce the licences to $2.50 per boat, to refrain from issuing licences at all, and would reimburse itself for expenses of control by taxation on the salmon output. There was, of course, too, the question of reimbursement for fees collected by the Dominion in excess of disbursement, which it was held belonged to the Province. This, however, it was proposed should not go into the general revenues of the Province, but be specially funded for the purposes of fishery development. Nothing practically has been arrived at, but conditions have greatly changed in the meantime. The salmon industry has suffered serious reverses, and it is quite improbable that the canners would now agree to be taxed on the output, particularly as the Dominion Government has refused to reduce the cost of boat licences. It would be regarded as unduly burdensome upon the industry. The Province can exercise control and issue licences. So also can the Dominion under the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council—an anomaly, but true. To seek to assert its rights would mean that those engaging in the salmon fishery would require to take out two sets of licences, one from the Provincial and the other from the Dominion authorities, so obviously a hardship as to prohibit the fishing altogether in the present unfavorable conditions which exist. The conditions imposed by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for a settlement are so unjust that it is impossible for the Provincial Government to accept. Despite the decision of the highest court of appeal, he practically says we must hand over control to the Dominion or he will refuse to deal with the Province on any terms. In addition to that he proposes a system of bookkeeping that actually debars the Province from any compensation for giving up its rights, and that in a financial settlement would bring the Province into the debt of the Dominion. He recognizes no claims prior to 1901 and crowds unusual capital expenditure for cruisers and hatcheries, in addition to ordinary expenditure, all into those four years. It is, however, as we have said, part of the programme of hostility on the part of the Dominion authorities to the present Provincial administration. A club is being held over the heads of the people in order that they may change their rulers—political coercion to which our representatives at Ottawa are a party.

IN EXPLANATION.

In the Times of Friday evening and in the Colonist of yesterday morning appeared the reports of a decision of Hon. Mr. Justice Duff in a suit against the Provincial Government arising out of a seizure by W. L. Fagan of Vancouver of canned salmon for taxes owing by the Canadian Canning Company. Judgment was given to the plaintiff for $1500 (not $15,000 as appeared in the Times).

We have been asked to state that the action arose in August, 1902, out of distress and sale proceedings. It was an action taken by the Canadian Canning Company in that year for illegal seizure. The action, we are informed, was hung up from time to time since by the plaintiffs. With it the present Government had nothing whatever to do, and had no knowledge of the case being in court until apprised of it in the press. The only action taken at all was a request to the Government counsel in Vancouver, retained in 1902, about a year ago to try and have the case closed up.

In justice to Mr. Fagan, the tax collector in Vancouver, who made the seizure and upon whom unjust reflections have been cast, it may be stated that he acted under instructions at the time from the Government, and that if a blunder were committed, he is absolved from the responsibility for it.

A RAILWAY POLICY.

The Colonist has been asked to explain more fully its remarks of yesterday with reference to a railway policy. We regret that there should have been a lack of definiteness as to the meaning intended to be conveyed, and we trust that we may be able to render it clear. We do not believe in evading an issue by beclouding it with words.

There are, in our opinion, several general propositions to be kept in mind as governing the situation.

In the first place, the Province is without financial resources to meet liabilities greater than the prospect of increased revenues would reasonably justify. We cannot borrow to an extent which would appreciably assist in railway building. Therefore, it follows that the Government cannot inaugurate any policy of extensive railway assistance. The money is not in sight to meet the increased liability as it falls due.

In the second place, it follows that the Government, in formulating a policy, must, with the foregoing facts in view, take the responsibility of selecting from among the many propositions before it those which will meet the requirements of the sections in most pressing need of transportation facilities, and at the same time give promise of traffic sufficient to pay interest on the bonds guaranteed.

In this respect, of course, the Government must be prepared to take some risk, based on evidence adduced, as to the prospects of profit. It cannot afford, however, to gamble or plunge.

The form assistance to railways should take involves several serious considerations. A bonus of so much per mile, to our mind, is the most objectionable form of assistance, because it presents a free gift without a direct return in benefits. There are indirect returns in the way of revenue from railway building, but as we have frequently contended so many times, the responsibility to the Province in the way of expenditure in present circumstances is always greater than the benefits from increased revenue.

Land bonuses, though, as we have said, they can be granted so as to remove largely the objections which have been truthfully urged against them in the past, are not in harmony with public opinion; and, moreover, we fear that the conditions that would have to be imposed in order to make them acceptable to the public would render them not acceptable to the railway promoter.

The last and most favored policy of assistance is that of guaranteeing bonds under conditions guarding the public interests. If the railway is a success, the country loses nothing, and the railway company is placed in a better position to sell the bonds than by any other mode of assistance. By the Government taking a first mortgage on the railway line and rolling stock, it has at least tolerable security.

The policy of guaranteeing has been extensively and most successfully adopted in Manitoba, the Government of which up to date has not been called upon to pay a cent on account of such liability. It does not follow, however, that what would be a safe principle in Manitoba would always be a safe principle here, where conditions vary so widely. In Manitoba railways cost less than half of what they do here, and the traffic out of which to make dividends is in sight and assured. It is for this reason that we say the Government should exercise great care in selecting lines for assistance which give promise of paying, as well as of, at the same time, supplying needed transportation facilities to certain districts; and upon that point in British Columbia there must always be more or less uncertainty even in the most favored routes. It takes a lot of traffic to pay dividends on railways costing from $25,000 to $50,000 per mile.

For purely local purposes we believe in many instances light lines of railway, costing not more than $5,000 a mile and cheaply operated, would best serve the public and the same amount of Government guarantee would build five or six times the mileage of railway.

We believe, also, as a necessary part of a railway policy, the Government should have a staff of experts for independent investigation of the resources of any route over which a railway company proposes to build. We have too often to depend upon ex parte and frequently highly exaggerated statements of possibilities.

REPORT OF FISHERY DELEGATION

The report of the delegation to Ottawa, consisting of Hon. Chas. Wilson and Mr. J. P. Babcock, Fishery Commissioner, was laid before the Legislature the other day. From a perusal of its pages, it appears that the results of the negotiations with the Dominion authorities are very unsatisfactory indeed. At the time the delegation, at the invitation of the Prime Minister, went to the Dominion capial, we predicted that the attitude of the Dominion would be wholly unfavorable to the claims of British Columbia. It was evident that the other provinces had no desire to retain control of their fisheries on account of the financial liability involved. Up to the present time, the Dominion Government, in respect to the fishery services of Canada, outside of British Columbia, has spent largely each year in excess of the revenue received. In fact, the fishery revenues of the other provinces are only of an incidental character, and cannot be said to constitute a factor worth considering. On the other hand, in British Columbia the revenues for the past fifteen years amount to about forty per cent. of those of the whole of the Dominion. The singular disparity arises out of the fact that fishery conditions are different in the East, and, therefore, the provinces could not make their inland fisheries anything like pay for the cost of management. In our case, the Dominion has made a large yearly profit, which was a direct tax upon the fishing industry. It was, therefore, to have been expected that the influence of the Eastern Provinces, the governments of which are in political sympathy with the authorities at Ottawa, would be all in opposition to the proposals made on behalf of British Columbia. From the reply of Hon. Mr. Prefontaine to the delegation this is quite apparent.

A strong point in favor of the Province assuming control of the fisheries is that, owing to the distance of this Coast from the centre of administration at Ottawa, the special conditions of the fishing industry here are not understood as they should be by the Dominion authorities, and it is natural to conclude that the Provincial Government, with more or less personal knowledge of the industry, and with its own officials always on the spot, could legislate for and regulate the fishery industry to much greater advantage. We think that the experience of the past will justify the position taken by the Provincial Government in this respect.

But, perhaps, the most important feature at the present time is the failure of the Dominion Government to live up to the agreement made between Sir Louis H. Davies, who was Minister of Marine and Fisheries in 1901, and the Government of British Columbia. It was then recognized and understood that the Province had a distinct claim for financial reimbursement, and, as a consequence, a "modus vivendi" was entered into whereby the Dominion Government should retain control and account to the Province for such portion of the fees arising out of the fisheries as might be agreed upon until a final settlement was arrived at. It is now 1905, and nothing has been done, and to judge from the tone of Mr. Prefontaine's letter we are farther from a conclusion than ever.

We have referred to the question of revenue and expenditure as between the Province and the rest of the Dominion. A statement published in the report shows that since 1877 the total expenditure by the Dominion in the Province on account of fisheries amounts to $408,430, and that the revenue in respect to the same received by the Dominion amounted to $545,920, or a difference of $137,490 in our favor.

Mr. Prefontaine is not inclined, however, to go back of 1901, and says that taking revenue and expenditure into consideration for the past four years there is a balance in favor of the Dominion as against us of $102,315. This is ingenious, but not honest. The expenditures made include $76,000 for cruisers in the fishery protection service and several new hatcheries. Now, these large amounts should properly be charged in any event to capital account and British Columbia with the annual amount of interest only; but apart from that the cruisers referred to were built ostensibly for deep sea purposes and are of no practical use in the protection of our salmon fisheries, from which the whole of the fishery revenue of the Province is produced. As a matter of fact, judging from results, the Kestrel and the Petrel's usefulness to the fisheries of the Province in any particular is very limited indeed.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ASSESSMENT ACT.

The promised amendments to the Assessment Act were laid before the Legislature on Wednesday in the form of a bill by the Honorable Minister of Finance. The bill in question, with one or two important exceptions, embodies the recommendations of the Assessment Commission, which were published in full and were dealt with editorially in the Colonist some weeks ago. It is, therefore, quite unnecessary to discuss the matter at any length. So far as practicable the complaints made against the present Assessment Act have been considered and dealt with. A differentiation in wild lands as between lands held for real estate, for speculative and other purposes, and lands that were held for timber and coal purposes, has been made and they have been classified accordingly for assessment. The objection to the assessment of personal property had careful consideration and, although it was found impracticable to do away with it in present circumstances, a reduction has been made to two-thirds of one per cent. of the assessed value with 10 per cent. off for prompt payment. The assessment on income for taxation purposes has also been more favorably adjusted. There are also practical enactments in respect to the preparation of the assessment roll, which will make a more intelligible classification than heretofore, and the schedules have been much simplified. An important recommendation has been adopted, namely, that for the equalization of assessment throughout the Province. Heretofore, as we pointed out on a former occasion, there has been no uniformity of methods adopted and the basis of assessment in one district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as a consequence.

Disappointment has been expressed on account of the fact that the commission in its report did not deal with the grievance of land-holders in respect to land being divided up into small holdings, whereby the assessment of the latter was greatly increased over what it was originally when en bloc. That fact was pointed to as a distinct discouragement to the principle of small holdings so essential to the settlement of the country. However, it was felt that this was something relating to the administration, rather than to the principle, of the Act, and, doubtless, as a result of the annual conference of assessors and representations from the Department of Finance something will be done to remedy what is obviously opposed to sound principles of taxation.

The practical effect of the Assessment Act in its amended form is to reduce the amount of revenue by taxation. We shall expect less from wild lands and personal property. In separate acts provision has been made for taxation in other forms which will add somewhat to the revenue, and we may also expect an increase of revenue on incomes. The new Act, when passed, although coming into effect immediately, will not affect the assessment for the present year.

THE DYKING BILL.

On Wednesday the Chief Commissioner brought down a Bill to adjust dyking assessments. The object of this important measure was explained in yesterday's Colonist and little more is necessary to be said in that regard. It is intended to give relief to the settlers in the different dyking districts whose lands are affected. The total obligation assumed by the Government, which stands under the Public Dyking Act as a charge against the lands, amounts to $981,219. As appears from the report of the Inspector of Dykes contained in the annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the annual assessments required from the various districts to provide for this outlay would amount per acre as follows:

Pitt Meadows	$2.72.4
Maple Ridge (low land)	1.93.8
Maple Ridge (high land)	1.37.9
Coquitlam	3.21.3
Matsqui	1.89.4
Chilliwack	.82.2

It will be seen, therefore, that the annual charge against the land is an exceedingly high one and the farmers and land owners in these dyking districts complained that it was impossible for them to pay the annual assessments and all other Government rates. For instance, on one hundred acres a farmer in Pitt Meadows would have had to pay $272, and in Coquitlam $321 per annum. Most of the holdings are of much larger extent, and, as is well known, only a small percentage of the acreage is improved and productive. The problem was, therefore, a very difficult one. The settlers were unable to sell their lands with such high charges standing against them, and on the other hand were unable to produce enough to pay the annual charges. As a matter of fact, up to the present time the total amount paid is only a little over $8,000, while the total amount of arrearages is $212,400.

There were several courses open to the Government. One was the proposal made some time ago to the Government to assume the entire obligation and give back to the settlers one-half of the land free of obligations on account of the dyking. This would have been obviously unfair to the rest of the Province which has assumed so large a liability over that particular section of the country. The other was to allow the law to take its course and sell or confiscate the lands for such arrears of assessment charges. The latter course, it was felt, would have entailed a great hardship on the landholders and the Government, though it would have been strictly within its rights, did not feel that it was justified in taking such extreme measures.

Under the present bill it is proposed to reduce the total liability by wiping out the sum of $360,278 and making the land liable, as formerly, for the remainder of the obligation, which amounts to $621,000. In other words, the Government says "we will give the settlers another chance." Under the new bill Pitt Meadows, instead of paying $2.72 as the annual assessment per acre, will pay $1.67. Coquitlam, instead of paying $3.21 per acre, will pay $2.04. The various amounts are about as follows, per acre, for all annual charges:

Pitt Meadows	$1.67
Maple Ridge (low land)	1.43.4
Maple Ridge (high land)	1.08.4
Coquitlam	2.04
Matsqui	1.67.6
Chilliwack	.79.8

In the case of Chilliwack it will be observed that only a very small reduction has been made. This is owing to the fact that the annual assessment for that district under the old arrangement was very much lower than will be the lowest assessment under the new arrangement, and on the whole, the conditions in Chilliwack are much more favorable than those in the other districts.

It is very little use in harking back and saying that dyking arrangements were a mistake and should never have been undertaken. The Government at the time did what was considered in the very best interests of the settlers and if the enterprises were carried out at too great a cost it arose from the lack of experience in those matters. Certainly, the cost of the Province has exceeded anything that was anticipated at the outset and as a charge against the land is unduly burdensome. Probably the chief complaint against the present proposal will be not that a reduction is being made at all, but that it is not sufficiently great. We do not believe that even with the reduction that, under present conditions in many instances, the annual charges will be met and, it is quite safe to assume, in a few years a good deal of the land will inevitably revert to the Government. Had it not been for the interests of the settlers involved it would have been a much better arrangement for the Government to have taken over the land altogether, divided it into small holdings and sold it to settlers subject to the dyking charges. In this way forty or fifty thousand acres of very good land would have been made available for settlement and the advantages to be reaped in a direct way from taxation and from the general development of the New Westminster district would have been very great. However, the Government has taken the more charitable view of the situation and has decided to allow the land-holders to work out their salvation under more favorable financial conditions by relieving them of about one-third of the liability. The act in this instance, however, will be less flexible and where assessments are not paid each year the land charged with the liability shall be sold in the same manner as in the ordinary tax sales, the Government taking away its own power to exercise further leniency. We trust, however, that, with the greatly improved conditions of agriculture in the Province and the active demand for land, the settlers may be able to meet the new situation successfully and dispose of or otherwise utilize their land without further loss to themselves or the Government.

ESCAPED AN OPERATION

"I had itching piles for six years, and the doctors told me there was no cure for me unless an operation. Dr. Chase's Ointment completely cured me in one week. As that was six months ago, and there has been no return of the old trouble, I believe that the cure is a permanent one."—Mr. J. Mawer, Roden, Man.

TOMORROW.

When asked to come to romp and play,
When told a task to do that day,
He hung his head and lazily cried:
Tomorrow.

When childhood years had passed to youth,
When all prize energy, forsooth,
He still put off with the same cry:
Tomorrow.

When off to business late he went
And lagged o'er tasks till day was spent,
Leaving them partly done, he'd say:
Tomorrow.

When purchasing his daily bread,
"I have not cash today," he said;
"I'll pay the bill
Tomorrow."

When time told on his aged frame
He crept along so slow and lame.
He said, "A helping staff I'll get
Tomorrow."

When thoughts of death crept up and round,
He thought to buy six feet of ground,
Yet putting off with the old cry:
Tomorrow.

But once for all he's up to time;
Today he died o'er hells did chime.
In strangers' ground they bury him—
Tomorrow.

ROBERT A. BATCHELOR.

POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK.

FOR SALE—10 young pigs $2.50 each. D. Parsell, Swan Lake. mr19

WANTED—Mare, 5 or 6 years old, 10 to 11 hundred pounds. 142 Fairfield road. mr19

EGGS FOR HATCHING—Plymouth Rocks, $1.50 set 13; $8 per 100. Apply "Goepel," P. O. Victoria. mr19

FOR SALE—Horse, harness and buggy. Address Jones, photographer, Esquimalt, B. C. mr16

FOR SALE—Two driving horses. Apply at noon, 94 Superior street. mr15

FOR SALE—White, Black, and Buff Orpington, White Wyandotte, Brown Leghorn, Toulouse geese and Pekin duck eggs for hatching, now ready; White Orpington cockrels and pullets for sale. A. E. Richards, Cadboro Bay road, terminus Fort and Willows tram line. mr14

SILVER GREY DORKINGS—Cocks, $5; hens, $3; 15 eggs, $2; 100 eggs, $10—all prizes Nanaimo, all Victoria, bar third pullet. D. W. Mainguy, Chemainus, B.C. mr12

FOR SALE — Buff Orpington eggs, from prize-winners at Victoria show; price per setting, $2 and $1. Apply James Wood, 127 North Park street, or 125 Johnson street.

GRANDVIEW POULTRY YARDS—Greatest laying strain White Leghorns, 12 firsts and specials Victoria and Vancouver, last January; hatching eggs guaranteed. Free circular. J. J. Dougan, Cobble Hill, B. C. mr10

ADARE POULTRY FARM—Wm. Baylis, Ross Bay, Fairfield Road, Victoria, B. C. Choice eggs for setting, from pure bred and vigorous stock. Barred Plymouth Rocks, from first prize birds; S. C. Black Minorcas; S. C. Brown Leghorns; Toulouse geese; Pekin ducks. All eggs tested before shipping and warranted from choice matings. Orders taken at Brown & Cooper's, Government street, or by post card to P. O. Box 580, Victoria, B. C. ¼mar3

VICTORIA POULTRY YARDS—Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes and White Leghorns; 16 prizes at last Victoria show; birds; guaranteed fertile eggs; "live eggs," and day old chicks for sale. Speed Bros. take orders. r5

FOR SALE—Eggs from hens guaranteed to lay not less than 200 eggs each per year; White, Brown, Black Leghorns, White, Buff, Barred Rocks, $1.00 per setting. Mrs. Edith Stewart, Chemainus.

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