

The Semi-Weekly Colonist

VOL. L., NO. 592

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1912

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR

CROP OUTLOOK OF BRIGHTEST

Increased Acreage and Abundance of Moisture Give Promise of Excellent Returns in the Northwest

SEEDING WILL SOON BE FULLY UNDER WAY

Reports from Various Districts Show That Large Areas Have Already Been Sown—All Conditions Favorable

WINNIPEG, April 13.—Reports from all portions of the Canadian west indicate that bumper crops and their attendant prosperity will ensue. Information as to crop conditions has been gleaned throughout the wheat belt of the prairie provinces, and these point to not only larger, but better, crops than the average.

Although the snowfall during the winter has not been excessive, the late snowstorms and more recent rains have deposited an abundance of moisture, so that whatever might happen during the summer this moisture will guarantee the seed a splendid chance to sprout and gain a good start to maturity.

Added to these favorable conditions will be increased acreage. While in some regions the lack of fall ploughing will curtail acreage, this will be offset by the attention given to coarse grains. Seeding throughout the west will, it is expected, be fully under way early next week, and in several instances large areas are reported as already sown.

Reports from various districts are as follows: Red Deer—Spring wheat is opening up. Snow has disappeared entirely, and the frost is coming out of the ground rapidly, which will enable the farmers to start ploughing. Though seeding has been done for the past week, owing to the great amount of moisture in the ground, seeding will not be generally started for two weeks at least, as very little fall ploughing was done last year.

Calgary.—That prospects for a large and good crop in the province of Alberta were never brighter is indicated by reports received from a greater number of special correspondents.

Regina.—Except in one or two high spots, little seeding has been done in the Regina district yet. Reports received here from the Arcola line districts show that south of Regina, on that line, seeding was fairly general at the time of Friday's snowstorm, which stopped operations for a day or so, but it is expected that today will again see seeders out in full force. Already a large acreage has been seeded around Arcola.

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN

Col. Roosevelt Declares Himself as Opposed to Unrestricted Arbitration

CHESTER, N. H., April 12.—Colonel Roosevelt carried his campaign into New Hampshire today. He spoke to large crowds in Nashua, Concord and Manchester. In Concord, where less than a month ago, President Taft spoke in defense of arbitration treaties, Col. Roosevelt declared himself opposed to unrestricted arbitration. He again denied that the president is a progressive and directed criticism at Senator Gallinger of this state.

SEATTLE, April 14.—The Roosevelt and La Follette members of the Republican county convention committee convened today and took possession of the county committee meeting, and removed the executive committee which was accused of planning to send a "hand-picked" delegation to the state convention at Aberdeen. The Woodrow Wilson men had a majority in the county committee meeting. Representatives of the democratic and republican county committees subsequently agreed to hold joint primaries.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 13.—The Spokane republican committee adopted a resolution today endorsing Roosevelt for president.

PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—At midnight reports indicate that Theodore Roosevelt has carried at least half of the congressional districts in Pennsylvania. In addition, there is a strong likelihood that Roosevelt will control the state convention, which will name 12 delegates at large. In this case Roosevelt will have nearly two-thirds of the 78 delegates from this state. Woodrow Wilson had apparently little opposition, and he will have a solid delegation of twenty to the Democratic national convention.

BITTER DEBATE IN U. S. CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, April 13.—The bill was passed today on the floor of the house and a bitter debate was precipitated between Minority Leader Mr. Mann and Representative Graham, of Illinois, chairman of the interior departmental expenditures committee over the case of Mrs. Helen Pierce Gray, said to be a lobbyist on Indian affairs. Mr. Mann said in lieu of an explanation of investigation should be made in the case.

SAVED BY DOG

Vancouver Couple Escapes From Burning Dwelling In the Nick of Time

VANCOUVER, April 13.—Awakened by a dog when flames were already licking up the partitions of their sleeping apartments, the lives of Mr. and Mrs. William Finnamore were saved in a matter of minutes this morning when fire destroyed the two-story store and apartment building at the corner of Nineteenth avenue and Main street. They escaped with a few clothes they hurriedly donned, being unable to save a stick of furniture as great had been the progress of the fire before they were awakened by the dog pawing at their bed. Mr. Finnamore conducted a grocery store in the building.

PANAMA EXPOSITION

Reduced Rates From Great Britain to 1912 Celebration At San Francisco

LIVERPOOL, Eng., April 13.—Frank R. Brown, chairman of several committees of the Panama Pacific Exposition, called today on the Mauretania carrying with him the promises of several of the steamship companies to grant reduced rates for European visitors and exhibitors to the Panama Pacific Exposition. Mr. Brown's official invitation to the British government to participate in the exposition was cordially received by the Foreign Office, which has requested additional information as to the desired scope and character of the British participation.

INCENDIARISM AT NELSON

Two More Damaging Fires Occur Under Mysterious Circumstances—Former Suspect is Again Under Arrest

NELSON, B.C., April 12.—The Nelson firebrake after a few weeks of inactivity, resumed work this morning when two fires broke out at an early hour, doing considerable damage. In both buildings there is every evidence of deliberate incendiary work. The spots selected for lighting the fires were in each case well under the buildings and at difficult places to be reached by the hose. Both the buildings were frame. One is on the main street and had it not been promptly got under control, a whole block would undoubtedly have been destroyed.

A man named John Bradshaw is under arrest on suspicion. He was under arrest last fall for three weeks, during the period of incendiary fires. While in jail no fires occurred. He afterwards left town, returning recently. Eight days after his return, incendiary fires re-commenced. The first fire this morning occurred in the Old Curiosity Shop on Josephine street owned by T. Sargeant. It was one of the oldest buildings in Nelson. The building is gutted and much of the stock destroyed. The damage is estimated at \$5,000 with \$5,000 insurance.

Two hours later, while the fire brigade was busy on the first fire, another fire broke out on Baker street, between two frame buildings owned by C. P. McElroy, of Nelson, and Mrs. Thompson of Vancouver. The fire was promptly got under control. The McElroy building and the stock of Dave Small, tailor, was damaged to the extent of some \$7,000 with insurance of \$4,500. The Thompson building was less seriously injured.

A curious incident is that several persons declare that they heard two distinct reports resembling revolver shots immediately before the fires were seen to issue from the Old Curiosity shop building. It is suspected that the incendiary employed some mechanical device to start the fire in his absence.

WILL FIGHT AT ESCALON

Decisive Engagement in Mexican Revolt Expected in a Few Days

CHIHUAHUA, April 14.—Gen. Pascual Orozco said today that he expected an advance of the federal force, which for three weeks has been mobilizing at Mazami, within the next three or four days. As in the previous campaign which ended disastrously for the government troops, the rebels will make their first stand at Escalon, if present plans are not changed.

General Emilio Campa will be at the head of his old column. General Orozco says that his faith in Campa is unshaken.

CANANEA, Sonora, Mex., April 13.—Two machine guns and 1500 rounds of ammunition were received here today from the federal base in Torin. This makes six machine guns now here, ready for service.

EL PASO, Tex., April 13.—General Orozco's statement that a battle at Escalon in the next few days would not surprise him agrees with recent statements made by agents of the Madero government here. According to them, 3200 federal regulars and volunteers are mobilized at Mazami and other troops en route would bring the total force up to six thousand by tomorrow. They have been predicting that the federales, led by General Huerta, would advance tomorrow, or very soon thereafter.

FILLING PLACES OF STRIKERS

C. N. P. Contractors Securing Men to Carry on Construction—Police Protection for Workers

MANY STATION MEN RESUME TOMORROW

Litterers Around Yale Camp Are Told They Must Either Go Back to Work or Leave Vicinity

YALE, B. C., April 13.—This morning at about 10 o'clock work was received that about 30 or 40 strike-breakers would arrive in Yale about noon. The I. W. W. headquarters got word of this and a large crowd gathered at the station to await them. It was not deemed advisable by the contractor to quell any disturbance that might arise. As the strikers were unaware that the strike-breakers were to be landed there none were on hand and the constables brought them across the river where they were safe from attack. The officers guarded all the foot bridges and cable cars across the river. The strike-breakers started work immediately.

This afternoon about 15 of the I. W. W. leaders left for Saddle Rock in hopes of getting an interview with them but were not allowed to cross the river.

Today about 20 men, who have been waiting around camp, were told they would either have to go to work or get out. They all left for Vancouver on the late train after drawing what money was due them before they struck. All station men under Burns, Jordan and Welsh and Palmer Broe, and Henning, intend resuming work on Monday, and matters are gradually becoming more settled.

No direct advice reached the government here yesterday as to developments in the strike situation along the mainline construction line of the Canadian Northern Pacific, nor is there any confirmation obtainable as to the reported extension of the strike from the Kettle River Valley construction. Superintendent Campbell has a large force at his command in carefully watching the progress of events on the scene, with a view to nipping any riotous or illegal demonstrations in the bud.

TORTURING OF BRITISH LADY

Crime of Mexican Bandits May Cause Trouble for Government of President Madero—Indignation Meeting

MEXICO CITY, April 13.—Mexican bandits who beat Mrs. C. A. Auld, a British subject, on the soles of her feet in order to make her divulge the hiding place of her jewels on Tuesday night, while she was a passenger on a train near Sbas, have prepared a large measure of trouble for the Madero government. When the incident became known the foreign colony held an indignation meeting and petitioned the British minister to investigate and make vigorous representations to the Mexican government.

The bandits stopped the train by removing rails and then fired into the coaches, wounding a number of passengers, some say six, one of whom, an American, died. The bandits demanded a large sum of money from a man named Kane, and when he declared his inability to produce it shot him in the mouth.

PASSENGERS WOUNDED IN TRAIN HOLD-UP

SPOKANE, April 13.—Charles A. Van Duhn, alias Charles Van Horne, was arrested today at Vera, near Here, on a charge of killing the bartender and proprietor of a saloon at Pine Creek, Idaho, in November, 1911. The men were killed by a robber, who tried to hold up the saloon. He was traced as far as Wallace, Idaho. The police say Van Duhn is a former convict, having served a short term for robbery in Salem, Ore., penitentiary.

SALOON MURDERS

SPOKANE, April 13.—Charles A. Van Duhn, alias Charles Van Horne, was arrested today at Vera, near Here, on a charge of killing the bartender and proprietor of a saloon at Pine Creek, Idaho, in November, 1911. The men were killed by a robber, who tried to hold up the saloon. He was traced as far as Wallace, Idaho. The police say Van Duhn is a former convict, having served a short term for robbery in Salem, Ore., penitentiary.

CROSS-CHANNEL FLIGHT

French Aviator Makes Trip From Paris With Aeroplane For British Admiralty

CALAIS, France, April 13.—Maurice Prevost, the French aviator, landed near here at 11 o'clock this morning after a flight with a passenger in his monoplane from Havre-Moulins, near Paris, whence he had ascended at 8:45. After a short stop he started across the channel for England, where he is to deliver the machine to the British Admiralty.

LONDON, April 13.—Maurice Prevost, the French aviator, who left Paris at a quarter to seven this morning in his monoplane which will deliver to the British Admiralty, landed at half-past one at East Church, Kent, having crossed the channel from near Calais, France.

TURCO-ITALIAN WAR

No Confirmation of Reports That Powers Propose To Mediate

PARIS, April 17.—No confirmation of the report that the powers have formally proposed mediation between Turkey and Italy has been received in official circles here. It is said, however, that for some time the powers, including France, have been exchanging notes regarding eventualities with Constantinople. It has been understood nothing definite would be done until after the resumption of the Ottoman parliamentary session.

OFFICIAL TONGUE IS ENGLISH

Sir James Whitney States His Government's Policy in Bilingual Schools—Unauthorized Text Books Barred

TORONTO, April 13.—In the closing hour of the session of the legislature today, Sir James Whitney made the eagerly awaited announcement that the government's policy in regard to the bilingual schools of Ontario is that English is to be the only official language of instruction, with French to be used only for imparting elementary instruction and then only in the French term. Unauthorized text books are forbidden. The additional inspection to ensure the regulations are observed is provided for and the withholding of the government grant unless teachers capable of imparting instruction in English are appointed.

N. W. Howell, leader of the opposition, suggested the government take adequate steps toward ensuring a supply of teachers capable of instructing in both languages.

DR. BEATTIE NESBITT

Has Been Striving To Perfect New Style of Waist Dresser Since Failure of Her Bank

CHICAGO, Ill., April 13.—A cherished dream of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, former president of the Farmers' Bank of Toronto, Canada, arrested here on Thursday for alleged irregularities amounting to \$300,000, causing the failure of the bank two years ago, was disclosed today in a statement the prisoner made to the police.

"I left Toronto a year after the failure of the bank to devote my entire time to perfecting a new style of waist dresser, which I had in mind for a long time," said Nesbitt. "I expected this invention would give me a new start in life and bring sufficient money for me to return to Toronto and live with my former friends. I have worked on this invention ever since but my work is not concluded. Now my plans are changed. I will fight extradition. That is all there is for me to do under the circumstances."

In substantiation of Nesbitt's story of work and a studious life long rows of books on medicine and science were found in his room where he lived. He asserted his innocence of any wrongdoing.

CYCLONE'S DAMAGE

House Blown Down and Several Persons Injured in Missouri Village

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., April 14.—The Burlington railroad offices in this city report that New Cambria, Mo., was swept by a cyclone late afternoon. The Burlington depot is reported demolished. A long distance telephone message from Brookfield, ten miles from New Cambria, corroborated the report of a tornado. Beyond that place the wires are down. A special locomotive has been sent to New Cambria to ascertain the extent of the damage. The dispatcher's office at Brookfield said a number of houses were blown down. New Cambria has a population of four hundred.

Several persons are injured but it was said late tonight that no one except Dr. J. T. Gray was dangerously hurt although the fabric of the wrecked buildings is being searched for possible victims.

MACON, Mo., April 13.—A cyclone from the southwest did an estimated damage of \$10,000 at New Cambria, Macon county, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

GOVERNMENT MAY REVISE TARIFF

Inequality in Present Schedule is Likely to Lead to Legislation Probably During the Forthcoming Session

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA

Ottawa Citizen Says It is Improbable That Further Bill to Establish Commission Will be Introduced

OTTAWA, April 13.—The Ottawa Citizen, in discussing the situation which has arisen out of the death of the government's bill to create a tariff commission, says: "Gossip in political circles is to the effect that the government may not bring in next session a bill to establish a tariff commission."

"The course to be taken, however, is not definitely determined as yet. The senate killed the bill this year and the Liberals will be in the majority in the upper house for some years yet, according to present prospects. That, as a consequence, resumption of the bill next session would meet a similar fate is regarded as reasonable."

"Since the government came in there has been much correspondence and many representations on the tariff, but all these matters have been deferred pending the creation of the commission with its investigating functions. As the bill has failed to pass, however, the government itself may revise the tariff, as there have been persistent claims of inequality in the present schedule."

"The West India agreement is concluded, negotiations with Australia are in progress, and unless the next session the government will probably elaborate a general policy respecting the tariff in general."

HUNGER STRIKE

Missives Proposed For Window Smashing Obstruction Methods

LONDON, April 13.—By resorting to a hunger strike and impairing their health to such an extent that the jail officials feared fatal consequences, Dr. Frances Ede and four other suffragettes who recently were sentenced to imprisonment for window smashing obtained their release from Aylesbury jail before their terms had expired.

Dr. Ede says that 25 of 28 suffragettes imprisoned in Aylesbury jail started the hunger strike on April 5, and it was not discovered by the jail officials until April 9, when a system of forcibly feeding the women was instituted.

ELEVEN VICTIMS OF SMALLPOX

Shocking Story of Manner in Which Infected Persons are Treated in Calgary Isolation Hospital

WINNIPEG, Manitoba, April 12.—A despatch from Calgary reveals a terrible condition of things in the small hospital there. Eleven persons infected with smallpox are in one of Calgary's isolation hospitals, under conditions that rival the black hole of Calcutta. Without clean bedding, any medical attention or any sort, without heat, water or water supply, they are quarantined in the bleak barracks on Crescent heights, known as the pest house. Three women, three little children, all under three years of age, and five men comprise the unhappy group which occupy the house. With absolutely no provision made for their comfort, and without even having the necessities of life provided, they are there trying to recover from smallpox, absolutely no precaution being taken to prevent the patients leaving or the public entering the premises. An investigation is expected at an early date, as it is certain some of the women and the little ones will die.

Smallpox is spreading with alarming rapidity in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and so loathsome is the disease, being to many minds akin to leprosy, that it is impossible to get the health department to spend the necessary funds to properly guard those affected. The result is that many people who have come in contact with those down with the disease are going in and out among the people and spreading the contagion.

FLOODS IN U. S. A.

Further Cravasses Swell Area of Land Under Water

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 13.—Through two cravasses in the Mississippi river and another in its equally rampant tributary, the Arkansas, great volumes of water are rushing today over the lowlands on the west side of the big stream, destined to cover a large section in Northeast Louisiana and a portion of the southern part of Arkansas. For the next eight or ten days the waters which late on Friday tore their way through the restraining levees, will move southward and finally will return to the Mississippi at the intersection of the Red river. In no less than twelve large parishes in Louisiana and two in Arkansas hundreds will have felt the effects of the flood waters before they begin to get back within the Mississippi's levees. Thousands of acres of land will be inundated. The territory will embrace untold swamps.

No lives have been lost, according to reports received last night from towns in the flooded district. The property loss will be heavy.

Many thousands of cattle have been drowned and more will be claimed by the flood waters as they continue southward.

The destruction wrought in the Mississippi levees at Panther Forest, Ark., and near Roosevelt will have little effect on the crests of the flood waters of the big river from Vicksburg, south according to weather bureau forecasts, and the government and state engineers cannot afford for several weeks to relax their vigilance.

WHOLESALE CIVIC RESIGNATIONS

Edmonton's Council Has Apparently Lost Confidence of Executive Heads—Clerical Force May Walk Out

EDMONTON, Alta., April 13.—Resignations in city number have been received from the resignation of Commissioner Candy and Superintendent Hoffman, of the power department, came that of Secretary-Treasurer F. M. C. Crookhill. This last was the result of the action of the city council separating the office of secretary from that of treasurer and appointing the former to Mr. Crookhill, who has been long in city employ. It being understood that the office was divided to make room for an eastern man.

Mr. Crookhill took this as an impeachment of his ability and tendered his resignation. It was accepted by the council without comment, and not even a vote of thanks, a customary form of the council in such cases was extended as a bribe.

Right on top of Mr. Crookhill's resignation comes that of Superintendent Hoffman, of the municipal street department. Mr. Hoffman gives no reason, but it is understood to be because of the council's repudiation of the plan for street extension in the west part of the city.

Late yesterday, City Cashier Grime announced in his resignation to Mayor Armstrong.

It is freely rumored about the city hall that all the clerical force that worked under Mr. Crookhill will walk out in a body the day that he leaves the city hall for good.

R. H. Parsons, an old country engineer, will succeed J. C. Hoffman as superintendent of the city power plant. It was on Mr. Parsons' recommendation that J. M. Brodie of Winnipeg was appointed engineer in charge of the city's proposed municipal gas plant.

PAYROLL ON C. N. P.

Sum of \$1,100,000 Expended on Construction Work During March

VANCOUVER, April 13.—The total disbursements in connection with construction work on the C. N. P. in British Columbia during March amounted to \$1,100,000, according to figures compiled at the executive offices in this city. Of this total \$260,000 will be paid out to railway contractors, the remainder representing salaries and maintenance of the engineering staff, exceeding over several hundred persons.

The company's total expenditures in British Columbia during February were \$1,070,000.

SCOTTISH TEACHERS TOUR

LONDON, April 13.—A large party of Scottish professors, teachers have been selected to visit the principal cities of Eastern Canada this summer. The first party sails on June 23.

IMPERIAL VIEW OF HOME RULE

Mr. A. J. Balfour Will Deal with Larger Interests of Government's Measure in Resuming Debate Tomorrow

UNIONIST LEADER SPEAKS ON TUESDAY

Organizing a Campaign of Resistance in Ulster—Northern Whig Says New Parliament Will Be Ignored

LONDON, April 13.—Mr. Balfour will resume the Home Rule debate in the Commons on Monday, covering not merely Ulster's view, but larger British and Imperial interests. Balfour will speak on Tuesday just before the vote.

It is difficult to obtain from London papers an impartial account of how the Home Rule bill has been received in Ireland. The Ulster papers represent the Dubliners as generally indifferent and showing no perceptible enthusiasm. The Daily Mail's Dublin correspondent says: "The most enthusiastic commendation of the Home Rule bill that I have heard today is that it provides temporarily an alternative subject of conversation to the 'Marconi boom'."

"Even at that it has not been very effective, for one hears more frequent mention of Marconi than of Aquith, and there is more eager discussion of the financial outlook for wireless telegraphy in space than of the financial outlook of autonomy in Ireland."

"Dublin is, as they say, 'top to its neck in Marconi,' and as to the relations between the two sister islands, it is chiefly concerned with the thought that it has been making fabulous bull profits at the expense of the bears of the London Stock Exchange."

THE UNIONIST

The Unionist Northern Whig for instance says: "The bill is illogical, it is more complicated than Gladstone's bill, and where it differs from the earlier proposals it differs for the worse. The scheme was conceived in fraud and carried out by treachery. It can have no moral sanction. Premier Asquith has had fair warning that we in North Ireland will ignore the very existence of the parliament."

The Irish Daily Telegraph says: "The bill is not the result of intellectual conviction, but the product of a political conspiracy for a mean motive, the lust of office. Its passage is a swindle on the British public and its ratification a sham and a fraud, because in the Imperial parliament the Nationalists would still be able in a government dilemma to bargain their votes for the removal of all restrictions and guarantees."

A Paper Safeguard

The London Daily Express says: "The clause in the Home Rule bill forbidding the Irish parliament to give legal effect to recent Papal decrees, it can have no moral sanction. Premier Asquith has had fair warning that we in North Ireland will ignore the very existence of the parliament."

The Spectator describes the bill as foolish and cowardly. It says the government, afraid to grant the Nationalists' demand for colonial home rule, bribed them into accepting much less to begin with, but in allowing Irish members to remain in Westminster it has provided them with an instrument for exerting in the future full colonial powers.

The Spectator adds that as the Nationalists eventually will get both the bribe and full powers, they naturally are content.

The Cork Examiner says: "The bill has been designed to bring prosperity and contentment to this country and replace the strife that for so long has existed between Great Britain and Ireland by peace and goodwill."

The Irish News says: "The bill centers on this country more irredemption actions within its own borders than was provided for in the other predecessors. The measure offers great and unparalleled opportunities to Ireland, which will soon be a self-respecting, self-reliant, self-advancing nation within the Empire."

LONDON, April 13.—The price of coal slipped 3.50 a ton today, the biggest fall ever recorded in one day.